

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS
OF

THE QUEEN'S OWN (ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT.)

No. 331.

MAIDSTONE, JANUARY, 1903.

[Vol. XXI, No. 1.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

LINE BATTALIONS.

The promotion to the rank of Lieutenant of Second-Lieut. W. B. P. Tugwell is ante-dated to 2nd August, vice J. H. Bennett transferred to the Indian Staff Corps.

Captain C. Druce is seconded for service as an Adjutant of Volunteers, dated 24th December, 1902.

Lieutenant C. H. Stigand is seconded for service under the Foreign Office, dated 13th December, 1902.

FIRST BATTALION.

Promoted Sergeant:—Lance-Sergeants A. Andrews, W. Jarrad, A. Brown, H. Cox, H. Ball, A. Ashton, dated 18th October, 1902.

Appointed Lance-Sergeants: Corpls. J. Kingham, P. Schmidt, dated 18th October, 1902.

Promoted Corporal: Lance-Corpls. G. Verrall, A. Collins, E. Pettlett, B. Baker, H. Iliffe, A. Humphrey, dated 18th October, 1902.

Appointed Lance-Corpls.: Pte. H. Maslin, dated 14th October, 1902.

SECOND BATTALION.

Appointed Lance-Corporals: Ptes. E. Clarke, H. Brigenshaw, 3rd November, 1902; E. May, 10th November, 1902; A. Marks, P. Vincent, F. Kemp, 11th November, 1902; C. Mears, A. Long, 18th November, 1902; J. Old, 20th November, 1902.

THIRD BATTALION.

C. G. L. Elverston, gent., to be Second-Lieut. dated 13th December, 1902.

Captain J. H. Kennedy resigns his commission, and is granted permission to retain his rank and wear the uniform of the Battalion on retirement, dated 7th January, 1903.

Captain C. F. Hitchens from 2nd Volunteer Battalion, to be Captain, dated 7th January, 1903.

E. R. Battersby, gent., to be Second-Lieutenant, dated 7th January, 1903.

FIRST VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Lieutenant L. Phillips resigns his commission, dated 13th December, 1902.

Captain C. E. Kitson to be Adjutant, dated 3rd December, 1902.

Lieut.-Colonel and Hon. Colonel G. Henderson retires under para. 55a Volunteers Regulations with permission to retain his rank and wear the uniform of the Battalion on retirement, dated 19th December, 1902. Col. Henderson is appointed to the Hon. Colonelcy of the Battalion.

Major and Hon. Lieut.-Col. C. S. Williams to be Lieut.-Col. and command the Battalion, dated 19th December, 1902.

SECOND VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Lieut. H. L. Dinwiddy resigns his commission, dated 24th December, 1902.

H. D. Balfour, gent., to be Second-Lieutenant (Cadet Corps), dated 24th December, 1902.

To be Lieutenants: Second-Lieutenants G. R. Edey and E. C. Russell, dated 13th December, 1902.

FOURTH VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Lieut. L. Biggs is appointed Aide-de-Camp to Col. T. H. Brock, Commanding West Kent Volunteer Brigade, dated 2nd August, 1902.

REGIMENTAL MEMORIAL.

As we have several enquiries regarding the above, we are desired to state that it is proposed to erect a memorial, viz., window and brasses, in All Saints' Church, Maidstone, to the memory of those whose lives have been given to King and Country during the late South African War, and which will include Line, Militia, and Volunteers of the Territorial Regiment.

Subscriptions are invited from all past and present members of the Regiment who desire to take part in assisting in the erection of the memorial, and will be gratefully received by Major A. Martyn, Adjutant, 50th Regimental District, Barracks, Maidstone.

We are sure there are many connected with the regiment willing and anxious to subscribe to the object in view.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

Major Martyn desires to acknowledge the receipt of £3 from Colonel W. H. Bayly, late commanding 50th Regimental District, and £2 from Capt. H. C. W. Beeching, late R.W. Kent Regt., also £2 17s. 6d., the residue of the amount collected for the "Barton Memorial," which sum has been handed over to the Regimental Memorial Fund.

On page 1804, by a printer's error, the subscription by "L" Company, 2nd Volunteer Battalion, was shown as from "K. Co.," 3rd Volunteer Battalion, R.W.K. Regt.

THE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' FAMILIES'
ASSOCIATION.

LETTER OF THANKS FROM HER MAJESTY THE
PRESIDENT.

The work of the association specially connected with the late war being now at an end, I must beg you to be so good as to convey to all our office bearers and workers my high appreciation of their devoted labours in the interest of the wives and families of our soldiers and sailors during these trying and anxious years.

The help we have been able to give, through the liberality of the public, has been great; but the influence and sympathy established between the recipients and the givers appears to me to be of far greater value, and will, I feel sure, have permanent and far-reaching results.

I take this opportunity of asking you to urge upon all the absolute necessity, not only of keeping up the present organization, but of strengthening and extending it in those districts throughout the kingdom where it is not so complete as I should wish.

The more complete the organisation the more an interest will be maintained in and with our soldiers' and sailors' families in time of peace.

I trust also to hear that the number of our members becoming annual subscribers has largely increased, so as to enable us to continue our work without any special appeal to the public, who have so liberally supported the association during the war.

ALEXANDRA R., President.

Buckingham Palace,
30th October, 1902.

LETTER OF THANKS FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE
BEARSTED AND MAIDSTONE DIVISION.

The annual meeting of the Bearsted and Maidstone Division Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association was held at Vinters on Thursday, December 2nd. The very liberal donations received from the 1st and 2nd Battalions, Depot, and Details of the Royal West Kent Regiment were specially mentioned, and the thanks of the Committee are conveyed to the officers, warrant officers, N.C.O.'s, and men of the regiment.

It is especially gratifying that the men of the regiment should have contributed, as it is a proof that they appreciate the assistance given to their wives and children.

The thanks of the committee are also due to the Bandmaster of the 1st Volunteer Battalion, who with the assistance of the bands of the 2nd Battalion and the 1st Volunteer Battalion organised a concert which produced a substantial contribution to the funds.

(Signed) L. WHATMAN, President.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Major Brock Hollinshead and Lieut. Tulloch arrived at Malta on the 18th November, to take over the draft of 250 rank and file which we were supplying to the 2nd Battalion. They all went out to Pembroke on the 21st, and remained there under canvas till the arrival of the *Dunera* on the 26th November. Before the draft marched out to Pembroke, the Battalion was inspected by H.E. the Commander-in-Chief. The attached cutting from *The Malta Daily Chronicle* of the 22nd November will give you a true description of the parade, and what H.E. said to the Battalion:—

FAREWELL INSPECTION OF THE ROYAL WEST
KENT REGT. BY H.E. THE COMMANDER-
IN-CHIEF.

His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Major-General Lane, Colonel Farrant, Captain Duncan, D.S.O., Captain Shute, Captain Murray, A.D.C., and Captain Farnar, A.D.C., made a farewell inspection of the 1st Battalion Royal West Kent Regiment yesterday morning at Fort Manoel at 9 a.m. The Battalion was formed up on the square in front of the Officers' Mess. After passing down the ranks and inspecting the men, His Excellency the Governor addressed the Battalion.

He expressed his regret at the departure of the Battalion from the Malta command, where, during its short stay it has set a good example of smartness and soldierly behaviour. But at the same time he was glad for the sake of the men that it should be returning to England after a long tour of 20 years foreign service. He was particularly glad to welcome the Battalion to Malta, as it enabled him to renew his acquaintance with the Regiment which he had the honour to have in the division under his command at the battle of Ginniss. He sincerely regretted that the state of his health prevented the Colonel from commanding the Battalion on the voyage home, but trusted that he would soon be enabled to rejoin, restored to health and strength.

He took the opportunity of wishing the Battalion Godspeed and all prosperity in the future.

Major Rowe having thanked His Excellency in the name of the Battalion, H.E. said good bye to the Officers individually, and the parade was dismissed.

Our boat, the S.S. *Dominion*, which was due at Malta on the 23rd of November at daylight, did not arrive till the 25th, and after everything was packed up and had been loaded on barges, this delay was most tedious. We had all been hoping up to the end that Lieut.-Col. Harrison would be able to come with the Battalion, but it was quite impossible, and we had to leave him behind in Cottonera Hospital. Major-Gen. Lane, C.B., commanding the Infantry Brigade, came on board the *Dominion* on November 26th, to say good bye. His words were very much the same as expressed by H.E. the Commander in Chief in his farewell order, a copy of which I am sending you.

"In taking leave of the 1st Battalion Royal West Kent Regiment, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief desires to express his regret at the departure of so smart, well-drilled, and well-commanded a Battalion from the island, a Battalion which he had the honour of commanding on active service in Egypt.

"He has been very glad to see the gradual improvement in the health of the men, which had been impaired by an unusually extended stay at Aden."

"Lord Grenfell trusts that after this long tour of upwards of 20 years' foreign service the Battalion will enjoy, and benefit by, a tour of service at home, and deeply regrets that their Commanding Officer is unable to accompany them."

We did not leave Malta till daylight the 27th, and the *Dunera* with our draft on board followed us the same day. She caught us up on the 28th, and the two boats remained in sight of each other for two days, and were eventually moored close to one another on opposite sides of the quay at Alexandria on the 30th.

The evening before our arrival at Alexandria was made most entertaining by a very excellent concert arranged by our Bandmaster and Bandmaster Doré, of the 2nd Battalion Berkshire Regiment. Lance-Corporal McEnuff was a great favourite, and was encored no less than four times.

We saw the last of the draft on the 30th, the *Dunera* sailing for Port Said at 4 p.m. We were very sorry to lose the men, and wish them the best of luck with the 2nd Battalion.

s.s. "Dominion," Programme of Concert to be held on deck November 29th, 1902; 1, overture, "Les Deux Magots," String Band Royal Berks; 2, comic song, "While your sleeping," Corpl McEnuff; 3, recitation, "Temperance," Pte. Wilson; 4, comic song, "Ti ol the diddle ol the day," Bandsman Warner; 5, song, "Have another go," Pte. Hill; 6, comic song, "They are very good to me," Sergt. Rose; 7, song, "Because I love you," Drummer McCarthy; 8, selection, "Populonia," String Band Royal Berks; 9, comic song, "Don't stick it out like that," McEnuff; 10, comic song, "I'm not particular," Pte Lime; 11, comic song, "All the latest improvements," Bandsman Hattis; 12, comic song, "I was there watching them," Pte Paine; 13, comic song, "Three women to every man," Sgt. Rose; 14, song, "My shadow," and "Lu, Lu," Drummer Mac Carthy; 15, Three Rounds Boxing, Ptes. Killier and Crisp. God Save the King.

1ST BATTALION CORRESPONDENT.

At a dinner of the Horton Kirby Cycle Club held at South Darenth, on 26th November, presided over by the Rev. James Rashleigh Hale, it was proposed and unanimously carried that a letter of congratulation and welcome home be addressed to the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment (our County Regiment), on safe arrival home, after 20 years meritorious service for King and Country abroad.

The Club has watched the doings of the Regiment, and wish to tender their humble thanks for the services performed by them both in peace time whilst stationed in Egypt, India, Aden, and Malta; and also for the glorious way in which they upheld the Traditions and Motto of the Country in that arduous and trying campaign on the West Frontier of India.

JAMES RASHLEIGH HALE,
Chairman.

1ST BATTALION INTELLIGENCE.

No, 3274 Lce.-Corpl. A. Pearson has been transferred to the Military Foot Police.

Ptes. T. Venus and G. Brooker have been passed to the Army Reserve with permission to reside in Malta.

Corpl. J. Hills reverts to Private at his own request.

Lce.-Sergt. G. Lang has resigned his appointment.

Pte. J. Middleton has joined the Battalion on transfer from the Royal Lancaster Regiment.

Lce.-Sergt. P. Schmidt has been permitted to extend his service to complete 12 years with the colors.

A draft of 250 N.C.O's and men have proceeded to join the 2nd Battalion at Ceylon from Malta.

WITH THE 1st BATTALION DRAFT TO CEYLON. S.S. "Dunera,"

13th December, 1902.

On Friday morning the 21st of November, the draft, numbering 250 non-commissioned officers and men, under Major Brock-Hollinshead and Lieut. Tulloch, marched to Pembroke Camp to be under canvas until the arrival of the s.s. "Dunera" which was to embark them for Ceylon. The Draft was played to Pembroke Camp by the band and drums of the 1st Battalion, and there were many farewells as the men marched out of Fort Manoel, at that time the Head Quarters of the 1st Battalion Royal West Kent Regiment. The period of waiting for the *Dunera* was very uneventful with the exception of the first night, when it rained hard

and blew half a gale, the result being that many tents came down and the men were soaked. A great point of interest at this period was that the "Dominion" to take the 1st Battalion home was much behind her time, and every day news came that she was hourly expected, but had not arrived. As a matter of fact the s.s. "Dunera" came in only some 18 hours before the "Dunera," so that both ships eventually started for Alexandria within a few hours of one another. The work of embarking the draft was quickly finished, and the men were shaking down into their places when word was brought that General Lane, commanding the Infantry brigade at Malta, was coming off to say good-bye. The men were fallen in and the General walked down the ranks, afterwards addressing the draft. He said how sorry he was to say good-bye, and that during the stay of the 1st Batt. Royal W.K. Regt. in Malta they had earned a splendid name. He was most grateful to hear that on the day of embarkation not a single man of the draft was absent or the worse for liquor, and wished them all a pleasant voyage. On the ss. "Dunera," besides various drafts of Regiments for Alexandria, were 2nd-Lieut. Fenning, with the bandmen of the 2nd Batt. Royal West Kent Regiment, who had been training at the Depot during the war, under the charge of Mr. McKelvey; also the colours and the women and children of the Regiment. The "Dunera" left Malta at 10 a.m. on Thursday, the 27th November, only three hours after the "Dominion," which she caught up on the second day, and kept in sight of for the rest of the way to Alexandria. On arriving at Alexandria early on Sunday morning the "Dunera" and "Dominion" tied up opposite one another to the same quay, and great was the shouting and waving of signals between the men on the two ships only about 80 yards apart. Our vessel only having drafts to disembark left again the same day at 5 p.m., when the "good-byes" between the two vessels were most stirring, the bands playing "Auld Lang Syne" and the men of the 1st Battalion and the Draft cheering one another to the echo. Having our own band on board was a great advantage, as it played twice daily, weather permitting, and was always greatly appreciated, more especially at the two concerts held on board. From Alexandria the "Dunera" was very empty, as besides the draft and band of the Royal West Kent Regiment, there were only a few Royal Garrison Artillery for Mauritius, so that the men had plenty of room below at night. Our vessel arrived at Port Said soon after daybreak, and soon began to coal, a most unpleasant operation which lasted about eight hours, and left everything very dirty. From Port Said the voyage through the Canal

and down the Red Sea was not of great interest, so it was decided to find amusement among ourselves, and a concert was organised for the second evening after leaving Suez. The following is the programme, with the names of the performers:—

1. Overture "The Bohemian Girl" The Band
2. Song "Mary's Pimple" Pte. Taylor
3. Song "A bird in a gilded cage" ... Pte. Mushett
4. Mandoline Solo Pte. Vile
5. Song "Sentenced to death" Pte. Cozens
6. Song (Selected) Pte. James
7. Mouth Organ Solo Pte. Mushett
8. Sand Dance "Down South" The Band
9. Song (with guitar accompaniment) ... "Little Alabama Coon" ... Mrs. Brock-Hollinshead
10. Song (selected) Mrs. Urquhart
11. Song "All along the rails" Pte. Brent
12. American March ... "Whistling Rufus" The Band
"God Save the King."

Great thanks is due to Mrs. Brock-Hollinshead, who besides singing herself, acted as accompanist, and also to Mr. McKelvey, who organized the programme. Mrs. Urquhart sang with great verve, and was heartily encored. The concert was voted an immense success, and several of the performers showed great talent, receiving a regular ovation. After the concert sports were arranged to take place on the vessel clearing the Gulf of Aden, but on the appointed day the "Dunera" was pitching to such an extent that many of the competitors thought more of gazing at the sad sea waves than of racing; so the sports were postponed. After three days the sea went down sufficiently, and the sports were the cause of great amusement, some of the events being very closely contested. Owing to the number of entries it was impossible to finish them on one day, so that three days were practically required. The following is a list of events, with names of the winners:—

Event 1.—Egg and Spoon Race—1st Pte. Pay, 2nd Pte. Gore, 3rd Pte. Showell (R.G.A.).

Event 2.—Sack Race—1st Pte. Porter, 2nd Pte. Roberts, 3rd Pte. Morton.

Event 3.—Tug of War—1st "G" Company, 2nd "E" Company.

Event 4.—Baker and Sweep—1st Pte. Rowlands.

Event 5.—Dressing Race—1st Pte. Roberts, 2nd Pte. Showell (R.G.A.), 3rd. Pte. James.

Event 6.—Wheelbarrow Race—1st Ptes. Gore and Fulton, Ptes. Showell and Fullward, Ptes. Boldy and Faulkner.

Event 7.—Potato and Bucket—1st Pte. Roberts, 2nd Pte. Tice, 3rd Pte. Crow.

Event 8.—Obstacle Race—1st Pte. Murphy, 2nd Pte. Showell (R.G.A.), 3rd Pte. Edwards.

Event 9.—Egg and Spoon Race (boys and girls under 14 years)—Girl James, Boy Bullock.

Great thanks are due to Sergts. Lang and Gillespie, and Corpls. Joyce and Burrows, who ably assisted in managing and carrying out the programme.

On Friday evening, the 12th November, Pte. James delighted us all by getting together an impromptu concert, at which Mr. McKelvey very kindly assisted with the band. The following is the programme:—

1. March..... "Viscount Nelson"The Band
2. Song..... "Has anyone seen our Cat?"Pte. Taylor
3. Song..... Selected.....Pte. Hansom
4. Mandolin SoloPte. Vile
5. Song... "As I smoke, smoke, smoke".....Pte. Booker
6. Selection....."In Coon Land"The Band
7. Song..... "The Mother Tongue"Pte. Ellis
8. Song..."While I was taking it home"...Pte. McCreedy
9. Mouth Organ Solo.....Pte. Mushett
10. Song....."Say Au Revoir"Mrs. Urquhart
11. Song..."Everybody is loved by someone".,Pte. McCarthy
12. Song....."All through a Gee-gee"Pte. James
13. Selection..... "Bonnie Scotland"The Band
"God save the King."

We arrived at Colombo early on Sunday morning, after a pleasant, but at times somewhat trying voyage.

THE DRAFT CORRESPONDENT.

2nd BATTALION INTELLIGENCE.

Diyatalawa, Ceylon,

Dec. 7th, 1902.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

We left Durban on the evening of November 8th, having only stayed there a few hours. The troops that we were to have picked up had sailed in the "Ortona" on the previous day for Mauritius. After six days of very calm weather we arrived at the latter place and waited there pretty well a whole day, merely to pick up four men of the R.A.M.C. who were bound for India. We were not allowed to land as the plague was rather bad. However, it did not look a particularly inviting place, and we were thankful to get off and fairly on our way to Colombo. The voyage passed quickly, the weather was not very hot, the ship was comfortable, and, most important of all, the sea was quite

smooth. But, for all that, though none of us are ever likely to have such a comfortable voyage again, we were not sorry to see Colombo breakwater at dawn on the morning of November 21st. Here came the first shock. The C.S.O. came on board and sprang the news upon us that we were to go off to relieve the D.C.L.I. as guard over the Boer prisoners at Diyatalawa. Our joy at getting to civilization again was effectually quashed; it did seem a bit rough that we should renew an acquaintance that had only been interrupted for less than three weeks. All that day was spent in getting the heavy baggage into lighters and then loaded into the train; it poured with rain the whole time, and was besides steamingly hot. However, by dark the work was finished, and half the baggage went off that night with one officer and eight men to Diyatalawa. The remainder of the headquarter companies followed next morning, disembarking at 4 a.m. The "Golconda" went round to Trincomali on the afternoon of the 22nd with "A" and "F" Companies. This detachment is under the command of Captain Lees, "G" Company is at Candy under Lieut. Lister, who also takes over the military prison there. "B," "C," "D," "E," and "H" Companies are with headquarters.

The train journey up lasts 13 hours though the distance is only about 160 miles, but most of it is very hard work, for the line creeps up the mountain side until an elevation of nearly 7,000 feet is reached at Ohiya. Then it runs down 3,000 feet into Haputale. Just beyond this place the line had sunk about 14 feet owing to the abnormally heavy rains, so all the baggage had to be carried across by hand and put into another train the other side. It was quite dark before the battalion was greeted as it steamed into Diyatalawa station by the regimental march past played by the D.C.L.I. band. In the dark, wet night we marched down to our quarters and found everything prepared. We were quartered in some of the returned prisoners of war huts for a few days until our proper quarters were evacuated. The D.C.L.I. did our men very well indeed, and each of their companies had supper laid out ready for our corresponding companies; in fact, in the short time they were together the two battalions got on very well indeed. They, however, left on the 26th on their way to South Africa—to Stellenbosch of all places. They seemed very glad to get away as they have been here two years. No doubt a change will please them for a time as this does us, but this is a place that is bound to get very monotonous after a time. The worst of it is that with the S.E. monsoon blowing it rains hard every day; the mornings are generally fine till about 12, and then down comes the rain for the rest of the day.

Thus everything in the afternoon is completely spoilt, which is all the worse because for the first time for over two years we have got good football and cricket grounds, as well as a hockey field and a first class tennis court. We have only had one football match so far, against the prisoners of war. They were supposed to be very strong, and had won most of the matches they had previously played, but must have been overrated, as we won with ease by five goals to one. We were a lighter team, and got about more quickly on the slippery ground. Most of the first half was played in drenching rain, and we led by four goals to one at half time, though the game was more even than the score would indicate. "G" Company at Candy have played two matches against local clubs and won both by small margins. The local papers give long accounts of the most trivial games, and the whole island seems quite bound up in sports and athletics—that and tea.

About a thousand of the Boers left on the 5th, and the remaining 1,800 go before Christmas; they are remarkably quiet and give no trouble whatever. At one period they evinced a desire to escape, but it did not get very popular, as the few who got out of the camp had a very rough time of it. One wretched fellow hid in a bog all night, but was so exhausted in the morning by leeches that he was only too willingly captured. Another who escaped was brought in by natives with both legs broken: they get a reward for bringing in an escaped prisoner, and were determined that this one would not run far. When they have all gone and the Gloucesters go to Lucknow, which will probably be in January, we will, I suppose, go down to Colombo, which, in spite of the heat, will be better than this place. Here we are not badly off as it is comparatively cool; there is a good range and splendid hilly grass country for field training. The sport, too, is supposed to be good, though the snipe are not in this year as yet, partly because the paddy fields are under water. There are also bear, leopards, spotted deer, and buffalo in the jungle close by, and when the weather clears we may be able to have a day or two after them. There are plenty of elephants, too, but they are very tame, besides, the licence to shoot them is almost prohibitive.

So far I don't think our expectations of Ceylon have been realised, but of course we have only seen the worst side of things, and no doubt we shall like it better when we get to Colombo or Candy. At present any enthusiasm is effectually damped by the everlasting rain.

2ND BATTALION CORRESPONDENT.

In addition to the names given on page 1810, December No., of those left in South Africa, the following were also left with a view to early embarkation for home:—

Ptes. 2912 G. Brann, 5202 P. Walsh, 5736 F. Dyer, 5257 J. Longford, 5391 W. Austin, 6059 H. Simmons, 4600 W. Lawrence, 4117 W. Broughton, 3856 C. Hibberd, 3974 G. Coe, and 4720 C. King.

The undermentioned passed an examination in Group I, for a first-class Certificate of Education at the half-yearly examination at Maidstone—

Col-Sergt. G. Bourne, Corpl. A. Bellion, and Drummer F. Murdock.

At the recent examination of Officers for promotion the undermentioned passed—

Captain C. Druce in (c), (d), and (g), for Captain, receiving a Special Certificate, and distinguished in Military Law.

Lieut. F. J. Joslin passed in the same subjects, receiving a Special Certificate, and distinguished in Military Law, Military Engineering, and Organisation and Equipment.

DEPOT NOTES.

The undernamed have taken advantage of the Army Order permitting them to rejoin from the Army Reserve to complete their period of color service:—

Sergt. J. Smith, Ptes. J. Carroll, A. Allen, P. Cocklin, W. Botten, F. Humphrey, O. Packham, H. Latter, W. Knight, J. Murphy, G. Rock, A. Hayes, A. Smith, W. Tyrell, R. Young, Drummer J. Driscoll.

The undernamed have re-enlisted, under Army Order 106 of 1900, to complete 21 years:—

Lce.-Corpl. A. Cork, Sergt. Harper, Ptes. F. G. Long, A. Chapman. Reservists who have re-engaged are Ptes. G. Crowhurst and M. Free.

The Sergeants at the Depot held one of their successful dances on New Year's eve in the Gymnasium, at the Barracks, which was elaborately and artistically decorated by a Committee working under the presidency of Col-Sergt. A. Pearson. Dancing commenced about 8.30, and was kept up till about 1 the next morning, a band, under the conductorship of Sergt.-Drummer Gee, supplying the necessary music. Colonel and Mrs. Brock, Major Martyn, Capt. Allfrey, Messrs. Belgrave, Hickson, and Rickets honoured the Sergeants by their presence. The Company, which numbered about 200, were successfully

coached by the M.C.'s, Col.-Sergts. Palmer and Hunt, and wall flowers were button-holed with great tact.

The usual midnight scene was enacted when the Old Year and its regrets was bidden good-bye, and the New Year ushered in with hopes and, needless to say, good resolutions.

The Committee responsible for the carrying out of the work were Col.-Sergts. Pearson, Hunt, Palmer, and Neighbour; Sergts. Merrick, McGregor, Theobald, Coe, Blount, and Selves.

The next dance is expected to be on St. Patrick's eve, there being only two dances given this season.

DEPOT FOOTBALL.

Since my last letter progress has been made in the Company Competition for Col. Brock's Trophy. The first round is completed and the second started. We hope to finish before the next draft leaves us, by playing a match every Thursday.

November 27th.—On this date B Company was drawn to play against D Company. B Company played well but were not strong enough to win, and a good game ended in a win for D Company by 6 goals to 2. For the winners Lieut. Ricketts scored 3, Col.-Sergt. Neighbour 2, and Sergt. Edwards 1; Pte. Hooper scoring both for the losers.

December 15th. A keen game was played next between A Company and C Company, ending in a win for A Company by 2 to nil, the elder Davis scoring both goals.

December 22nd saw B Company playing C Company. The result was most unexpected, B Company scoring their first win by 3 to 1; and this game was a good example of what a weaker team can do if they play up. Sergt. Merrick and Pte. Hooper scored for the winners, and Sergt. McGregor for the losers.

Our next match will be on Thursday, 15th, when B. Co. will meet D Co.

The order of the Companies at present is:—

	P	W	L	D	Points.
A	3	3	0	0	6
D	3	2	1	0	4
B	4	1	3	0	2
C	4	1	3	0	2

As regards the Depot team we have been playing a good many matches, on the whole very successfully.

Nov. 29th.—We played our first match against Tonbridge on our ground. During an exciting game Tonbridge managed to score the only goal of the match, the repeated efforts of our men to equalize being unsuccessful.

On the same day we sent a team to play at Sevenoaks against a detachment of the West Kent Volunteers. This was also a very good game, ending in a draw, both sides scoring one, Corpl. Loader being responsible for ours. After the match, Capt. Laurie very kindly gave an excellent tea to the two teams, and a pleasant evening was passed together till it was time to go.

Dec. 3rd.—The Maidstone Excelsior football team played us on our ground and were beaten by one goal to nothing.

Dec. 10th.—We next played M.C.I. Wednesday on our ground, beating them by three goals to nil. Sergt. Edwards, Sergt. Selves, and Pte. Davis scored one each.

Dec. 13th.—In our League match with Burham Invicta on our ground we managed to win easily by six goals to nil. the brothers Davis and Sergt. Selves making up the total.

Dec. 20th.—Our return match against Tonbridge resulted in a draw, both sides scoring two, ours being contributed by the elder Davis. The two teams then had tea together, and spent a pleasant time till the evening train.

Dec. 26th.—The Sevenoaks Volunteers took us by surprise on Boxing Day, turning up to play in the morning. We managed to put a very scratch team against them, and were beaten by four goals to one.

Dec. 27.—Our return match against Maidstone Invicta ended in a draw of one goal all. The elder Davis scored ours. Their defence was good and our forwards were rather weak.

FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT.

VOLUNTEER INTELLIGENCE.

SECOND VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

DARTFORD DETACHMENT.

The annual prize distribution of the above detachment took place on the 18th Dec., at the Victoria Assembly Rooms, Dartford, when A. M. Fleet, Esq., of Darenth Grange, presented the prizes. The room had been suitably decorated for the occasion, and the proceedings opened with a concert arranged by friends of the Company. At the interval the prizes were presented, and the Company was congratulated, both by their officer (Captain G. Morphey) and A. M. Fleet, Esq., on the splendid work done during last year which was rewarded by their having won both the Officers' Challenge Cup and the "Kirby" Shield. The C.O. hoped next year the Company would be the best shooting Company. At present they were the second best. The second part of the concert was styled a "Smoker," and a most enjoyable time was spent. The Colonel was unavoidably prevented from attending the presentation, but wrote to Capt. Morphey wishing the Company a continuance of their good work throughout the year. The other officers present were Lieut.-Col. C. N. Kidd, Capt. Whitehead, and Lieut.-Surgeon Hamilton.

ABOUT 1842 TO 1850.

The barracks of the British soldier in up-country stations in those days were very different from the substantial and roomy constructions in which he is lodged now. It was Lord Napier who, as Commander-in-Chief, insisted on the question of the housing of the British soldier being taken up on an adequate scale all over the country. Amongst the remembrances of that great soldier and engineer must have been an incident at a cantonment not very far from Karnal, which would have left an indelible impression on his mind. Ludhiana had been occupied as a military station a few years before the troops were moved into Umballa. On the conclusion of the Sutlej campaign the barracks there were assigned as quarters to the 50th Foot—a regiment that had especially distinguished itself at Moodkee, Ferozeshahr, and Sobraon. Possibly the intention was to avoid giving a corps which had lost something like 60 per cent. of its strength in that hard fought war far to go; but the Authorities had been warned that the quarters of Ludhiana were dangerous and unfit for habitation. The regiment nevertheless, entered them in March, 1846. On the night of the 21st May, a severe dust storm set in, and down came the barracks. Fifty-one men, 18 women, and 29 children were picked out dead from under the ruins; 126 men, 39 women, and 34 children were injured, a great number of them permanently or seriously. The battalion, reduced to about 350 men by its war losses, was virtually blotted out. The curious will find the details in the reminiscences of the once-celebrated Mr. John Lang, who adds in connection therewith an anecdote that is worth recalling. The Colonel of a Queen's regiment serving in India wrote to a brother, who was an M.P., to beg him to bring forward the condition of the soldier. "My dear George," was the reply, "your story would only be received with an ironical hear, hear! followed by a series of coughs, as though the subject had given the House a sudden chill and a very bad cold..... Find out some indigo planter who has been, or is supposed to be, guilty of some sort of oppression towards a sable cultivator of the soil, and we will pretty soon grind his bones to make our bread; but for Heaven's sake, and for the sake of the House of Commons, don't inflict upon us your British soldiers."—*Pioneer Mail*, Dec. 12th, 1902.

6, North Guildry Street,
Elgin, N.B.,
1/12/02.

To the Editor,

Sir,

Hoping I am not taking up your valuable time and space, I wish to say a few words. I was invalided from Aden with curvature of spine to the Royal Herbert Hospital in May, 1901, and finally discharged the Service, September, 1901, and put on pension of 1s. per day for 12 months, and then I had it renewed for the same amount. Well, to my surprise, I received subsequently a notice to the effect that I had it increased to 2s. for permanent, for which I am exceedingly grateful, as this makes ten months in bed with two abscesses running in back, and have not been able to do a stroke of work since

discharge. I am writing this mostly for the information of C Co., and to let persons know how thankful I am.

Thanking you in anticipation,

I remain yours respectfully,

F. G. ROBINSON.

OBITUARY.

A distinguished soldier passes away in Maj.-Gen. C. A. FitzGerald Creagh, formerly colonel commanding the 2nd Batt. South Staffordshire Regt., who, we regret to record, has died at Kelton Lodge, Rush, in his 64th year. The late officer was the eldest son of Col. Giles Vandeleur Creagh, of the Rifle Brigade, and entered the army in Sept., 1854. In the following September he accompanied the 50th Regiment to the Crimea, where he served until the conclusion of the campaign. He was gazetted captain in 1863, and shortly after saw the opening of the New Zealand War, through which he served with much success until its close three years later. Among the many actions in which he took part were the storming and capture of Rangiawhia, repulse of the enemy's attack on the camp at Nukumaru, and the capture of the fortified village of Kitemari. He rendered excellent services during the Zulu War of 1879, first in command of three companies of the 80th Regiment, and subsequently as commandant of the Leydenburg District, when he had charge of a detachment of Colonial Horse sent in pursuit of Cetewayo. He added further to his splendid reputation in the operations against Sekukuni, and again during the Nile expedition of 1884-85, in which he commanded the 2nd Batt. South Staffordshire. In 1886 he was promoted colonel, and in April, 1887, was placed on the retired list, with the rank he held at his demise.

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Extra Copies or back numbers can always be supplied.

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All Subscriptions payable in advance, and all Correspondence be addressed to "THE EDITOR," The Queen's Own Gazette, The Barracks, Maidstone."

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS

OF

THE QUEEN'S OWN (ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT.)

No. 332.

MAIDSTONE, FEBRUARY, 1903.

[Vol. XXI, No. 2.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

LINE BATTALIONS.

Capt. C. E. Kitson is seconded for service as Adjutant of Volunteers, dated 3rd December, 1902.

The undermentioned officers on relinquishing their temporary commissions, are granted honorary rank, with permission to wear the uniform of their Company:—Capt. B. H. Latter, Hon. rank of Captain, dated 28th June, 1902; Lieut. P. J. F. McCracken, Hon. rank of Lieutenant, dated 28th June, 1902.

Capt. J. O'Dowda to be Adjutant, vice Capt. H. S. Bush, resigned, dated 1st January, 1903.

1st BATTALION.

Appointed Sergeant-Instructor of Musketry—Sergt. W. Dark, 14th December, 1902.

2nd BATTALION.

Appointed Orderly Room Sergeant—Sergt. R. Thorne, 2nd December, 1902.

Promoted Sergeants—Lce.-Sergt. J. Argent, 26th September, 1902; Corppls. F. Howard, 9th December 1902, W. Gillespie, 9th December, 1902, C. Pierce, 1st November, 1902.

Appointed Lance-Sergeants—Corppls. J. Argent, B. Reynolds, and W. Mallon, 23rd September, 1902; A. Reynolds, 26th September, 1902; J. Ventham, 5th October, 1902.

Promoted Corporals—Lce.-Corppls. J. Teer, 26th September, 1902; J. Wellard, 8th October, 1902; G. Camplin, 24th December, 1902.

Appointed Lance-Corporals—Ptes. A. Elliott, 11th December, 1902; W. Carrington, 26th November, 1902; Dr. J. Wall, 11th December, 1902; Ptes. J. Furby and T. Merrick, 19th December, 1902; S. Joyce, 20th December, 1902; G. Gore, 22nd December, 1902; A. Jacobs, 21st December, 1902; W. Arnold, J. Boldy, G. Julyan, J. Sheen G. Sharratt, B. McGarry, 30th December, 1902.

3rd BATTALION.

George Secombe, gent., late Lieutenant Imperial Yeomanry, to be Second-Lieutenant, dated 17th January, 1903.
Capt. G. Wilson is seconded for service under the Foreign Office, dated 13th November, 1902.

2nd VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Lieut. G. R. Edey to be Instructor of Musketry, dated 7th January, 1903.

Capt. B. H. Latter to be Major.

The Secretary of State has nominated Colonel E. Satterthwaite to serve on the Advisory Board for Volunteers.

3rd VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Major J. J. Murphy resigns his Commission, dated 24th January 1903.

4th VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Sergt. (Acting-Sergt.-Major) L. Carter is promoted Colour-Sergeant, dated 12th December, 1902.

REGIMENTAL MEMORIAL.

Major A. Martyn, adjutant of the 50th Regimental District desires to acknowledge the receipt of the following sums:—

	£	s.	d.
Lieut.-Col. C. M. Churchill	...	3	3 0
Capt. E. L. Heygate	...	2	2 0
Major E. V. Hewitt	...	1	0 0
Capt. W. H. B. Long	...	3	3 0
Capt. G. Morpew...	...	1	1 0
Capt. C. F. Hitchens	...	1	1 0
Major C. Tootell	...	2	2 0
Lieut.-Col. H. D. Armstrong	...	5	5 0
Sergt. Dadd, Army Reserve	...	0	2 6
Mr. W. Osman	...	0	5 0

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I wish to take this opportunity of saying how much all of us appreciated the kindly welcome we got at Southampton on our arrival home after more than 20 years foreign service. We were met by Colonel T. H. Brock, Major Dalison, Captains Hotham, Pedley, and Simpson, who had for 24 hours patiently awaited the arrival of the S.S. *Dominion*, unfortunately delayed by a strong head wind and current.

We began the disembarkation at 9 a.m. on 13th Dec., and were lucky enough to get away at 1 p.m., leaving B Company, under the command of Captain Molony, to bring along the heavy baggage of the Battalion. We arrived at Shorncliffe at 7.30 p.m., where every arrangement had been made for our comfort by Captains Lowe and Bush, and Lieut. and Qr.-Mstr. Willis.

161 N.C.O.'s and men who had been attached to the 1st Provisional Battalion were already in possession of the barracks, and so we found suppers waiting for all the men. Our two troop trains arrived within half an hour of each other, so everyone was comfortably settled by 9 p.m. On the following Monday, Brig.-Gen. Franklyn, C.B., came and inspected us. He said that 50 per cent. of the N.C.O.'s and men might be sent on furlough at once, and nearly all of them departed the next day to visit their relations and friends. A good many of the Officers, too, were allowed to go on leave till the middle of January.

The weather fortunately was very mild, and the men did not find it very trying after the hot summer in Malta.

On the 1st of January, Captain H. S. Bush relinquished the appointment of Adjutant in order to proceed to the Ordnance College, where he will remain for a year before going into the Ordnance Department. We shall miss him terribly this cricket season, unless he can get away to play for us. We all wish him every success, and regret the loss of one of the best all-round sportsmen the Battalion ever had.

On the 2nd January we had a contingent of 65 men, who had been sent from the 2nd Battalion. These men were sent home because they were under 20 years of age, and consequently too young to serve in India. Sergt. Firman, who came home with these men, joined the Battalion with seven men from the Depot on the 5th January.

The Details from the 1st Provisional Battalion and the draft from South Africa, together with 60 recruits that joined us from the Depot on the 7th January, bring our numbers up to the satisfactory total of 847 of all ranks.

On the 3rd January the annual Christmas tree festivities for the wives and families of our married N.C.O.'s and men were held in the Regimental Institutes, and thanks to the energy of Major and Mrs. Rowe, Major and Mrs. Annesley, and Captain Burt, the entertainment was a great success. First and foremost came the tea, and the band played while all the children were thoroughly enjoying themselves. After tea the children were taken to another room, where a "Punch and Judy" show kept them in roars of laughter for the better part of an hour. The conjurer who had promised to come down failed to appear, and so everyone adjourned to the Christmas Tree, which was gaily decorated and brilliant with light. Every child was called forward in turn and received a specially selected gift, and when the sweets had been distributed, they all departed home, after heartily cheering those who had endeavoured to entertain them.

The mild weather that welcomed us home has gone, and a succession of severe frosts accompanied by East winds, such as Shorncliffe Camp alone can furnish, has tried our tempers sorely.

We were all delighted to hear better news of Lieut.-Col. Harrison about the middle of the month, and that in all probability he would be able to leave the Hospital in Malta about the end of the month. Whether he will be allowed to venture home in this cold is extremely doubtful, but we are looking forward to his rejoining as soon as the weather becomes milder.

Many thanks for the kind wishes for our football team, but I am sorry to say that at present our team leaves much to be desired. We were unfortunate in losing two or three of our best men, who went with the draft from Malta to the 2nd Battalion, but we hope the 2nd Battalion team will find them useful in Ceylon.

Most of the team went on furlough on the 15th December, and only returned in the middle of January. Again, our stay in Aden, followed by an unhealthy Summer in Malta, militates considerably against the training for a football team competing in the Army Cup Competition. We meet the 1st Royal Dragoons on the 28th January, and I shall better be able to describe the merits of the team after their first match in England.

The performances of the 2nd Battalion team before they went abroad, makes us keenly realise what patience and trouble are necessary to bring an eleven to such a pitch of excellence. If the material is to be got, I am sure we shall do our best to train it.

On Friday, the 16th January, the Officers of the Depot gave a dance in the Gymnasium, and nearly all of us went over from Shorncliffe and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENT.

2nd BATTALION CORESPONDENCE.

Colombo,

January 15th.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

This letter is, I'm afraid, a bit late this month owing to the fact that I waited an extra week for the Kandy Correspondent, who, however, has failed to favour me with a contribution. The Battalion is now split up into four detachments, a state of things we all fervently hope will be remedied before long, the work for both officers and men, especially at Colombo, where there are three companies and only two duty officers, is everywhere very heavy. Of course all regimental polo, hockey, football or cricket, is absolutely impossible under existing conditions.

The Trincomali Correspondent writes under date January 1st:—

A and F Companies arrived round here in the "Golconda" on November 25th; the officers with the detachment were Captain Lees (A Company) in command; A Company's officers: 2nd-Lieuts. Lowry-Corry and Case-Morris; F Company, Lieut. Elgood and 2nd-Lieut. Tulloch. However,

a few days later 2nd-Lieut. Lowry-Corry was ordered home at once, as he is going into the Army Ordnance department. We were pleasantly surprised with the aspect of the place, as it is very beautiful, especially the harbour, which is nearly land-locked and capable of holding a very large fleet. There are no ships in here at present, but it is their headquarters, and when they are here the place is much more lively; at present it is a bit slow and not much going on. Our barracks are large and roomy, the men's bungalows very comfortable and beautifully situated, and built with special regard to coolness, a most necessary matter in heat as great as this.

Our manœuvring ground is very restricted, on three sides we are tightly hedged in by dense jungle, while on the other is the open sea. The jungle itself is impenetrable except along native tracks. It swarms with deadly snakes, too; these snakes are rather a nuisance, every day we kill three or four quite close to the quarters; they are particularly hard on dogs, in fact it is almost useless trying to keep the latter. We hear wonderful reports of the shooting to be obtained near here, but at present there has been no opportunity of sampling it, though we hope to do so soon. About thirteen miles away bear, leopards, and spotted deer are to be found in plenty.

We have done very well in the football line at present, having beaten both the R.E. and R.A., as well as the Sports Club here. The men have also taken to hockey wonderfully well, and show signs of turning out very good at it, but of course we find it very hard to get opponents in this out of the way spot. Our last match against the R.A. at football was not a great success, the game was exceedingly rough all through, and considerable feeling was exhibited by one or two of our opponents. With nothing scored the game was stopped by the referee ten minutes from the end, but not before two or three of our team had been more or less seriously injured.

From the Colombo Correspondent

Colombo,

January 12th.

B Company, under Major Brock-Hollinshead and 2nd-Lieut. Dinwiddy, came down here from D'Lawa on January 4th to take over the duties from the Gloucesters, who were due to leave on the 5th for Lucknow. While we were still taking over barracks from them, a wire arrived saying that they must embark immediately, consequently barracks were only half taken over, and things left in a state of chaos. On the 7th H and E Companies, with the Band and drums, arrived from Head-quarters; Captain Hastings was the only officer with them, in fact, the paucity of officers is very serious. There are three Companies here now and only two officers for duty; the duty too, is very heavy for both N.C.O.'s and men, and we are anxiously waiting the verdict about the number of Companies that are eventually going to be stationed here. We presume that for the greater part of the year there will always be two Companies going through field training and musketry at Diyetalawa, so that unless the garrison is withdrawn from either Kandy or Trincomali, we shall remain only a Three-Company station.

Articles were published in the newspapers here saying that the Band was going to remain up-country, and it was quite amusing to hear the residents' expressions of dismay and disgust. Colombo apparently loves its military band, and, as one lady remarked, "the place would be unbearable without it." However, the Band turned up all right, and the storm-cloud of sorrow passed away! The president, Capt. Hastings, has been inundated with letters trying to make engagements for the services of the Band, but has put his stern veto upon great and small, until such time as the performers should be decently and completely rigged out in white clothing.

The Echelon Barracks are very fine and roomy, pretty cool, too; that is, as cool as can be expected in a climate where to raise one's little finger is to sweat. The officers' mess is palatial, but at present unoccupied, owing to the fewness of our officers. At present we are living and messing in the Bristol Hotel, which is very handy to the barracks. We have a comfortable little mess of five there, but as Major and Mrs. Brock-Hollinshead move into the C.O.'s bungalow to-day, only Captain Hastings and 2nd-Lieuts. Dinwiddy and Hewitt (the acting Quarter-master) will remain; however, we expect Lieuts. Fiennes and Norman out next week, so will be better off then. The people in Colombo seem very hospitable, and there is always something going on. We had two days' racing and two dances last week, but it's a bit too warm to really enjoy anything, much less to dance. Most people go in for sport and games of every description in Colombo, in spite of the heat, and there is great excitement over our first appearance on the football field this afternoon. The Ceylon papers have all had articles praising our football prowess, and giving us a mythical reputation. They seem oblivious to the fact (which however has been pointed out to them) that G, F, D, and C, the four strongest Companies, are all absent from Colombo. Our match to-day is against the Colombo Football Club, who have a very great reputation, and have generally been more than able to hold their own with the military teams stationed here. The ground is a very fine one on the Galle-Face, with only a road between it and the sea; it is perhaps the coolest place in Colombo, but even at 5 p.m., when we kick off, the heat is very great.

The team is:—Goal, Lce.-Corpl. Kemp; backs, Lieut. Dinwiddy and Dr. F. Thompson; half-backs, Pte. Price, Sergt. Dorrell, Pte. Parker; forwards, Pte. Falshaw and Col.-Sergt. Spooner, Lieut. Hewitt (Captain), Pte. Davis and Dr. Thompson.

We are also making a start with cricket on Thursday, against the R.G.A., who have a very useful team. Of course, we will only have an experimental eleven, as there has been no chance at all, so far, of finding out talent.

Tuesday Evening.

We have just finished our soccer game against Colombo. We were beaten by four goals to two, but if anything, had the best of the game, and the last two goals of our opponents were; to say the least, lucky, one of them being handed through, and the other obviously offside. Though playing with a strong breeze behind us in the first half, we

were two goals to the bad at the interval, but on resuming our forwards rushed right down, and Lieut. Hewitt scored a goal. Almost immediately afterwards a penalty kick for a very heavy foul charge on the same player afforded Pte. Davis an opportunity to notch a second goal. The scores were now equal, but amidst cries of "offside" from spectators and players our opponents got ahead, and just on time hit the ball through again from a corner. Beaten, but not disgraced! In fact the team played surprisingly well, the passing of the forwards being conspicuously good; Col.-Sergt. Spooner especially evincing much of his old skill and trickiness. Sergt. Dorrell at half was in great form, but generally the halves were out of their places, and never marked the wing men, who were both of more than average speed. The backs were both good, especially in the second half; at first they were inclined to get in each other's way.

Headquarters, Diyatalawa,

January 13th.

The great pressure of work has appreciably slackened with the departure of B, H and E Companies for Colombo; in fact, this place has now become merely the camp for companies doing Field Training and Musketry. At present D company is doing the annual course on the range, and C company finding the camp duties. D have had the worst possible weather, continual rain and mist, but are coming out of the ordeal with credit. The fate of this company after completing their training is at present unknown; they hope to get to Colombo, but apparently changes will be very frequent, and no company is likely to remain in one place for many months at a time.

The adjutant is very busy putting 25 recruits through their musketry, many of them being boys in the band. They will be fit to start on the range in another two or three days.

Very few Boer prisoners are left here now, not above 20 all told, and some of these were due to have left long ago, but were sick in hospital. About 15 irreconcilables, who were to have left for Java about 10 days ago, caused considerable trouble because one of their number, who is being sent back to South Africa on trial for High Treason, was not allowed to go with them. They were lulled into a sense of security by being told that their reasonable friend could go with them, so with much rejoicing they were packed into the train and sent down country, but outside Colombo the train was stopped, and, under escort, they were marched straight into the jail, where for their sins they are beating the fibre out of cocoanut husks—moist work in a tropical climate!

After one false start, Capt. Pack-Beresford sailed for England, for duty at the Depot, on the "Orontes" last Wednesday. He had orders to leave in the "Dunera" via South Africa, and had actually started down country, but a timely telegram cancelled his departure. Lieut. Joslin arrived in Colombo to-day, and is coming up here for a few days before proceeding to Trincomali to join his company.

2ND BATTALION CORRESPONDENT.

DEPOT INTELLIGENCE.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS TREAT.

The annual Children's Christmas Tea and Entertainment took place at the Gymnasium, Maidstone, on Thursday, 8th January. Mrs. Brock, the wife of the Commanding Officer, took the matter in hand, and with the assistance of Captain and Mrs. Couch and assistants, made it a complete success.

Assembling at the Sergeants' Mess, the children, or a portion of them, for it was a wet day, marched behind the band to the Gymnasium, where on arrival they found a feast spread, and the children were delighted at the good things laid out for them, the preparation of which fell on Mesdames. Funnell, Blount, and Cates; Sergt. Dugan brewing the tea, which was pronounced by the women very good, and they ought to know.

After tea the room was cleared to make room for a Ventriloquist and conjuror, and after he had had his say the curtain hiding the immense Christmas Tree was drawn aside and Father Christmas—Clr.-Sergt. Chiswell—made his bow to the company, and in a neat speech gave good advice to the youngsters, making a happy reference to the child who pulled up the notice board, "Keep off the grass," and marched around the flower beds with the board at the slope. After each child had received, at the hands of Mrs. Brock, a present taken from the tree, a general romp was indulged in till 8.30 p.m., and just before dispersal the children received a bag of sweets, orange and bun.

Amongst those present were Colonel Brock, Major Martyn, Captains Hotham and Allfrey, and Lieuts. Belgrave and Ricketts. The officiating Clergymen—The Rev. Canon S. Joy, G. LeBosquet, and R. Crozier, also Major and Mrs. Eyre, Major Daniell, Mrs. and Miss Joy.

We would like to ask the seniors to avoid giving way to their inclination to dance to the band when children are romping amongst themselves, it is neither a pleasure to themselves or safe for the little ones, for whom the entertainment is provided.

On January 16th the officers of the Depot gave a dance in the Gymnasium. Some two hundred people accepted, and, in due course, arrived at the specially erected entrance. The decorations inside were described as looking like "Fairyland." The 1st Battalion band, stationed at the further end, played excellent dance music. The supper served in the Canteen, and connected with the Gymnasium by a temporary covered-in passage, was pronounced a great success. It was certainly beautifully arranged and managed. The only thing that in any way marred what was described outside as The Ball, was the bitter and intense cold. Altogether it was a most successful and enjoyable evening.

BILLIARD HANDICAP.

An interesting Billiard Handicap was arranged amongst the members of the Sergeants' Mess, Depot, during January, and resulted as below stated.

FIRST ROUND.

Sergt.-Major Funnell, owe 30, 250, beat Mr. Stroud, rec. 64, 200; Q.M.S. Bass, rec. 25, 250, beat Clr.-Sergt. Palmer, rec. 66, 179; Clr.-Sergt. Hunt, rec. 60, 250, beat Sergt. Coe, rec. 71, 200; Clr.-Sergt. Grellier, owe 34, 250, beat Sergt. Edwards, rec. 26, 232; Sergt. Dugay, scratch, 250, beat Sergt. Selves, rec. 34, 167; Sergt. Merrick, rec. 21, 250, beat Clr.-Sergt. Wimhurst, rec. 24, 207; Clr.-Sergt. Bass, scratch, 250, beat Sergt. Blount, rec. 5, 226; Clr.-Sergt. Osborne, rec. 25, 250, beat Clr.-Sergt. Outten, rec. 40, 195; Sergt. McGregor, rec. 10, 250, beat Clr.-Sergt. Chiswell, rec. 21, 233; Q.M.S. Bourne, rec. 12, 250, beat Clr.-Sergt. W. Neighbour, scratch. 210.

Byes—Clr.-Sergts. Colyer, rec. 23, Taylor, scratch; Neighbour, rec. 22, B. W. Pearce, rec. 34, Sergt.-Dr. Gee, owe 48, Sergt.-Inst. M. Evenden, rec. 19.

SECOND ROUND.

Col.-Sergt. Osborne 250, beat Col.-Sergt. Taylor 203; Col.-Sergt. Bass 250, beat Col.-Sergt. Grellier 208; Col.-Sergt. Colyer 250, beat Sergt.-Inst. M. Evenden 238; Col.-Sergt. F. Neighbour 250, beat B. W. Pearce 218; Sergt. Dugay 250, beat Col.-Sergt. Hunt 186; Sergt.-Dr. Gee 250, beat Q.M.S. Bourne 245; Sergt.-Major Funnell 250, beat Sergt. McGregor 218; Sergt. Merrick 250, beat Q.M.S. Bass 184.

THIRD ROUND.

Sergt.-Dmr. Gee 250, beat Sergt. Dugay 104; Col.-Sergt. Bass 250, beat Col.-Sergt. Neighbour 215; Sergt. Merrick 250, beat Col.-Sergt. Colyer 230; Sergt.-Major Funnell 250, beat Col.-Sergt. Osborne 233.

FOURTH ROUND.

Sergt.-Major Funnell 250, beat Sergt.-Dr. Gee 242; Sergt.-Merrick 250, beat Col.-Sergt. Bass 205.

FINAL.

Sergt.-Major Funnell 250, beat Sergt. Merrick 218.

ROUND FOR THIRD PRIZE.

Col.-Sergt. Bass 250, beat Sergt.-Dr. Gee 173.

RESULT.

First, Sergt.-Major Funnell; Second, Sergt. Merrick; Third, Col.-Sergt. Bass.

DEPOT FOOTBALL.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

There is a great depression in football circles just now. Before a certain match I was asked four times by four different people in twenty minutes, "What is to be done"? My reply was, "The best under the circumstances." To come to the point, the flower of the team left us on Sat. 31st. Sergts. Edwards, Selves, Merrick, and Pte. Davis will have to be replaced, and the recruits at the Depot will have to do it. During the month of January, out of five matches we only lost one.

In our Company League we only played one match, so many things happening to prevent us from playing. This match was between B Co. and D Co. The result was 6 goals to 2 in favour of D Co. B Co played up well, but were not strong enough to win. It was a good game, keenly fought. The result of the competition up to the end of January is:—

	P	W	L	D	Pts.
A	3	3	0	0	6
D	4	3	1	0	6
C	4	1	3	0	2
B	5	1	4	0	2

What the result will be now that so many football players have left us, one cannot say, but anyhow, A and D Cos. mean to make a terrific effort for it.

1903. Jan. 3rd.—Our first match in the Maidstone Charity League was against St. Peter's. We scored an easy win by 8 goals to nil.

Jan. 10th.—Our return match with Burham Invicta on their ground, a very curious ground, by the way, ended in a draw, three goals all. The score hardly represented the merits of the two teams, two of their goals being extremely lucky ones.

Jan. 17th.—On this date the Rovers being unable to get a team together to play us, had to scratch, thereby giving us two points.

Jan. 21st.—We played a friendly match against Maidstone Excelsior, beating them handsomely by 6 goals to 3. Sergt. Edwards and Pte. Wright played well.

Jan. 24th.—Our first venture against Aylesford was also an easy win for us by 4 goals to 1, although two of our best men were away, playing, I believe, for the 1st Batt. at Shorncliffe.

Jan. 31st.—Our only loss this month was against East Malling, and there is no doubt that had not most of our players been away, it would have been another easy win. As it was, we lost by 1 goal to nil.

FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT.

VOLUNTEER INTELLIGENCE.

SECOND VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

We hope the following appeal will meet with a ready response.

AN APPEAL TO PATRIOTISM.

To the Editor of *The Kentish Mercury*.

SIR,—As officer commanding the 2nd Vol. Batt. The Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) I take this opportunity of appealing to two large classes of the inhabitants of this district. The two classes are, firstly, the young men of 17 years of age and upwards, and secondly, the employers of the men. I appeal to the first class to fill the vacancies in the battalion caused by the expiration of the three years' term of service of those who joined during the enthusiasm of the earlier days of the South African war. And I appeal to the second class, the employers, to encourage the men to join and to make it easy for them to get away for their six days' camp in the August of at least every other year, and on two or more Saturday afternoons in the spring and summer for training in the open and practice on the range. Apart altogether from feelings of patriotism I feel sure that employers will not regret any assistance they can give in this matter, for their employees will become better all-round men in physique, industry, and in discipline from their association with the Volunteer Force which exists for the defence of the country. I acknowledge with gratitude the consideration shown to their workmen by a large number of employers of labour, and I hope to receive similar assistance from many to whom the points in favour of my request may not previously have been fully brought home. To the men I would say that they need have little fear that the new volunteer regulations, modified as they have lately been, will unduly interfere with their work or their pleasure; the less so if I am able to enlist the sympathy of their employers. I would also say to those who think of joining that they will become members of a battalion which has always done well, is up-to-date in work and instruction, and affords, at Holly Hedge House, Blackheath, and the other company headquarters, the best social advantages. I append below a rough sketch of the terms of enrolment and efficiency.

E. SATTERTHWAITE, Colonel

Holly Hedge House, Blackheath,

January 1st.

The terms of enrolment and efficiency are:—Service, 3 years; uniform and accoutrements free; entrance fee, 5s. Training; Recruits (1st year), 40 drills and camp; trained men (subsequent years), 10 company training drills and camp at least every other year. Musketry at present can be completed on one or two Saturdays. Prize shooting and practice voluntary. Camp every other year for six days; while in camp all rations and railway tickets are found, and 1s. 6d. per day pay. Cyclist sections at Blackheath, Beckenham, Bromley, and Dartford; the machines are insured against accidents.

OUR LOCAL VOLUNTEERS.

To the Editor of *The Kentish Mercury*.

SIR,—The event of the week has been, I think, the visit of General Sir John French to Greenwich. Those who had the honour and pleasure of being present at the gallant General's reception, whether at Greenwich or Blackheath, must have perceived a certain feeling on the part of the non-civilian element that the volunteer movement at Blackheath and district was not as it should be. Now, Sir, so far as the weakness is general throughout the country a national remedy is the only one, but so far as it is local, and peculiar to the 2nd West Kent and its neighbours, now is the time for enquiry as to the cause, and for finding a remedy. Perhaps some responsible authority at Holly Hedge will say what assistance the volunteers want, and what form it should take.—I am, Sir, &c.,

S.H.

January 7th.

On Saturday, January 3rd, Greenwich was honoured with a visit from Lieut.-General Sir John French, K.C.B., to distribute the prizes to M (Greenwich) Company of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion, and opportunity was taken to present him, on the occasion, with an address from the Borough Council. Sir John arrived at Greenwich shortly after one o'clock, and proceeded to the residence of Captain E. A. Lovibond (commanding M Company), at Blue Stile, Greenwich-road. General French drove to the Head Quarters of the Battalion, Holly Hedge House, Blackheath, where the officers were "at home" to some four hundred guests. The drill hall was tastefully and appropriately decorated with bunting and trophies, and the Winchester Orchestra rendered a selection. Subsequently General French dined with Captain Lovibond and a party of friends in one of the rooms at the Borough Hall.

THE PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

The forty-second annual event of the kind in connection with the Company, took place in the Borough Hall. Among those present were Sir Albert John Durston, K.C.B., Chief Engineer of the Fleet, the Mayor of Greenwich, the Vicar of Greenwich, Colonel Satterthwaite, Colonel Barter, Colonel Frigout, Major Morris, Surgeon-Major C. H. Hartt, Surgeon-Major Roberts, Captains E. A. Lovibond, (commanding M Company), Simpson, Grant, B. H. Latter, E. J. Dolphin, T. N. Dinwiddy, D. Dinwiddy, M. C. Matthews (Assistant Secretary N.R.A.), and G. Morphew, Surgeon-Captain Fegan, Lieut. French, R.F.A., Lieut. Trousdel, the Town Clerk, and Messrs F. W. Warmington, L.C.C., Hamilton, Benn, K. Lewis, J. C. Lovibond, S. M. K. Grant, C. R. Satterthwaite, E. L. Grant, F. W. Lovibond, A. W. Laidlaw, A. W. G. Batchelor, M. Poore, &c.

In an interval of the musical programme Captain Lovibond said that the day had been a red letter day for Greenwich and M Company. He expressed his appreciation of the General's kindness in coming there to distribute the prizes, and remarked that during the war he had met with absolutely no reverse (loud applause). South Africa had been declared to be the grave of a good many soldiers' re-

putations, but it had not proved so in the case of Sir John French, who had shown what a Man of Kent could do (applause). He had come there that evening to present prizes to Kentish Men, and he was only voicing the opinion of the Battalion, and of the Company, when he said that if they went on active service they hoped that they might be led by that illustrious soldier who was with them that night. The history of the Greenwich volunteers was an interesting one. In 1775 there were Greenwich Fencibles in existence, and later on, when the body of Nelson lay in state, Greenwich Volunteers formed the guard of honour. They were an old body, and Greenwich had always been ready to help them—the cup which was to be presented to them that evening had been given them by the town, and he was glad to be able to tell them that Mr. F. W. Warming-ton, L.C.C., had promised them a cup for next year. They had lately shot a match with old members of the Greenwich Company, who maintained great interest in the company's welfare. The old members were such good shots that for the last year or two, as this, they had beaten them. They comprised in their team the best shots that had been in the Company, and, with the modern rifle, once a man had learned to shoot he could always shoot. So he did not think it was any disgrace to be beaten by their old members. The best shot in the Company was Corpl. H. Goodsell. In concluding, Captain Lovibond asked for recruits.—Sir John French, at the request of Colonel Satterthwaite, decorated Sergt. Curtis with the Long Service Medal, and Colonel Satterthwaite, in a few words, wished the Company success. He thanked Sir John for having spared the time to come to Greenwich and honour them by distributing the prizes—knowing the enormous amount of work he had to do in connection with the organization of the First Army Corps they should be truly grateful to him.

Sir John French, having distributed the prizes said he should always remember gratefully the kind reception he had been accorded. He had first of all to congratulate them on the good work done by the smart and efficient contingent which the Battalion sent to South Africa. He thought that every Volunteer throughout the whole Empire had reason to be proud of the spirit of national patriotism shown by the whole force, at the critical time of the war, when re-inforcements were required. It was a great matter of congratulation for volunteers, and every volunteer must think so. The volunteers were then tried and not found wanting (applause). It showed the stuff of which they were made, and they demonstrated practically, their value as an important part of the Imperial Forces of the Empire. He asked volunteers to remember that all Imperial soldiers, they and regulars alike, had their work now before them. The war was over, but they could not rest. They could see clearly that the war had taught them most valuable lessons (hear, hear). They had learnt, above all things, that they had to prepare for war during the time of peace—there was no use in sitting idle and doing nothing. What they had to do was to take to heart the lessons the war had taught them. They stood first among the nations of the world in the knowledge of what war really was. They had seen the latest arms of precision really at work, and had had opportunities of understanding their effect. They could gauge their strength and their weakness, and it was for them to learn those lessons and take them to heart. They had paid a heavy price, both in the

loss of beloved friends and comrades, and in money—let them get the best value they could for that price (applause). First as to recruiting. He thought himself, and he was sure it was getting to be a universal opinion throughout the country, that everybody should take his proper share in the defence of the country (hear, hear, and applause). In England they had had a magnificent example of national patriotism. They saw men leave their homes, work, and everything in what they considered their country's need. He thought every able-bodied man should think of that example and ask himself if he were really taking his fair share for the defence of the country. Surely there were many who could, if they would, join the volunteers. It was the only way they had of paying the debt they owed to their country, and it should not be a matter of inclination, but a matter of duty (applause). He meant that that was, for able-bodied men, the best way they could help their country, but of course there were other ways. Employers of labour could encourage their men to join the volunteers and give them facilities for doing so, landowners could facilitate by permitting the use of their ground, and there were innumerable ways. The women of England helped—the other day at Edinburgh, by means of a four days' bazaar, ladies raised £12,000 to erect needed headquarters for the volunteers there. One word to those who were actually in the volunteers. If they had learnt anything at all by their experiences during the last three years they had learnt that war demanded now as it had never done before, in the highest degree, the very highest order of peace training. For success men must be ready, and surely, then, it must be their bounden duty to make every possible sacrifice of time and trouble to render themselves efficient. To come up to the standard which modern war required they had to be ready when called upon in defence of their country, they required physical training of the body to enable them to stand fatigue and hardship, culture of the mind to give them knowledge, self-reliance, and resource, and constant practice on the ranges to make them efficient in the use of the splendid weapon put into their hands. Those were qualities which in volunteers required attention (applause).—*Kentish Mercury*.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt, with many thanks, of the following subscriptions:—To June, 1903, Sergt. Dadd. To September, 1903, Sergt.-Instructor H. Evans. To 31st December, 1903, Col. J. H. Vandermeulen, Miss Clarke, E. J. Elgood, Esq., F. Grey, Esq., Lieut.-Col. C. Churchill, D. P. Walker, Esq., Capt. R. J. Roche, Major N. H. Leckie, Lieut.-Col. H. Wilson, Mr. S. Rhocds, Mrs. Miller, Col. G. Henderson, Sergt.-Instructor C. Maynard, Mr. W. Osman. To 31st December, 1904, Capt. Laurie.

DEATHS.

At Maidstone, on 25th January, Ernest, the son of Pte. M. Free, Depot, aged 9 months.

✓ On 23th December, 1902, No. 1291 Pte. F. Parvin, 2nd Battalion, Ceylon, fracture of skull.

At Maidstone, on 7th January, Stanley, the son of Lce.-Corpl. J. Bance, Depot, aged 1 year.

A correspondent kindly sends us the following, being of local interest:—

In reading the memorials of Malling by Rev. C. H. Fielding it is very remarkable the number of entries this register of West Malling contain of military persons thus:—

1701, Aug. 16, Anthony Gilly, a trooper buried.

1702, March 28, Anthony Foehard, a trooper Duke Schomberg's Horse buried.

1714, Aug. 24, a soldier belonging to my Lord Orloney's Regiment of Foot buried.

Mr. Fielding, with reference to this, says: "He inserts these notices as matters of history, as they show us how the regiments were distinguished before numerals or territorial designations were given to the divisions of our army." My reason, however, for making these jottings is to enquire whether West Malling was at any time used as a Military Camp, but more especially at the beginning of the 18th century?

I will mention a few more entries which have a special interest to members of the "Queen's Own" (50th) Royal West Kent Regiment. Possibly they have been noted by the author of the History of the Regiment, but if not I beg to direct his attention to them. Every isolated fact in this History wants to be collated.

Alice, daughter of Gilbert and Eleanor Graham, of the 50th Regiment, baptised December 11, 1773.

Grace, daughter of Thomas and Grace Upstone, of the 50th Regiment baptised Dec. 18th, 1773.

Under deaths for Jan. 14, 1780, Grace Upstone an infant of the 50th Regiment, buried. Other entries are:

June 14, 1779, John, son of Thomas and Susannah Meham, of the Buckingham Militia, was baptised.

Jan. 17, 1794. John Doidge, a soldier of the South Devon Militia, buried.

December 26, 1799, Joseph Barlow, a soldier of the Royal Wagon Team buried.

We recently received an appeal for assistance from the Rev. T. G. Hill, Vicar of Holy Cross, Canterbury, on behalf of No. 23 Pte. C. Blackman, late 97th Regiment, now about 71 years of age and unable to work. What the man wished for was a sum to start himself with an organ to eke out a livelihood. Temporary assistance has been given, but should any of our readers desire to give any further aid, the Adjutant, 50th Regimental District, Maidstone, is willing to accept any sums sent, which will be doled out by the Rev. gentleman, above-named.

The Widow of the late Sergeant-Major Jonathan Gould, late of the 1st Battalion, who died at Colchester in 1880, is in very distressed circumstances. The case is strongly recommended by Mrs. Wilson, wife of Lieut.-Colonel Wilson, D.S.O. Rifle Brigade, Commanding 9th Provisional Battalion, Colchester. Colonel Brock will be pleased to forward any donations that may be sent to him to Mrs. Wilson, who has kindly consented to see that it is expended to the best advantage.

The following order may appear to some as strange reading:—We are apt to laugh at orders of the days gone by. In years to come, no doubt, our successors will have a good laugh at the following:—

1. General Officer Commanding Transvaal and Orange River Colonies, as President of the Committee for Administration of the Funds of the S.A.G. Institutes, has sanctioned the Free Issue of 1 Plum Pudding on Xmas Day to the value of 1/3, and 1 pint of beer value 3d., or equivalents, total value 1/6 per head of N.C.O.'s and Men of the Troops composing the Imperial Forces in South Africa, who are entitled to deal at S.A.G. Institutes.

2. Officers Commanding will please render as soon as possible (by wire if necessary) to the Canteen Managers of the Districts in which they are serving, statements showing the numbers for whom they are entitled to draw Puddings, and the Stations where they should be delivered.

3. This issue will not be made to men in Hospital, but Medical Officers in charge of Hospitals may on application to the Managing Directors S.A.G. Institutes, Pretoria, obtain an order for the free issue from the Institute of a limited quantity of Cigarettes and Tobacco or other such articles, for the use of the Patients on Xmas Day.

29th November, 1902.

THE TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

The Officers of both the Line Battalions and Depots, 6d. per month.

Other Subscribers, 3s. per year, including postage.

Copies will be sold at 1d. per Number to Non-Commissioned Officers and Men serving with the Colours. If sent by post 1s. 6d. per year.

Extra Copies or back numbers can always be supplied.

The price of back Numbers will be as follows: To N.C.O. and Men, 1d.; to all other Subscribers, 2½d. (Postage extra).

The latest date on which copy intended for insertion should reach the Editor is the 25th of the month previous to date of publication.

All Subscriptions payable in advance, and all Correspondence be addressed to "THE EDITOR," The Queen's Own Gazette, The Barracks, Maidstone."

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS
OF

THE QUEEN'S OWN (ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT.)

No. 333.

MAIDSTONE, MARCH, 1903.

[Vol. XXI, No. 3.]

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

LINE BATTALIONS.

Captain R. C. Style to be Major, dated 7th January, 1903.

Lieut. F. J. Joslin to be Captain, dated 7th January, 1903.

The King has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following promotion for service elsewhere than in South Africa. To be dated 18th October, 1902:—

Captain and Hon. Captain R. J. Roche to be Hon. Major.

1ST BATTALION.

Promoted Col.-Sergts.—Sergts. J. Allen, 22nd Nov., 1902.
F. Ailwood, 1st February.

Appointed Pioneer-Sergt.—Sergt. E. Smith, 10th Feb.

Appointed Lce.-Sergts.—Corpls. P. Balcombe, 18th Oct.,
H. Tranter, 7th Nov., E. Skiggs, 19th Dec., H. Lush, 5th Feb.

Promoted Corporals—Lce. Corpls. S. Ely, 10th Sept.,
G. Verrall, 10th Sept., J. Haden, 26th Nov., W. McEnuff,
19th Dec., W. Cockle, 12th Jan., O. Bristow, 15th Jan.,
J. Brown, 21st Jan., A. Allen, 26th Jan., E. Beale, 1st
Feb., A. Macintosh, 1st Feb., G. Byatt, 1st Feb.,
A. Cox, 16th Feb.

Appointed Lance-Corporals—Ptes. A. Lewis, A. Rogers,
and W. Rogers, 4th Feb., F. James, 5th Feb., A. Catt, 6th
Feb., C. Jones, 7th Feb., W. Cork, E. Laurence, W.
Belchambers, and A. Day, 9th Feb., F. Simmons, 25th Feb.

2ND BATTALION.

Appointed Lance-Sergeants—Corpls. G. Lang, 9th Dec.,
A. Moss, 18th Dec., E. Gillispie, 9th Dec., H. Garwood,
5th Oct.

Appointed Lance-Corporals—Ptes. H. Russell, 7th Jan.,
G. Cohen and F. Robertson, 8th Jan., E. Seal and A. Hale,
10th Jan., J. Liddington and E. Webster, 14th Jan.,
J. Turner, A. Urry, G. Ridley, H. Boaker and P. Neville,
7th Jan., S. Mills, R. Humphreys, F. Ventham, P. Bexon,
H. Paul and W. Spencer, 21st Jan.

3RD BATTALION.

P. W. Parker, Gent., to be 2nd Lieut., dated 14th Feb.
T. P. Aldworth, Gent., and A. J. Bonsor, Gent., to be 2nd
Lieuts., dated 4th March, 1903.

2ND VOL. BATTALION.

Captain B. H. Latter to be Major, dated 4th Feb., 1903.

The under-mentioned Gentlemen to be 2nd Lieuts:—
Douglas Watson, R. T. H. Watson, dated 21st Feb.

Lieut. F. K. Selby to be Captain, dated 21st Feb., 1903.

REGIMENTAL DINNER.

The Regimental Dinner of the two Line Battalions will
take place at the Grand Hotel, Trafalgar Square, on
Tuesday, 16th June, at 8 p.m.

The annual subscriptions of the Dinner Fund (10/6)
should be paid to Messrs. Cox & Co., but Captain Kennedy
has undertaken to manage the Dinner this year. Officers
will receive notice in due course as to the Dinner, and it is
hoped that a very large number will dine; indeed, we shall
not be surprised if this year's attendance is a record one.

REGIMENTAL MEMORIAL.

Major A. Martyn, Adj, 50th Reg. Dist., desires to acknowledge the receipt of the following sums, the fund now totalling just over £300:—

	£	s.	d.
1st Battalion	51	18	0
2nd Battalion	119	0	8
Capt. M. P. Buckle, D.S.O. ...	2	0	0
Lieut.-Col. J. H. Vandermeulen ...	5	0	0
W. Sergeant, Esq	10	0	0
W. Locks (late S.M.)	5	0	0
Major N. H. Leckie	1	0	0
Lieut.-Col. H. Wilson	2	0	0
Capt. B. H. Latter	1	1	0
Capt. C. Druce	3	3	0
Col. E. A. Grove, C.B.	5	0	0
C Co., Depot	17	0	0
B Co., "	18	0	0
Col. E. W. Bailey	3	3	0
Capt. T. H. C. Nunn, D.S.O. ...	1	0	0
Capt. P. Umfreville	2	2	0
Major-Gen. E. Leach, C.B. ...	5	0	0

FOOTBALL.

A very interesting football match took place at Shorncliffe on the 7th February last, between the Sergeants of the 1st Battalion and the Sergeants of the Depot, which resulted in a win for the latter by the narrow margin of one goal to nil.

The teams turned out as follows:—

1st Battalion.—Goal, Sergt. Ball; backs, Sergts. Lush and Andrews; half backs, Clr.-Sergt. Crouch, Sergts. Ashby and Smith; forwards, Sergts. Selves, Jarrard, Keen, Murphy, and Merrick.

Depot.—Goal, Sergt.-Major Outten; backs, Clr.-Sergts. Bass and Tapp; half backs, Qr.-Mr. Sergt. H. Bass, Sergts. McGregor and Harper; forwards, Clr.-Sergt. F. Neighbour, Sergts. Marchant, Reeves, Davidson, and Rose. Referee, Sergt. Sharp.

The Depot ("Dug Outs" somebody called them), having lost the toss, had to kick off against a fairly strong wind, which blew from the Gymnasium end of the ground, but so evenly were the teams matched, that most of the play was in mid field, although the 1st Battalion, with the assistance of the wind, were sometimes dangerous. Half time arrived with no goals scored.

On resuming play, the Depot, among whom it will be noticed were several ex-Army Cup fighters, at once pressed, but so erratic was the shooting of the forwards, that it was not until the second half of the game had been in progress

about half-an-hour that Clr.-Sergt. W. Bass, with a low shot, beat Sergt. Ball and scored the only goal in the game.

After a very pleasant game, the teams adjourned to the Mess, where they partook of a substantial tea, a smoking concert being afterwards held, at which Qr.-Mr. Sergt. Cover presided, Sergt. Major Rogers being at Aldershot. Qr.-Mr. Sergt. Cover proposed the "Health of the Visitors" to which Qr.-Mstr. Sergt. H. Bass responded. The whole proceedings terminated about 12 by m.n. those present singing "The King."

The return match was fixed for 17th March, when it was hoped that the 1st Battalion will bring a strong team from Maidstone to obtain "satisfaction."

There is some talk of the "Dug Outs" going into training, but whether it is for the St. Patrick's Dance or the Football Match, cannot be ascertained.

"PENALTY KICK"

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

We opened our football season on the 22nd of January with a match against the South Lancashire Regiment at Dover with indifferent success. We were beaten by two goals to love.

Winning the toss we elected to play with the wind, and having this advantage the game was fairly even up till half time, the South Lancashire team scoring one goal just before the whistle sounded. On resuming, playing with the wind in their favour the South Lancers pressed us the whole time, and scored three more goals before the call of time. Our team was very much out of condition, and had had no practice together. On the return match with the above Regiment, at Shorncliffe, on 31st Jan., a much more close contested game was witnessed, the S. Lancers only winning by one goal to love, which was a distinct improvement considering we had two of our team unable to play.

ARMY CUP TIE MATCH.

Our football match against the 1st Royal Dragoons, on the 28th January, in the second round of the Army Cup tie ended in a defeat for our team by one goal to love. The general opinion was that the best team lost, and that our team had bad luck, but still the fact remains that the team failed badly at times when they should undoubtedly have scored. The shooting was only moderate, and our forwards were out-paced by the Dragoons, who, though distinctly faster, did not show much skill. The feature of the match was the excellent performance of the Dragoon goalkeeper, who saved some very good shots.

The Dragoons scored a goal within five minutes of the commencement of the game, and were only dangerous once or twice throughout the game after. Our team played better as the game went on and were pressing most of the time. Of course, the team showed want of combination, and they were anything but fit, so could hardly do justice to themselves. Ptes. Davis and Wright, who came over from the Depot to play for the team, were distinctly good, especially the latter, whose kicking at half-back was very true, and who kept the forward line well supplied. The team shows promise, and with careful training the men should acquit themselves well next football season.

On Jan. 31st we sent 34 N.C.O.'s and men to the Depot to relieve those who had been doing duty there for two years. The following are the N.C.O.'s and men we sent:—

To Permanent Staff 3rd Battalion: Sergt. Tapp. To Depot: Sergt. McVicar; Lce.-Sergts. Rose & Balcombe; Corpals. Sanger, Cramp, Moir, Collins, and James; Lce.-Corpals. Cassidy, Kipps, Fletcher, Byatt, Dixon, Branson, King, Hayley, and Lee; Ptes. Kain, Towner, McEnuff, Pullen, Andrews (3401), Mockford (3168), Fox, Dunton, Merrony (3961), Stevens, Hall, French, Wood, Crisp, Avery, and Cleveland.

The Depot has been very generous in sending several good football players among those who returned for duty with the Battalion. I am afraid their team has been considerably weakened in consequence.

Since the 1st of February the right half battalion has been hard at Company Training, and football is more or less relegated to the background. There is not a large amount of manœuvring ground in the vicinity of the camp, and our 4 Companies, together with half a battalion of the 2nd Royal Sussex Regiment, take up all the available ground. On the 23rd February A and B Companies suspended their training temporarily to perform their annual course of musketry, a new book having been received a few days before. All training and musketry is to be finished by the 8th May, and after that brigade manœuvres, with visions of Salisbury Plain later on in the summer.

With all these rumours of manœuvres and camps it makes it rather difficult to arrange our cricket matches for next season. The Garrison Ground will be allotted to the Regiments and Departments in Shorncliffe on certain days, and until the Sports Committee have settled these we are somewhat at a standstill.

On the 31st January, Col.-Sergt. Burge was posted to the Permanent Staff of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion.

On the 9th of February, Sergt. Smith returned to the Battalion and resumed his appointment of pioneer sergt.

Col.-Sergt. Crouch proceeded to the Depot on 14th to fill the vacancy created by the promotion of Col.-Sergt. Outten and Sergt. A. Pye on the 21st February.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENT.

DEPOT FOOTBALL.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

The Company League has been finally settled. We succeeded in finishing before the last large draft left us for Shorncliffe.

On February 5th A Company met C Company. A Company, who have lately lost several promising players, were beaten by 2 goals to nil. Col.-Sergt. Bass and Sergt. McGregor in C Company were perhaps principally responsible for the result.

February 12th. A Company then played B Company. Much to everyone's surprise the Company at the bottom of the League beat the Company at the top by 4 goals to nil. B Company were able to turn out almost a new team, containing several N.C.O.'s and men who had lately arrived from Shorncliffe. They should be well in the running for the shield next year.

February 18th. On this date the semi-final was played between C Company and D Company. Unfortunately Col.-Sergt. Bass was unable to turn out for C Company, being unwell. This was one of the best fought games of the League. The recruits of both sides were conspicuous, notably Ptes. Keeble and Eves, of D Company. The result was 2 goals to 1 in favour of D Company.

February 19th. All the officers of the Depôt, including Col. Brock and Major Martyn, and most of the N.C.O.'s and men, turned out to see the final between A Company and D Company. Q.M.S. Bourne sounded the whistle at 3 p.m. and both sides went at it in earnest. No goals were scored for some time, until Pte. Eves opened for D Company, closely followed by another from Lieut. Ricketts. At half-time the score was D Company 2, A Company nil. When play was resumed, A Company at once began to press, giving Dr. Harris and Pte. Blackely a warm time. Time after time they cleared, until at last A Company broke through and scored. That was the last goal scored by either side, and when the whistle sounded again D Company were left winners of the League. Both teams then gathered round Col. Brock, who, on presenting the Shield to Q.M.S. Bass, complimented D Company on winning. He hoped that the Company League would foster *esprit-de-corps* among the recruits and so make them fit to take their places in the Company Teams of the 1st Battalion. Three cheers were then given by both teams for Col. Brock, and by each for the other. The winning team was composed of:

Goal: Pte. Cleveland; backs, Dr. Harris, Pte. Blackely; half-backs, Pte. Baylis, Q.M.S. Bass, Pte. Keeble; forwards, Sergt. Rose, Col.-Sergt. Neighbour, Lieut. Ricketts, Pte. Eves, Pte. Smith.

The final result was as follows :

	P	W	L	D	PTS.
D	6	5	1	0	10
A	6	3	3	0	6
B	6	2	4	0	4
C	6	2	4	0	4

The Depot team only played two matches in February, losing, I am sorry to say, both.

February 7th. In the Second Round of the Maidstone Hospital Charity League we met Maidstone Invicta. Although shortly after half-time we lost a man, who did not again appear in the field, for the first hour and a half no goals were scored by either side, but on playing an extra half-hour each way the eleven men proved too strong for ten, and Maidstone Invicta scored 2 goals.

February 21st. Our return match against Snodland was played in a hurricane of wind. Ours was practically a new team, only three players having represented the Depot against them in the first match. A curious game, in which the ball was seldom in the ground, ended in Snodland scoring 3 goals to our nil.

FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT.

We are desired to acknowledge the receipt of the following subscriptions:—

Subscription List, widow of the late Sergt.-Major Gould.

	£	s.	d.
Major J. W. Jones	5	0	0
O.C. 1st Battalion	3	3	0
O.C. 50th R.D.	3	0	0
Lieut.-Col. H. Wilson	3	0	0
Col. F. F. Johnson, C.B.	3	0	0
Major-General E. Leach, C.B.	1	0	0
Major J. P. Dalison	1	0	0
Lieut.-Col. C. M. Churchill	1	1	0
Col. A. E. Fyler	1	0	0
Lady Weare	1	0	0
Col. T. H. Brock	1	1	0
Lieut.-Col. J. H. Vandermeulen ...	0	10	0
Major W. E. Rowe	0	10	0
Lieut.-Col. R. H. Doran	0	10	0
Lieut.-Col. M. Wynward	0	5	0
	£25	0	0

Subscription List, Pte Blackman, 97th Regiment.

	£	s.	d.
From Kent Soldiers' Fund, per			
F. S. W. Cornwallis, Esq. ...	2	10	0
O.C. 50th Regimental District	3	0	0
Col. T. H. Brock	1	0	0
Lieut.-Col. R. H. Doran	0	10	0
	£7	0	0

VOLUNTEER INTELLIGENCE.

SECOND VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

On the 30th January an interesting Morris Tube Match took place at the Headquarters of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion between the Tradesmen of Blackheath and the Sergeants of the Battalion. The Sergeants again proved too strong for the Tradesmen, beating them by 27 points as the following scores show:—

TRADESMEN.		SERGEANTS.	
Mr. Holt	46	Sergt. Ives	44
Mr. Wright	39	Col.-Sergt. Sayer... ..	42
Mr. Thompson	39	Lieut.-Sergt. Colvill ..	41
Mr. Williams	38	Col.-Sergt. Putton ..	40
Mr. Strachan	31	Sergt. Dodd	37
Mr. Gomer	29	Sergt.-Maj. Lalley ..	37
Mr. Curnow	28	Sergt. Barnes	35
Mr. Hole	27	Col.-Sergt. Harris ..	35
Total	278	Total	306

The Tradesmen, though, have made great strides as a previous meeting the Sergeants won by over 80 points. A notable feature of the match was the good shooting by Mr. Holt for the Tradesmen at 500 yards, he making three successive bulls, but his friends cheering him a little too soon put him off his 'shoot.'

The match being finished, about 40 sat down to a substantial hot supper provided by the Sergeants' Mess. Sergt. Major Lalley presided, supported by Messrs. Curnow and Freestone, and Sergt.-Major Skidmore and Sergt.-Major Yorke of the 3rd Grenadier Guards.

Supper being over and the tables cleared, the Company sat down to a very enjoyable "Smoker." During the evening Sergt.-Major Lalley welcomed the Tradesmen and hoped the match would become an institution. Mr. Gomer, in responding for the Tradesmen, echoed the sentiments expressed by the Sergt.-Major. Being an Ex-Sergeant of the Regiment himself it was only natural that he should take a great interest in anything that promoted good feeling between civilians and volunteers. During the evening Col. Kent Lemon dropped in for a few minutes, and was naturally asked for a few words. He hoped that the present meeting between Tradesmen and Sergeants would not be the last by many an one. During his wanderings on the Continent he had always heard a very good word for the British Volunteer.

Col.-Sergt. Allard (President of the Mess) welcomed the visitors in a few well chosen words, and Sergt.-Major Skidmore of the 3rd Grenadiers responded.

The following gentlemen gave assistance during the evening by songs, &c. Messrs. Hilyard, Hodges, Collins, Strachan, Greene, Barnes (mandoline solos) and Stoneham; Col.-Sergts. Allard and Harris, Sergt.-Instr. Tench, Sergt.-Instr. Yorke (Grenadier Guards), Hospital Sergt. Borrett and Sergt. Kiloh.

QUADRILLE PARTY.

The Staff-Sergeants and Sergeants of the Depot were invited by their confreres of the Volunteers to a quadrille party at the Masonic Hall, Brewer Street, on Thursday evening, February 26th. The room had been charmingly decorated with flags, plants, etc., and the floor was in excellent condition for dancing. The guests, who included Captain Phillips and Lieut. Dorman, numbered nearly 150, and the Volunteer Band, under Mr. Hunt, supplied the music for the dances, twenty in number. The arrangements were in the capable hands of Sergt.-Instr. Evans, Col.-Sergt. Hughes, Sergts. W. Meades, F. Meades, and H. Cogger. Sergts. H. Lockyer and H. Cogger were the M.C.'s.

A notice appeared in a recent issue of the "Army and Navy Gazette" regarding the 1st Battalion on leaving Malta, and a correspondent writes:—

"The notice in the last issue of the 'Army and Navy Gazette' concerning the departure of the 1st Battalion of the Queen's Own Regiment from Malta must have been gratifying to any reader of that paper (considered by many to be the first leading military authority in the kingdom). It spoke of the very high state of efficiency in the Corps, and what in these critical times, reflects much credit on Colonel Harrison, and will give pleasure to those who have served in the Regiment to hear of the gentlemanly bearing and tone of the officers of the Regiment, and universal regret expressed by the inhabitants of the island on their departure from their shores."

I WONDER WHY?

By WELLINGTON WENSLEDALE.

- The anomalies of soldiering are many you'll agree.
I wonder why?
And I'd quote some paradoxes that have often puzzled me.
I wonder why?
For instance, give an officer the highly prized C.B.,
He's probably delighted and as pleased as he can be,
But when a soldier gets the same, if only for three days,
He isn't pleased at all. I can't repeat the things he says.
I wonder why?
Now a soldier if he's feeling dry won't use the dry canteen.
I wonder why?
And he isn't fascinated when he's making a facine.
I wonder why?
When troops are in a hurry why should *double time* be best?
A soldier even on fatigue, does not pine for arrest.
Although a squad is fully clothed, it may be told to "dress."
And orderlies are often clean, although they're in a *mess*.
I wonder why?
In winter time we make up drafts, although it's cold *in tents*.
I wonder why?
An officer's not flattered by a sentry's compliments.
I wonder why?
That triangulation base is, is a thing you'll all agree;
But why should "free" gymnastics be made compulsory?
And another thing that puzzles me, and often makes me smile,
A soldier's not offended if he's called "a blank, odd file."
I wonder why?
Now you mustn't post your letters when you hear the
"last post" sound.
I wonder why?
A soldier fires straight to his front, although he fires *a round*.
I wonder why?
A regiment's not routed when it travels on a *route*.
And soldiers rarely quarrel, though they frequently
"fall out"
I hardly think, moreover, that one's common sense agrees,
Why men sit down to breakfasts, although they *stand at teas*.
I wonder why?
Green Howards are not always green, nor *colour-sergeants*
black;
I wonder why?
Why do they give men kit bags when they'd rather haver-
sack?
I wonder why?
In the army there are many paradoxes of this type,
A man still gets his dinner, though he's forfeited his stripe.
Why men don't go away when told to "slope" is far from
clear,
And the 1st of April is the first of the official year—
That doesn't surprise me!

Green Howard's Gazette.

OLLA PODRIDA.

Captain C. G. Pack-Beresford has joined the depot for a tour of duty, relieving Captain Kitson, appointed Adjutant of the 1st Volunteer Battalion.

Captain Kitson, it is expected, will join the Class in Signalling, which commences at Aldershot on 10th April.

In connection with the defences of the Thames, and in order to give some idea of the part that may have to be played by various units allotted to the several posts in time of invasion, which, we hope, will remain at some distant period, the General Officer Commanding Thames District has invited Officers and N.C.O.'s of the Corps concerned to walk over the possible battle grounds of the future. The representatives of units attend a lecture on the 13th March at the Royal Engineer's Institute, Chatham, and on the following day will be conducted over the ground. A good walk round is anticipated.

It was intended to train the 3rd Battalion in the Isle of Grain, but abandoned in favour of the old favourite, Shorncliffe. No doubt the few attending the walk will reap more benefit than staying 27 days in the vicinity with the Battalion where everyone is preoccupied with interior work.

Shorncliffe will also be visited by the West Kent Volunteer Brigade under the command of Col. T. H. Brock, commanding 50th Regimental District.

At the next Hythe Course, Sergt.-Instructors G. Church, G. Brash, and E. Hollands will find themselves together doing a morning constitutional over the shingle.

Corpl. Walker has been successful in obtaining a Gymnastic Certificate at Aldershot.

Corpl. E. E. O'Reilly having been transferred to the Army Service Corps, as a Clerk for the Supply Section, the Detachment School has been carried on by Corpl. A. L. Bellion, who is now driving several first-class candidates to distraction.

Sergt.-Instructor Hardy, lately stationed at Bromley, has been discharged to pension. We hear he has taken an Hotel on the East Coast, where he will find busy times in store.

Lieut. L. H. Hickson has been successful in getting a renewal of his wound pension for two years.

The undernamed Officers have been under instruction at the Depot, to qualify for certificates of proficiency:—2nd Lieuts. E. K. Hume, G. Secombe, P. Parker, W. Willes, E. Battersby. of the 3rd Battalion.

Sergeant F. Coe is about to take his discharge having accepted the position of manager of a public house in Maidstone. He has the making of a good "Boniface," and we wish him well.

Lieut. L. Ricketts, 5th Royal Fusiliers, who has been doing duty at the Depot, in place of a subaltern of the 3rd

Battalion not available, has been gazetted to the Royal Garrison Regiment, and posted to the 1st Battalion. He will continue at the Depot until required to embark for Malta.

Sergeant Punnett, late 1st Battalion, will, if the necessary authority can be obtained, be admitted to hospital at Maidstone, at the expense of a "Friend," owing to the hold the complaint from which he is suffering has got on his system.

We congratulate Sergt.-Major J. Outten on getting provisionally promoted to Warrant Rank as Militia Sergeant Major, and on the fact that he has been given an extension of time in which to obtain a first class certificate of education necessary for the rank. We hope to publish a confirmation of the promotion in due course.

Color Sergeant E. Smith has relinquished the position of Color Sergeant in order to take up the more lucrative post of Pioneer Sergeant of the 1st Battalion, which he has joined in consequence.

We notice that several members of the Regiment, now in the Army Reserve, have made up their minds to seek fresh fields and pastures new by going out to Canada, which is being at present very much boomed. We wish them luck, and hope they will put their shoulder to the wheel, and make a good bid for prosperity.

At last news of four Sergeants, who left the 2nd Battalion some time ago for home to join the permanent staff of the 3rd Battalion, which has for a long time been understaffed. Sergeants Pond, Leaver, Connor, and Davis arrived at Maidstone on 19th February, from South Africa, whence they had proceeded from Ceylon, and indeed made a second visit up country. Pte. Brunger, who accompanied them, has been discharged at his own request after 16 years service. Another instance of service thrown away.

A copy of the Digest of Service of the 2nd Battalion, has been prepared and forwarded to Colonel Henderson at the War Office, for embodiment in the Official History, which he had been appointed to prepare. Unfortunately, this officer recently died in Assauan, and other hands will carry out the undertaking.

We understand that a better record than that contained in the official record is being prepared, which we hope to be able to publish, first in our monthly number, and afterwards in book form, if means are sufficient to justify it, but we must not, at present, bind ourselves to any particular undertaking.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of subscriptions with many thanks from:—To December, 1904, Major C. Tootell. December, 1903, Lieut.-Col. H. D. Armstrong, Miss Blannin, Mr. T. Hill, Miss Chawkey, Mr. W. Hurrell, Beckenham Co., 2nd Volunteer Battalion, Mr. E. Sillitoe, Mr. G. J. Rutledge, Mr. J. Muddle, Mr. W. Geddes, W. Barrow, Esq., Major J. W. Jones, W. Fiennes, Esq., Mrs. Tugwell, Col. C. R. King, Col. R. B. Bellers.

The occurrence of names of men belonging to various regiments in the registers of West Malling, between the years 1778-1799, and of which I gave you notes for the February number of the Regimental Journal, suggested to me that a considerable encampment of soldiers must have taken place there, and caused me to make some researches to ascertain the meaning of it. I propose now to give you the result of my investigation.

Thinking that very likely other parishes in this neighbourhood might afford information of soldiers having resided about the period I have mentioned, I ascertained from Rev. W. Gardner-Waterman, of Loose, that the registers of this parish contained several entries of soldiers, and to his kindness in allowing me to look over the registers of his church, and for his assistance I am much indebted.

In 1803 there was a son born to a soldier of the East Middlesex Militia, and in 1804 a daughter, Nister, to Lieut. Hugh Harding, 1st West Riding Regiment, Yorkshire Militia, and his wife.

1804.—Two marriages are recorded, one Bird, of the Coldstream Regiment of Guards, and one Newman, of West Norfolk Militia.

Under deaths for the year 1799, during August, September, and October, very numerous entries occur as "Soldier," but without name or Regiment; but in 1803-04 occur six entries of burials giving the names: Wright, East Norfolk Militia; Bassett, Coldstream Regiment of Guards; Taylor, Westminster Militia; Evans, East Middlesex Militia; Sadler, West Middlesex Militia; Warfles, Bucks Militia.

As to the reason for all these soldier entries, we must attribute it to the presence of a large camp in the neighbourhood, and this took place at Coxheath. I find that this has been a camping ground on three separate occasions. The first time was in 1756 during the war with France for the American Colonies, when 12,000 Hanoverian and Hessian soldiers were camped there; the camp was three miles in length and one in breadth. In connection with this war it is interesting to note that General Wolfe, who was killed in 1759 at the storming of the Heights of Abraham before Quebec, was born at Westerham, and was therefore a West Kent man.

The second great camp was in 1778. This was during the American War of Independence. On this occasion 15,000 men were encamped, and on September 18th, a sham fight was engaged in on Barming Heath, probably between forces coming from Malling and Coxheath. On November 3rd the troops were reviewed by George III. and Queen Charlotte. A plan of this camp is exhibited in the Maidstone Museum giving the names and numbers of the Regiments, and it is noticeable that both the numbers and territorial titles are given conjointly.

The presence of soldiers on Coxheath was very distressing to smugglers, as we read in Abell's History of Kent that "Complaints from the smugglers are heard that the vicinity of this wild heath, once a happy hiding place for their goods,

is now, owing to the existence of the camp, no longer so, as the goods hidden in woods and hedges are stolen by soldiers."

The third camp was held between 1798 and 1805, during the years of the Irish Rebellion and those of our struggle with Napoleon, when he had 100,000 men at Boulogne waiting for a favourable opportunity to pounce on England, and never found the solution for his ambitious designs.

It was in 1799 that George III. and Queen Charlotte reviewed the Volunteers and Yecmanry in Mote Park, raised in 1798 by loyalty and patriotism.

In 1804, 10,000 men were reviewed by the Duke of York on Coxheath, and the entries in the Loose registers refer to this period.

I hope to return to the registers of Linton and Boughton at another time if you would like it.

1st V.B.R.W.K. REGT.

A long list of names accompanied the above communication which, however, is of little Regimental interest, and therefore not published. We take the opportunity of thanking our correspondent for his useful and interesting budget.—ED.

We regret the absence of 2nd Battalion Correspondence. We have kept the paper open in the hope of a belated arrival, but in vain.

From private sources we learn that Lieut.-Col. Wintour has taken over the command of the Ceylon Volunteers during the six month's absence of the Commanding Officer, Col. Vincent.

That Lieut. G. D. Lister has gone as A.D.C. to General Macdonald (Fighting Mac).

2ND BATTALION INTELLIGENCE.

The undernamed have been appointed Pioneers:—

Privates T. Phyll, F. Gunningham, F. Holmwood, J. H. Jones, H. Carman.

* * * *

The wife of Sergeant H. Jury has been taken on the married establishment of the Battalion.

* * * *

Lance-Corpl. H. Kimber reverts to Private at his own request.

* * * *

The wife of Col.-Sergeant F. Croucher has been taken on the strength of the married establishment of the Batt.

* * * *

Corpl. J. Lee reverts to Private at his own request.

REGIMENTAL INTELLIGENCE.

1st BATTALION.

The undernamed have been transferred to the Army Reserve:—Corporals W. Hogdon, W. Drake, W. Grigsby; Lance-Corporal A. Matthews; Privates F. Giles, F. Walker, T. Thornycroft, E. Mitchell, T. Pye, W. Halle, J. Dewing, C. Ford, E. Allechin, T. Chapman, W. Knight, W. Austin, C. Maynard, W. Allen, A. Kingswood, F. Giles.

The undermentioned have extended their service or re-engaged to complete 21 years. Extended—Corporal J. Smith; Privates W. Bailey, A. Jones, F. Pa e. Re-engaged—Sergt.-Dr. W. Budd, Sergt. W. Payne.

Sergt. H. Punnett has been discharged medically unfit.

Pte. A. Cork has joined the battalion on transfer from the Norfolk Regiment.

No. 4878 Pte. W. Bench has been discharged on payment of £18.

No. 2912 Pte. G. Brann has been discharged "free," after 12 years' service.

Pte. T. Carden has joined the battalion on transfer from the Royal Sussex Regiment.

Pte. J. Jepp, on completing 21 years, has been discharged to pension.

Lce-Sergt. A. Ward has been discharged, medically unfit.

Sergt. R. Fleet has been transferred to the Military Prison Staff Corps.

No. 7138, Recruit F. James, has joined the Battalion on enlistment.

Pte. F. Brooks and Boy J. Knight have been appointed drummers.

1st Class Certificates of Education have been obtained by Sergt. W. Page, Pte. J. Stuart; and Sergt. J. McIntosh Lance-Corpls. W. McEuff, O. Bristow, T. Lewis, and Pte. F. Darfoot passed in Group I.

No. 4684, Lce.-Sergt. P. Schmidt has been permitted to assume his correct name, viz:—Peter Walter Smith.

The wife of Lce.-Corpl. J. Shields has been taken on the married establishment of the Battalion.

Corpl. A. Allen has been appointed Band Corporal.

Pte. J. Ryan has been appointed Bandsman.

✓ Bandmaster G. Davis and Col.-Sergt. G. Allen have been awarded the medal for Long Service and Good Conduct.

Our congratulations to the Signallers of the 1st Battalion, who are, with the 3rd Batt. Royal Fusiliers and 1st Batt. Royal Berkshire Regt., at the head of the list of Regiments examined in signalling. The signallers obtained the highest possible figures of merit and bring credit to the Battalion.

The following N.C.O.'s and men joined the Battalion on 31st January, a relief having been sent the same day to Maidstone:—Sergt. J. Merrick, Lce.-Sergts. G. Selves and T. Edwards, Corpls. E. Herrington, P. Chantler, and W. Cockle, Lce.-Corpls. P. Page, T. Wood, and G. Dunn, Ptes. A. Bailey, G. Braannon, A. Cork, A. Chapman, F. Davis, F. Hare, H. Homersham, R. Cocklin, C. Taylor, H. Loader, J. Faulkner, F. Long, W. Knight, W. Tyrell, and S. Rock.

BIRTHS.

At Malta, on 17th Feb., 1903, the wife of No. 5605, Pte. H. Rawden, of a daughter.

At Malta, on 13th Feb., the wife of No. 3953, Corpl. E. West, of a son.

DEATHS.

At Shorncliffe, on 25th Feb., No. 1553, Pte. T. Healey, 1st Battalion.

At Shorncliffe, on 15th Feb., No. 4757, Pte. T. Humphrey, 1st Battalion.

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"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS

OF

THE QUEEN'S OWN (ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT.)

No. 334.

MAIDSTONE, APRIL, 1903.

[Vol. XXI, No. 4.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

LINE BATTALIONS.

1ST BATTALION.

Appointed Lance-Sergeant, Corporal W. Moir, 18th March, 1903. Appointed Corporals, Private W. Harris, 3rd March, 1903; W. Tyrrell, A. Bristow, and A. Martin, 24th March, 1903; A. Bennett, 25th March, 1903.

2ND BATTALION.

The undermentioned Privates to be Lance-Corpls.:

G. Archer, Feb. 5th, 1903; W. Mills, Feb. 6th, 1903; J. Rowland, W. Brown, Feb. 13th, 1903; G. Gadson, Feb. 10th, 1903.

3RD BATTALION.

The undermentioned 2nd Lieutenants to be Lieutenants: 2nd Lieutenants T. P. Aldworth and A. J. Ponsor, dated 4th March, 1903.*

The undermentioned Gent. to be 2nd Lieut.: Henry Aubrey de Ferrars Furber gent., dated 21st March, 1903.

Promoted Sergt.-Major: Color-Sergt. J. H. Outten, November 22nd, 1902.

Promoted Color-Sergt.: Sergt. A. Tapp, Feb. 8th, 1903.

2ND VOL. BATTALION.

Lieutenant L. E. Taylor resigns his commission. Dated 21st March, 1903.

* Incorrectly reported last month as appointed Second Lieutenants.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

As Musketry and Company Training are the subjects of greatest interest to us all just now, I must let you know what progress has been made.

The right half battalion has completed Musketry (Part I., Table B.) and Company Training, and our figure of merit in Musketry is 157.3 up to date. A and B Companies who commenced in February, were heavily handicapped by having to shoot in violent gales of wind, which is quite contrary to all ideas contained in the new book, but the time available for each Company to complete Part I. was too short, and so the practices had to be fired in the worst of weather. C and D Companies had very fine weather, and their scores were much better.

A Company, figure of merit ...	137.6
B " " " " ...	135.7
C " " " " ...	182.6
D " " " " ...	173.6

E and F Companies are now at musketry and G and H busy with Company Training. The programme of our manœuvres has been settled. The Battalion is in the 10th Brigade, 5th Division, 2nd A.C.

Our Brigade training is to be carried out under the orders of the G.O.C., South-Eastern District, during the month of July. On the 10th of August we proceed to Salisbury Plain by rail, and there we are joined by the 9th (Foot Guards) Brigade. The Division will train till the 29th August on the ground to the west of the Avon with Headquarters at West Down.

The Army Corps manœuvres are to be carried out from the 31st August to the 2nd September, and the Army Corps will be engaged in Army Manœuvres from the 7th to 12th September.

In the way of sport I have nothing in the way of victories to chronicle. The officers have twice raised a hockey team, once to play the Royal Sussex, and once against the South Lancashires; neither of these Regiments were able to bring a team composed of officers only, and by filling up the vacancies with their best N.C.O's. and men, they both won their matches against us. In our friendly football matches we have suffered two defeats, one from the S. Lances, and one from the Folkestone team. Both games were closely contested, and the team is improving gradually. The following usually represent the Battalion team:—

Pte. Fowler, goal; Lce.-Sergt. Harris, Pte. Stewart, backs; Pte. Wright, Sergt. Edwards, Pte. Keleher, half-backs; Ptes. Harden, Davis, Davis, Gowans, Laycock, forwards. Sergt. Merrick, Ptes. Green, Brill, and Barry, are waiting men.

The annual competition for Col. Brock's Inter-Company Challenge Shield is now taking place. All the games have been good, but G Company are undoubtedly the favourites. This Company was very lucky in getting the best football players who have recently come from the Depot. The result of the first round is as follows:—

G Company	beat H Company	3 goals to love.
B	„ „ E	1 goal to love.
C	„ „ Band	2 goals to 1.
F	„ „ A Company	2 goals to 1.
D	„ „ Drums	4 goals to 2.

The following is the draw for the second round:—

- C Company v. G Company.
- B Company v. F Company.
- D Company, a bye.

Major Brock-Hollinshead arrived in England on the 14th March on being appointed second in command of the Battalion. He took over command from Major Rowe on the 24th.

Everyone was delighted to hear that Lieut.-Col. Harrison had arrived in England, but he is still far from well. He has been granted sick leave up to the 9th September, and contemplates a visit to Switzerland if he does not improve rapidly. He is in hopes that he will be able to return to duty long before his leave expires.

Captain Lowe was married on the 25th instant, but I have not been able to gather any details of the ceremony. He has the best wishes of all his brother officers, and may he have a pleasant voyage to South Africa, where he has been ordered to proceed on the 28th March, to take up his duties on the Claims Commission Board.

1ST BATTALION CORRESPONDENT.

SERGEANTS' DANCE.

The first dance since the arrival of the 1st Battalion in England was given by the Sergeants on the night of the 13th by kind permission of Major W. E. Rowe, commanding the Battalion, in the Drill Hall, and if the writer's opinion goes for much it was a decided success. The hall, which is a fairly long one, was tastefully decorated with bunting (loaned at a great deal of trouble, &c.), by the Committee, viz., Q.M.S. Cover, Sergts. Seaton, Wren and Ashton. The music supplied by the band left nothing to be desired, unless that some of the dancers thought it only too short, but then some people are never satisfied. The floor being perfect, the invites readily responded to, made the whole thing a success. Dancing commenced punctually at 8 p.m., and was kept up until 1 a.m., the following being the programme:—

Part I.	Interval.	Part II.
1. Valse.		1. Valse.
2. Quadrille.		2. Quadrille.
3. Barn Dance.		3. Barn Dance.
4. Valse.		4. D'Alberts.
5. Lancers.		5. Valse Flirtation.
6. Mazurka.		6. Der Styriens.
7. Valse.		7. Lancers.
8. Schottische.		8. Valse.
9. D'Alberts.		9. Schottische.
10. Berlin Polka.		10. Circassian Circle.

We are all looking forward to the next, which we hope will take place as early as possible in next month.

I am very pleased to report that the Awkward Squad is making a very favourable progress, and will, under the able instruction of Sergeant Seaton, M.C., we hope, before long be dismissed drill.

LOOKER ON.

DINNER TO THE 1ST BATTALION OFFICERS.

The officers of our 1st Battalion were the guests of Major-General E. Leach, C.B., at dinner at the Army and Navy Club on Friday, the 6th of March, on the Regiment returning home after 20 years abroad, and a most enjoyable evening they spent. General Leach earned the thanks of every one connected with the Regiment for his most thoughtful hospitality, which was not only extended to those now serving in the 1st Battalion, but to several of the 2nd Battalion, and to some of our old officers. Among those present were:—General E. Leach, C.B., Major W. R. N. Annesley, D.S.O., Major A. Martyn, Captain O. B. Simpson, Lieut.-Col. J. H. Vandermeulen, Capt. E. G. Pack-Beresford, Lieut. W. C. Phillips, Lieut. C. R. Ingram, Captain J. W. O'Dowda, Major A. T. Morse, Col. E. A. Grove, C.B., Lieut.-Col. C. M. Churchill, Capt. M. P. Buckle, D.S.O., Capt. J. H. Kennedy, Col. T. H. Brock, Capt. N. H. S. Lowe, Capt. S. H. Pedley, Capt. T. T. Burt, Capt. C. Druce, Capt. H. S. Bush, Lieut. H. W. Snow, Lieut. L. H. Hickson, Lieut. R. Lynch-Whyte, Lieut. H. D. Buchanan-Dunlop, Col. W. H. Wilson, Major O. J. Daniell, Capt. P. M. Robinson, Lieut.-Col. C. R. King, Major W. E. Rowe.

2nd BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Headquarters,
Colombo,
20th February, 1903.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I hope this letter will be in time, but considerable delay has been caused by the non-arrival of Detachment communications, and even now Kandy have not favoured me with a letter.

Headquarters moved down here from D'lawa ten days ago, and we are now comfortably settled down. At first the officers lived and messed in a hotel, as starting the mess was rather a big order, but we went into it a few days ago, and find it very roomy and cool, right on the sea, so

the benefit of every little breeze there may be is readily felt. The Companies here still remain the same, B, D, and H, but H will probably go up country next month for musketry and field training. Since my last letter Lieut.-Colonel Wintour, Captain Moody, and Lieuts. Luard, Fiennes, and Norman have arrived from England. Colonel Wintour has taken over the duties of Commandant, Ceylon Volunteers, for six months while Colonel Vincent is on leave, consequently he will remain in Colombo, and so will Lieut. Norman until H Company goes to Diyatalwa. Captain Moody, with Lieuts. Luard and Fiennes, went straight up country on arrival to join their Companies.

There has not been very much going on here, perhaps this is due to the heat, for from now to the end of May is the hottest time of the year. There is very little breeze, though the close proximity to the sea makes things cooler than would otherwise be the case; the actual heat is not very great, the shade temperature by day seldom being much above 90 degrees, but the heaviness and dampness of the air makes it much worse, and soon produces a feeling of general slackness. Five o'clock in the afternoon is the earliest one can really indulge in any games—in comfort, that is—but as it is nearly quite dark at 6.30 there is very little time in which to do much.

Hockey has been started in the Companies stationed here, but our first match against the full strength of Colombo was rather disastrous, as we were defeated by six goals to one, but with a little practice we hope to turn the tables. Crpl. Boldy and Pte. Burrows, who both came from the 1st Battalion with the last draft, played well, so did 2nd-Lieuts. Hibbert and Dinwiddy (the latter's first attempt at the game), but some of the others were obviously short of practice. Football has practically stopped now until the monsoon breaks in May. We had another game against Colombo, and were beaten by four goals to one; it was a very good match, but was rather spoilt by weakness and hesitation on the part of the referee; however, there was no doubt the better side won.

In the cricket line very little has been done, chiefly owing to the difficulty of getting a good ground; the Barrack Square makes a splendid big ground, but the turf is uneven and the wicket fiery and dangerous. Last night H Company played D, and made 120 runs to the latter's 19; D Company were also beaten after a close game by B, but it seems to be a case of the Company having the most dangerous bowler winning.

There is some excitement in Ceylon over the pearl fisheries, which commence operations at the beginning of next month, at a place on the north coast of the island. There has been some talk of two officers and fifty men going up there as a safeguard, but nothing definite has, up to the time of writing, been settled. A large camp of some 40,000 people, Europeans, Hindoos, Tamils, and Sindalèse, has been formed up there, and all hope to make money! The oysters are sold each evening by public auction on the beach, and fetch from 15 to 40 rupees a thousand; the owners then take them away and allow them to rot for fourteen days, the pearls (if any) are then discernable and easily removed—but it must be rather an unpleasant business in this hot climate!

The Headquarter Companies are playing a cricket match at the end of the week against the Gunners stationed here. We hear that they are a very good side, but we are pretty strong, and hope to beat them.

From the Trinco reports it will be seen that the Companies there are holding their own against all comers.

THE 2ND BATTALION CORRESPONDENT.

DETACHMENT, 2nd R.W.K. REGT.,
TRINCOMALIE,
February, 1903.

Trincomalie has changed very little since my last letter, and except for the cricket and hockey news there is very little to comment on.

The detachment has had two distinguished visitors during the month—the G.O.C., who inspected us early in the month; and Mr. Lister towards the end, on duty inspecting the garrison cells. The latter was just in time to save the detachment from a defeat at cricket, *v.* the R.E., who had rather a stronger team than usual, while we were without Captain Lees, who was suffering from a "tennis elbow." However, two brilliant catches in the long field, and a steady innings from Lieut. Lister saved us. The result of this match has not reached me, so will have to stand over until next month.

Football has not been played to any great extent lately, chiefly owing to the heat, though most evenings will see a fair number of devotees playing "punt-about" on the Parade Ground.

Cricket is very popular, and we hope to improve our game considerably in the next month or two, as there seems to be a very fair chance of obtaining a practice net and some matting to lay on the asphalt pitch we have on our Parade Ground. A ship is expected in here towards the middle of March, which will, I hope, give sport in general a "flip up." I trust the detachment will be able to show as good a record after tackling the Navy as it can now.

The hockey tournament mentioned by our Special Correspondent was a great success, and we are starting one for football on the same lines, which gives promise of even more teams entering.

I attach the cricket and hockey reports by the "Specialists."

DETACHMENT HOCKEY.

Having settled down in Trincomalie, we thought we would make ourselves known in the little world of sport that is here, and having the same end in view as we had in football, we started to learn the game of hockey. We had a practice match between the two companies, A and F; and then, as the men took a great interest in it, it was decided to play the R.E. The team was picked and we sallied to victory. The game was fast and furious, and within 10 minutes we scored a goal. Then, on re-starting, the R.E. broke away, but Sergt. Mills and Pte. Brewer soon showed that they could play hockey as well as they could football. We won in the end by 2 to 1. The Engineers were not satisfied with their defeat, so they challenged us again, but we won by 2 to nil. Capt. Lees and the men of A Co. who were playing, as well as the men mentioned, showed that

they were not to be caught napping. A and F played two other matches just to keep their hand in. F won one game by 3—0, and the other was drawn, 0—0.

We played the R.E. again on the 2nd January, and a good game resulted. We started with three men short, but nevertheless swarmed round their goal and gave them a warm time, but could not score. The Engineers broke away and scored twice in quick succession. Although we were three men short we had most of the game. Just before half time we were at full strength and scored a goal. Starting again after the interval we made tracks for the R.E. goal, and kept them busy defending for some time. At last Ridley scored, making the scores even. Once more we tried to get the winning goal. Shot after shot was sent in, but to no purpose, and a good game resulted in a draw, 2—2.

We have just finished an interesting hockey tournament. Papers were put up, and any man who wished to play could do so by putting his name down and paying 10 cents. 72 men did so, and eight teams were drawn out, nine men to each. Some good games were seen, and Pte. Brewer's team won in the end, beating the other team in the final by three goals to nil. On January 22nd a match was played between the Rank and File of the Garrison and the Gymkhana Club, the first-named team winning by six goals to one. The Garrison team included five West Kents, and Sergts. Mills and Minall played for the Club.

DETACHMENT CRICKET.

TRINCOMALIE.

ROYAL ENGINEERS V. DETACHMENT R.W.K. REGT.

This match was played on the Maidan in very fine weather on the 3rd January, and resulted in a win for the Detachment, thanks to Capt. Lees, who played a fine innings for 47, and Sergt. Mills, who played a very steady game for 22 not out. Score:—

Royal Engineers.

Lieut. Jackson, b Capt. Lees	2
Sapper Gregor, b Turner	1
Captain Humber, b Capt. Lees	18
Capt. Molesworth, c Patching, b Capt. Lees	20
Sapper Barnes, b Turner	1
Corpl. Stenning, b Turner	0
Sapper Smallwood, c Mills; b Capt. Lees	3
Sapper Hall, b Capt. Lees	0
Sapper Clark, c and b Turner	1
Corpl. Spackman, b Capt. Lees	2
Sapper Purdy, not out	0
Extras.....	1

Total 49

Detachment.

Private Treeman, b Capt. Molesworth ...	0
„ Patching, b Humber	11
„ Turner, b Humber	6
Capt. Lees, c Spackman, b Capt. Molesworth	47
Lieut. Elgood, c Lieut. Jackson, b Capt. Molesworth	1
Sergt. Mills, not out.....	22
Cl.-Sergt. Wood, b Capt. Molesworth ...	0

Private Fry, b Gregor	0
„ Holder, c and b Gregor	0
„ Scarborough, c and b Gregor.....	1
„ Buckley, b Gregor	0
Extras.....	0
Total	92

The next match was between the Companies of the Detachment, A and F. The teams were very evenly matched, and the game resulted in a win for A Company by 27 runs. Score:—

F Company.

Sergt. Mills, c Dale, b Minall	12
Corpl. Stringer, b Capt. Lees	2
Private Patching, c Holder, b Minall.....	7
Lieut. Elgood, c and b Capt. Lees	0
Private Freeman, c Farrell, b Minall.....	8
„ Turner, b Minall	8
„ James, c Holder, b Capt. Lees ...	1
Corpl. Frost, c Minall, b Capt. Lees	2
Private Baines, run out	0
„ Southie, c Holder, b Capt. Lees... ..	0
„ Haddaway, not out.....	3
Extras.....	2
Total	45

A Company.

Cl.-Sergt. Wood, b Turner	0
„ Holder, run out	34
Sergt. Minall, b Mills	5
Capt. Lees, c Haddaway, b Patching	17
„ Dale, c Mills, b Freeman	3
„ Fry, b Freeman	5
Lieut. Fenning, c Turner, b Freeman ...	0
„ Bristow, b Freeman	0
„ Saunders, c Haddaway, b Freeman	0
„ Farrell, not out	1
„ Curtis, b D. L. Elgood	0
Extras	7
Total	72

On the 17th inst. we played the return match with the R.E.'s, and once again they found us too strong for them. the game resulted in a win for Detachment by 47 runs.

Detachment.

Lieut. Elgood, b Capt. Molesworth.....	6
Sergt Minall, c Carrin, b Capt. Molesworth	20
Captain Lees, b Lintott.....	44
Sergt. Mills, c Carrin, b Capt. Molesworth	13
Lieut. Tulloh, run out	1
Pte. Haddaway, b Lintott.....	0
Pte Turner c and b Lintott	4
Lie.-Corpl Neville, c Carrin, b Captain Molesworth.....	0
Corpl. Redmond, c Capt. Clayton, b Lintott	0
Pte Freeman, not out	0
Extras	1
Total.....	90

Royal Engineers.

Lieut. Barker, c Redmond, b Turner ...	10
Sapper Carrin, c Minall, b Capt. Lees ...	9
Capt. Clayton, c Lt. Elgood, b Turner ...	0
Capt. Molesworth, c Neville, b Turner ...	12
Sapper Hall, b Turner	2
Sapper Askin, c Lt. Elgood, b Capt. Lees	0
Sapper Barnes, b Capt. Lees	2
Sapper Lintott, b Capt. Lees	0
Sapper Snelgrove, run out	2
Sapper Selliman, stumped	3
Corpl. Spackman, not out.....	0
Extras.....	3
Total	43

DIGATALAWA,

16th February, 1903,

A friendly match took place between E and C Companies, the former winning easily by 76 runs. For E Company, James, Sergt. Reynolds, and Connor batted well, while Corpl. Eley bowled with remarkable success by capturing 8 wickets for 15 runs. For C Company, Sellings and Barnes divided the bowling honours. Full scores as under :

E Co.		C Co.	
Porter, run out	4	Meopham, b Eley.....	8
Reynolds, b Barnes.....	26	C. Day, c and b Eley ...	2
Connor, b Sellings.....	14	G. Day, b Eley	4
Eley, b Sellings	0	Barnes, b Eley	1
James, not out	30	Tucker, b Edwards	1
Corke, c Kite, b Barnes	3	Davis, b Eley.....	0
Edwards, b Kite.....	9	Sellings, b Eley	3
Ibbotson, b Sellings ...	0	O'Connell, b Eley.....	1
Edmunds, b Kite	0	Ruby, b Eley	0
Hayden, b Sellings.....	2	Adams, not out.....	4
Montague, b Barnes ...	4	Kite, c Edmunds, b Ed-	
Extras	21	wards	6
		Extras	7
Total	113	Total	37

E COMPANY'S CORRESPONDENT.

COLOMBO,

March 18th, 1903.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

There is very little news this month. Everything goes on just the same, the ordinary routine in the mornings, and cricket, football, or hockey towards evening—the remainder of the afternoon is rather a sleepy time and is generally treated as such. Just lately some of the monotony has been broken by guards of honour for foreign admirals, who seem to be continually arriving on their way to and from the far East. The first batch of South African war medals was distributed by the officer commanding the Battalion last Saturday morning on the barrack square. The men at Trincomali had already received theirs during the previous week.

A cricket match was played between the Head Quarter Companies and the 88th Company R.G.A., on the barrack square, on March 3rd, and resulted

in a win for us by 30 runs. The wicket had been well rolled and watered the day before, but was very fiery, and accurate play consequently conspicuous by its absence. The absence of a good wicket makes it rather hard to get up very much regimental cricket, and it is rather annoying to be told that about four years ago the barrack square was by far the best ground in Columbo—it must have been badly neglected by the regiment in between.

In the match in question Lt.-Col. Wintour bowled with great success, taking seven wickets for 30 runs, and was also batting well when he was splendidly caught and bowled off a hard drive. Dinwiddy hit at everything, but Norman was very patient and was eventually not out for the highest score on the side. Pte. Sarney's wicket keeping was distinctly good. Scores: Headquarters 2nd Royal West Kent Regiment, 104; 88th Company R.G.A., 74.

The bowling analysis was :

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Pte. Ball.....	4	1	17	0
Lieut.-Col. Wintour	9	1	30	7
Pte. Parker	4	1	16	1
Pte. Hannen	2	—	6	1

DIYATALAWA,

March 1st, 1903.

A cricket match was played on the 20th between E Company against the Staff Sergeants and rest of the detachment. The latter were no match for E Company who won by nine wickets. For the Company, Pte. James, who went in third wicket down, again carried out his bat, this time for 17 runs. Corpl. Eley also played well, making 14 runs and taking eight wickets for 16 runs. The other most noticeable points were the bowling of Barnes and Clements, and the wicket keeping of Sergt.-Major Money. Scores: Staff-Sergts. and Rest of Detachment, 49 and 38. E Company, 64 and 24 for one wicket.

On the 28th the Diyatalawa Burghers played Pte. James XI., and were beaten by an innings and 17 runs. For the winners James was in good form, making 40 in excellent style, and finally having the misfortune to be "run out" Edwards also played well for 26, and together with Clements shared the bowling honours; Clements at times seemed almost unplayable. The fielding of Pte. James' XI. was very good, and every chance was snapped up. Score—Diyatalawa Burghers, 14 and 75; Pte. James' XI., 107.

TRINCOMALI,

2nd March, 1903.

One month at Trinco. is much the same as another, and this month we have an unusually small amount of news, owing to the fact that F Company is going through its annual course of musketry—a day on the range in the present heat not making anyone very anxious for violent exercise towards evening.

A Company has been active in the cricket line, playing two or three "pick-up" games a week on our parade ground right through the month. What few inter-unit matches have been played show that we are still quite capable of "keeping our end up." Lieut. Joslin arrived early in the month, and of course, greatly strengthened our cricket team.

His first innings at Trinco. was 50 not out, against the garrison. It was a hard-hitting innings, and the fieldsmen became very weary, labouriously hunting the leather on an unusually hot afternoon. Sergts. Mills and Minall are both showing excellent form, the former playing especially good cricket, though perhaps a little weak on the leg side.

We do not get as much cricket as we would like, partly through F being on the range, and partly through lack of opponents, but we hope to see some of the naval squadron in soon, and to have some good all round sport with them.

A Company v. F, at Trinco. February 27th Score—A Company, 41; F company, 114.

Detachment v. R.E.—Detachment, 72; R.E., 64.

Detachment v. Remainder Trinco. Garrison—Detachment, 153 (3 wickets); Remainder Garrison, 74.

DEPOT INTELLIGENCE.

On the 21st March the Corporals of the 1st Battalion paid a visit to the Depot. The warning received was very brief and concise. It ran as follows:—"We shall be over tomorrow if all goes well." That was the first intimation received, which was at 9.30 a.m. on the Saturday. They were coming the same day. A football match was the chief item, so the Corporals of the Depot buckled to to get as strong a football team together as possible; but, of course, with such short notice they could not arrange for the best men to be off duty. They were also weakened by the absence of Lance-Corpls. Mears and Branson, the former away through indisposition and the latter on leave. The Corporals of the 1st Battalion arrived about 2.30 p.m., and the teams lined up under Q.M.S. Bass as follows:—

DEPOT:

Goal, Smith; backs, Fletcher and James; half-backs, Cramp, Walker, and Cassidy; forwards, Moir, Bellion, Lee, Russell, and Dixon.

1ST BATTALION:

Goal, Harris; backs, Weeks and Chantler; half-backs, Murphy, McEnuff, and Collins; forwards, Bristow, Sanders, Herrington, Cockle, and Beale.

The 1st Battalion Corporals won the toss and elected to play with the wind behind them, defending the entrance goal. Immediately after the kick-off the 1st Battalion pressed and obtained three corners in quick succession, from the last of which they got a penalty. Fletcher handling within the limit. Sanders took the kick, but Smith, the Depot custodian, was awake and saved splendidly, but from the rebound Sanders secured and sent into the net. From now till half-time the game was hotly contested, the 1st Battalion being four up at the interval. On the resumption the Depot went away with a rush but failed to score, Lee and Bellion both missing by inches on two occasions; but the 1st Battalion would not be denied and, scoring twice more, ran out easy winners by six goals to nil. After the game was over we retired to the Regimental Institute, where a splendid tea was partaken of, and during the meal some one remarked, "They seem as good on the feed as they are on the ball," and I for one certainly thought so, too. During

the evening a smoking concert was held, when the under-mentioned gave great assistance in the rendering of some good songs, &c.

Programme:—Overture, piano; song, "I was there watching him," Lance-Corpl. Hayley; song, "While you're sleeping," Corpl. McEnuff; recitation, "How Corporal Dick earned promotion," Lance-Corporal James; song, "The old cellar flap," Lance-Corpl. Mears; song, "A thing he had never done before," Lance-Corpl. Mears; song, "Honeysuckle and the bee," Corpl. James. Interval. Song, "Slap dab," Lance-Corpl. James; song, "The cake walk," Lance-Corpl. Weeks; song, "Don't stick it out like that" (encored), Corpl. McEnuff; recitation, "Charge of the Light Brigade" (encored), Corpl. McEnuff; "Auld Lang Syne," "God Save the King."

During the interval Corpl. P. Walker proposed "The Visitors," and in a few well chosen words expressed the wish that the friendly rivalry and goodwill would always remain between the Depot and their 1st Battalion comrades. Corpl. McEnuff briefly responded for the 1st Battalion, and a very enjoyable evening was brought to a close about 12 midnight, everybody having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

A. L. B.

DEPOT FOOTBALL.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

There has been very little movement in Depot Football circles during the past month. We have played the following matches:

March 4th—The League match v. Maidstone Church Institute Wanderers' F. C., played on their ground, was lost by 1 goal to 7.

March 18th—v. Tunbridge Wells F. C. (friendly). This match was played on our ground and resulted in a win for the Depot by 4 goals to 1.

Sergt. McGregor played with his usual skill, and Pte. Sparrow showed that with practice he should make a useful footballer.

March 28th—v. Aylesford (league), played on the Aylesford ground. This match was started in a gale of wind and rain, against which the Depot strove with such success that at half-time they had scored 1 goal to their opponents 0. After changing ends, however, they added 4 more goals and eventually won by 5 to 0.

I cannot conclude my notes this month without alluding to the departure of 2nd Lieut. Ricketts, who has gone from the grassy fields of Kent to the arid football grounds of Malta. He has, during his time at the Depot, worked hard for the amusement of the men, and has, moreover, helped the Depot football team by his keen and unselfish play. I am sure that all ranks at the Depot regret his departure, and wish him all success in the Royal Garrison Regiment.

DEPOT CORRESPONDENT.

2ND VOL. BATT. ROYAL WEST KENT REGT.
(DARTFORD DETACHMENT).

ASSAULT-AT-ARMS.

Under the patronage of many of the influential residents of Dartford, a highly successful entertainment was given by the members of the above detachment on Wednesday, March 4th, at the Conservative Hall, Dartford.

It took the form of an Assault-at-Arms and Gymnastic Display.

The items consisted of dumb bell exercises, parallel bars, physical drill with arms, Indian club exercises, leg exercises, vaulting horse, etc., and the very smart and precise way in which the various squads went through the exercises reflected great credit on their Instructor, as also on themselves, and thoroughly earned the hearty applause the crowded audience readily extended to them.

The programme was varied by two or three songs, rendered by friends, and the Band of the Detachment very creditably performed four selections. There was also the heats and final of the bayonet fighting competition. The noble art of self-defence had its share, and a three-round exhibition of boxing was given by two members of the detachment. Two tableaux were included, the titles of them being "Soldiers in the Park" and "Sons of the Empire." These were excellent representations, and as each was exhibited appropriate songs were sung.

A word of praise is due to two members of the detachment, who, in most comic attire, kept the audience well amused throughout the evening by their humorous speeches and antics.

The long programme was carried out without a hitch, and great credit is due to all who took part in the proceedings. They must have felt amply repaid for their arduous labours by the great success of the evening, and by the knowledge of a crowded and appreciative audience.

The programme was repeated on Thursday, March 5th, and as a variation one item consisted of cutlas drill by a squad of boys from the "Arctusa," which was carried out very creditably. Needless to say the whole proceedings were as complete a success in every way as they had been the previous evening.

The Times, March 4th, 1903.

SURVIVORS OF SOBRAON.

Mr. W. C. Bellers writes from Bacton Manor, Pontrilas, under date February 28th, with reference to Dr. Robert Cust's letter on the survivors of Sobraon:—"My father, Col. R. B. Bellers, was adjutant of the 50th, for which position he was selected on the night of the action of Ferozeshah, and was in that capacity at Aliwal and Sobraon. He is very near his end now, but it may interest other survivors to know of his existence."

Miss M. R. Lloyd Baker writes from Hardwicke-court, Gloucester, under date March 1, on the same subject:—"I should like to mention that Corpl. Folkes, late of the 50th Regt. (Queen's Own), who is living near Gloucester, was present at Moodkee, Ferozeshah, Aliwal, and Sobraon. He was severely wounded at the latter, and afterwards disabled by injuries received at the falling in of the barracks at Lodhiana. Corporal Folkes has also the star for the Gwalior campaign (Punnier).

ACROSS THE BARRACK SQUARE.

The hardworked and overwrought Editor of the *Q. O. G.* assures me that he is so short of copy that unless I supply him with at least a column of matter he will have to fall back as usual on extracts from certain musty old tomes, which he keeps in the editorial sanctum, and from which "recollections of an old 50th soldier" are duly unearthed. I asked the Editor on what subject he would like me to discourse, and he merely remarked that I might put on paper some of the rot I usually talk. This was not a complimentary thing to say to one who is accustomed to hold his audience spell-bound by the magic of his brilliant word painting.

Sitting at my window at the Depot I overlook the Square, and as I see everything that goes on below I often ponder on the little episodes that take place beneath me. Children abound in every corner of the Barrack Square. Boys with blue hats, girls with red caps, babies with none at all, and all seem to be very busy doing nothing, but keeping their eyes open on the look out for something for idle hands to do. The latest occupation seems to have been the destruction of the creepers planted round the Regimental Institute. These were planted with great care, and much thought was expended on the selection of suitable sites. But it was all in vain. Scores of small eyes were evidently watching the work, and within 24 hours all but three of the creepers had been ruthlessly pulled down and stripped.

No general clearing his field of fire could have done his work more thoroughly. But why? What amusement was it? I can understand the satisfaction to be gained in pulling the wings off a fly. I remember the intense interest with which I used to gradually dismember a fly, the helpless carcase being eventually thrown into the web of my pet spider, but I never remember ruthlessly destroying plants unless I found them agreeable to the palate. Perhaps *Ampelopsis Veitchei* may be good to eat, and therein may lie the solution of the problem.

The dogs in barracks give promise of being a nuisance in the future. I have lately been watching two fierce looking hounds hovering round the pet geranium bed. They have, I think, been burying bones there, and, if so, will probably select the day we bed out the plants as being a suitable time to recover their valuable property. There are some dogs, however, who have nice feelings on the subject of the garden. I remember a dog I had some years ago, who suddenly bethought him of a bone he had buried two years previously. He instantly repaired to the spot and found a fine potato growing over the larder. He uprooted the plant and found his bone, which he at once devoured, utilising one of the potatoes as a relish. Being a thoughtful and considerate hound, he carefully replaced the plant, but unfortunately he put it back upside down, and when I visited the garden next morning I found 13 healthy potatoes waving in the breeze.

The subject of the soldier's hat has always greatly interested me. When first the present F.S. cap was introduced to the soldier, I always considered it the work of a genius. It would be hard to devise any headgear which so thoroughly failed to fulfil the ordinary functions of a hat. In sun, wind, or rain it is equally useless as a

protection to the head, and it requires years of practice to keep it firmly on. Yet, with all its faults, I have always had a sneaking affection for it, because I thought it was a smart and soldier-like dress. But alas, Mr. Atkins thought he could improve on Pimlico, and the cut down cap became fashionable. It is hard to imagine why it should be popular, for nothing to my eyes looks less smart. We hear that a new cap has been devised for the Infantry, and that it somewhat resembles the hat now worn by the Guards. The problem of the day is to discover the best way for Mr. Atkins to improve on this hat, and the writer of this article will give, as first prize, a lately captured cut down F.S. cap to the Private who sends in the best solution.

From caps to hair is but a short march. Some like curls, others don't, but I dare not say too much on the subject, as my well-meaning remarks might be taken as mere jealousy from one who is no longer able to flaunt a graceful curl round the bottom of his cap.

Numerous new calls have lately been resounding in the Barrack Square, and much curiosity has been excited among the recruits as to the possible new duties or fatigues that these unaccustomed calls might portend. They remind me of the time on the Indian Frontier when the rum call was first sounded. No one then knew what it was for, but afterwards, when it was well known, it was always greeted with a shout throughout the camp. On April 1st the rum call sounded in a certain Battalion, and the usual shout went up to the heavens, but no rum was forthcoming. Half-an-hour afterwards the bugler on duty thoroughly realised that it was not a sound thing to make April fools of a whole Battalion.

Col. Brock acknowledges with thanks the following sums: for the widow of the late Sergt.-Major Gould, Lieut.-Col. W. Western, C.B., £2; and for Pte. Blackman, late 97th Regiment, O.C., 2nd Battalion Royal West Kent Regiment, £3.

Colonel F. F. Johnson, C.B., Army Service Corps, now assistant adjutant-general North-Eastern District, has been appointed director of supplies and transports from April 1st with the Fourth Army Corps.

Considerable interest was manifested in the wedding of Miss Henrietta Lander Chads, youngest daughter of General Chads, C.B., of Dover Court, Southsea, and Captain Noel H. S. Lowe, youngest son of the late Admiral Lowe, and there was a crowded and fashionable congregation at St. Jude's Church, Southsea, on 25th March, to witness the auspicious event, which was favoured with "wedding weather." The interior of the sacred edifice was effectively adorned with palms, evergreens, and hothouse flowers. Canon Blake, vicar, assisted by the Revs. C. P. Calvert and R. A. Mitchell were the officiating clergy, while the fully surpliced choir assisted in the choral service. Major Style, of the West Kent Regiment, was the best man. As the happy couple left the church Mendelssohn's Wedding March

pealed out from the organ, where Mr. G. S. Lohr presided. Subsequently a reception was held at Dover Court, there being about 200 guests, and a hearty send-off was given as Captain and Mrs. Noel Lowe left later in the afternoon for the honeymoon, the bride travelling in pale pink cloth trimmed with white Irish crochet lace, and hat to match. Captain and Mrs. Lowe have now left for South Africa! The wedding presents were numerous.

MARRIAGE.

At St. Jude's, Southsea, on 25th March, Captain N. H. S. Lowe, 1st. Battalion, to Miss H. L. Chads, youngest daughter of General Chads, C.B., late commanding 50th Regimental District.

DEATHS.

At Maidstone, on 20th March, Frances, the daughter of Corporal A. Allwright, Depot, aged 15 months.

At Maidstone, on 30th March, Dorothy, the daughter of Sergeant C. Theobald, Per. Staff, 3rd Battalion, aged 20 months.

THE TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION ARE AS FOLLOWS :

The Officers of both the Line Battalions and Depots, 6d per month.

Other Subscribers, 3s. per year, including postage.

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Extra Copies or back numbers can always be supplied.

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All Subscriptions payable in advance, and all Correspondence be addressed to "THE EDITOR," The Queen's Own Gazette, The Barracks, Maidstone."

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS
OF
THE QUEEN'S OWN (ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT.)

No. 335.

MAIDSTONE, MAY, 1903.

[Vol. XXI, No. 5.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

1st BATTALION.

Promoted Corporal—Lce.-Cpl. H. Doe, 30th March, 1903.

Appointed Lce.-Cpls.—Ptes. H. Bennett, 2nd April, 1903; A. Klein, 16th April, 1903; M. Crisford and L. Crisford, 24th April, 1903; H. Gurr, G. Cox, C. Willard, W. White, W. Skeer and C. Bellingham, 27th April, 1903.

2nd BATTALION.

Promoted Sergt.—Lce.-Sergt. G. Lang, 2nd January, 1903.

Appointed Lce.-Sergt.—Corpl. W. Sayer, 2nd January, 1903.

Promoted Corpls.—Lce.-Cpls. H. Chawkey, W. Ladd, G. Ingram, T. Jeffreys and J. Wright, 2nd January, 1903; J. Brooks, 14th January, 1903.

3RD BATTALION.

Charles F. Nunneley, Gent., to be 2nd Lieutenant, dated 22nd April.

Capt. C. M. Allfrey to be Instructor of Musketry, vice Capt. G. Wilson, seconded for service under the Foreign Office.

1ST VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Cadet Corps (Skinner's School, Tunbridge Wells). Capt. E. B. de Beer resigns his commission.

Capt. and Hon. Major C. E. Warner to be Major.

2ND VOL. BATTALION.

Surgeon Lieut. R. F. Stillwell, M.B., to be Surgeon Capt., dated 22nd April.

Lieut. (Hon. Lieut. in the Army) T. L. Price resigns his commission.

4TH VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Eric I. Earle, Gent., to be 2nd Lieut., dated 22nd April.

REGIMENTAL MEMORIAL.

Progress has been made with the window to be erected in All Saints' Church, and it is expected that the ceremony of unveiling will take place on the afternoon of June 20th.

Major A. Martyn, Adjutant 50th Regimental District, desires to acknowledge the receipt of the following subscriptions towards the Regimental Memorial in memory of those who gave their lives in the late war:—

	£	s.	d.
General F. Fowler Burton, C.B. ...	5	5	0
Colonel T. H. Brock ...	2	0	0
Brigadier-Gen. E. A. Alderson, C.B. ...	2	0	0
Brevet-Major A. Martyn ...	1	0	0
Captain Hotham ...	1	0	0
Lieut. L. H. Hickson ...	0	10	0
Lieut. H. D. Belgrave... ..	0	10	0
Captain C. M. Allfrey... ..	0	10	0
Colonel E. Satterthwaite ...	1	1	0
Lieut.-Colonel Belgrave ...	1	1	0
Major J. G. Smith ...	1	1	0

SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

	£	s.	d.
1st Battalion	51	18	0
2nd Battalion	119	0	8
Depot	25	17	4
3rd Battalion	12	18	6
2nd Volunteer Active Service Co. ...	26	7	8
"L" Co., 2nd Volunteer Battalion ...	1	18	6
Retired officers and men of all battalions and other individual subscribers ...	85	6	10
Total... ..	£323	7	6

The list is not finally closed, but Major Martyn would be glad if those who have kindly undertaken a separate subscription list would let him know early.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

On the 2nd of April Mr. S. Milne, of Calverley, to whom Colonel Fyler is much indebted for the very valuable information concerning the old uniforms and colours, which he has recorded in his "History of the 50th," paid us a visit. He brought with him some very interesting records of the Regiment, consisting of water colour drawings, badges and buttons. One of the water colour drawings is especially interesting, as it shows the 50th marching into Cobham Camp in 1853. The picture portrays the Band and Drums and Fifes carrying their instruments, with the Drum-Major at the head carrying the Staff, which was presented to the Regiment by General Sir G. TOWLEND Walker, K.C.B. In the Drum-Major's belt is carried the miniature stick which was carried through the Sutlej and Crimean Campaigns, and was presented to the Mess by Colonel T. H. Brock. The drawing was executed by a Mr. Ebsworth on the spot, and is an exact representation of the uniform then worn. The Band uniform is as follows:— white swallow-tail coat with brass buttons, light blue trousers, brass shoulder scales with crescent and edged with blue. Black Shakos of beaver skin, with plumes of cocks' feathers. They are wearing similar pattern swords, and black pouches. The Drums and Fifes follow the Band in red coats with white facings, light blue trousers, and red and white shoulder scales. Their Shakos are black without plumes. In all cases on the front of the Shako there is a brass plate with "50" on it.

The drawing, though somewhat crude, and evidently done in haste, gives a good idea of the detail of the uniform then worn.

Another drawing shows the various uniforms worn by the Officers, the Drum-Major, the Band Sergeant, the Qr.-Mstr. Sergeant, and the Band in 1871. A third drawing shows some Bandsmen of the Regiment in 1853.

Two water colour drawings of 1853 represent groups of Officers, N.C.O.'s and Men standing near the Regimental Colours and the trophies won in the Sikh War.

Another interesting sketch shows a guard mounting parade of the Regiment in 1828, and a smaller one of the same year shows an Officer of the Regiment in Court dress.

Mr. Milne also brought down with him some badges and buttons. The badges of 1809 and 1855 are now in the Mess, and were presented by Col. T. H. Brock.

The buttons were of the following dates:

One of the year	...	...	1881
" "	"	"	1854
" "	"	"	1820
" "	"	"	1796

The 1854 button is of gilt with a 50 in the centre surmounted by a scroll of laurel leaves.

The 1820 button is of plain silver with 50 surmounted by lion and crown.

The 1796 button is of bronze, and was worn by the Officers, probably on the sleeves and collar; the button is a flat one, shows 50 surmounted by a crown, and the button is edged with half laurel.

The party of 99 recruits who went to Lydd, under Capt. Molony, to perform Table A has returned, only seven out of that number having failed to pass out. Their figure of merit was 248.78, which is exceptionally good, and credit is due to Second-Lieut. Waring who was responsible to a great extent for their training.

Captain Robinson left us early in the month, and he sailed for West Africa on the 18th April to join the 3rd Nigeria Regiment. This is another blow for our cricket team, and our captain is in despair at the prospect of trying to find anyone to replace a cricketer of such calibre. Up to the present, what with training and manœuvres, I don't see much prospect of getting a great deal of cricket this summer.

I am glad to say Lieut.-Col. Harrison was sufficiently recovered to pay us a short visit on his way to Switzerland. He fully expects the bad effects of his illness will quickly disappear, and that he will be back with us by the middle of May.

The Inter-Company Football Competition for Colonel Brock's shield is not quite finished. Three Companies are now left in, viz., B, D, and G. The playing off of the rounds has been delayed owing to many of the football players having been away at Lydd. The draw for the semi-final round is as follows:—

D Company v. G Company.

B Company a bye.

All the Companies of the Battalion have completed Part 1, Table B, and the Battalion Figure of merit is 170. The Band and a few casualties are now performing Parts 1 and 2, and have shot very well up to date.

1ST BATTALION CORRESPONDENT.

SOLDIERS' BALANCES UNCLAIMED.

The latest list of Soldiers' Unclaimed Balances contain the name of J. Avis; the sum of £24 5s. 11d. being due to next of kin. Charles Edwards, £12 8s. 9d. so due.

REGIMENTAL INTELLIGENCE.

1st BATTALION.

No. 6399 Pte. M. Pepper has been transferred to the Corps of Dragoons.

No. 6416 Pte. G. Shrimpton, having been found medically unfit for further service, has been discharged.

No. 4700 Pte. J. Southon has been passed to the Army Reserve.

No. 7223 Corpl. J. Golding, K.R.R., has joined on transfer.

No. 7241 Pte. H. Dark, transferred from R.M.L.I. to serve with an elder brother, has joined the Battalion.

No. 3280 Sergt. J. McAnulty, Ptes. G. Ralph and T. Knight have been discharged "free" after 12 years' service.

No. 6350 Pte. F. Gill has purchased his discharge.

The undermentioned have passed class of instruction in Regimental Transport duties:—Sergt. F. Rogers, Corpl. A. Collins, Ptes. W. Waldoek, J. McGrane, J. Carroll, A. Walker, A. Steadman, J. Howard, J. Bodie, and W. Underwood.

No. 4700 Pte. J. Southon has been permitted to assume his correct name, John Blackman, and No. 7152 Pte. S. Douglas that of Sidney Levi Wildman.

No. 3278 Pte. W. Webber has been granted the China medal.

Corpl. A. Loughton, Sergt. Jarrod, and O.R.-Sergt. J. Mackintosh have re-engaged to complete 21 years' service.

Sergts. W. Payne and J. Saunders have qualified at School of Musketry, Hythe, the latter being "distinguished."

Corpl. J. Byatt reverts to Private at his own request.

Appointed Pioneers—Pte. T. Clayton, 1st April, 1903; Pte. F. Pearce, 1st April, 1903.

Awarded second class Certificates of Education—Sergt. W. Penny; Corpls. T. Martle, A. Allen; Lance-Corpls. P. Page, F. James, E. Eggesden; Ptes. A. Rock, W. Elliott, A. Goss, F. Piper; Boys J. Gilbert, H. Maynard.

Awarded third class Certificates of Education—Lance-Corpls. W. Bellchambers, F. Simmons, S. Weeks; Ptes. J. Kidges, A. Marchant, F. Hyams, O. Bond, J. Nicholson, J. Baker, F. Bond, H. Lewis, P. Harris, A. Martin, J. Collins, J. Adams, J. Cole; Boys R. Pinder, J. Renwick, W. Button.

2ND BATTALION INTELLIGENCE.

No. 6452, Pte. H. Lomas has been transferred to the 1st Battalion East Kent Regiment,

Lce.-Corpl. W. Montague reverts to Private at his own request.

Dmr. L. Cozens has given up the "drums" and been appointed musician.

Pte. G. Gregory has been appointed Pioneer.

Lce.-Sergt. W. Sayer has been appointed Band Corpl.

2nd BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Echelon Barracks,
Colombo,
2nd March, 1903.

The Editor, "Queen's Own Gazette."—Sir,

I beg leave to forward you the following details of Cricket and Football matches recently played by H Company at Colombo.

CRICKET.

H COMPANY v. D COMPANY.

H Company.

Sergt. Dorrell, b Burrows	...	...	...	2
Crpl. Kalland, b do.	...	...	...	7
Pte. Nagle, c Head, b Burrows	...	...	...	11
Pte. Hannan, b Burrows	...	...	...	8
Pte. Parker, not out	..	...	...	37
Lce.-Crpl. Kemp, c Thompson, b Mills	...	...	...	9
Pte. Neighbours, not out	...	...	...	11
Lieut. Norman, c Glynn, b Denman	...	...	...	16
Extras	...	...	...	2

Total for six wickets 103

Ptes. Sarney, Marsh, and Young did not bat.

D Company.

Pte. Denman, b Parker	...	...	...	1
Pte. Glynn, c and b Parker	...	...	...	0
Pte. Byford, c Kalland, b Hannan	...	...	...	7
Pte. Barry, c and b Parker	...	...	...	0
Dr. Thompson, b Parker	...	...	...	1
Pte. Miller, b ditto	...	...	...	0
Lce.-Crpl. Mills, b Hannan	...	...	...	6
Pte. Castleman, st Sarney, b Hannan	...	...	...	0
Pte. Burrows, c Sarney, b Hannan	...	...	...	1
Pte. Booker, b Hannan	...	...	...	0
Pte. Clarke, not out	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	3

Total 19

H COMPANY v. THE SERGEANTS.

H Company.

Lieut. Norman, b Hindmarsh	0
Lance-Corpl. Kemp, b Hindmarsh	7
Corpl. Kalland, b Bullock	10
Pte. Parker, b Pierce... ..	42
Pte. Hannan, l b.w., b Hindmarsh	13
Pte. Garland, b Hindmarsh	0
Pte. Neighbours, c & b Hindmarsh	7
Pte. Sarney, run out	7
Pte. Murphy, not out	18
Pte. Young, not out	7
Pte. Tanner, did not bat	
Extras... ..	17

Total for 8 wickets 128

Sergeants.

Sergt. Hyde, run out	0
Sergt. Hamilton, b Hannan	1
Sergt. Hindmarsh, b Parker... ..	5
Sergt. Reynolds, b Hannan... ..	11
Sergt. Alderman, b Hannan... ..	8
Sergt. Pierce, b Parker	0
Col.-Sergt. Bullock, b Hannan	0
Sergt. Wood, b Hannan	0
Sergt. Dorrell, not out	1
Sergt. Argent, b Parker	3
Col.-Sergt. Sheppard, b Parker	0
Extras... ..	12

Total..... 41

FOOTBALL.

H Company v. Royal Garrison Artillery (88th Company), drawn 2 goals each. Same v. Mr. Abersayeke team, Colombo, won by H Company by 6 goals to 0. Return match with R.G.A., another draw, no goals scored. This game was very fast and exciting all through, Hannan in goal saving in fine style from a penalty kick in the second half.

Yours obediently,

"99" H Company's Correspondent.

The stationing of the 2nd Battalion at Ceylon recalls the time when the Battalion was last there. It is interesting to note the time taken on the journey between the various ports.

EXTRACTS FROM HISTORY OF THE REGIMENT.

1825.—An order having arrived for the embarkation of the Regiment for Ceylon in three of the Hon. East India Company's Ships, the first division consisting of 2 Captains, 3 Lieuts., 2 Ensigns, 1 Staff Officer, 8 Sergeants, 3 Drummers, and 165 Rank and File, under the command of Brevet Major Morris, embarked at Gravesend on board the 'Minerva,' on the 7th April, and arrived at Trincomalie on the 4th August, 1825, with the loss of three men on the voyage.

On the 9th April, the second division consisting of 1 Field Officer, 2 Captains, 1 Lieutenant, 1 Ensign, 2 Staff, 9 Sergeants, 2 Drummers, and 150 Rank and File, under the command of Major J. Patterson, embarked at the same place on board the 'Warren-Hastings,' and disembarked at Trincomalie on the 11th August, without any loss on the passage.

The Head Quarters consisting of 1 Field Officer, 2 Captains, 1 Lieutenant, 3 Ensigns, 2 Staff, 13 Sergts, 5 Drummers, and 190 Rank and File, commanded by Lieut. Col-Hamilton, C.B., embarked on board the 'Princess Charlotte of Wales,' and arrived at Trincomalie on the 11th August. No deaths occurred during the passage and few sick,

On the 29th September, the Head Quarters of the Regiment under Lieut-Col. Hamilton, C.B., embarked at Trincomalie on board the ship 'Atlas,' and after a tedious passage of 33 days arrived at Colombo on the 1st November.

On the 29th and 30th October, 2 divisions embarked at Trinco in two small brigs, under the command of Brevet-Majors Morris and Logie, and arrived at Colombo on the 5th November. On the 22nd November another division consisting of 1 Field Officer, 1 Captain, 2 Ensigns, 1 Staff, 5 Sergeants, 1 Drummer, and 85 Rank and File, under the command of Major Patterson, embarked at Trinco, on board the brigantine 'Ann' and arrived at Colombo on the 8th December, leaving a detachment of 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 3 Sergeants, 1 Drummer, and 52 Rank and File at Trincomalie.

1826.—Deaths during the year 1825 were 22.

The detachment left at Trinco under the command of Captain Smith, embarked on the 7th January, 1826, per 'Madeline,' and arrived at Colombo on the 15th ditto.

Deaths during the year 1826 were 19.

1827.—In virtue of an order of H.E. the Lieut.-General Commanding the forces, conveyed in a letter from the Military Secretary at Colombo, a detachment consisting of 2 Lieutenants, 4 Sergeants, 1 Drummer, and 63 Rank and File, under the command of Lieut. O'Neill, marched from Colombo to Suffragam on the 5th April, to relieve a detachment of the 83rd Regiment in that district.

Another detachment consisting of 1 Captain, 1 Ensign, 4 Sergeants, 1 Drummer, 67 Rank and File, under the command of Captain Smith, marched from Colombo Ouhah? on the 6th April, to relieve a detachment of the 83rd Regiment in that district. On the 20th June, the freight ship 'Competitor' anchored in the roads of Colombo having on board a detachment of 1 Lieutenant, 1 Ensign, and 60 Rank and File, which landed on the same evening. Deaths during the year 1827 were Lieut. Courtney, at Kornegalle, of jungle fever, and 32 men.

1828.—On the 29th September, the Head Quarters of the Regiment, consisting of the Grenadier, 1st, and Light Companies, and Band, under Brevet-Major Darrah (Lieut.-Col. Hamilton, C.B., following in the Government brig 'Ann'), embarked at Colombo on board the ship 'John Munro,' and arrived at Trinco on the 11th October, all well. No 3 Company remained at Colombo.

Captain Smith, 2 Sergeants, 1 Drummer, and 32 Rank and File relieved No. 2 Company at Suffragam on the 30th September. The latter marched on the 1st, and arrived at Galle on the 6th October.

No. 3 Company under Captain Cannon marched from Colombo on the 6th and arrived at Galle on the 11th November.

The Regiment lost by death during the year 1 Captain (Brevet Major Haddock, killed by an elephant on the 26th June), 4 Sergeants, and 14 Rank and File.

H.I.

ACTIVE SERVICE IN CEYLON IN 1818.

During the rebellion in Ceylon in 1818, the British troops did not mince matters. When a district rose against the invaders, one or more military posts were established in it; martial law was proclaimed, the dwellings of the resisting inhabitants were burnt, their fruit-trees were often cut down, and the country was scoured in every direction by small detachments, who were authorised to put to death all who made opposition or were found with arms in their hands. The whole country was traversed in every direction by predatory military parties, who applied the torch to the cottages and whatever other property fire would consume, and which they could not carry away. Women and child-

ren were, as appears by general orders, sometimes captured and retained as prisoners of war. Neither of the belligerents seemed much disposed to take prisoners. This was probably considered the only effectual mode of carrying on the war, and that the end justified the means.

The means used to "chastise" insurgents in Kandy appear to have been an exact transcript of the plan which was adopted by the Duke of Cumberland to punish malcontents in Scotland. "During and after the rebellion in Scotland in 1745, in many places the dispersed clans were hunted down like wild beasts, tracked to their dens and holes in the hillsides, and either burnt or smothered by combustible materials lighted at the mouths of these crannies, or compelled to come out to fall upon the bayonets and swords of their pursuers. Every man who wore the tartan was a rebel and a traitor, whose body and soul, and goods were forfeited; and so the soldiers slashed and plundered wherever they came, without any attention to guilt or degrees of misfortune."

"When I am discharged," said a private of the 19th Regiment in the hearing of an officer, "I intend to become a highwayman; for one thing," said he, "after what I have seen in Kandy, taking the life of a man will give me no concern." During the insurrection the troops were frequently exposed to great danger, and always liable to much fatigue. The natives wisely avoided meeting them openly in the field, being sensible that their strength lay in stratagem and bush fighting; in fighting according to their own fashion, and carefully eschewing our combined modes of aggression.

On account of the woody character, and almost impenetrable nature of the country, the military parties were greatly exposed to the missile weapons of the enemy. Detachments were frequently dodged by three or four Kandians, who, in consequence of their knowledge of the by-paths, could fire upon the party occasionally, and keep up with it on a march. When a man was killed, the detachment was halted; wood was collected, and the body burnt—a measure which caused delay. The burning of the body was adopted to prevent mutilation, as the enemy was in the habit of imitating our old method of executing traitors, by impaling the head of the killed close to a British post. When a man was wounded so as to render him unable to march, he required to be carried; and this operation was commonly effected by putting him in a cumley, or country blanket, suspended under a bamboo. In this manner two coolies were able to carry one man. These circumstances obviously retarded the march of the troops, and exposed them long to the fire of the enemy. It was eventually deemed advisable to suspend the ordinary plan of marching troops, conveying stores and transporting sick by day through the disaffected parts of the country, and to endeavour to perform these duties under the obscurity of night. By nocturnal marching, fewer casualties occurred from the fire of the enemy; but the labour and long protracted fatigue of the troops were greatly increased. This result may be easily conceived, when we take into account the ruggedness of the country and the impracticable nature of the pathways. In addition to the natural impediments

which occurred, such as deep rivers, mountain torrents, rugged, precipitous roads, morasses, &c., the Kandians constructed many artificial modes of obstruction. In the pathway along which it was necessary to march, they frequently dug pits, in the bottom of which pointed stakes were placed. Numerous other modes of hindrances were adopted, many of them evincing considerable ingenuity. The progress of the troops was consequently extremely slow during the night—often not so much as a mile in an hour. Frequently it was impossible for the escorts of provisions and stores to cross the mountain-torrents in the dark; consequently, the men were obliged to halt, and to lie down for a time upon the damp grass, exposed to inclement weather. The chilly dews of night, as well as frequent exposure to tropical rains, and remaining long in wet clothes, were fertile sources of disease.

In the mode of warfare adopted by the Kandians in 1817 and 1818 there was but little valour used; and although they accomplished many notable exploits by crafty stratagem, they never met their enemies in the field to give them a repulse by battle and force of arms; their usual practice being to waylay their enemy, and stop up the ways before him. Here they lay lurking, and planting their guns between the rocks and trees, did great damage on their enemies before they were aware, and before the latter could get at them, owing to the bushes and rocks, they fled, carrying their ginjals (great guns) upon their shoulders, and were off into the woods, where it was impossible to find them.

The mean strength of the British troops in Ceylon during the year 1818 was 2,863, and the mortality 678, being in the proportion of 236 per thousand, or nearly one-fourth. The 19th Regiment in this year lost 114 out of 748, a proportion of 152 per thousand.—*Marshall's Ceylon.*

DEPOT NOTES.

Lance-Corpl. F. Mears has obtained a second class certificate of education.

No. 3627 Lance-Corpl. H. Smith has been granted two G.C. Badges, and 3912 Pte. H. Stevens a like number restored.

The wife of Pte. A. Crisp, Depot, has been taken on the married establishment of the 1st Battalion.

Col.-Sergt. W. Colyer, Lance-Corpls. F. Russell, R. Harrison, J. Cross, and 60 men proceeded to Shorncliffe, 7th April, to join the 1st Battalion.

Ptes. A. Cranmer and J. Murphy having obtained employment in the Army Ordnance Department in connection with the mobilization store at Maidstone, are being discharged to pension.

No. 3120 Pte. R. Mills, late 1st Battalion, has been given a free discharge in order to allow him to proceed to Australia, where he has obtained a billet. Army Reservists are not permitted to go to a place where there is no British Garrison; hence the reason for the step.

Col.-Sergt. Seager has joined the Depot for a tour of two years, vice Col.-Sergt. W. Colyer, who completed a similar period.

DEPOT CRICKET.

The prospects for the season appear bright so far as quantity goes, quality being an unknown factor.

The proposed widening of the wicket caused an amount of discussion and wonder as to what figure the Depot averages would work out to at the end of the season—they are never very high. However, the alteration has not been adopted, and the batsmen take heart. All sorts of remedies have been proposed. Now, why don't they shorten the pitch? Our bowlers all have a difficulty in getting the length, and our batsmen seem impatient, and won't wait the turn taken by the ball to reach them, but go for all they are worth, and the arrangement appears a good one from this point of view. Again, look what a lot of runs could be added to the Depot score. Last year the best batting average was by Mr. Cates, Canteen Steward, and Pte. Ayres proved best with the ball. These two individuals remain, and form the vertebræ of the Depot team (on last year's results) with Major Martyn at the head, and they look for support to the extremities, who are more or less shaky and unreliable, but we hope the Committee will see that the tail is kept properly docked.

GAMES COMPETITION.

The Corporals of the Depot engaged in friendly rivalry with their confreres of the 1st Volunteer Battalion at Maidstone, on 15th April, and won by 21 games to 15. Results:—

DOMINOES.

Depot.	Volunteers.
James	1 | Lce.-Crpl. Vinall
James	2 | „ Waters
Evans	2 | „ Waters

CRIB (DOUBLE).

Boniface	} 1	Lce.-Crpl. Plackett.....	} 2
Gregory			
Douglas	} 1	" Down	} 2
Lee			
Bance	} 2	" Fobgee	} 1
Stacey			

CRIB (SINGLE).

Branson	2	Lce.-Crpl. Down.....	1
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DOMINOES.

Gregory	2	Crpl. Andrews.....	0
Stacey	2	Lce.-Crpl. Muggeridge ...	0

WHIST.

Cramp	} 2	Lce.-Crpl. Measday ...	} 0
Dixon			
Stacey	} 0	" Spain	} 2
Bance			
Walker	} 1	" Muggeridge	} 2
Smith			

TWENTY-FIVES.

Walker.....	} 2	Lce.-Crpl. Manning ...	} 0
Smith			

TIPPIT.

Depot	1	Volunteers	1
-------------	---	------------------	---

BILLIARDS.

Branson	1	Lce.-Crpl. Measday	0
---------------	---	--------------------------	---

The cold weather is now a thing of the past, and the recruit at early morning parade must bless the genial sun. During those dark winter months I used always to pity the lads learning their work on the Square. Their faces were sometimes blue with cold. How well I remember a brief conversation between one of the recruits and his rear rank man, while both were learning the intricate manœuvre of piling arms.—“ When did the drop drop ? ” and the response of “ Only the nose knows,” brought down the wrath of the drill-sergeant, and that afternoon two weary recruits, at extra drill, realized that even the absence of a pocket handkerchief could not be accepted as an excuse for asking riddles when on parade.

Maidstone was very lucky in escaping from the full effects of the gale in February. The force of the wind in some places was terrific, and had our old wooden barracks been struck, the paternal Government would have been saved all expenses as far as its demolition is concerned. A tale reaches me from Ireland, which shows that the poor distressful country got its full share of the gale. A friend of mine, on the day following the storm, went to the yard to let loose his favourite setter, before taking a walk round the place

to assess the damage done during the night. To his consternation he found that not only had his dog disappeared, but the heavy wooden kennel to which he had been chained was also missing. During the course of the morning he found them both—the kennel was in the centre of a field, about a quarter of a mile from the yard, and the dog was still chained to it. There seems to have been no doubt that both the kennel and the dog were actually carried by the wind from the yard to the position in which they were found, and in the course of their journey must have crossed a wall ten feet high, and an orchard about eighty yards across. The dog was none the worse for his experience, and greeted his master with effusion.

One of the fashionable recreations in the evening, now-a-days, is to ride round and round the Square on a bicycle, and the necessary excitement is thrown in by the children in barracks, who appear to love playing marbles under the wheels of the cyclists. This amusement culminated the other day in a game of bicycle polo, in which several Militia officers and a few N.C.O.'s took part. The play was not very scientific, but sufficed to amuse the onlookers. Two of the machines met in a scrimmage, and several strong men were required to separate them. There were many falls, but the parade ground was in no way injured. I understand that wire for mending birdcages was fairly cheap in barracks after the game.

A new craze in the shape of motor cycling appears to have caught on with some of the Officers, and the sonorous puff of these machines is frequently heard round the Square when a trial circle is made to get up speed prior to mounting the little hill up to the Barrack gate. This little preliminary canter often seems to end where it began, namely :—under the trees in front of the Officers' Mess, and the next half-hour is passed in trying to discover why the beast refuses to work. I hear that one of the pedalists has taken on a motorist for a match. The former backs himself to ride 25 miles while the motor man goes 50.

The ordinary bikist is first favourite, having lately ridden the course in 2 hours. The motor has also run a trial, but the result has not been made known to the public.

The trees around the Barrack Square have now donned their lovely spring garments, and the dull grey of the old buildings makes a sympathetic background to the symbolical green of the budding limes. The cheerful scarlet of the Militia recruit blends harmoniously with its surroundings, and the whole makes a picture which tends to raise the soul from its morbid abode. The hum of innumerable members of the insect world resounds through the liquid ether as each little atom carries out his appointed task in

* * * * *

(The remainder of this beautiful piece of poetic prose was struck out by the Editor.)—ED. Q.O.G.

The increase in the rate of lodging allowance comes as a boon to those on the lodging list. Privates now receive 5/10 weekly, and Serpts. and Col.-Serpts. 7/-. A vast improvement on the ancient rates.

Misconceptions have arisen in regard to the liability for further service in India of those who accepted bounty to extend their service in 1901. The War Office have issued a circular to the effect they are always liable to such further service if required. This was a sore point with the men of the 1st Batt. who came half way home (to Malta), and were afterwards sent to join the 2nd Batt. at Ceylon, to their disappointment.

The Revd. Francis O'Farrell, of Aldershot, has acknowledged the receipt of 30s., subscribed by the N.C.O's and Men at the Depot, towards the National Memorial at Aldershot, being erected by Roman Catholics, and which was collected by Col.-Sergt. Pearson, per Staff 3rd Batt.

3rd BATTALION NOTES.

Capt. C. M. Allfrey qualified at the School of Musketry, Hythe, dated 18th March.

2nd Lieuts. E. K. Hume, W. F. G. Willes, S. M. Battersby, and G. Secombe, passed in subjects (a) to (e) for certificates of proficiency.

The 3rd Battalion Recruits, about 300, assemble at Maidstone on the 25th May for fourteen days' musketry training, previous to the Battalion assembling on the 8th June. The Battalion trains at Shorncliffe this year, which all look forward to after the bustle of last training at Colchester in Brigade.

A good muster is expected, probably about 35 officers and 1,100 N.C.O's and men. We shall meet our 1st Battalion at Shorncliffe, when many young soldiers will be attracted to join the Line Battalions on meeting many of their old comrades, who are doing well and upholding the traditions of their distinguished Battalion.

It is proposed to devote much time and energy to the musketry training of the Battalion, in order, if possible, to reach the maximum advantage, from the instructions on this subject circulated by the Commander-in-Chief. Much depends on the energy and zeal of the Per. Staff, each individual of which can do much to make a Militia Battalion efficient by undivided energy, zeal and example. About 30 N.C.O's are at present under instruction at the Depot with a view to dusting away the civilian cobwebs collected during the past 11 months. All ranks regret that the genial countenance of Captain Kennedy will be absent this training. Captain Kennedy, owing to his numerous ties in civil life, is now quite unable to give up a month for military duties. He will be greatly missed, and hard indeed to replace.

3RD BATTALION CORRESPONDENT.

VOLUNTEER NOTES.

ACTIVE SERVICE COMPANY'S DINNER.

It has been decided to hold a dinner on Saturday, May 23rd, amongst the members of 1st Volunteer Active Service Company of the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment, at a place to be notified later. Will all members desirous of attending please communicate with the hon. secretary (pro tem.), T. S. Crockford, 203, Westcombe Hill, Blackheath. Tickets, 4s. Friends are cordially invited.

The Volunteer Service Accident Fund Society appears to be a beneficial one. We see that recently, amongst others, Sergt.-Inst. Parry, Sevenoaks Detachment 1st Vol. Batt., received compensation for injury to knee when skirmishing. The annual subscription is One Shilling.

Capt. C. E. Chichester, R.M.L.I., has been appointed Adjutant of the 4th Vol. Batt. R. W. Kent Regt. Capt. Parsons having been appointed a Governor of a Military Prison.

BIRTH.

At Maidstone, on 20th April, the wife of Pte. T. Ayres, Depot, of a son.

THE TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION ARE AS FOLLOWS :

The Officers of both the Line Battalions and Depots, 6d. per month.

Other Subscribers, 3s. per year, including postage.

Copies will be sold at 1d. per Number to Non-Commissioned Officers and Men serving with the Colours. If sent by post 1s. 6d. per year.

Extra Copies or back numbers can always be supplied.

The price of back Numbers will be as follows : To N.C.O. and Men, 1d. ; to all other Subscribers, 2½d. (Postage extra).

The latest date on which copy intended for insertion should reach the Editor is the 25th of the month previous to date of publication.

All Subscriptions payable in advance, and all Correspondence be addressed to "THE EDITOR," The Queen's Own Gazette, The Barracks, Maidstone."

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS
OF
THE QUEEN'S OWN (ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT).

No. 336.

MAIDSTONE, JUNE, 1903.

[Vol. XXI, No. 6.]

THE CEREMONY OF UNVEILING THE WINDOW In Memory of THE OFFICERS, N.C.O.'S AND MEN OF THE QUEEN'S OWN (ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT)

Who fell in the late South African Campaign,

WILL TAKE PLACE IN

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, MAIDSTONE,

At 4 p.m., on JUNE 20th, 1903.

The Window will be Unveiled by COL. E. A. GROVE, C.B.,
who commanded the 2nd Battalion during the Campaign.

Seats in Church will be reserved for those who forward their names to the
P.M.C., Depot, R. W. Kent Regiment, Maidstone, before June 10th, 1903.

IT IS EARNESTLY HOPED THAT THERE WILL BE A LARGE ATTENDANCE OF BOTH PAST
AND PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE REGIMENT.

REGIMENTAL DINNER.

The Regimental Dinner of the Line Battalions will, as we have already announced, take place at the Grand Hotel, Trafalgar Square, London, on Tuesday, 16th June (the Tuesday in Ascot week), at 8 p.m. The Dinner is now managed by a Committee consisting of Major-Gen. Leach, C.B., Col. Brock, Col. Harrison, and Capt. Kennedy, the latter acting as Hon. Sec. Capt. Kennedy is very anxious to make this year's attendance a record one. We believe 47 is the highest number of officers who have so far attended any dinner. The Club was started in 1886.

The 2nd Battalion was serving at home then, and last year when neither Battalion was at home, 36 officers were present. Now, with the 1st Battalion at Shorncliffe, it should not be so difficult to get 50 officers to attend, and we trust Capt. Kennedy may be successful in his efforts.

The following officers have already notified that they will dine, and it is hoped others will soon send in their names:—Brig.-Gen. E. A. H. Alderson, C.B., A.D.C., Col. Bayly, Lieut. Belgrave, Col. Brock, Capt. Beeching, Capt. Burbury, Capt. Buckle, D.S.O., Capt. Pack-Beresford, Lieut.-Col. Churchill, Capt. Druce, Lieut. Elgood, Col. Fyler, Col. Grove, C.B., Capt. Hotham, Major Brock-Hollinshead, Lieut.-Col. Harrison, Major G. J. Hudson, Major Isaake, Col. F. F. Johnson, C.B., Capt. Kennedy, Major-Gen. Leach, C.B., Capt. J. Lees, Mr. A. Streatfield Moore, Major G. W. Maunsell, Major Rowe, Major Roche, Capt. Style, Major J. G. Smith, Capt. Simpson, Col. Tweedie, D.S.O., Col. King, Lieut. Paget, Capt. O'Dowda, 2nd-Lieut. R. G. Brock, and Capt. Kitson.

The Balance Sheet of Accounts is as follows:—

Balance Sheet of Regimental Dinner Account for 1902.

1902.	£ s. d.	1902.	£ s. d.
Postages	12 0	Balance in hand, Oct., 1901	66 18 4
Secretary's, Mr. H. A. Bernan's, Fee.....	5 5 0	Subscriptions from Officers, with arrears	51 19 6
Lieut. E. Nuspratt's Subscription, 1900-01-02, re-allowed and returned him.....	1 11 6	Recovered from Officers dining.....	30 2 0
Printing, Advertisements, & Stationery	6 17 3		
Donation to Waiters	1 0 0		
Manager, Grand Hotel, for Dinner	74 2 0		
Balance in Bank, 31st December, 1902.....	59 12 1		
	£148 19 10		£148 19 10

Whitwell Hall,
Reepham, Norfolk,
May 20th, 1903.

J. H. KENNEDY, Capt.,
late R.W.K. Regt.

1ST BATTALION INTELLIGENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

The semi-final and final rounds for the Inter-Company Challenge Shield, presented by Colonel T. H. Brock, were close and interesting games to watch. D company played G in the semi-finals, and after playing hard for two hours the game ended in a draw. The play was fast, and though both sides had many chances, want of skill in front of goal accounted for the paucity of goals scored. However, the competitors and spectators were very keen, both goals being frequently in danger, the interest being kept up to the last. The next day the match was played again, and G company eventually won by one goal to love. The teams were so evenly matched that it was anyone's game up to the time the whistle sounded.

The final round was played the next day between B and G Companies. It was rather hard luck on G Company having to play three days in succession, and one could see they were jaded and played out before the game was half over. They were told, through a mistaken idea, that unless the match was played before the 1st of May, all the men competing would be disqualified for playing football next season. This being only a company competition, it is difficult to see how such an arbitrary rule could apply. B Company won by 3 goals to 2. They were fresh, played well and with great spirit, and deserved their victory on the form the teams showed that day.

The names of the winning team were as follows:—

<i>Goal:</i>		
Corpl. Chantler.		
<i>Backs:</i>		
Lce.-Corpl. Weeks.	Pte. Smith.	
<i>Half-Backs:</i>		
Pte. Ayres.	Pte. Brill.	Pte. Bengé.
<i>Forwards:</i>		
Corpl. McIntosh.	Pte. Laurence.	
Pte. Harden.	Pte. Barry.	Pte. Lythall.

On the 1st of May we sent a Section of 34 N.C.O.'s and men under the command of Lieut. H. W. Snow to Salisbury for a Course of Instruction in Mounted Infantry duties. The course lasts to the 15th of July.

On the 2nd May we sent our second party of Recruits to Lydd to execute table A. They numbered 131, and their figure of merit was 281.6; this was a very good performance, only four out of the 131 failing to pass out.

We played our first Regimental Cricket Match against the 2nd Royal Sussex Regiment on the 25th of May. We went in first and made 110, and managed to get rid of the R. Sussex batsmen for 103, leaving us winners by a narrow margin of seven runs. Our success was greatly due to a new recruit named Barrett who went in last and batted very well, Sergt. Dr. Budd and Pte. Pinder bowled very well.

On the 17th May, No. 4008 Bandsman F. Barfoot and 2593 Bandsman W. Roffe were instrumental in saving a man who attempted to commit suicide by drowning himself. The conduct of the two men was highly spoken of by the Magistrates, and the parents of the unfortunate man wrote a very grateful letter of thanks to our two men for their help.

1st BATTALION OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' RIFLE CLUB.

In connection with the above, a Competition was held on the afternoon of the 23rd May, the Officers and Sergeants of the right half battalion competing against those of the left. The following was the Competition in which the left half battalion came out easy winners by a majority of 71 points in the aggregate of the 10 best scores.

Competition seven rounds at 200, 500 and 600 yards, the aggregate of the 10 best scores to count (regulation targets and marking).

Scores of the left half battalion were as follows :

	200	500	600	Total.
Clr.-Sergt. Kill	28	26	20	74
Sergt. Nicholson	26	26	19	71
Sergt. Osborne	22	24	23	69
Sergt. Merrick	27	21	21	69
Sergt. Seaton	24	24	19	67
Sergt. Sweatman	22	21	23	66
Sergt. Ashby	22	27	17	66
Clr.-Sergt. Colyer	24	25	16	65
Pay-Sergt. Smith	21	26	8	55
Clr.-Sergt. Ailwood	26	24	4	54
				656

Scores of the right-half Battalion were as follows :—

	200	500	600	Total.
Sergt. Brown	25	22	21	68
Corpl. Murphy	25	23	20	68
Corpl. Eldred	25	22	20	67
Lce.-Sergt. Moore	21	22	22	65
Sergt. Davis	24	23	14	61
Major Rowe	18	22	19	59
Sergt. Penny	21	21	12	54
Clr.-Sergt. Drew	24	20	7	51
Lce.-Sergt. Smith	18	20	10	48
2nd Lieut. Knox	17	11	16	44
				585

On the occasion of above a char-a-banc was hired to take the Sergeants from Seabrook (which is very close to camp) to Hythe and back. This was much appreciated as the day was rather warm. We hope to have a few more of these kind of competitions during the coming summer months.

MATRIMONIAL ECHOES.

That bewitching little god, Cupid, appears to be unusually busy at this season of the year, and already, in our imagination, we can hear the wedding bells pealing joyfully over the downfall of many a devoted swain, who has been unwittingly ensnared in his silken mesh, and at length become enthralled in the Bonds of Wedlock.

The Leas at Folkestone appears to be specially adapted to that delightful pastime—spooning, and when the weather is fine, numerous couples might be discerned billing and cooing on the promenades.

I enclose two advts. for publication in the *Q.O.G.* if you can find space in your columns.

MATRIMONIAL.

A N.C.O. with great expectations, of affectionate disposition and commanding appearance, would like to meet thoroughly domesticated young lady, with a view to early marriage. Advertiser has sufficient means to provide a comfortable home. Photos exchanged in strict confidence.—Address, Box 2209, Queen's Own, Shorncliffe.

ARMY CONTRACTS.

TO CLERGYMEN, REGISTRARS, LAWYER, AND OTHERS.

Owing to the alarming (?) increase in matrimonial business during the current year, it has been decided to carry out the work by contract.

Tenders will be accepted at the office of Mixem & Joinem, Matrimonial Mart, up till 12 midnight, 32nd inst.

The right to reject the lowest or any tender is strictly reserved. (Advt.).

OBSERVER.

2nd BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Diyatalawa.

A very successful entertainment took place in the Theatre, on the night of May 16th. Pte. James scored the success of the evening with his song of "I've made up my mind to sail away," and as an encore he gave us "Fol de Rol." The undermentioned also contributed towards the programme :

Pte. Sutch, "The Empty Chair" (sentimental); Lce.-Cpl. Pelling, "Have a game" (comic); Pte. Felton, "Song and dance"; Cpl. Ladd, parody on "Those Wedding Bells shall not ring out" (comic); Lce.-Cpl. Divers and Pte. Jobe, "Dutch duet"; Pte. Pike, "The noble warrior" (comic); Ptes. Newell and Lewis, Irish Knockabouts; Pte. Kane, coon song, "Ma Honey." Sketch, "London Life": Shoeblack, Pte. Felton; Flower Girl, Pte. Newell; Paper Boy, Pte. J. Condon; Gent., Pte. Lineham; Tramp, Pte. Kane; Policeman, Pte. Jobe. "God save the King."

E COMPANY'S CORRESPONDENT.

FOOTBALL.

DIYATALAWA,

4/4/03.

"G" Company having arrived from Kandy with a great reputation as being the finest team there, "E" Company naturally enough expected to have to go for all they were worth, but a very disappointing match ended in "E" Company winning by four goals to nil. The shield holders will have to buck up a lot if they want to be in the running this year.

"E" COMPANY CORRESPONDENT.

REGIMENTAL MEMORIAL.

Major Martyn begs to acknowledge receipt of following subscriptions to the Memorial Fund:—

	£	s.	d.
Lieut.-Col. Wintour	1	0	0
Rev. R. H. Smith	1	1	0
Col. E. T. Luck	1	1	0
Maidstone Cos., 1st V.B. R.W.K. ...	15	0	0
Major Daniell	1	0	0

DEPOT INTELLIGENCE.

The Depot state at the present moment shows a curious position—no Adjutant, no Quartermaster, no Sergeant-Major, and no Quartermaster-Sergeant. More important still is the fact that even the Editor of the Q.O.G. has gone away for six weeks and has left the reins of office in the hands of your Casual Correspondent, who by the way owes the Editor a grudge for cutting short his poetical effusion in the last issue. As I told you last month a match between a motor cycle and an ordinary bike was arranged, and this took place at the beginning of last week. The bikist won handsomely, as he did his 25 miles in two hours, while the motor man, finding that he was beaten, ran cunning, and his cyclometer showed that several of his 50 miles had been omitted. There seems to be rather a down on motor cycles, but why I can never make out. No man looks his best when riding a motor, and no one is willingly photographed when sucking an orange, yet both are pleasant occupations in their own peculiar way.

Cricket matches follow one another in rapid succession in the barrack field. Some we win and others we lose, but such a thing as a drawn game is unknown. There seems to be no necessity at Maidstone for any law widening the wicket. If any legislation is required at all it should be in the other direction. Let the magnates of the M.C.C. come down to the Barracks any Wednesday or Saturday, and we can show them how to finish a two days' match between the dinner and the tea hour. Some of our opponents interest me greatly in their intimate knowledge of the little etiquettes of cricket. They wait patiently while a little child

picking buttercups in the corner of the field is removed, as a small thing like this is unnerving to the eye. They pat the pitch solemnly with their bats, and take a lengthy look at the positions occupied by the fielders. Then comes the first ball, and even to the uneducated eye of your correspondent it is evident that the state of the pitch, the distant presence of the small buttercupper, and the situations of the fielders are all matters of absolutely no importance to the wielder of the willow. Three crooked balls pass harmlessly by, and he then succumbs to the best ball bowled during the match.

One of the big things of last month was the examination of a large number of embryo Wellingtons in the guise of recruit Militia Officers. It may be a painful ordeal for them, but it undoubtedly is an interesting spectacle for the casual observer. The Militia officer when he first joins the Depot is a shy and very self-conscious person. His uniform is absolutely up to date, but the fit thereof is apt to be extraordinary. His ignorance of all military customs is most marked, and it is not an uncommon thing for him to salute his seniors by removing his cap with one hand and pulling a forelock with the other. He soon gains confidence, and undoubtedly learns a lot during his 60 days, but his nervousness returns as the examination draws nigh, and culminates on the day itself when he has to face a squad of men in the presence of his examining board of officers.

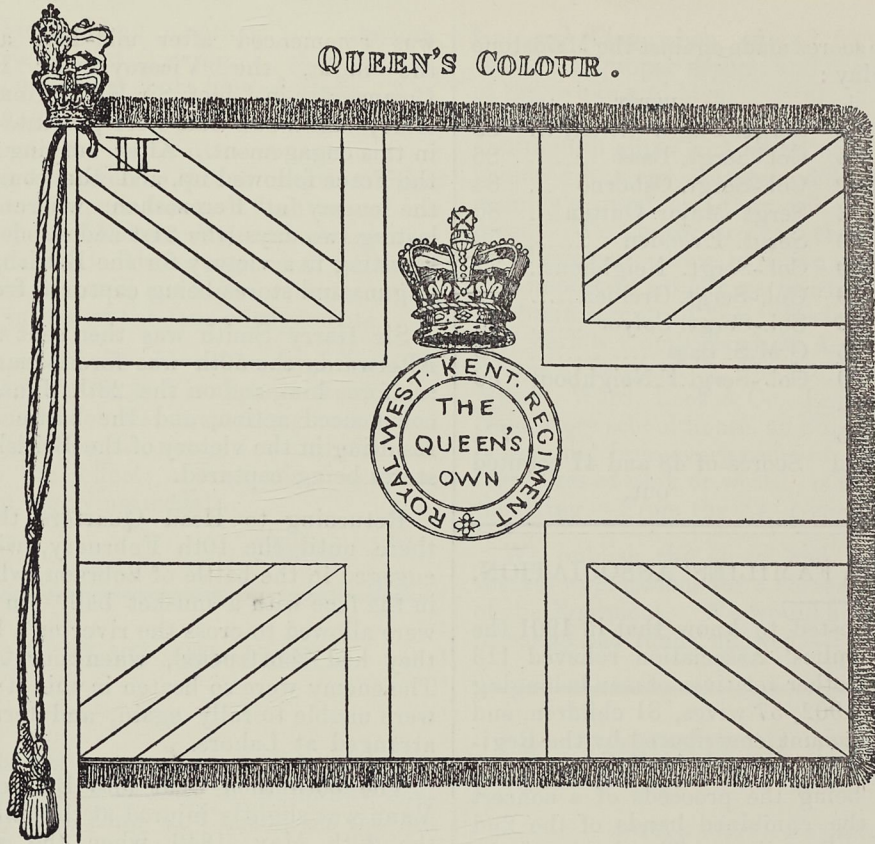
His hands twitch and pull spasmodically at his breeches. His voice fails him and his brain refuses to give forth the knowledge which has been stowed away. Many curious answers have been recorded in their papers. I remember one not long ago, when an aggravated drunkenness was described as a case when a man is too drunk to return to barracks by himself. Another question as to whether a private is allowed to marry elicited the response of "Yes, if the girl is willing." The result of the last examination has just been published, and all the officers who faced the Board have rendered a satisfactory account of themselves.

The Depot Sergeants' Rifle Club opened the season on the 2nd May with a match with the Rifle Club, Maidstone Detachment 1st Vol. Battalion at Boreley Range, and as was to be expected, with so little practice, the Depot Sergeants were beaten by 21 points, although this was a marked improvement upon former matches when the Sergeants have shot against the Detachment.

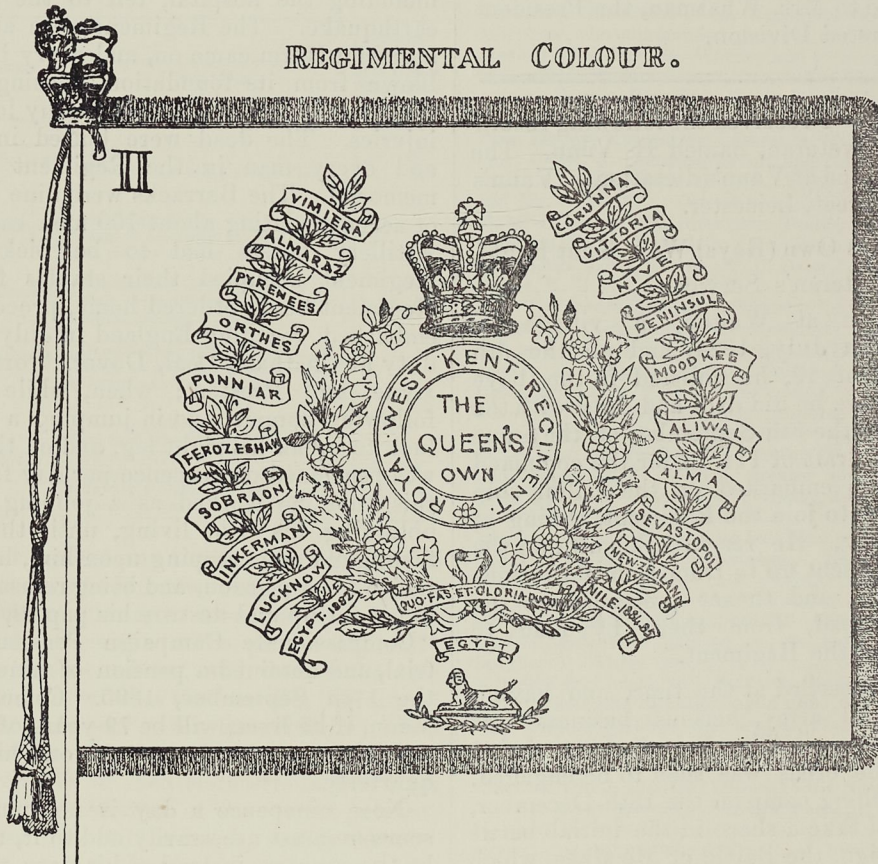
However, with a little more practice it is possible that the Sergeants will be able to give a good account of themselves before the season is out, several good matches having been arranged with the 1st Battalion, Tunbridge Wells Volunteers, Sevenoaks Volunteers and Cranbrook Volunteers, and there is also the return match with the Detachment, 1st Vol. Battalion, when the Sergeants hope to "get their own back" by beating all previous records. There is also rumours that the Sergeants have entered for the "Prince of Wales' Cup," which is shot for under the rules of the Army Rifle Association, and it is to be hoped that they will be successful.

(Continued on Page 156.)

QUEEN'S COLOUR.



REGIMENTAL COLOUR.



The following are the scores made against the Maidstone Detachment on the 2nd May :

VOLUNTEERS.		DEPOT.	
Sergt. H. Lockyer	86	Sergt. Dugay	89
Sergt. F. Andrews	85	Col.-Sergt. Bass	86
Pte. J. Andrews	82	Col.-Sergt. Osborne ...	84
Sergt. W. Meades	82	Sergt.-Major Outten ...	80
Corpl. G. Lambden.....	80	Sergt. Evenden	78
Pte. H. Lockyer	80	Col.-Sergt. Neighbour..	77
Sergt. F. Wright	79	Col.-Sergt. Grellier.....	76
Pte. W. Weeden	76	Col.-Sergt. Colyer	75
Sergt. H. Cogger	75	Q.M.S. Bass.....	73
Sergt. F. Meades	70	Col.-Sergt. F. Neighbour	56
	795		774
Scores of 70 and 64 counted out.		Scores of 48 and 41 counted out.	

SOLDIERS' & SAILORS' FAMILIES' ASSOCIATION.

Our readers will be interested to know that in 1901 the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association relieved 113 wives, 166 children, and 23 other relatives of men belonging to the Regiment; and in 1902, 57 wives, 81 children, and 9 other relatives, and the amount contributed by the Regiment to this Society in 1901, was £69/13/10; and in 1902, £99/10/1, £21/16 of this being the proceeds of a concert given in Maidstone by the combined bands of the 2nd Battalion and 1st Volunteer Battalion. The thanks of the Regiment is especially due to Mrs. Whatman, the President of the Maidstone and Bearsted Division.

A correspondent writes :—I received the following record of the services of an old veteran, named H Vann. The record was written by a friend at Vann's dictation. Vann's address is—55, Gartnee Street, Leicester.

The 50th Foot, The Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regt).
An Old Veteran's Services.

Henry Vann was born at Walton, a village in Leicestershire, on the 15th July, 1824, and on the 5th June, 1843, at the age of 19, he enlisted in the above Regiment at Chatham, where he did drill and duty with the old flint-lock musket. On the 8th September of the same year he formed one of the draft of 114, under the command of Captain Stapleton, who embarked on the sailing ship "Madagascar" for Bengal to join the Regiment, calling at St. Helena for water only. He reached Calcutta on the 27th January, 1844, being sent up to Dum Dum for a time, was returned to Calcutta, and thence proceeded up the river Ganges to Allahabad, from there by road to Cawnpore, where he joined the Regiment.

The Sikhs being very unsettled at the time, and having a large and well-equipped army, serious business was expected and soon commenced. The British Force being got together to meet the crisis was soon to be engaged. The 50th Foot, while pitching camp on the 18th December, 1845, had to leave off and take a share in the initial battle of this momentous campaign, the Battle of Moodkee, which

was commenced after mid-day, and went on through the night, the Viceroy, Sir Henry Hardinge, the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Hugh Gough, and Generals Sir Harry Smith and Sale were present, the latter being killed in this engagement. After burying the dead and resting, the Force followed up, and the combined Forces engaged the enemy at Ferozeshah, where a hard fought battle lasting two days (the 21st and 22nd December) was fought, resulting in a victory for the British, and a large quantity of guns and stores being captured from the enemy.

Sir Harry Smith was then sent with a Force to Aliwal. Afterwards the 50th was forced marched about 40 miles to reinforce him, and on the 28th January, 1846, the enemy commenced action, and the battle of Aliwal was fought, resulting in the victory of the British, and more guns and stores being captured.

Returning to Head Quarters the Regiment remained there until the 10th February, when the Regiment was engaged in the battle of Sobraon, where Vann was wounded in the face with a musket ball. In this case the enemy were allowed to cross the river on a bridge of boats which they had constructed, when our Artillery destroyed it. The enemy were so beaten in this stubborn battle that they were unable to rally again, and terms of settlement were arranged at Lahore.

The 50th then went into Barracks at Ludhiana, where Vann was slightly injured at the falling of the Barracks on the 20th May, 1846, when the whole of the Barracks, including the hospital, fell to the ground as through an earthquake. The Regiment were at kit inspection when a violent storm came on, and every building was, as it were, blown from its foundation, causing the death of 84 men, women and children, besides many losing limbs, and other injuries. The dead were buried in one triangular grave, and every man in the Regiment subscribed towards a memorial. The Barracks were nine large buildings, capable of accommodating about 100 men each. The Cavalry and Artillery horses had to be picketed outside, and the Regiment occupied their stables for a while, until, the Regiment being ordered home, proceeded to Calcutta and embarked, reaching England in July, 1848, when Vann did duty at Chatham, Deal, Dover, Portsmouth, Aston-under-Lyne, and Preston; when, while on furlough, he was following hounds, and in jumping a hedge he had the ill-luck to break his right leg, and on the 31st May, 1853, he was pensioned on sixpence per day for three years. From this time he worked as a jobbing gardener, etc., always obtaining his own living, until the early nineties, when, feeling old age creeping upon him, he applied to the War Office for a pension, and being refused three times was about to give it up and destroy his papers, when, hearing of the "Compassionate Campaign Pensions," he made another trial, and obtained a pension of ninepence per diem, from the 17th September, 1895. Come the 15th July next, Vann, if he lives, will be 79 years of age. He is now hale and hearty, and able to make out his own pension papers quarterly.

Now ninepence a day is not much to keep a man on, someone must necessarily add to it, then why should not this be the country, instead of his poor relations?

In relating his services Vann mentions the following incidents:—A young Lieutenant, just joined, carrying the colours of the Regiment being shot, he took them. The Sergeant-Major coming up took them from him, and he was also shot.

A cannon ball coming through the side of a square, killed fifteen and wounded one, taking a piece of flesh out of his thigh. This old comrade, Tom Pollett, Vann afterwards saw in Lancashire. Both of these incidents occurred at the battle of Sobraon, he feels sure, but will not say for certain, but they certainly occurred in one of the four engagements.

Vann received the medal for Moodkee, and bars for Ferozeshah, Aliwal and Sobraon, and it appears it was the custom then to give a medal for the first engagement, and bars for subsequent ones, not as now, a medal for the campaign. This had the effect of excluding men not actually under fire from receiving medals.

18th April, 1903.

(Signed) J M.

THE UNION FLAG OR JACK.

The proportions of its varying parts are as follows, and are absolutely correct and according to Admiralty conditions, as approved by the King in Council on the 5th November, 1800.

The Widths of the several Crosses.	Proportion generally in the Union Flag.	Precise Dimens'ns in a Union Flag of 10 Breadths*
		FT. IN.
(a) The Red of the St. George's Cross to be	One-fifth the width of the Flag ...	1 6
(b) The White Border to the St. George's Cross to be	(One-fifteenth the width of the Flag, or one-third the Red of the St. George's Cross... ..)	0 6
(c) The Red of the St. Patrick's Cross to be	(One-fifteenth the width of the Flag, or one-third the Red of the St. George's Cross)	0 6
(d) The Narrow White Border of the St. Patrick's Cross to be	(One-thirtieth the width of the Flag, or half the Red of the St. George's Cross.)	0 3
(e) The Broad White of the St. Andrew's Cross to be	(One-tenth the width of the Flag, or half the Red of the St. George's Cross, Or equal to the Red of the St. Patrick's Cross, together with one of its Narrow White Borders)	0 9

We give this information because the true proportions of the National Flag are known to but few, not even excepting many of those who have the honour to serve the King in one or the other branch of the Service. The public generally are woefully ignorant in this matter, and during the late rejoicings it was painful to witness the horrible burlesques of this symbol of our nationhood. We have done what we could to check this abuse, by letters to the Press, by personal visits to the vendors of such counterfeits, and by a distribution here, and in the Colonies, of the correct pattern, and we trust that our members will assist, by seeing that the

National Flag when offered for sale or exposed to view shall be of proper design, and not some absurd arrangement of red, white and blue. Still, it is better to have a flag of some sort than none at all, for it is evidence of good intent, and though allied with want of knowledge, probably when people get more accustomed to seeing the symbol of their country's greatness they will begin to recognise its true form. We venture to say that not one person in 10,000 could correctly draw a Union Jack. In connection with this important subject we heartily recommend our Members to obtain a copy of the "History of the Union Jack," by Mr. Barlow Cumberland, M.A. (Supreme President of the "Sons of England"), Toronto, Canada. It is published by Messrs. Ward, Lock & Co., London. The Flag should float from every school house, an object lesson of our world wide power, and from every court of law, signifying that justice, regardless of rank or wealth, is the right of every subject of the King.—From the *St. George's Gazette*.

We publish the above and the drawing in response to several applications for a correct description of the Colors of the Regiment. We would have had the two flags printed in colors had funds allowed.—[Ed.]

VOLUNTEER INTELLIGENCE.

ACTIVE SERVICE COMPANY'S DINNER.

The first annual dinner of the First Active Service Company of the Volunteer Battalions of the Regiment was held on 23rd May. Captain G. Morphew, who commanded, presided, and the other members of the Company present were Captains Watney and C. S. Marchant, Lieuts. L. de B. Barnett and J. Sawers, Sergt.-Instructor Church, Sergts. Wainscott, Amer, Attree, Payne, Prentice, Hardy, and Martin, Corpls. Kozel, Loveland, Dawe, Brookson, Court, Preston, Higgitt, Dunwell, Clarke, and Waterman, Ptes. Zealey, Humphrey, Lawrence, Reed, Covill, Holding, Halifax, Whitlock, Cloke, J. Prentice, Lovell, and Crockford. Supporting the chairman were Colonel E. Satterthwaite, V.D., Commanding the 2nd Vol. Batt., and Mr. G. Willis. Others present included Captain McCracken, Sergt.-Major Lalley, Sergt.-Instructor Tench, Sergts. Gomer, Ward, Fallows, and Congdon, Sergt. Bradshaw (3rd Grenadier Guards), Colour-Sergt. McDonnell, Sergt. Leng, Corpls. W. C. Dawe, Adamson, and Lovell, Ptes. Gray, Peters, H. C. A. and H. C. L. N. Brewer, Messrs. W. and J. Dawe, Ridley, &c. The members of the committee having charge of the arrangements (which, in all respects, were excellent) were Sergt.-Instructor G. Church, Sergts. R. Fawsitt, A. Rumbold, J. Hardy and W. Prentice, Corpls. H. Kozel, B. Allington and Brookson, Pte. C. Bance and Pte. T. Crockford, Hon. Sec.—The toast of "The King" having been honoured, Col. Satterthwaite proposed "The Active Service Company," remarking that he had had many opportunities of addressing the company, both before they went to the front and since their return, but he had never done so with greater pleasure than he did that evening. That was their first annual dinner, and he hoped there would be many to follow—(hear, hear—for they would be the means of bringing and keeping together those who had been engaged in active service as well as the two halves of the battalion. He trusted, too, that another result would be the bringing back of some of the wandering sheep who had left them (applause). The Volunteer force had been, and still was, the subject of much criticism, but he ventured to say that they were not so bad as they were painted in the half-penny papers (hear, hear, and laughter). There was, however, one portion of the force which was not subject to criticism, and that was the companies who went out to Africa to join their line battalions, and none, he ventured to say, did better than the company he then the honour of addressing. It pleased him indeed to see all the officers present (cheers).— Captain Morphew (who was warmly cheered), replying, said next to that of "The King" the toast was that which appealed closest to his heart. It gave him great pleasure to see so many present. London, perhaps, was the most convenient place for them to have their dinner, though it was not an easy matter, he quite appreciated, for all who desired to attend to be present, for the first Active

Service Company was widely separated—some were in South Africa and America, and others in different parts of England. The Company consisted of 137 of all ranks; seven died, eight were invalided home, eight remained in South Africa, and 114 returned, a record which, he contended, showed they were made of sterling stuff. In addition to the commemoration tablet at the cathedral at Cape Town he was also promised that the names of the men who died at Bloemfontein should be inscribed on the tablet there (applause). Captain Morpew read several letters of apology from officers who served with the 8th Division at the front, including General Sir Leslie Rundle, who was in command. Captain Morpew said he hoped at the next dinner those who could not be present on this occasion would find it convenient to come. In proposing "Our Fallen Comrades" he asked them to drink to the affectionate and living memory of their seven comrades who, having done their duty nobly and well, rested under a southern sun. They still heard them speak to them, telling them when the occasion again arose to uphold the flag of their King, their Country and the Empire.—The toast was drunk in silence—Captain Watney, who was received with applause, proposed "The Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regt)." As Colonel Satterthwaite had said they were criticised before they, as volunteers, went to South Africa, which they did with feelings of trepidation as to how they might be received by the line battalion, but this trepidation was quite uncalled for—the regiment received them kindly, and from the first made them understand that they were comrades in fact as well as in name. When they turned up late at night their comforts were catered for in a manner of which they all had pleasant memories (hear, hear). They all felt that they were on the same business, and that they were a part of the regiment for the time being, and the regiment thought so to (applause). Not that they were let off any of their duties, which they shared with the rest of the regiment. He felt that the war had been the means of bringing the volunteer battalions in closer touch with their comrades of the line (applause).—The toast was heartily drunk.—Mr. G. Willis proposed "The Volunteer Battalions Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regt)." He could not resist the very courteous invitation given him on behalf of the Company by Pvt. Crockford to be present. He had taken considerable interest in the doings of Volunteer Forces, especially that of the Active Service Contingent from their own neighbourhood—(cheers)—and it gave him the keenest pleasure to join them at that dinner, which he hoped would be but the rerunner of many such enjoyable and valuable gatherings. Captain Watney had spoken to the feelings of trepidation which filled the minds of the Active Service Company as to the manner in which they would be received by their comrades of the line regiment, but they at home had no fear when they went to the front—they knew that they would worthily uphold the honour and dignity of the flag which was so dear to them all. It had fallen to his lot to give publicity to their doings with the other British troops on the veldt, and they might be content to know that their services were appreciated. He congratulated Colonel Satterthwaite upon being appointed a member of the Royal Commission on the Reserves Forces (loud cheers). The battalion, he was sure, regarded it as an honour done to themselves that their Colonel should have been chosen from among the many other volunteer commanding officers in the country to occupy such an important position. He hoped that the result of the labours of the Commission—the members of which had no sinecure—would be that something would be done to improve the service conditions of volunteers. The men gave their time, and their officers gave both time and money, and it was essential that something effective should be done in their behalf. They looked to their friend at court to assist in bringing about the needed reforms (cheers.) He understood that a tablet was shortly to be placed in St. Alfege parish church, Greenwich, in memory of those of their comrades who had left their bones upon the veldt. He should like to see something more worthy even than this, and if there was anything he could do in this way they could command his help and sympathy (loud cheers). He proposed the four volunteer battalions of the regiment, which "stood four square to all the winds that blew" (applause).—Colonel Satterthwaite, replying, thanked Mr. Willis for the great interest he had taken for so many years in the volunteer force, especially that in his own district. His interest had been of material benefit to the battalion he (Colonel Satterthwaite) had under his command, and he commended the example set by Mr. Willis and *The Kentish Mercury*, of which he was the editor, to other newspapers of the Metropolis, and the country at large. He hoped that now the brigade had been formed that they would always take their annual training together. They could at all times find something to learn from their next-door neighbours, and there was something to learn from the battalions to which they camped next. The Royal Commission on the Militia and Volunteers had already begun its work, having sat last week four hours one day and five the next. It was, he claimed, a business-like Commission, and no doubt the recommendations they would submit to His Majesty would benefit all concerned (applause).—The toast of "The Visitors" was proposed by Captain C. S. Marchant and replied to by Captain McCracken.—Captain

Morpew proposed "The Non-Commissioned Officers of the Active Service Company," coupling with it the name of Sergt.-Inst. G. Church, who briefly responded, making reference to the manner in which all ranks worked together.—The evening concluded with "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the King." An excellent musical programme was sustained by Messrs. T. Lester Jones, J. W. Hamilton (who presided at the piano), J. S. Maters, W. Brewer, Hampton Nicholls, J. Graham Dickinson, Harry Knight (whose humorous contributions were much in request), &c.

The widow of the late Sergt.-Major J. Gould desires to express grateful thanks to those officers of the Regiment, past and present, who were kind enough to assist her. A former officer of the Regiment visited here last month, and informs the Officer Commanding 50th Regimental District that she is now doing very well, and that General Gatacre, Commanding Eastern District, has been most kind to her.

The Officer Commanding 50th Regimental District has inaugurated a Compassionate Fund with a view to help past members of the Regiment, who may be in necessitous circumstances.

He acknowledges with grateful thanks a donation of £50 from the Regimental Institute of the 1st Battalion, and £30 from the Lord Lieutenant's County Fund for Kentish Soldiers.

Donations and Annual Subscriptions are invited, and will be acknowledged in the "Queen's Own Gazette."

THE TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION ARE AS FOLLOWS :

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"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS
OF

THE QUEEN'S OWN (ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT).

No 337.

MAIDSTONE, JULY, 1903.

[Vol. XXI, No. 7.]

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

1ST BATTALION.

Appointed Lance-Corporals—Privates E. Turner, 27th May, 1903; A. Ayres, 12th June, 1903; C. Bond, 27th June, 1903.

2ND BATTALION.

Promoted Sergeants—Lance-Sergeants—A. Moss, E. Gillespie, H. Garwood, B. Reynolds. 16th January, 1903; W. Moir, 15th May, 1903.

Appointed Lance-Sergeants—Corporals R. Richman, E. Kalland and P. King, 16th January, 1903; E. Eley, 11th March, 1903; W. Mallon, 15th May, 1903.

Promoted Corporals—Lance-Corporals H. Childs, E. Clarke, E. Hatch, G. Pace, 16th January, 1903.

Appointed Lance-Corporals—Private F. King, 23rd February, 1903; Dr. F. Moss, 26th March, 1903; D. Pelling, 20th March, 1903; T. Morris, 24th March, 1903; W. Divers, 28th March, 1903.

With the August Number of the "Gazette" we hope to present our readers with a picture of the Memorial Window.

THE DEDICATION OF THE MEMORIAL WINDOW.

On the 20th of last month, we performed our last duty to our comrades who fell in South Africa. With solemn state and a most impressive service, the beautiful window erected by the Regiment to their memory was unveiled by Col. Grove, C.B., and dedicated by the Right Revd. the Chaplain General to the Forces.

May we ever keep green the memory of those whose names are inscribed on the brass memorial tablet.

The following cutting is from the "Kent Times."

A year ago last month peace was proclaimed in South Africa, and the flow of blood and treasure stopped. Briton and Boer laid down their arms. Welcome was the good tidings, and how welcomed were the conquering heroes. The land rung with the cheers of the populace as sunburnt stalwart fellows marched once more along the streets and through the crowds that had sent them forth for the grim fight. But now all is over, the victory's won, and great

was the home-coming. Yet amidst the rejoicings sorrow was not unseen. Truly there is no gold without its alloy. And what of the dead? In ecstasy of delight Maidstonians, in common with their countrymen, acclaimed their home-coming heroes, the West Kents, the Yeoman and the "Medicos," and for the nonce the subdued whisper "What of the dead?" was lost in the thundering cheers of the multitude.

In contrast to these stirring times was the solemn military display of Saturday last in the Maidstone Parish Church. How the scene is changed. No cheers, no bustle, or tumult. No wild hurrahs. The Church, so rich in ecclesiastical and military associations, the "grand old Parish Church," as we name it, is given over to the welcomed heroes. They have come to honour the dead, their comrades left on the veldt, the sacrifice of a Regiment, for King and country.

One hundred and fourteen of the West Kent Regiment will never return to the shores they left, the shores of the country they loved so well. Another welcome in a brighter place is their reward. The quarrel was not their's, but how gladly they went forth, how well they fought, and the sacrifice they made!

Of those who took up arms, who replied to the call for help in the darkest days England has known for a century, none knew who would return. Honour to them all! But just now we are honouring the dead of the West Kent Regiment. And what place more fitting for a tribute to their memory than All Saints' Church, in the County Town, where hang the Regimental flags of the County, standards around which fierce battle has raged, and bullets torn almost to shreds; where the walls of the stately edifice are beautified by memorial windows, and tablets too numerous to mention, in memory of the county's soldiers who have fought and fallen, true to the last in their allegiance. Another stained glass window has been added to the church. It forms a companion to the one erected some years ago to commemorate the deeds and sacrifice by the men of the Regiment in Egypt and the Soudan, and beneath it is inscribed on a brass tablet these words:—

"This window is dedicated by their comrades to the glory of God and in memory of the undermentioned Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Men of the Q.O. Royal West Kent Regiment, who fell in the South African Campaign, 1899-1902."

Then follow the names of 2 officers and 112 men.

To unveil this beautiful and sacred piece of work was the purpose of the service on Saturday. It was a history-

making occasion. Seldom is there need for such a gathering. A grandeur and solemnity marked the whole proceedings befitting such a ceremony, and carried out with the exactness and precision becoming military control. Gradually, almost imperceptibly, the church filled. At an early hour privileged persons holding tickets for the north aisle, where the new window is situated, and other remote parts of the building, made their appearance. Then came numerous officers, mostly in uniform, wearing their decorations, but some, retired officers, in sombre civilian dress, and after them filed the troops, filling up the whole of the nave, the chapel of the Holy Name, and the south aisle. The Regimental Band was stationed at the west door, choir and clergy took up their positions, and when the Mayor, wearing his scarlet robes and chain, denoting the eminence of his civic office, with the members of the Corporation, had entered in full state, the memorable service begun.

Suddenly the impressive silence was broken into by a rolling of the regimental drums. The roof and walls of the spacious edifice reverberated the sound which mingled with that issuing from the organ, and was lost amid the familiar strains of the National Anthem. Blood coursed faster and warmer through the veins as above the voices of a vast congregation, the better regulated volume of sound from the choir, and the more powerful intonations of the organ, was heard the full strength of the regimental band, "God save our gracious King!" Drawn up the centre aisle was a guard of honour composed of 60 men of the Regiment, whose bright helmets and fixed bayonets glittered in a line amidst a thousand uncovered heads. A word of command, indistinct amidst the din, but well known to the men, brings a movement of the bayonets, and slowly the colours of the Regiment are borne between them by two officers, further guarded by Colour-Sergeants. Such is the sacred regard for the colours. A grand, inspiring sentiment. The standard bearers take up their allotted position on the chancel steps, the anthem is finished, another word of command is heard, and then a pause, a pin-drop silence ensues before, with a clear and powerful voice, the Rev. Percy Joy commences to read the Churchman's Creed, "I believe in God the Father Almighty." Prayers and Psalms follow, and a lesson, specially chosen for the occasion, is read by the patriarchal Vicar of the parish. The band again breaks forth, this time with the regimental slow march, as the colours are carried to the window which is now to be unveiled. Col. Grove, C.B., who commanded the 2nd Battalion in South Africa, reveals the memorial to the congregation by withdrawing the Union Jack from the window, reads the inscription at the foot, and then Captain Pack-Beresford gives his oft-repeated word of command, "Present arms." There is a click, click of the bayonets, and the buglers sound the "Last Post" at the West door, the most solemn and impressive part of a very solemn service. Col. Brock, the officer commanding the 50th Regimental District, has yet to ask the Vicar and churchwardens to undertake the charge of the window, and Canon Joy is heard in reply: "Col. Brock, officers and men of the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment,—We accept this, your sacred trust, and we shall reverently guard it as one of the many precious memorials which within the walls of God's House are in the safe keeping of

God Himself." The actual dedication was performed by the Right Rev. Bishop J. Taylor Smith, Chaplain-General to the Forces, and as the procession, which was joined by the Lord Lieutenant of the County (Earl Stanhope) and his Worship the Mayor, returned to its place in the central aisle, the hymn was sung, "The Son of God goes forth to war."

THE ADDRESS.

The Chaplain-General delivered a brief and appropriate discourse, based on the text, "I beseech you, brothers, by the mercy of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice" (St. Paul, 12th chapter, 1st verse). He divided his address into two parts; in the first he dealt with the Regiment's associations with the Church of All Saints, and in the second he drew lessons from the Biblical subjects of the memorial window. This is not, he said, the time nor the place to speak at length of the noble records of the past, the brave deeds done by the men of Kent, the brave deeds done by the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. They have earned for themselves an immortal reputation for endurance. Who among us has not been thrilled in reading the account of those continuous series of marches which made them marked men in recent history. We have followed you, brothers, as you marched under the hot sun, through the pouring rain, meeting with violent dust storms, spending those icy-cold nights with no tents, no shelter from the weather. It is enough to say that the record of the Royal West Kent Regiment is second to none in the history of our country. You went forth from this county strengthened by our prayers, and now you have come back again—not all, but some; you have come back again with grateful hearts, welcomed by the praise of your fellows. Here to-day you bring your offering, in this beautiful window and this brass tablet, and show your gratitude to Almighty God for His late mercies vouchsafed to you. This is not the first time you have been here; this is not the first occasion you have given to God's House, to your county, to your people, for, if I understand aright, in this beautiful Parish Church of your County Town there are two stained-glass windows which you have given; there is the beautiful chancel screen which meets you Sunday by Sunday. Besides these there are several mural tablets; in fact, you have given gifts exceeding in value the sum of £800, and more than that, you have brought to this sanctuary the colours which were taken from the Sikhs, and your old colours of the 1st and 2nd Battalions are here also to be, as it were, a reminder to those who worship from time to time here of what others have done, and what you may do. And your liberality, your gratitude has not been confined to God's House, for, I understand, the Regiment has liberally subscribed to the West Kent Hospital, to the fund raised during the typhoid epidemic, to the Mayor's fund for the war, and other military charities. You have given in order that you may give one more mark of your loving gratitude to Almighty God for His mercies vouchsafed. The window, which has been unveiled and dedicated, and entrusted to the Vicar and Churchwardens of this church, carries with it a message which I would call your attention to for a few moments. Those four lights which are before us represent first on the left the raising of the widow's son, the Lord Jesus saying, "Young man, I say unto thee arise." There are here the gift of life, the

purpose of Christ's mission fulfilled in the raising of the widow's son. In the second light we have the bringing back into health and strength the mother of Peter's wife, who has been lying ill of a fever; and then in the next light we have the Lord Jesus Christ saying unto the sick of the palsy, "Son, be of good cheer, thy sins are forgiven thee." Then in the light nearest to me there is the cleansing of the leper. That window speaks to every soul to-day and puts before me the will of God concerning me. First, I see the purpose of Christ's coming. He came that I might have life; yea, that I might have abundance of life; and I ask myself this question: Is the purpose of Christ's mission fulfilled in me? If so, how happy am I. And in the three other lights—the raising of the sick, the forgiveness of sins, and the cleansing of the leper—we have the Christian life manifested most clearly, and the purpose of God concerning us revealed. Do I ask, in a word, what is the purpose of God concerning us? My answer is this, and the window will bear testimony to the same. The will of God concerning us, first of all, is that we should be holy; and brothers you need not be afraid of the word holy, for it only means whole—the development of the mind, the body, and the spirit. God's will is that we should be holy, wholly of him; God's will is that we should be happy; and we had the reminder that no man can be happy whose sins are not forgiven. The first words of good cheer that our Lord spoke when He walked this earth as man of men were these: "Be of good cheer, thy sins are forgiven thee." And it is only through the precious blood-shed of our Lord Jesus Christ that He has obtained unto us the forgiveness of sin. But no man is saved of himself. We are only saved in order that we may save others, bringing glory to God, peace on earth, and goodwill amongst men; and so, in the last light, the cleansing of the leper when the man brought back from the outskirts of the city, and was given, as it were, newness of life, and a new life to perform no longer from the haunts of men, but received back again to do the work of a faithful citizen, a soldier, or a brother. So we have the will of God concerning us: first of all that we may have life; and this is life eternal—to know God's Son, even Christ the Saviour. And the purpose of our life is that we should be holy and happy, and that we should be helpful. Take these words, brothers; think over them, and ask yourselves the question: Is the purpose of God, fulfilled in me, as it ought, as it may? Am I holy? Am I happy? Am I helpful? And let these thoughts lead you to prayer, and to the giving of yourselves in life to the service of Christ, to the service of your King and country. How many went forth from this county of Kent? No less than 1,800 officers, non-commissioned officers and men belonging to the Regulars, Militia, and Volunteers. Of the 1,800 that went forth there were 114 who came not back, two belonging to the Militia, and 14 of the Volunteers. It is a solemn thing to die, brothers; it is a more solemn thing to live. I cannot speak to the dead, but it is my privilege to speak to you, the living, to-day. My words to you are these, summed up in the words of the text: "I beseech you, brothers, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, wholly acceptable unto God, your reasonable service." The will of God concerning each one of us is that we may make the most of life. See to it that you be God's best and not God's second best, for

there is a difference; there is a difference between *the* will of God concerning a human soul and *a* will. Having illustrated his meaning, Bishop Taylor Smith proceeded: God would take our lives, making us useful and helpful to our fellows; and instead of making the best He has often to take and make us the second best, because we yield not ourselves unto Him. As you come here with grateful hearts, but with the memory of your dead comrades, and with the future of your lives before you, I ask you with your thanksgiving to give the true thanksgiving which is that of yielding yourselves unto God, Who gave Himself for you.

At the conclusion of the address, the Benediction was pronounced, and "Onward, Christian Soldiers" sung as a recessional hymn, the Standard bearers being the first to leave the church, once again slowly carrying the colours down the nave with the Guard of Honour at the "present." The Standard bearers were Lieut. Lynch White and 2nd-Lieut. Knox.

Earl Stanhope was in the uniform of Lord Lieutenant of the County, and wore his Jubilee and Coronation decorations, while the Chaplain-General of the Forces wore the Ashantee, Jubilee, and Coronation medals.

The surpliced clergy present, besides the Vicar and the Rev. P. Joy, were the Revs. H. F. Rivers, H. Collis, Richards, H. S. Allison, O. R. Dawson, Oliphant, Parks, etc. The churchwardens, Mr. Herbert Monckton, and Mr. J. H. Keeley, were in attendance.

Thousands of people lined the streets to watch the march to and from the church. The troops assembled in the Barracks square, except the Yeomanry, who joined at the Bell Hotel, their Headquarters, and both prior to leaving the Barracks, and on their return the colours were saluted, the ceremony being very impressive.

The Mayor, attended by Chief Constable Mackintosh, the Mace Bearers, and the Town Crier, was accompanied by the Deputy Town Clerk (Mr. S. Lance Monckton), and the Corporation Chaplain (the Rev. C. G. Duffield), Major Harpur, and Messrs. G. B. Bunter, E. Hills, Haynes, and W. Hobbs, Aldermen John Potter and J. McVitie, and Councillors J. Clifford and S. Britt, Justices of the Peace; and Councillors W. Day, jun., T. Elmore, T. Epps, W. Morling, W. C. Manning, D. G. Parks, J. Tomlin, E. Vaughan, and A. J. and E. J. Waterman.

There were nearly a thousand soldiers present, many of whom wore the South African medal. The 1st Battalion furnished 450, including 30 drummers and 60 of the band, under the direction of Bandmaster Davis: 1st Vol. Batt., A, B, F, and L Maidstone Companies, 197 with band and buglers; 2nd Vol. Batt., Blackheath, about 30; 3rd Vol. Batt., Woolwich, 7, all active service men; 4th Vol. Batt., Chatham, about 40; D Troop West Kent Imperial Yeomanry, 30; Maidstone Companies Royal Army Medical Corps, 80.

The officers with the troops were:—Majors Brock-Hollinshead, Annesley, D.S.O., Rowe, and Martyn, Captains Flanagan, Pack-Beresford, Druce, Burt, O'Dowda, and Molony, Captain and Quarter-Master Couch, Lieutenants Dunlop, Ingram, Waring, and Quarter Master Willis, 2nd Lieuts. Paget, Hoare, and Phillips; 1st Vol. Batt., Major Smith, commanding, Surgeon-Col. Boyce, Capt. Lewis, and Capt. Phillips (commanding the cyclists);

2nd Vol. Batt., Capt. Morphew; 3rd Vol Batt., Capt. McCracken; 4th Vol. Batt., Capt. Nash; "D" (Maidstone) Troop, Imperial Yeomanry, Lieut. G. M. Style, commanding Lieut. Bazley White, and Quarter Master J. L. Fremelin; Maidstone Companies Royal Army Medical Corps, Major C. Pye-Oliver, commanding, Capt. Saveall, and Lieut. Rogers-Tillstone.

The following officers were also present, most of them in full regimentals, and wearing their decorations:—General Leach, C.B., Major-General Cumberland, Major-General Luard, Col. T. H. Brock, Col. Grove, C.B., Col. Johnson, C.B., Col. Luck, Col. Belgrave; Major Maunsell, Major Isacke, Capt. Venables, Lieut. Elgood, 2nd Batt., R.W.K.R. Major Dalison, Capt. Burbury, and Lieuts. Bonsor, Hume, Succombe, and Willes, 3rd Batt., R.W.K.R.; Col. C. E. Warde, M.P., and Capt. Pott, West Kent Imperial Yeomanry; Lieut.-Col. Williams, and Capt. Kitson, 1st Vol. Batt., R.W.K.R.; Col. Satterthwaite, Lieut.-Col. Latter, Major Latter, and Capt. Simpson (Adjutant), 2nd V.B. R.W.K.R.; Capt. Pedley, Adjutant 3rd V.B. R.W.K.R.; Lieut.-Col. Newington and Capt. Boucher, 4th V.B. R.W.K.R.; Major Daniell, Capt. Beeching, Capt. Bush, and Lieut.-Col. C. E. Harrison.

Major Martyn begs to acknowledge receipt of the following subscriptions to the Memorial Fund:

	£	s.	d.
Col. Tweedie	1	0	0
Maidstone Detachment Volunteers, } Half proceeds of a Smoking Concert }	13	4	9
Laurie	1	1	0

The following letter from the Rev. Canon Joy was received by Col. Brock:—

The Vicarage, June 21st, 1903.

DEAR COL. BROCK,

I should count it a privilege if I, as your Chaplain, may have some share in the memorial window, and I do not know how I can better offer to show my interest, than in asking to be allowed to contribute to the funds such sum as the customary fee for the brass imposes. If this may appear on both sides of your balance sheet—the fee on one side, the donation on the other—I shall have discharged the obligation to our table of fees, and shall at the same time have been able to contribute to the work in which I take so deep an interest.

Believe me, sincerely yours,

SAMUEL JOY.

Col. Brock, in acknowledgment, thanked Canon Joy in the name of the Regiment, for his generous offer, and for his desire to associate himself so closely with the Regiment, which all ranks will appreciate.

The Editor has received the following letter from a pensioner who was but lately a N.C.O. in the Q.O. Royal West Kent Regiment:—

DEAR SIR,

I should be much obliged if you will allow me to ventilate a grievance through the medium of the *Q.O.G.* I never received any information about the ceremony on June 20th, until I saw an account of it in a local paper. Having served many years in the Regiment I think I should have been notified about it. Sir, I should have liked to have been in church that day, and could have been there if I had been told, but how could I go when I had not been let know about it.

Yours faithfully,

X X X X

The Editor gladly publishes this letter, as it corroborates the arguments set forth in this month's number. On an occasion such as the unveiling of a memorial, it is impossible to notify all past members of the Regiment. All who took in the *Q.O.G.* knew when the ceremony was taking place, and all who asked for tickets got them. Those who do not take sufficient interest in their corps to subscribe to its monthly periodical are deserving of no sympathy should they be left in ignorance of forthcoming events. Since 1881 over 7,000 men have passed through the ranks of the Regiment. Had they all received notifications of the ceremony, nearly £20 would have been expended on ld. stamps alone, and the expenses of stationery and clerical labour would have made a large hole in the funds available for the window.

Our readers will appreciate the following letter received by Col. Brock from Captain the Hon. E. J. Mills, D.S.O., who commanded the West Kent Yeomanry Squadron in South Africa:—

DEAR COLONEL BROCK,

I cannot say how very much disappointed I am at not being present at your service, but it was quite impossible for me to make arrangements to get away. The West Kent Regiment was so kind and hospitable to my squadron in South Africa that there has always been a strong tie between them.

We should have liked to have attended in force to-day to show that those ties are not diminished. We were all so proud of the West Kent Regiment that we should have been only too glad to be present at a ceremony to commemorate the services of those who lost their lives in upholding the high prestige of their regiment in the service of their country.

Yours very truly,

E. J. MILLS.

June 20th, 1903

We most heartily congratulate Sir Fowler Burton, K.C.B. the Colonel of the Regiment, on the well-merited distinction which has just been conferred on him by his Majesty the King.

It was a matter of universal regret throughout the Regiment that ill-health prevented him from being present to unveil the memorial window on June 20th.

As notified in the *Q.O.G.* for June, the O.C. 50th Regt. District has inaugurated a compassionate fund for the purpose of helping as far as possible deserving cases which may come to his notice. A fund without donations or subscriptions is but a useless bubble, and it is therefore hoped that officers and others will yearly subscribe something towards this fund.

It was originally started by a donation of £30 from Lord Stanhope's fund for Kent soldiers, and has since been augmented by one of £50 from the 1st Battalion. Already some calls have been made on the fund. In answer to a personal appeal from Lord Ranfurly, the Governor-General of the Australian Commonwealth, a donation has been sent to Australia to help deserving cases in that colony, among whom are included several old 50th and 97th men, veterans wearing Sutlej, Crimean, and Mutiny medals. By means of the fund a sergeant, late of the

Regiment, who was dying from consumption, had his last few weeks made more comfortable. It is to help in cases of this nature that the compassionate fund was started. Widows left penniless will, as far as possible, be assisted until they can find employment; orphans tended until a home is found for them.

No money will be expended in any case which is not directly connected with the Regiment. The fund is one which should appeal to all ranks in the Regiment, and it is earnestly hoped that it will be well supported. Even the smallest donations or subscriptions will be gladly received by the O.C. Depot, and will be acknowledged in the *Q.O.G.*

The O.C., 50th R.D., acknowledges with thanks the following donations and subscriptions towards the Regimental Compassionate Fund:—

	Donation			Annual Subs.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
General Sir F. Burton, K.C.B. ...	10	10	0			
Colonel Doran ...	5	5	0			
Major General E. Leach, C.B. ...	1	0	0	1	0	0
Colonel Grove, C.B. ...	1	0	0	1	0	0
Lieut.-Col. Harrison ...	1	0	0	1	0	0
Major Mansell ...	1	0	0	1	0	0
Colonel Brock ...	1	0	0	1	0	0

It is requested that annual subscriptions may be paid yearly on July 1st.

The Annual Dinner of the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment was held at the Grand Hotel on June 20th, 1903. The following were present:—

MAJOR-GENERAL Leach, C.B.
 BRIGADIER-GENERAL Alderson, C.B., A.D.C.
 COLONELS Fyler, Johnson, C.B., Tweedie, D.S.O.
 LIEUT.-COLONELS Armstrong, Belgrave, Churchill, Harrison, and King.
 MAJORS Annesley, D.S.O.; Brock-Hollinshead, Isacke, Martyn, Maunsell, Morse, Roche, Rowe, Smith, and Style.
 CAPTAINS Beeching, Bonham-Carter, Buckle, D.S.O.; Burbury, Burt, Bush, Druce, Hotham, Kennedy, Kitson, Lees, Molony, O'Dowda, Pack-Beresford, Simpson, Venables, and Woulfe-Flanagan.
 LIEUTENANTS Annesley, Belgrave, Elgood, Keenlyside, Knox, Snow, and White.
 2ND-LIEUTENANTS Brock, Hoare, Ingram, Phillips, Paget, and Waring.
 MESSRS. Streatfield-Moore and Hudson.

The Editor begs to acknowledge the receipt of the following subscriptions to "Queen's Own Gazette," to Dec., 1903, Major F. Pine and Mr. C. Donnelly.

The Editor of the *Q.O.G.* takes this opportunity of making an earnest appeal to all ranks of all units of the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment that on leaving their Battalion, whether it be Line, Militia, or Volunteer, they become subscribers to the *Q.O.G.* It is practically the only means by which large numbers of men can keep in touch with the regiment, and be made acquainted with its various movements. As evidence in point, I would quote the case of the ceremony of unveiling the memorial window in Maidstone on the 20th of last month.

A notice in large type was inserted in the *Q.O.G.* for June, informing all readers that tickets for reserved seats in church

could be obtained if application was made before June 10th. The list was kept open until June 15th, but numerous letters asking for seats were received after that date, and many had to be refused. In every case the reason given for not applying in time was that they did not know about it before, and had only just heard of the ceremony. There must have been hundreds within easy reach of Maidstone who would have liked to have attended the ceremony, and done honour to their fallen comrades, but were debarred from doing so by ignorance of the very fact that a ceremony was to take place. The reasons for the existence of the *Q.O.G.* are obvious. The Editor always hopes that the copies may be of interest to those actually serving in the Regiment, but the chief object of the paper is to be the means of fostering a spirit of comradeship between the various units of the Royal West Kent Regiment, and also to be a link connecting the present with the past, the war-worn veteran with the last-joined recruit.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

In our second Regimental Cricket Match we were defeated by the 1st Royal Dragoons by 80 runs. It was a horrible day, a cold north wind and tornados of dust rendering cricket anything but a delightful pastime. The fingers of our fielders were so perished with cold that holding catches became almost an impossibility, and our opponents benefited accordingly.

We were more successful in our first match against the 3rd Battalion, and managed to beat them by 34 runs. We play them again on Friday, the 26th, when they mean to have their revenge.

We went over to Dover on the 22nd to play against the Buffs, who proved too strong for us; we were beaten by 66 runs. Corporal Allen and Private Pinder, of the Band, were most useful both in the batting and bowling.

Our acting Editor is rather in a hurry this month for "copy," so I must cut short a great deal of the news I had intended to send in order to be in time. We congratulate him on his success in the Editing of the June number of the *Q.O.G.* The style seems somewhat familiar, but owing to the absence of snake and pig-sticking stories we are a little at sea as to the identity of "The Casual Correspondent." We all cry "shame" against the Editor who cuts short his poetic effusions, and hope that he will have better luck next time.

1ST BATTALION CORRESPONDENT.

1st BATTALION OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' RIFLE CLUB.

The following competition took place at Hythe Ranges on the afternoon of the 13th June, between the Sergeants of the 1st Battalion and those of the 3rd Battalion.

Competition—7 rounds at 200, 500, and 600 yards, Bisley targets and marking.

Teams of twelve were selected to fire, it being resolved to select the ten best scores on each side, the team having the best aggregate to be counted the winners. This resulted in a win for the Sergeants of the 1st Battalion by a majority of 82 points.

The following are the scores of the Sergeants of the 1st Battalion:—

	200	500	600	Total.
Color-Sergt. Kill	32	30	30	92
S.I.M. Dark	33	31	26	90
Lce.-Sergt Selves.....	31	28	30	89
Sergt Nicholson	28	30	27	85
Sergt Button	30	29	26	85
Color-Sergt Colyer	29	31	25	85
Color-Sergt. Murphy ...	31	27	27	85
Sergt. Brown	32	26	25	83
Sergt. Firman.....	28	23	28	79
Lce.-Sergt. Moore	25	28	22	75
	299	283	266	848

Only eleven Sergeants of the 1st Battalion competed, one being unable to attend. This resulted in the score of Sergt. Saunders, i.e. 69, being counted out. We hope he will have better luck on a future occasion.

The following are the scores of the Sergeants of the 3rd Battalion :—

	200	500	600	Total.
Sergt. Dugay	31	31	29	91
S.I.M. Evenden	31	31	24	86
Clr.-Sergt. Osborne.....	29	29	27	85
Sergt. Connor	27	21	30	78
Clr.-Sergt. Wimhurst ...	29	27	22	78
Sergt. Harper	27	28	19	74
Clr.-Sergt. Neighbour...	33	23	16	72
Sergt. Rigglesford	26	24	20	70
Q. M.S. Bass	20	21	26	67
Clr.-Sergt. Taylor	23	23	17	65
	276	258	232	766

Clr.-Sergts. Tapp and Davis were both counted out with scores of 53 and 58 respectively.

The above are not the only scores made on this particular afternoon; others were made, but for reasons best known to those who made them, and by special request, were not recorded.

CRICKET MATCH.

Sergeants 1st Batt. R.W.K. Regiment, v. Sergeants 2nd East Kent Regiment.

This match was played on the Garrison Ground, Shorncliffe, on Saturday, the 6th June, resulting in the defeat of the home team by 1 wicket and 8 runs. The weather being decidedly cold, no doubt made it less pleasant for play. Sergeants Merrick and Saunders did much for the batting, whilst Q.M.S. Cover and Sergts. Ashby and Sonnenberg accounted for many of the wickets of the visitors. The scores being as follows :—

Sergeants 1st Batt. Royal West Kent Ragt.		2nd Innings.	
1st Innings.			
Saunders c Bowles b Kelly	12	c and b Kelly	9
Sonnenberg c Dillon b Kelly	5	b Bazley	10
Sharp c Kelly b Bowles	13	b Bowles	0
Naylor run out	1	c Bourne b Kelly	1
Eldred b Bowles	1	c Jeffrey b Kelly	0
Murphy c Dillon b Bowles	0	b Bowles	3
Merrick c Bowles b Bourne	19	c Bowles b Kelly	57
Cover c Kelly b Bourne	1	not out	2
Ball not out	0	b Kelly	17
Ashby b Bourne	0	b Bowles	3
Lush c Dillon b Bowles	2	b Kelly	3
Extras	2	Extras	19
	56		118

Sergeants 2nd Batt. East Kent Regt.		2nd Innings.	
1st Innings.			
Rylott b Naylor	0	c Cover b Ashby	2
Bowles c Cover b Naylor	28	c Naylor b Ashby	7
Kelly c Ball b Naylor	26	stmpd. b Sonnenberg	3
Isard c Murphy b Sharp	29	c Cover b Sonnenberg	10
Hewitt l.b.w. b Naylor	0	b Ashby	23
Dillon l.b.w. b Ashby	9	c Cover b Sonnenberg	0
Jeffery b Ashby	0	b Sonnenberg	0
Cornurell not out	6	c Merrick b Sonnenberg	2
Bourne b Ashby	6	c Sharp b Ashby	5
Barton b Sharp	5	did not bat	0
Bazley stumped Sharp	0	not out	8
Extras	9	Extras	2
	118		64

Sergeants 1st Batt. R.W. Kent Regiment v. Sergeants 1st Royal Dragoons.

This match was played on Thursday, the 18th June, resulting in the home team again being beaten by 13 runs, some good batting being done however by Sergts. Merricks and Saunders, and for the visitors by Bebbington, Greenstreet, and Glover, with the bat, whilst Greenstreet did much damage with the leather.

The scores being as follows :

Sergeants 1st Royal Dragoons.	
Bebbington, c Sonnenberg, b Sharp	76
Reimers, b Ashby	3
Glover, b Murphy	21
Greenstreet, run out, b Ashby	35
Jeffrey, c Lush, b Andrews	1
Weston, c Naylor, b Andrews	1
Stackwood, by Andrews	6
Mills, b Sharp	1
Cronen, b Andrews	1
Jones, b Andrews	1
Annal, not out	0
Extras	4

Total 150

Sergeants 1st Batt. R. W. Kent Regiment.	
Sonnenberg, b Jeffrey	7
Merrick, c Jeffrey, b Greenstreet	62
Lush, b Greenstreet	0
Murphy, b Greenstreet	3

Saunders, c Reimers, b Greenstreet	42
Cover, b Greenstreet	3
Sharp, c and b Greenstreet	3
Andrews, c and b Greenstreet	1
Colyer, b Greenstreet	7
Naylor, c and b Greenstreet	0
Ashby, not out	0
Extras	9

Total 137

Sergeants 1st Batt R.W. K. Regiment v. Sergeants 1st Royal Dragoons.

This return match was played on Monday, the 22nd ultimo, with rather more favourable weather and results for our team, resulting in a decisive victory for the Mess by 113 runs on the first innings.

Our team going in first kept the 1st Royals busy leather hunting, the best scores being made by Sergts. Sonnenberg and Sharp. 59 and 50 respectively. Ashby and Sonnenberg accounted for the fall of six and four wickets respectively of our opponents in their first innings. As it was still early in the afternoon, they were asked to go in again, but time prevented the innings being completed.

Although the Umpire did cry "Out," it was no use. How's that? (Voice in the distance) "Not out, out whur?" Well, you see he didn't know, poor chap, it wasn't his call.

The scores were as follows—

Sergeants 1st Batt. R.W. Kent Regiment.
1st Innings.

Sonnenberg, c Annal b Beall	59
Lush, b Beall	7
Sharp, not out	50
Saunders, b Glover	6
Murphy, c Beall b Annal	2
Cover, c Babbington b Annal	2
Ashby, b Glover	2
Ball, c and b Annal	7
Andrews, c Beall b Annal	4
Colyer, c Glover b Annal	4
Naylor, run out	1
Extras	7

Total 151

Sergeants 1st Royal Dragoons.

1st Innings.

2nd Innings.

Babbington, run out	1	c Ashby b Sharp ...	7
Reimes, b Ashby	0	b Ashby	27
Weston, c Murphy b Ashby...	7	c Murphy b Ashby	23
Jeffery, b Ashby	7	not out	3
Beall, c Ball b Sonnenberg ...	1	did not bat	0
Glover, b Ashby	14	c Murphy b Andrews	0
Harman, b Ashby	0	b Ashby	11
Annal, c and b Sonnenberg ...	0	b Sonnenberg	0
Cronin, b Ashby	0	b Sonnenberg	2
Mills, not out	3	not out	5
Stackwood, b Sonnenberg	3	b Ashby	3
Extras	2	Extras	3

38

84

UMPIRE.

DEPOT CRICKET.

Depot cricket is in a fairly flourishing condition at present. Up to date we have played ten matches, and of these we have won six. The following are the results:—

1st Match, May 6th, against Chatham Tradesmen. Lost by 45 runs. Scores—Depot 75, Tradesmen 120.

2nd Match, May 9th, against Eiffel Tower. Lost by 13 runs. Scores—Depot 65, Eiffel Tower 78.

3rd Match, May 13th, against Liberal Club. Won by 56 runs. Scores—Depot 86, Liberal Club 30 and 22 for six wickets.

4th Match, May 16th, against St. Phillip's C.C. Lost by 39 runs. Scores—Depot 36, St. Philip's 75.

5th Match, May 20th, against Grocers' C.C. Won by 19 runs. Scores—Depot 63, Grocers 34 and 35 for 3 wickets.

6th Match, May 23rd, against Dobney Institute. Won by 62 runs. Scores—Depot 85 and 78 for 5 wickets, Dobney 23.

7th Match, May 30th, against Eiffel Tower. Won by 10 wickets. Scores—Depot 54 and 1 for no wickets, Eiffel Tower 21 and 33.

8th Match, June 3rd, against Grammar School. Won by 7 wickets. Scores—Depot 172 for 3 wickets, Grammar School 73.

9th Match, June 6th, against West Borough W.M.C. Won by 47 runs. Scores—Depot 98, West Borough 51.

10th Match, June 17th, against East Farleigh. Lost by 18 runs. Scores—Depot 54, East Farleigh 72.

From "B" Company's Correspondent,
2nd R. W. Kent Regiment,
Diyatalawa,

19th May, 1903.

To the EDITOR "Queen's Own" Gazette,
Maidstone, Kent.

SIR,

I think it is nearly time that the 2nd Battalion, or rather the Companies that the Battalion is composed of, woke themselves up and each Company start contributing towards their Regimental Gazette. "B" Company thinks it is best to break the ice, and I have been selected to act as Correspondent till our own man is a little less busy and can take up his duties as Correspondent once again. I have been asked to give you an account of the time we have spent in Ceylon, starting from the 1st January, 1903.

On the 1st January we proceeded to Colombo, under the command of Major L. Brock-Hollinshead and 2nd Lieut. W. J. Dinwiddy, to take over the Barracks from the 1st Gloucester Regiment. We settled down to our new military life with a good heart after nearly three years of rough life in South Africa. It seemed a pleasure to be able to sit down to our meals without having our trusty friend (our rifle) close handy in case of surprise, and when the time came for sleeping it seemed as if we were in the Grand Hotel (Strand). Some who had slept on the veldt for so long felt a bit restless at first, but that soon wore off, and in an hour the room resounded with snores of a long earned rest.

It is needless to start telling you of the taking over barracks from the Gloucester Regiment, so that I had better

start with our sports. Regarding football there is no need to tell you that it is an acknowledged thing in the 2nd Battalion to play football, and I am pleased to say that "B" Company lives in hope of carrying the football shield off the field this year. Our Company practised in February, and in March we started to play. The first team to send our Company a challenge was the Bloomfield Football Club, a civilian team, and I am pleased to say that at both matches we played with them we beat them, first time by 2 goals to nil, and the second time by 4 goals to nil. We next played the Royal Garrison Artillery's F team, but they proved just as good as we were, and the game resulted in a draw. We then challenged "H" Company and the game once more resulted in a draw. We were sorry that "H" Company was sent to Kandy, or in our next match we might have proved the victors. On or about the 4th of April we received a challenge from the Fort (Colombo) team of Europeans to a match, and this time the game resulted in a draw. On the 15th April, H.M.S. Highflyer appeared in harbour and we sent them a challenge, to which they heartily responded by putting off a match with the Colombo Club and playing us, but this time we were the victors by 1 goal to nil. I expect the Battalion Correspondent will give you an account of the matches the detachment team played with the same team. We next played the Artillery a game and beat them, this time by 1 goal to nil. On the 1st of May we got a reply from the Colombo Football Club, and they fixed a match with "B" Company for the 5th of May, and as our Company were moving from Colombo by the 9 o'clock night mail on the same date, we thought we had plenty of time on hand to play them before we proceeded to Lawa, and at 5 p.m. sharp we started playing, and we beat them by one goal to nil. This is the first time since our Regiment has been stationed in Ceylon that we have beaten the Colombo Football Club, and when "B" Company came into barracks with the news it was scarcely believed till it came out in the local papers the next day, and I can assure you there was great rejoicing. The detachment team has played the same team twice before and had been beaten both times, so we had something to be proud of. We left Colombo by the night mail on May 5th, and arrived at Diyatalawa at 11.30 on the 6th to undergo a course of musketry and field training, under the command of Lieut. A. K. Grant and 2nd Lieut. W. J. Dinwiddy. Here we met "G" Company for the first time since disembarkation, and they were very eager to challenge us to a game of football, which, on the 9th, we played, and for the first time we were beaten by 1 goal to nil, but there was an excuse as the ground was slippery, made so by the recent rains, and we had been used to playing on grass, so it came strange to our Company. But, on the 12th May, we challenged "G" to another match and this time we got our revenge, we beat them by 3 goals to nil, and it pleased the whole detachment to see the way the Companies struggled to be victors. Before "G" Company departed to Colombo they invited "B" to a concert, and I am pleased to say that it was a success. "G" Company's Dramatical Club gave a sketch, entitled "Out of Work." Pte. Slodden, of "B" Company, gave a good turn, comprising hand balancing, weight lifting, and club swinging, for which he was encored. Pte. and Lce.-Corpl. Divers of "G" Company gave a duet and dance which was also a success. The evening was passed very pleasantly, and we were very sorry when "G" Company

departed for Colombo on the 14th instant and left us by ourselves amongst the hills. We hope to hear of "G" Company putting their shoulders to the wheel and pulling Colombo from the top of the ladder and place the "Queen's Own" flag there instead.

From this month we will try and contribute a paragraph for "B" Company's work and sports, but from the time we landed from the S. S. Golconda we have been busy getting everything straight, and I am afraid the "Queen's Own Gazette" has suffered through it.

I am, Sir,

"Bottles," the Orfis Boy,

"B" Company's Correspondent.

MATRIMONIAL.

Owing to the success of your previous Advertiser, I beg that you will favour me by publishing the following in your Matrimonial Column:—

N.C.O., about 30, smart, intelligent, temperate habits, desirous of meeting with young lady of means with view to matrimony. Advertiser is of very quiet disposition, retired, fond of home. Photo given in exchange.—Box 2368 Queen's Own, Shorncliffe.

N.C.O., 30, with means, is desirous of opening up a correspondence with a view to an early marriage. Advertiser dark, musical, fond of society.—Apply Box 1200, Queen's Own, Shorncliffe.

Mixem and Joinem beg to notify the young people desirous of entering into matrimony to communicate with them previous to taking any steps in the matter, as they have made special arrangements for providing Solicitors who have had vast experience in Breach of Promise Cases and Divorce proceedings.

Weddings, Christenings, and Funerals are attended to with the utmost care.

MIXEM & JOINEM.

In Loving Memory
OF
MY DEAR OLD FIELD SERVICE CAP,
Which ended its existence on June 24th, 1903.

LOVED AND RESPECTED BY ALL.

Born 1st April, 1894.

Died 24th June, 1903.

AGED 9 YEARS 2 MONTHS.

Interred at Shorncliffe by Broken Heart.

The Battalion was mustering for parade,
With faces the image of maps,
For the C. O. had ordered the whole lot to go
And fit on the Steam Roller Caps.

The Editor deeply sympathises with Broken Heart, and respects his grief over his great loss, but, at the same time, he cannot but think that it would have been better to cremate the dear departed. Fire is a wonderful cleanser even in the case of a 9 year old cap.

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS
OF
THE QUEEN'S OWN (ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT).

No. 338.

MAIDSTONE, AUGUST, 1903.

[Vol. XXI, No. 8.]

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

LINE BATTALIONS.

2nd Lieut. C. R. Ingram to be Lieut., vice F. G. Joslin, promoted, dated 7th January, 1903.

Capt. J. Lees retires on retired pay, 9th May, 1903.

Capt. P. M. Robinson is seconded for service under the Colonial Office, dated 18th April, 1903.

Lieut. G. D. Lister to be Captain, vice J. Lees retired, dated 9th May, 1903.

Supernumerary Capt. R. J. Woulfe Flanagan to be Capt., vice P. M. Robinson seconded, dated 18th April, 1903.

Capt. Noel H. S. Lowe to be Major, vice Brevet-Col. E. A. H. Alderson, C.B., removed from the Regiment on appointment to the Staff, dated 8th May, 1903.

Lieut. Eric D. Luard is seconded for service under the Foreign Office, dated 22nd May, 1903.

2nd Lieut. G. H. Shaw is seconded for service with the Indian Army, dated 2nd June, 1903.

2nd Lieut. W. F. Helmore from 3rd Batt. the Buffs, and Lieut. F. B. Humphreys from 5th Batt. Royal Irish Rifles to be 2nd Lieuts., dated 4th July, 1903.

Capt. E. V. O. Hewett to be Major, vice Lieut.-Col. Wintour, transferred to Norfolk Regt., dated 27th May, 1903.

Lieut. Tugwell is seconded for service with the Indian Army, dated 10th March, 1903.

2nd Lieut. Tulloh to be Lieut., vice Tugwell, seconded, dated 10th March, 1903.

2nd Lieut. Fenning to be Lieut., vice Lister, promoted, dated 9th May, 1903.

FIRST BATTALION.

Promoted Sergeant and Appointed Sergeant Drummer, Lce.-Sergt. W. Lush, 1st May.

Appointed Lce.-Corpls.: Pte. J. Davis, 8th July; W. Gray, 10th July; H. Bishop, 13th July.

SECOND BATTALION.

Appointed Lce.-Corpls.: Ptes. T. Oakley and H. Kimber, 29th April; H. Lee, E. Jones and A. Blake, 8th May.

THIRD BATTALION.

Capt. C. M. Allfrey to be Instructor of Musketry, vice Capt. G. Wilson, seconded, dated 6th May, 1903.

Hugh Bernard Wheeler, gentleman, to be 2nd Lieut., dated 4th May, 1903.

Lieut. T. J. C. Roberts resigns his Commission, dated 20th June, 1903.

2nd Lieuts. to be Lieuts.: H. S. H. H. Hall, E. K. Hume, J. S. Masterman, W. F. G. Willes, C. G. L. Elverson, E. M. Battersby, dated 8th June, 1903.

The appointment of 2nd Lieut. G. G. Morriss which was announced and dated 19th June, 1903, bears date 25th May, 1903, and not as before stated.

FIRST VOL. BATTALION.

Capt. and Hon. Major C. E. Warner to be Major, dated 9th June, 1903.

The undermentioned Lieuts. to be Captains: F. Johnson, F. N. Garrad, A. T. Smith, dated 20th May, 1903.

Lieut. F. S. Francis resigns his Commission, dated 13th June, 1903.

SECOND VOL. BATTALION.

Lieut. (Hon. Lieut. in the Army) T. L. Price resigns his Commission, dated 6th May, 1903.

Capt. T. Marchant is granted the honorary rank of Major, dated 13th June, 1903.

Lieut. J. P. Trousdell resigns his Commission, dated 11th July, 1903.

Surgeon Lieuts. to be Surgeon Captains: A. T. F. Brown, M.B., H. J. Bryan, dated 6th June, 1903.

THIRD VOL. BATTALION.

Lieut. C. I. Barlow resigns his Commission, dated 6th May, 1903.

Lieut. E. N. Mason, resigns his Commission, dated 13th May, 1903.

FOURTH VOL. BATTALION.

Capt. F. C. E. B. Chichester, Royal Marine L. I. to be Adjt., vice Capt. E. M. K. Parsons, West Riding Regiment, who has vacated the appointment, dated 28th March, 1903.

In our last number, on page 1863, the name of Colonel T. H. Brock was omitted from the list of those attending the Regimental Dinner. He occupied the chair.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

We were not quite so successful in our return match against the 3rd Battalion, thanks chiefly to the good innings of Captain Burbury and the excellent bowling of Lieut. Stone. It was a close finish, and the 3rd Battalion only won by 17 runs.

Second-Lieut. Phillips and Pinder were most successful for us as batsmen, while Captain O'Dowda secured most of the wickets.

Your correspondent has noticed a great improvement in the team since the beginning of the season; Bandsman Pinder especially has made good progress, and is a good all-round cricketer. I hope to record several wins before I close this month's correspondence.

I am attaching the scores the two teams made, and hope you will be able to find space to insert our little item of news. I am so sorry our much tried Editor cannot get sufficient "copy," but I will endeavour to help him all I can.

1st Batt. v. 3rd Battalion.	
	3rd Battalion.
Sergt.-Drummer Gee, run out.....	0
Maj. Martyn, c Saunders, b O'Dowda	27
Capt. Burbury, c Hoare, b Allen.....	46
" Barrow, c Phillips, b O'Dowda	5
Lieut. Irons, lbw, b O'Dowda	9
" Stone, c O'Dowda, b Allen ...	6
" Bonsor, b O'Dowda	3
" Battersby, b Pinder	11
" Furber, b O'Dowda	5
" Macnamara, b O'Dowda	0
Sergt. McGregor, not out	0
Extras.....	15

	Total.....127

1st Battalion.	
Sergt. Saunders, b Bonsor	6
" Sonnenberg, c Barrow, b Battersby	4
Second-Lieut. Phillips, b Stone	30
Pinder, b Stone.....	28
Corpl. Allen, c Barrow, b Stone.....	3
Capt. O'Dowda, c Irons, b Barrow ...	0
Second-Lieut. Hoare, b Stone	6
Sergt. Merrick, b Stone	16
Lieut. Keenlyside, not out	1
Second-Lieut. Ingram, c Battersby, b Stone	2
Second-Lieut. Paget, b Battersby ...	0
Extras	14

	Total.....110

We played a very successful match against the Royal Field Artillery on the 29th June. It was a grand day for the game. The Artillery won the toss and elected to bat. The wicket was good, but the bowling of Bandsman Pinder was excellent, and we got rid of their side for 146. Lieut. Keenlyside and Sergt. Merrick opened the innings for us, and 50 was on the board before the first wicket fell. Sergt. Merrick hit merrily from the start, and made 44 out of a total of 57 for the first wicket. Bandsman Pinder then went in, and runs came freely once more, and 116 was reached before the fourth wicket fell. Lieut. Keenlyside was next bowled after a useful stand. Captain Woulfe-Flanagan then went in, and he and Pinder seemed to do what they liked with the bowling. They were not separated till 186 was reached, and then Captain Flanagan was caught at the wicket. Pinder batted in excellent form and made 62 not out.

R.F.A.

Lieut.-Col. Tylden, c and b Pinder...	37
Dr. Collins, b Pinder	2
Lieut. Bell, lbw, b O'Dowda	2
Lieut. Carrington, c and b Pinder ...	22
Sergt. Mount, c Allen, b Pinder.....	11
Capt. Wainewright, c Saunders, b O'Dowda	26
Captain Gemmell, b Pinder	6
Lieut. Shaw, b Pinder	0
" Murray, b O'Dowda	2
" Risley, b Pinder.....	15
" Waller, not out	12
Extras	11

	Total .....146

1st Battalion

Lieut. Keenlyside, b Gemmell.....	38
Sergt. Merrick, c Risley, b Gemmell	44
Pinder, not out	62
Lieut. Phillips, lbw, b Collins.....	0
Capt. Flanagan, c Murray, b Gemmell	32
Corpl. Allen, b Collins.....	2
Capt. O'Dowda, b Collins.....	4
Extras	16

	Total .....198

Lieut. Waring, Lieut. Hoare, Sergt. Sonnenberg, and Sergt. Saunders did not bat.

We played Holy Trinity C.C. on Saturday, 4th July, and gave them a bad beating. They brought a very weak batting team, and the bowling of Pinder and Captain O'Dowda was too much for them, the former taking four for 17, the latter five for 23. Again Pinder distinguished himself, making 64 in excellent style and without giving a chance. Second-Lieut. Hoare and Capt. O'Dowda both played useful innings, and we compiled a total of 189.

1st Battalion.

Lieut. Keenlyside, c Harrison, b Fentiman	14
Sergt. Merrick, lbw, b Fentiman	0
Pinder, c Brown, b Sims	64
Second-Lieut. Phillips, b Brown	3
Corpl. Allen, c McDonald, b Brown	8
Sergt. Saunders, c King, b Fentiman	9
Capt. Flanagan, c and b Sims	1
Capt. O'Dowda, b Johnsen	29
Sergt. Sonnenberg, c Harrison, b Brown	5
Second-Lieut. Hoare, not out	27
Second-Lieut. Waring, c McDonald, b Brown	15
Extras	14
Total	189

Holy Trinity C.C.

1st Innings.	2nd Innings.	
McDonald, lbw, b O'Dowda	18 not out	10
Fentiman, c Waring, b Pinder	0	
Brown, b O'Dowda	0	
Goldsmith, b Pinder	1 c Pinder, b Sonnenberg	8
Harrison, b Pinder	0	
Sims, c Saunders, b O'Dowda	6 not out	12
Hudson, not out	8	
Johnson, b O'Dowda	3	
King, b O'Dowda	2	
Philpott, run out	2 b Corpl. Allen	0
Rev. Hampson, c & b Pinder	0 b Corpl. Allen	3
Extras	6	
Total	46	Total (3 wkts.) 33

Hythe gave us a bad beating on the 8th. Our team going in on a very bumpy wicket made 103; Hythe made 306 before we got rid of them. Pinder and Corpl. Allen, of the Band, were unable to play, and we felt their absence.

OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' RIFLE CLUB.

A very interesting competition took place at Hythe Ranges on the afternoon of the 25th ultimo, on which occasion a good number of the officers and sergeants of the battalion fired in the following competition to decide who should be the winner of Lieut-Colonel Harrison's Challenge Cup for the year 1902.

The following is the competition fired and the order in which twelve of the competitors came out:—

Distance yds.	Targets.	Marking.	Rounds.	Sights.	H. P.S.
200	Bisley	Bisley	7	Regulation	35
500	"	"	7	"	35
200	Vanishing	Regulation	7	"	21
Practice No. 12 M.R., Table B					
					91

Order of Merit.

	200	500	200	Total.
Color-Sergt. Kill	31	33	21	85
Sergeant Brown	27	31	18	76
Color-Sergeant Murphy	30	31	15	76
Sergeant Seaton	32	26	15	73
Color-Sergeant Drew	24	32	15	71
Sergeant Reeves	28	28	15	71
Sergeant Button	30	26	15	71
Second-Lieut. Knox	24	24	21	69
Color-Sergeant Allen	26	28	15	69
Lance-Sergeant Moore	24	22	21	67
Sergeant Mills	25	29	12	66
" Saunders	28	26	12	66

The shooting on the above occasion was very keen, both on the part of the officers and sergeants. The latter have to thank Color-Sergeant Kill very much for his brilliant score of 85 out of a possible 91, which enables the cup to be retained in the sergeants' mess, where we (the sergeants) hope it will remain.

A pleasing feature of this competition was the seeing of some old faces who have left the Battalion since our arrival in England, i.e., Color-sergeant Allen and Sergeant Reeves from the Depot, Color-sergt Tapp, and Sergeants Daykin and Jarrad from the 3rd Battalion, who are undergoing their annual training at Shorncliffe.

SERGEANTS, 1st BATT. R.W.K.R. v. "THE BUFFS."

Owing to many of our members being away at Bisley on duty, we have been unable to play but one match during this month. This was played at Dover against the 2nd Battalion "The Buffs," and if we went down for revenge we certainly did not get it, for again "The Buffs" proved themselves the victors by 35 runs on the two innings. However, a very enjoyable day was spent, and some of our team came home weary, worn and (?)—for at all events he could not eat the sandwich. The following are the results:

The "Buffs."

1st Innings.	2nd Innings.	
Sergt. Bowles, c Keen, b Ashby	11 c Saunders b Merrick	8
Sergt. Kelly, c Saunders, b Ashby	13 c Saunders, b Merrick	5
Sergt. Rylatt, c Keen, b Murphy	5 b Merrick	12
Sergt. Isard, c Cover, b Murphy	5 b Murphy	5
B.M. Hewitt, b Murphy	7 run out	11
Sergt. Jeffreys, b Murphy	1 b Sharp	3
Sergt. Bayley, b Ashby	6 c Saunders, b Merrick	0
Sergt. Bourne, run out	5 c Andrews, b Merrick	2
S.M. Barton, c Cover, b Murphy	3 c Andrews, b Merrick	1
Sergt. Dunes, b Murphy	6 c Naylor, b Sharp	0
" Andrews, not out	1 not out	0
Extras	6 Extras	5
Total	69	Total 52

1st Batt. Royal West Kent Regt.	
1st Innings.	2nd Innings.
Sergt. Saunders, b Kelly.....	13 run out
Sergt. Merrick, b Bowles.....	5 b Kelly
Sergt. Murphy, b Kelly.....	0 b Jeffreys
Sergt. Sharp, b Kelly.....	4 run out
Sergt. Andrews, c Isard, b Kelly.....	0 not out.....
Q.M.S. Cover, b Kelly.....	2 c Bayley, b Jeffrey...
Sergt. Naylor, b Kelly.....	4 b Bowles
C.S. Eldred, b Kelly.....	3 b Jeffreys
Sergt. Ashby, c Barton, b Kelly.....	0 c Barton, b Bowles...
Sergt. Keen, b Kelly.....	1 c Hewitt, b Bowles
Sergt. Wren, not out.....	4 run out
Extras.....	1 Extras
Total.....	37 Total.....
	49

1ST BATTALION CORRESPONDENT.

S.E.D. RIFLE MEETING.

This meeting was held at Lydd on June 30th and following days. In the match for "All Comers" at 200 yards, Colour-Sergt. Colyer won 1st prize, making the highest possible score. This was the only possible made at the distance. Colour-Sergt. Colyer also scored 33 out of 35 for the "All Comers" at 600 yards and the Lydd Cup at 800. S.I.M. Dark made 34 out of a possible 35 in the W.O. and Sergeants' match at 500.

In the snap shooting competition for the Folkestone Borough Cup, a score of 6 points won. E Company made 6 points, but unfortunately forfeited 2 for unnecessarily exposing themselves, thereby tying for second place. The tie was shot off the following day, E Company distinguishing themselves by gaining second place with a score of 16 points.

The Regimental team took 6th place in the match for the S.E.D. Challenge Cup. The following are the names and scores of the team :

	200	500	600	Total.
Color-Sergt Colyer	30	31	31	92
S.I.M. Dark	30	27	30	87
Color-Sergt. Murphy ...	26	26	30	82
Lce.-Sergt Selves.....	28	29	25	82
Sergt Button	31	29	22	82
Color-Sergt. Kill	29	27	23	79
Pte. Carmody	27	23	28	78
Sergt. Nicholson	26	28	20	74

656

A Cricket Match was played at Shorncliffe, on June 13th. between the Corporals of the 1st Battalion and the Corporals of the R.F.A., the former entertaining the Gunners.

The R.F.A. won the toss and elected to take the first innings. They were dismissed for 57 runs, most of their wickets falling to the skilful bowling of Cockle.

The Hop-pickers then had their turn, and a start was made by Cockle and Payne. The former did not last long, but when McIntosh joined Payne a good stand was made. Payne made 40 in good style and was eventually caught after amassing 40 runs. He gave two chances during his innings, one at 20 and the other at 26. Collins played a good innings for 19. The Battalion's 1st innings closed for 110.

The R.F.A. in their 2nd innings made 68, which left the Hop-pickers 16 runs behind. These were speedily knocked off by Wood and Saunders, and the Battalion thus scored a 10 wicket victory.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

With the Eighth Division.—Condensed in 220 pages is the doings of the Division with its detached parties as they occurred with the natural tendency to chronicle the doings of the Guard's Battalions. Its 36 illustrations are from photographs, and we commend it as an account of the wanderings and privations of the "Starving Eighth," of which the 2nd Battalion Royal West Kent Regiment formed part. A full list of casualties is given. Price 4s., post free, of the author, E. C. Moffett (late Scots Guards, present with the Division), 84, King's Road, Kingston-on-Thames, S.W.

2nd BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Headquarters, 2nd Batt. R.W.K.,
Echelon Barracks,
Colombo, Ceylon,

June 25th, 1903.

There was a football match on the Galle-Face last night, 24/6/03, between the Corporals of D, F, and G Companies and the Fort, resulting in a draw, no goals having been scored by either team. Our goalkeeper, Corporal Frost, played a splendid game, saving some very good shots. The game was watched by a large concourse of spectators.

After the match we had a convivial in the Corporals' Room, commencing at 7.30 p.m. The chair was taken by our Vice-president, Corporal Squires, ably assisted by Corpl. Watts, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Our visitors were a few civilian friends, likewise Corporals Mavin, Grey, and Trebbles, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, who are proceeding to England, time expired. The toast of the evening was "The visitors," which was well responded to by Corporal Mavin. After a very lengthy and pleasant evening it was brought to a close at 10.30 p.m. by raising our glasses to the health of our King and Queen. Programme:—

Sentimental song, "When you wake up in the morning," Corporal Pope; comic song, "I'm out of work," Corpl. Urquhart; sentimental song, "Twixt love and duty," Lance-corporal Russell; comic song, "In the future," Lance-corporal Booker; sentimental song, "Sweet dreams of my homeland," Lance-corporal Joyce; patriotic song, "The man behind the gun," Lance-corporal Humphries; sentimental song, "On the wreck I'll stay," Lance-corporal Wall; comic song, "She was dumb, dumb, dumb," Corporal Watts; sentimental song, "Mona," Lance-corporal Sheen; sentimental song, "Sing us one of your old songs, George," Lance-corporal Booker; comic song, "Yes, they found me," Corpl. Urquhart.

Comic song, "My shadow is my pal," Lance-corporal Joyce; comic song, "She aint no airy fairy," Lance-corporal Ridley; sentimental song, "The shamrock and rose," Corpl. Frost; comic song, "Lend me half-a-crown," Corpl. Urquhart; mouth organ solo, "The holy city," Corporal Mavin; sentimental song, "For old time's sake," Corporal Pope; comic song, "I'll keep it there till father comes home," Lance-corporal Divers; comic song, "Let them all go, go, go, go," Corporal Urquhart; sentimental song, "Because I love you," Lance-corporal Julyan; sentimental song, "The old village church," Corpl. Mavin; mouth organ solo, "Lakes of Killarney," Corporal Mavin.

Corporal Mavin then gave by special request various imitations with his mouth, representing an hotel waiter drawing corks from bottles, &c.

"God Save the King."

Diyatalawa Camp,

24th June, 1903.

Sir,—I am afraid I have not very much for the Gazette this month, as the Company has been going through their annual course of musketry and field training under the command of Lieut. A. K. Grant, and Lieut. W. J. Dinwiddy, and well we know it. Diyatalawa is a splendid place for manoeuvres, and there is not the least doubt that if the Company keeps up here another month, we shall all be reduced to Jockey weight. The country around the camp as far as the eye can discern is comprised of hills and swamps. The range is comprised of hillocks, and it is very seldom that we come home with dry feet.

Although the air is full of counter attacks, we still manage to have a little sport occasionally.

On the 26th May we played a cricket match with "A" Company, which ended in a win for "B."

"A" Company.

Second Lieut. Case Morris, b Miller	3
Corpl. Redmond, b Miller	8
Sergt. Minall, b Brown	5
" Hindmarsh, b Miller	4
Private Holder, c Parkins, b Miller	1
" Graham, c and b Brown	9
" Fry, b Brown	0
Col.-Sergt. Wood, b Roberts	14
Private Brown, run out	15
" Bookman, not out	6
" Buckley, b Brown	6
Extras	14
Total	85

"B" Company.

Pte. Miller, c and b Holder	9
Pte. McCarthy, b Holder	0
Pte. Trivett, b Holder	23
Pte. Seares, b Sergt. Hindmarsh	0
Pte. Roberts, b Hindmarsh	11
Pte. Brown, not out	36

Pte. Perkins, b Holder	0
Dr. Hoare, b Hindmarsh	2
Pte. Dewey, b Hindmarsh	0
Pte. Smythe, b Hindmarsh	2
L.-Corpl. Furb, b Hindmarsh	2
Extras	4
Total	89

On June 6th a football match was played between "A" and "B." The game was very exciting, and both sides fought hard to be victors. In the second half Pte. Trevett scored, and so "B" Company were the victors once more by one goal to nil.

The Ceylon Volunteers are coming up to Diyatalawa for training on the 4th of July, and I sincerely hope to be able to send you a good account of the sports which will take place between this Company and the Volunteers.

I remain, yours respectfully,

"BOTTLES, THE ORFIS 'B,'"

"B" Company's Correspondent.

—o—

On the 20th ultimo a concert was held at the R.G.A. Library by G Company's Dramatic and Variety Club, which was thoroughly appreciated by all present, especially when the comic sketch, "The Musical Agency," was presented, which caused roars of laughter. For further comment I enclose extracts from the local "Press," whose representatives were present:—

ENTERTAINMENT IN THE GARRISON THEATRE

COLOMBO.

On Saturday night, the "Gee" Variety and Dramatic Club formed of Soldiers of "The Queen's Own" Royal West Kent Regiment, gave a most enjoyable entertainment in the Garrison Theatre, at the Echelon Barracks. The arrangements were in the hands of Sergeant Ventham, who is himself a versatile artist. The performance was free to all and the cosy little Theatre was packed. The Club has given similar successful performances in Kandy and enjoyed the patronage of several prominent residents, and had a little more publicity been given to the initial performance in Colombo, those in charge of the seating arrangements might have been seriously incommoded to find accommodation for all. The Queen's Own are proving themselves a very sporting and entertaining lot of men, and in these healthful forms of recreation they are being encouraged by their officers. The entertainment demonstrated the existence of more than average talent, and the laughable sketch which formed the principal feature of the programme, caused roars of laughter. The following was the programme:—

Song and Dance.....Pte. Dummett
 Sentimental Song.....Pte. Deighton
 Descriptive Song.....Pte. Elliss
 Comic Song.....Corpl. Urquhart
 Knockabout Comics.....Lce. Cpl. Lewis & Pte. Newell
 Sentimental Song.....Lce. Corpl. Humphreys
 Exhibition Boxing.....Ptes. May and Connor
 Comic Song.....Pte. James
 Description Song.....Pte. Connor
 Comic Song.....Pte. Lawrence
 Eccentric Comedians.....Pte. Job & Lce, Cpl. Divers

HUMOUROUS SKETCH, "THE THEATRICAL AGENCY."

Mr. Fitzherbert.....Proprietor.....Sergt. Ventham
 Mr. Plumduff.....Clerk.....Pte. Job
 Mr. J. De. Basskeynote.....Pte. Patton
 Patrick O'Flynn.....Irish Comedian.....Pte. Newell
 Cholmondeley.....Aristocrat.....Pte. Egerton
 Vere de Vere.....Light Comedian.....Lce. Cpl. Lewis
 Miss Maydue.....Actress.....Lce. Corpl. Divers
 Miss Lightfoot.....Lion Tamer.....Pte. Ham
 Murgotroyd.....Heavy Villian.....Pte. Bayman

I will now give a short account how the above-mentioned club was formed. Owing to the ennui which made itself felt in Kandy it was considered desirable to get up some kind of amusement. With that in view a dramatic club was formed under the auspices of Sergt. Ventham, for the double purpose of relieving the monotony and causing a little pastime for the promoters, as the idea was that a sketch or a farce was to be produced with each concert, which naturally necessitated a little practice. Notwithstanding a great many drawbacks the Club overcame all obstacles, and in a large spare (also bare) bungalow a stage was erected under the superintendence of Ptes. Hatton and Egerton that was worthy of stage carpenters, and the first concert held was pronounced by all present a great success, the more so as it was held under the distinguished patronage of the Officer Commanding troops in Kandy, who brought a great number of friends with him, as well as other ladies and gentlemen of the garrison. As the concert was free to all a good number of townspeople also availed themselves of the opportunity to attend. The verdict from all was that it greatly exceeded expectation, and some of the officers' friends were heard to remark that it was the best military concert they had seen. Captain Lister kindly showed his appreciation by bearing some of the expenses. Great assistance was rendered by Colour-Sergt. and Mrs. Croucher, Sergt. and Mrs. Smith, and by a few others. Since then the club gave concerts at D'lana, and the last one here in Colombo. On each occasion they were voted a great success. At the last concert I believe Sergt. Ventham was congratulated on having kraalled so much talent together. A few words must be said regarding the members and their talent. First and foremost come Ptes. Job and Ham, who, as low comedians, could hardly be equalled in Ceylon. Lance-Corpl. Divers, as a female impersonator, cannot be surpassed; Pte. Newell is also very good as a female impersonator, but he shines best as an Irish comedian. As space and time will not permit me to give a longer account, I will finish up with saying that the remainder are all very good in their turn.

G COMPANY'S CASUAL CORRESPONDENT.

Colombo, 17/7/03.

Now that the Ceylon Volunteers have gone to D'lana for their yearly training, it seems fashionable for those who could not attend, to be Military in all their ways, the fashion has even extended to the local reporters and correspondents, for they use the word "Military," quite freely when they are hard up for an adjective, goodness knows what they mean, but there it is, such as, "Our visitor had a military air about him," or "Mrs. FitzMondierules her servants with military vigour," or, "the gentleman on horseback wore military boots." That the fashion is contagious there is no doubt, for it seems the cheerful idiot has let himself go on the subject, as I cull the following from the pages of a local daily.—

A big looking man had a military look,
 His military stick had a military crook,
 He had military manners and military feet,
 Used military language of military heat,
 Put military side on and military airs,
 Gave military glances and military stares,
 Loved military "weallys," and military "hans,"
 Trained military "staches," with military pans.
 His military bearing, his military walk,
 His military doings made military talk.
 Took military footsteps with military swing,
 On military fingers a military ring.
 Liked military music by military bands,
 Backed military horses on military stands.
 His military bearing had military grit,
 His military brains made military wit.
 On military day in military June,
 His military voice with military tune,
 Made military noise on military stairs.
 Such military voice—such military swear,
 Not military hymns, nor military prayers.
 His military senior with military haste,
 Made military report with military taste,
 And military man of military pluck,
 Got military boot and military "chuck."

—From Ceylon Standard

P.S. On inquiry at the editorial offices I find the contributor of the above is still at large, but I have been assured he is tame and perfectly harmless.

"Artillery."

BITS BY THE WAY.

Now that the new pattern muffin cap has been issued the troops have confined their evening promenades to the barrack grounds.

Personally I don't object to the new cap. Being blessed with a big manly brow it makes your humble look like a philosopher.

Who was that man when the guard were turning out (at D'lana, I believe) who rushed outside with helmet at the slope, some extraordinary thing on his head, and was perfectly certain that there were no rifles on guard?

E Company's correspondent in last month's "Gazette" (June) makes much out of the fact that they beat us (G Company) at football by 3 goals to 1, but he omitted to mention that we beat E Company the next time we played; also that we beat them at cricket the following day by 7 wickets.

Who was that man when giving his orders to the orderly officer said, "Allow no officer in de(b)t. to interfere with the treasure chest?"

The first four cricket matches we played with F Company we won.

Pte. James showed excellent form whilst playing for us.

G COMPANY'S CASUAL CORRESPONDENT.

Colombo, July 17th, 1903.

CRICKET.

It is some years since a regimental eleven has been put in the field, but the opportunity presented itself recently and was accepted, an eleven being got together on 25th July to oppose an eleven which represented Linton Park, and raised by F. S. W. Cornwallis, Esq. Appended are the scores, which we leave to speak for themselves.

Fortunately the weather held up, and the game was an enjoyable one.

LINTON PARK.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Col. Friend, b Pedley.....	6	b Pedley	0
G. E. Champion, b O'Dowda	12	c & b Bush	12
Capt. Hickley, b Pedley	16	lbw, b Ayres.....	33
Rev. F. Leveson-Gower, b			
O'Dowda.....	0	lbw, b Bush	19
F. Marsham, c Burbury, b			
Pedley.....	9	b Ayres	6
Major Spens, not out.....	29	not out	16
H. Wilson-Smith, lbw, b			
O'Dowda	2	not out	6
C. H. Style, b Bush	10		
W. Peach, b Ayres	0		
P. Neville, run out	0		
F. S. W. Cornwallis, b Ayres	0		
Extras.....	3	Extras	11
Total.....	87	Total (5 wkts.)	103

R.W.K.

Capt. Bush, b Marsham	6
Capt. Burbury, b Marsham ..	94
Capt. Druce, c Spens, b Champion	16
Capt. Pedley, b Hickley	1
Capt. Lees, b Marsham.....	34
Major Isacke, b Leveson-Gower.....	13
Capt. Buckle, not out	14
Major Martyn, c Peach, b Champion	45
Capt. O'Dowda	} Did not bat.
Lieut. Elgood	
Ayres	
Extras	7
Total (7 wkts.)	230

Bowling Analysis.
Linton Park—1st Innings.

	O.	M.	R.	W.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Capt. Pedley...	16	2	47	3	Capt. Bush	3	0	7	1
Capt. O'Dowda	17	6	29	3	Ayres	1.2	0	1	2

2nd Innings.

Capt. Pedley...	5	0	29	1	Capt. Bush	14	1	39	2
Capt. O'Dowda	3	1	14	0	Ayres	7	3	7	2

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER RECEIVED AT MAIDSTONE.

Until beaten by some other individual, I claim the distinction of being the oldest soldier at the Memorial Parade. I feel proud and pleased that I was fit and well enough to attend. With my very best thanks to all.

(Signed) SAM RHODES.

June 22nd, 1903.

3RD BATTALION INTELLIGENCE

On July 4th the 3rd Batt. of the Regt. arrived at Maidstone, after completing their training at Shorncliffe. There were upwards of a thousand men, accompanied by their officers; and the two special trains conveying them reached Maidstone East station at about 10.30. Headed by their band, the Battalion marched to the Barracks, and during the day were despatched to their homes. In camp there has been very little sickness, and on the whole an enjoyable time has been spent. The Battalion was inspected by Brigadier-General Franklin, who gave the men a good word for efficiency and smartness.

VOLUNTEER INTELLIGENCE.

Lydd was the scene on June 27th of the eighth annual competition for the challenge cup presented by Lord Wolseley, to be competed for by Volunteer Cyclists. West Kent was represented by members of the Cyclists Corps from Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells, 5 being chosen from each of these detachments to form a contingent for the competition. A series of accidents, principally to the machines and tyres, unfortunately caused delay on the road, and 44 points were deducted from the West Kent mens' total for late arrival. Nevertheless they scored 58 points, having no loss for drill or volley firing, and were about half way down the list at the close.

CHURCH PARADE.

The Maidstone Companies of the 1st Vol. Batt, Royal West Kent Regt., had a church parade at all Saints' on Sunday morning, June 27, when they accompanied the soldiers from the Depot, and the Woolwich R.A.M.C., who were staying in the town. On arriving back at the Depot, Colonel Brock addressed the Volunteers, thanking them for the generous contribution they made to the memorial window fund, and expressing regret that on the occasion of the unveiling, it was found impossible to entertain them after the ceremony, in consequence of the large number of troops in barracks from Shorncliffe and elsewhere. With Major Smith's permission he invited them to partake of light refreshments, which were served to the men before they marched back to their headquarters for dismissal.

INVICTA.

"Invicta;" how the name rings true when said by Kentish men,
Our grandsires won that glorious name, so sacred kept since then;
In fiercest fights their colours waved, the flag they loved so dear,
At fights like Alma, Inkerman, all through the cold Crimea.
And now we find them out again, to fight a crafty foe—

They lack not courage, though they've not been out since fifty-two.

They learned their game and knew it well, our foes of course can tell,

One incident I'll let you know, that proves it all too well.

'Twas on a wild October night, dark stormclouds hung o'erhead,
Each soldier in a blanket wrapped lay on the veldt—his bed—
But not to sleep; there's work to do for Kentish boys to-night,
Each rifle's gripped in firmer grasp, each bayonet gleams more bright,

As in the silence grim they creep, no task too great for them,
O'er kopje, donga, spruit, and veldt, who could their ardour stem?

No word is said; in silence creep, for each man knows his task,
There looms ahead a small Boer camp; they reach their goal at last.

Sleep on, dream on, for while you sleep your foes are closing in,
Your outpost line has just been passed; my God, it seems a sin;
Yet on, with crafty movement, the cordon grows more tight,
But loek, they stop; each man lies down to wait for morning's light.

The eastern star gleams bright once more, all note the day is near,
When suddenly a wild alarm rings in the morning air.

But 'tis too late to try and break that line of khaki foes,
You only rush to meet your doom, and the bravest men you lose.
Oh, awful fight, the rifle fire that drowns the shrieks and groans!

What havoc wrought, what slaughter done, how many ruined homes!

'Tis quickly o'er, ten minutes more, and all is still as death;
How many a heart for battle's cause has drawn a last sad breath;
And now 'tis o'er, our lads go round with careful willing hands,
Some water here, a bandage there, his work each understands.
Now slowly back again to camp, but our work is not done yet,
For o'er the veldt there rings a shot; is this a well-planned net?
But courage boys, your aim is true, although you number few,
Just show your foes how Kentish men can prove Invicta true.

So once again the lines swing out, all ready for the fray,
Press on my men, is the command, your foeman will not stay.
Then slowly back they push their foe, he fights with failing heart,

He tried to play a rescue game, but did not know his part.
They reach their camp, those khaki boys, and a rest they dearly earned,

Whilst, from afar, their foemen watched, their hearts with passion burned.

The moral is, don't feel secure, because your foes are few,
He fights for freedom, home, and King, and the old Red, White, and Blue.

C.H.C.

We beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following subscriptions:—To December, 1903—Col. E. T. Luck, E. M. Battersby, Esq., E. K. Hume, Esq., G. Seccombe, Esq., L. Ricketts, Esq., Col. Bellers, Col. C. R. King, Mrs. Tugwell, Mr. Muddle, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Sillitoe, W. T. Fiennes, Esq., Major Jones, W. Barrow, Esq., Mr. Geddes, Mr. Redmond, Miss Chawkey, H. S. Hall, Esq. June, 1903—Sergt. Dadd. 1905—Col. Doran, Capt. Lees, Capt. Hitchins. 1904—Major J. G. Smith.

Richard Smith, of Canterbury (N.S.W.), died last week at the reputed age of 107 years. The record sets out that he was born in Wiltshire (England) in 1796, and enlisted in the 50th Regiment 90 years ago; that he came to Australia with the 12th Regiment in 1835; and afterwards joined the police force in which he served for 23 years, retiring in 1860 at the age of 64. Later he kept an hotel at Braidwood (N.S.W.) for 15 years, and then put in about a similar period farming at Queanbeyan. He never wore glasses, and died with all his teeth still sound. Also teetotallers may note the shocking fact that he smoked heavily and drank a moderate quantity of spirits regularly till he was 100. Then he knocked off both indulgences, and the fact that he lived the best part of 100 years with the aid of spirits and tobacco, and only seven years without them, may possibly tend to show the deadly results of total abstinence. As a general thing there is a haze of doubt about the age of alleged centenarians, but Richard Smith's case seems to rest on better evidence than usual.

From the "Sydney Bulletin," June 13th, 1903.

REGIMENTAL MEMORIAL WINDOW.

We present our readers this month with a photograph of the window and tablet erected in All Saints' Church. Those who were unable to be present at the unveiling will be able to judge the character of the design.—Ed.

Major Martyn desires to acknowledge the receipt of the following donations to the Memorial Window Fund:—Rev. Canon Joy, £6; Major O. J. Daniell, £1.

The receipt of a donation by Capt. W. H. B. Long, Irish Guards, of £5 to the Regimental Compassionate Fund is gratefully acknowledged.

THE TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

The Officers of both the Line Battalions and Depots, 6s. per month.

Other Subscribers, 3s. per year, including postage.

Copies will be sold at 1d. per Number to Non-Commissioned Officers and Men serving with the Colours. If sent by post 1s. 6d. per year.

Extra Copies or back numbers can always be supplied.

The price of back Numbers will be as follows: To N.C.O. and Men, 1d.; to all other Subscribers, 2½d. (Postage extra).

The latest date on which copy intended for insertion should reach the Editor is the 25th of the month previous to date of publication.

All Subscriptions payable in advance, and all Correspondence be addressed to "THE EDITOR," The Queen's Own Gazette, The Barracks, Maidstone."

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS

OF

THE QUEEN'S OWN (ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT).

No. 339.

MAIDSTONE, SEPTEMBER, 1903.

[Vol. XXI, No. 9.]

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

2nd BATTALION.

Promoted Corporals—Lce.-Corpl. J. Murdoch May 12th, 1903; Lce.-Corpl. W. Neale, May 15th, 1903; Lce.-Corpl. W. Orchard, May 16th, 1903.

Appointed Lance-Corporals—Dr. J. Wall, June 15th, 1903; Ptes. A. Brisley, H. Stevens, June 9th, 1903; Pte. P. Druckler, June 21st, 1903; Pte. H. Cousins, June 23rd, 1903; Ptes. W. Freeman, C. Thurling, June 19th, 1903.

1st BATTALION.

Promoted Colour-Sergeant—Sergt. G. Rigglesford, June 21st, 1903.

Appointed Lance-Sergeant—Corpl. J. Payne, May 31st, 1903.

Promoted Corporal—Lce.-Corpl. C. Lee, August 2nd, 1903.

Appointed Lance-Corporals—Pte. W. Buxton, August 24th, 1903; Pte. W. Bailey, August 25th, 1903; Ptes. F. Dadswell, F. Davis, August 31st, 1903.

3rd VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Capt. E. H. L. Warner, Yorkshire Regiment to be Adjutant, vice Capt. S. H. Pedley, R.W. Kent Regiment, tenure of office expired; dated July 16th, 1903.

4th VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Frederick Burroughs Jefferiss, Gent., to be Second-Lieutenant; dated July 11th, 1903.

FOR KING AND COUNTRY.

It is with the deepest regret that we have to record the death of Captain and Brevet-Major F. C. Marsh, who was killed in action at the capture of Burmi, Northern Nigeria, on July 27th, 1903. The son of Colonel Jeremy Taylor Marsh, he was born in 1866, educated at Cheltenham College and Sandhurst, and obtained a commission in the Royal West Kent Regiment in 1886. He was captain in 1896, and brevet-major in 1900. He served in the Niger territory 1896-97, including the expedition to Illah, and was mentioned in despatches. Major Marsh went on special service to South Africa and took part in the defence of Mafeking; he was mentioned in despatches for his services in the defence, and received the brevet rank of major. He was afterwards in command of the Protectorate Regiment for a time. He then went to Egypt as com-

mandant of Mounted Infantry until in the spring of this year, when he went to the Niger as second in command of the Mounted Infantry Battalion of the Nigerian Regiment, and was killed by a poisoned arrow at Burmi at the moment when, in command of his force, he was leading them to complete victory. It is believed that Capt. P. M. Robinson was with Major Marsh and was acting as his Staff Officer.

Far from home and those dear to him, our comrade is buried in a strange land, and although the regiment deeply deplores his loss, and our hearts go forth with those he has left behind, yet we cannot but remember that he died as he would have wished, a noble death, a gallant soldier, at the moment of victory.

The following extract from General Orders by Colonel (now Major-General) Baden-Powell, dated Mafeking, 16th May, 1900, pays a high tribute to Major Marsh's readiness and gallantry:—

"Capt. F. C. Marsh by his promptitude in sending men at daybreak to guard the drifts and river banks, confined the Boers to the north side of the stadt and prevented them from obtaining water. He also displayed great personal gallantry in jumping into the kraal where the first party of Boers was captured, whilst a heavy fire was going on, and interposing himself between the Boers who had raised a white flag and the Baralongs, who wanted to kill them."

An officer who served with him throughout the siege of Mafeking, and who was his immediate commanding officer, says, "The sorrow at his loss is more widespread than even I, who knew him well, and knew how all his friends valued him, could possibly have imagined."

It is proposed to place a brass tablet to his memory in All Saints' Church, Maidstone. Donations will be received and acknowledged by Capt. Pack Beresford, Barracks, Maidstone.

The History of the doings of the 2nd Battalion in the late South African War is being published, and will shortly be ready for issue. Only a limited number is available. Post free, 1s.

Medals for Long Service and Good Conduct have been awarded Q.M. Sergt. G. Bourne, P.S. 3rd Batt.; Sergeant Instructors H. Evans and T. Callaghan, P.S. 1st Volunteer Battalion.

ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENTAL
MEMORIAL FUND.

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
Postage to Reservists, etc.....	1	2	1
Dennis Lamb, sculptor, removal of memorials...	6	0	0
Lavers and Westlake, window and brass.....	257	10	0
Day and Sons, unveiling expenses.....	2	2	0
Lamb, restoring stonework of window.....	16	18	8
Gale and Polden, sketching medals and colours.	2	19	0
Gibbons, cabs.....	2	0	0
Vicar's Fee.....	6	0	0
"Kent Messenger," printing.....	6	6	6
Incidental expenses.....	1	5	0
Advertisements, "Times" and "Morning Post," and postage.....	4	15	9
W. Ruck, printing pictures of brass and window for "Queen's Own Gazette".....	3	7	6
Gale and Polden, printing.....	2	18	6
Fee to Mr. Argles, moving tablet.....	1	1	0
Cost of Faculty.....	6	3	6
De'Ath and Dunk, photograph.....		12	6
	321	2	10
On hand.....	46	11	9
	£367	13	9

RECEIPTS.

Total receipts acknowledged.....	361	13	9
Donation Rev. Canon Joy, Acting Chaplain ...	6	0	0
	£367	13	9

It has been suggested that the Balance of £46 11s. 9d. be credited to the Regimental Compassionate Fund, which is in the hands of the O.C. 50th Regimental District. Should the Treasurer receive no objection from the subscribers to the Memorial Fund, this will be done forthwith.

A. MARTYN, Major,
Treasurer R.W.K. Regt. Memorial Fund.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Our first week in West Down South Camp has been anything but a delightful experience. It has been raining nearly the whole week with a few hours interval occasionally to allow a scheme or two to be carried out.

The camp is beginning to resemble a snipe jheel, and one's sleep at night is occasionally interrupted by the pointed remarks of someone who finds his tent has started leaking just above his head, or that his bed has collapsed just where the water is deepest.

Well, better have the rain now than in September, when the army manœuvres commence, and we shall be marching and fighting all day and every day whatever the weather is like. We are all hoping that all crops will be cut by the 6th Sept., so that the manœuvres will not have to be postponed.

The strength of the Battalion when we take the field for army manœuvres on the 3rd September will be approximately 900 of all ranks. This does not include our section of Mounted Infantry under Lieut. Snow at Bulford Camp which numbers about 40. Then our details at Shorncliffe, sick, prisoners and boys, number in all about 92. We have only 4 sick men in camp here, which is excellent considering the bad weather we have had. We have at last had two fine days, and trust that the settled weather will continue more or less till the 12th September, when, after a great "march past" at Bulford, we journey back to our respective stations.

The deepest grief was felt throughout the 1st Battalion by those who knew him at hearing of the sad death of Major F. C. Marsh, in West Africa, while leading his column in the attack on Burmi on the 27th July last. We send our sincere sympathy to his parents in their sorrow. His place in command of the victorious column will be difficult to fill, and it was very hard luck that he should lose his life when practically all opposition had been overcome.

1ST BATTALION CORRESPONDENT

1ST BATTALION INTELLIGENCE.

SERGEANTS' MESS, 1ST BATTALION ROYAL
WEST KENT REGIMENT.

A Supper and Smoking Concert took place in the Mess Room of above on the evening of the 31st ultimo. This was arranged for the purpose of congratulating Clr.-Sergt. Kill on his winning Lieut.-Col. Harrison's Challenge Cup for the year 1902. This cup was presented by Lieut.-Col. Harrison to be shot for annually by the Officers and Sergeants of the Battalion, the cup to be retained in the Mess Room of the winner until competed for again. During the evening Clr.-Sergt. Kill was presented with the cup by Major Brock-Hollinshead, who made a few very appropriate remarks on his winning it. Clr.-Sergt. Kill responded by saying that on the day of the shoot he went to the range with every intention that the cup should not go to the Officers' Mess if he could help it. He carried out his intention very successfully by making the respectable score of 85 out of a possible 91. The account of the match has already been reported.

During the evening several friends from the Volunteer Brigade turned up and supported us with several songs, with the result that things went very merrily until just after midnight, when the concert was brought to a close by the whole joining hands and singing "Auld Lang Syne" followed by the National Anthem. The following is the programme carried out:—

Song, "Mona," Sergt. Mills (1st Batt.); song, "Help yourself," Sergt. Crockett (1st Batt.); song, "Good-bye Annie," Sergt. Reuben (1st Vol. Batt.); song, "Villikin and his Dinah," Clr.-Sergt. Drew (1st Batt.); song, "Let me like a soldier fall," Sergt. Wheller (2nd Vol. Batt.); song, "It's very, very warm down there," Sergt. Osborne (1st Batt.); encore song, "If I, if I, if I do," Sergt. Osborne (1st Batt.); song, "Has anybody seen our cat?" Sergt. Woolmer (1st Batt.); song, "When other lips," Sergt. Sutherland (3rd Vol. Batt.); song, "Drinking," Sergt. Kiloh (2nd Vol. Batt.); song, "Take no notice of me," Sergt. Merrick (1st. Batt.); song, "Four jolly smiths

Qr.-Mr.-Sergt. Hickmott (1st Vol. Batt.); song, "He hadn't been used to luxuries," Sergt. Rogers (1st Batt.); song, "Norah," Cir.-Sergt. Murphy (1st Batt.); song, "Boys, keep away from the girls," Lieut. Willis (1st Batt.); song, "Play that melody again," Sergt. Osborne (1st Batt.).

H. G. ROGERS, Sergt.-Major,
1st Royal West Kent Regt.

OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' SHOOTING
COMPETITION.

1st BATTALION v. 2nd VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

This was a return match that took place at Hythe on the 4th August. The first match between these two Battalions took place 21 years ago, and, owing to the 1st Battalion having to proceed on their tour of foreign service, the second meeting could not be fixed till this year. The Volunteer Battalion proved too strong for us, and won by 74 points. The shooting was fairly good, considering the weather, but the light was bad, and a very strong right wind was blowing across the range. I hope we shall have our revenge next year if our Volunteer Battalions come to Shorncliffe again.

1st BATT. QUEEN'S OWN ROYAL WEST KENT
REGIMENT.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Col. Sergt. Colyer.....	33	31	26	90
Col. Sergt. Murphy.....	29	26	31	86
Sergt. Selves.....	29	32	25	86
Col. Sergt. Kill.....	31	26	29	86
Sergt. Brown.....	24	29	28	81
Sergt. Ashby.....	26	24	30	80
Sergt. Button.....	29	26	25	80
Col. Sergt. Ailwood.....	24	26	27	77
Sergt. Ranger.....	24	25	27	76
Lt. Keenlyside.....	28	23	25	76
Sergt. Inst. Dark.....	29	19	28	76
Sergt. Carmody.....	32	21	21	74
Sergt. Andrews.....	23	29	21	73
Sergt. Moore.....	28	29	12	69
Lt. Paget.....	27	26	14	67
Sergt. Tranter.....	21	15	21	57
Totals	437	407	390	1234

Aveage 77.1

Scores counted out:—

Sergt. Seaton.....	28	17	9	54
Sergt. Nicholson.....	22	21	6	49
Lt. Ingram.....	12	19	16	47
Totals				150

2nd V.B. QUEEN'S OWN ROYAL WEST KENT
REGIMENT.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Sergt. E. Evans, K. Co.....	32	30	29	91
S. I. Pike, K Co.	32	29	29	90
Sergt. R. Fawsitt, E Co.....	29	29	30	88
Sergt. Hall, C Co.....	30	31	27	88
Sergt. E. Wheller, E Co.....	31	26	29	86
S. Inst. H. Cook, C Co.....	26	31	28	85
Pte. J. Williams, K Co.....	28	31	24	83
Sergt. A. Tebbutt, K Co.....	32	26	24	82
Pr. Sergt. R. A. Smith, B Co	30	23	23	81
Lt. A. Clarke, F Co.....	29	31	20	80
Cpl. G. Clayton, A Co.....	29	25	25	79
Capt. W. F. Soames, K Co...	30	24	21	75
Col. Sergt. G. Allard, H Co...	28	21	29	78
Sergt. R. Amer, H Co.....	28	27	24	79
Cpl. H. Goodsell, M Co.....	27	29	16	72
Sergt. Lambert, C Co.....	26	22	22	70

Totals 467 440 400 1307

Average 81.6.

Scores counted out:—

Lt. C. Clarke, F Co.....	25	22	20	67
Sergt. Dodd, H Co.....	20	25	12	57
Sergt. Bishop, M Co.....	23	13	20	56

Total 180

"The Morris." Prize £3 17s. 9d.

200. Score—5. 5 5 5 5 5 5. Total 35.

L.S.W. Railway. Prize £1 0s. 0d.

200. Score—4. 4 5 5 5 5 5. Total 34.

500. Score—5. 5 5 5 4 5 5. Total 34.

Sweepstake. Prize £1 19s. 0d.

500. Score—3. 5 5 5 5 5 5. Total 35.

"Golden Penny." Prize £3, and two Framed Sketches, value £5 5s. each.

600. Score—5. 4 5 5 5 5 5. Total 34.

Sweepstake. Prize £2 7s. 4d.

600. Score—3. 4 4 5 5 5 5. Total 33.

Rudge-Whitworth. Prize £2 0s. 0d.

Score 18 points. Running man.

Egg Pool. £4 0s. 0d.

4 hits, 3in. disc, at 500 yards, £1 each hit.

The above are a list of scores made, and prizes taken by Col.-Sergt. Colyer, during the National Rifle Association Meeting at Bisley, between the 11th and 25th July, 1903.

Col.-Sergt. Colyer fired in the Army Sixty at Bisley, on the 8th and 9th July, 1903, and tied for the 47th place, with the following scores:—85, 85, 84, 91, 87.

The wife of Lance-Corpl. A. Lewis has been taken on the strength of the married establishment.

Sergt. J. Sharp has been posted to the Permanent Staff 3rd Batt. in relief of Sergt. Riggleford reposted to the 1st Battalion for promotion to Color-Sergeant.

2nd BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

THE EDITOR,

The "Queen's Own Gazette."

SIR,—To the inexpressible grief of all who knew her in Ceylon, there passed peacefully away from our midst at Colombo, on July 3rd 1903, Miss Henrietta S. Lucy, Schoolmistress, 2nd Battalion, The Queen's Own R.W.K. Regiment. She had but recently been posted to the Battalion, only to add to her already huge circle of friends, by whom she is profoundly mourned. Although the news was dreaded by many, yet it came as a sudden shock, which for hours was not thoroughly realized. Much interest was awakened just previously when we all were eagerly waiting to hear when we might welcome her as the wife of Colour-Sergeant Grey, the wedding only being postponed until her intended husband's return from Diyatalawa with his company.

The funeral took place on the morning of July 4th. She was accorded a military funeral, instructions having been received from the Headquarter's Office to bury her with honours due to a warrant officer. A very large following of Warrant, Staff, and Non-Commissioned Officers followed the hearse, which was covered with wreaths and crosses of fresh flowers, among them being three beautiful artificial ones from dear friends. The grave was literally covered and was photographed shortly after the interment.

The Battalion had known her such a short while, but in that time she had endeared herself to the hearts of all, and the most profound sympathy is felt throughout the garrison for her friends in their bereavement, a feeling which is no less deep for her much respected and sorrowing intended husband.

Sent by F. W. CROUCHER, Clr.-Sergt.

:o:

COLOMBO,

August 13th, 1903.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

The Colombo race week, with all its attendant jollifications, is fast drawing to a close, and the up-country devotees of Bacchas, and sundry other ancient Greek gods and goddesses, are beginning to review their Bank-books with well justified mis-givings. To-day is the last day of the races, and consequently the last opportunity that the Plungers will have of extricating a portion of their vanished substance from the pouch of the ever-present "Bookie." To-day is the Garrison Cup Day, and the officers of the garrison are providing a tent, in which the plucked may forget for a time the result of not "taking that tip don't-cherknow, old feller," and the successful minority celebrate their luck.

The chief qualifications necessary for social success just now would appear to be an extremely strong and well-regulated interior, economy and a capacity to exist on an average of three hours' sleep in the twenty-four. Dance and dinner, dinner and dance, interspersed with "Poodle-Taking," is the order of every day. However, August, like the income-tax, comes but once a year, and though both reduce our pecuniary value considerably for the time being, in the end we recover both our 'ealth and our oof.

The annual Rugby Football Match, which came off in a deluge of rain on the 10th inst., proved to be an excellent

game, though much to our disgust Up Country won by two goals to one. Captain Lister and 2nd Lieut. A. S. Hewitt played for the Colombo team, the former "back," the latter "three-quarter."

Last night we all went to the Ball at the Government House, arrayed in *Red Mess Kit*. To those who wish to get into training for a permanent residence in a very warm climate, I can heartily recommend a dance in Colombo in cloth mess kit. The stiffest of collars grow tired and stick in graceful and artistic folds on the backs and chests of their unhappy wearers, who eventually present the appearance of having recently become acquainted with a certain historic fountain in South Africa.

Would it be possible for you, Mr. Editor, in the kindness of your heart, to suggest to the "powers that be" the advisability of promulgating an order allowing Officers in the East to wear low dresses at Balls, and other torrid functions? Medals and Orders could be gummed on, or failing that, pinned to those of tough epidermis.

Proceedings have been brightened during the last week by the presence of a considerable number of His Majesty's Blues. The gallant sons of Neptune have added savour to the various hotel dances, being full of energy, and ready to gyrate until all's blue.

The Band of the Regiment are having a very heavy time of it, playing at two or three functions every day. The Band is immensely popular, and in great request wherever it goes.

Now, Mr. Editor, I must close this epistle, for which crowning mercy you are doubtless properly thankful. My only excuse for daring to attempt the composition of a letter for your brilliant and epoch making journal is the utter mental and physical prostration of the proper official correspondent, to whose seductions I have, for the sake of peace, succumbed. Like a certain well known Newspaper Wallah at home, I am for peace at any price; peace combined with something lingering and long, with ice in the galore.

VALUE—CENTS 24.

TRINCOMALI,

July 27th, 1903.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I see that you very rarely get any news from Trincomalee for the "Gazette," so I will attempt to remedy this as far as my unaccustomed pen will permit.

The second detachment of the Battalion reached here on May 17th, when C. and E. Companies relieved A. and F. Companies. We came round in the B.I.S.N. Co. S.S. "Ethiopia," which brought us round very quietly in 36 hours, which compares favourably with the extract from the Regimental records of 1825, which relates how a detachment arrived in Colombo from Trinco., after a tedious passage of 33 days.

A. and F. Companies embarked the same day and returned at once to Colombo. This place is not nearly so damp as Colombo, and we get a good many matches—Hockey and Football, and, very occasionally, Cricket—with varied success, but I will not weary you with the details. I enclose, however, the scores of a Shooting Match, against H.M.S. Highflyer, the Flagship of the East Indian Squadron. It went off very well, and we are trying to arrange another for August 1st, against the R.E., but it is rather difficult to obtain the necessary ammunition.

C. and E. Companies 2nd R. W. Kent Regiment.				
	200	500	600	Total.
Sergt. P. C. Kevan	24	25	21	70
2nd Lieut. Stevenson	20	22	27	69
Clr.-Sergt. Spooner	22	25	21	68
Sergt. Moir ...	24	24	20	68
Pte. Hurley ...	25	24	8	57
2nd Lieut. Johnstone	24	11	21	56
Lce.-Cpl. Gadsdon	22	18	15	55
Pte. Bassett ...	25	19	8	52
				Total 495

H.M.S. Highflyer.				
	200	500	600	Total.
1st Class Petty Officer Dunn }	23	24	21	68
Sergt. Cornish ...	27	21	18	66
1st C.P.O. Mahoney	22	22	18	62
Pte. Smith ...	23	24	15	62
1st C.P.O. Sweeney	19	21	14	54
Lieut. Burmester ...	23	18	11	52
1st C.P.O. Richardson	22	16	13	51
1st C.P.O. Drew ...	24	17	5	46
				Total 461

C. and E. Companies won by 34 points.

We had a great time when the Flagship was in harbour, as the officers entertained a good deal, and were also very keen on games. H.M.S. Fox also came in, but as she was in quarantine, and left again for Berbera in a few days, we did not see very much of her.

Rear-Admiral Sir Charles Drury was here for some time, but he has been appointed a Lord of the Admiralty, and has gone home to enter on his new duties, while his command out here has been taken over by Rear-Admiral Atkinson-Willes.

The stay of the Highflyer was marred by an unfortunate occurrence in the death of Assistant-Paymaster Grant of enteric fever. The funeral took place with full honours, nearly all the officers of the garrison being present.

There are only three officers here now with the detachment—Capt. Moody, Second-Lieutenants Johnstone and Stevenson. Lieut. Luard, who was coming round in command of E Company, was seconded for service in Somali land with the K.A.A., and Lieut. Fiennes, who remained in Colombo on duty, is now in hospital with a chill, which was at first thought to be a case of appendicitis. We hope, however, that it is not very serious, and that he will be round here with us shortly.

There is a very fair golf links here, and nearly all the officers play, with various degrees of accuracy, and there is an American Tournament on at present which promises good sport.

I will let you know the result of the shooting match against the R.E. as soon as possible.

Hoping you will find this screed of some interest to your readers,

I remain, Sir,

Yours etc.,

TRINCO. CORRESPONDENT.

July 27th, 1903.

DIYATALAWA,

August 17th, 1903.

SIR,

Doubtless you are of the opinion that "H" Company must be asleep, but in this beautiful place (D'lawa) there has not been much moving. However, lately things are looking up, and in future we hope to see our doings chronicled in the "Gazette" a little more often. We arrived here on the 7th of July, and took part in the Volunteer Manceuvres. This was very fatiguing at first, but we soon dropped into the grooves and enjoyed our outings right well. After the Volunteers left we started our annual course of musketry and, according to the powers that be, have rendered a good account of ourselves. We expected things a bit warm, but expectations were not fulfilled.

"A" Company left for Colombo on the 12th, and "H" Company gave them a farewell concert, which, by the kind permission of Capt. Hastings, was kept up till nearly midnight. We have half the crew of H.M.S. Persues here, convalescent, and we find in them a welcome addition to our numbers. The weather here is miserable; it is either raining, bitterly cold, or extremely hot. We are wondering where we are to spend Christmas. Some say "in the camp," but wherever it is we all hope it will not be Diyatalawa.

SEMAJ.

In consequence of continued ill-health, Sergt.-Major C. Funnell, 50th Regimental District, has had to relinquish his position, which he held for 2½ years. Sergt.-Major Funnell enlisted on 30th April, 1881, and was posted to the Volunteer Permanent Staff on 19th May, 1897, from which he was selected for the position of warrant officer in January, 1901. The following Regimental District Order was published on his discharge, on 24th August, 1903:—
"The Commanding Officer desires to place on record his high appreciation of the services rendered by Sergt.-Major C. Funnell during the time he filled the position of Sergt.-Major, 50th Regimental District and 3rd Royal West Kent Regiment, a period of great pressure. He may rest assured that his work has been highly appreciated, and the Commanding Officer and all ranks sympathise very deeply with him on his ill health, which has been the cause of his being invalided from the service."

SHOOTING MATCH.

It having been rumoured that there were several "Wallingfords" in the Depot Sergeants' Rifle Club who had not had an opportunity of showing their prowess with the rifle, a match was arranged for the right half Depot to shoot against the left half Depot on Thursday, 13th August, at Boarley Range. It was at first intended that the match should be Married versus Single, but as the Benedicts were so much in the minority, and owing to the rumour that Stylos were in fashion and "Broad J's" were out of date, the match was arranged as above, and as the integrity of the markers may be vouchsafed for, the scores were as follows:—

LEFT HALF DEPOT.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Sergt. Dugay	32	31	28	91
S.I.M. Evenden.....	31	29	26	86
Cr. Sergt. Grellier.....	26	28	29	83
Qr. Mr. Sergt. Bass....	30	27	21	78
Cr. Sergt. Bass.....	28	30	20	78
L. Sergt. Rose.....	26	28	24	78
L. Sergt. Balcombe....	28	26	23	77
Sergt. Davis.....	26	29	22	77
Sergt. Smith	29	26	22	77
Sergt Pond.....	26	30	20	76
Sergt. Reeves.....	21	27	24	72
Cr. Sergt. Hunt.....	24	22	25	71
	327	333	284	944

RIGHT HALF DEPOT.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Cr. Sergt. Osborne....	30	29	29	88
Cr. Sergt. Allen.....	25	32	23	80
Cr. Sergt. Crouch.....	25	27	27	79
Cr. Sergt. Wimhurst...	27	20	29	76
Sergt. Daykin.....	28	19	24	71
Sergt. Outred	22	25	23	70
Cr. Sergt. Tapp.....	30	24	13	67
Cr. Sergt. Moon.....	20	23	21	64
Cr. Sergt. Stroud.....	20	17	14	51
Sergt. McVicar.....	22	19	10	51
Cr. Sergt. Palmer.....	21	12	17	50
L. Sergt. Davidson....	20	18	10	48
	290	265	240	795

The scores of those "counted out" are omitted for obvious reasons. At the conclusion of the match the party partook of a very substantial tea at the establishment of Mr. Locks (late Sergt. Major), and during the evening some very excellent songs were rendered by Sergt. Pond, Colour Sergt. Wimhurst, Sergt. Sanger, Colour Sergt. Bass, Sergt. Reeves, S.I.M. Evenden, Sergt. Rose, Sergt. Smith and Sergt. Perkins (A. P. Corps). Mr. Bodiam and Mr. Parkes gave very excellent assistance with the piano and violin, and during the evening gave a capital and very pleasing rendering of "Alice where art thou?"

After Q.M.S. Bass had presented Sergt. Sanger with the "Wooden Spoon," which was a marvellous work of art, the party concluded the evening by singing "God save the King."

DEPOT CRICKET.

Cricket has occupied the thoughts of our sporting enthusiasts during the summer as befits the period of the year, but unfortunately the weather has been execrable. We append a brief notice of each match played during the past two months:

July 1st v. Chatham Tradesmen. Depot 55, Chatham Tradesmen 205.

July 4th v. Pale Ale Brewery. Depot 34, Pale Ale Brewery 70.

July 8th v. Maidstone Grammar School. Depot 52, Maidstone Grammar School 57 and 49 for 7 wkts.

July 11th v. Service Battalion R.E. Depot 83, Service Battalion R.E., 71.

July 15th v. Liberal Club. Depot, 133 for 9 wkts.; Liberal Club, 202 for 7 wkts.

July 18th v. St. Philip's C.C. Depot 96, St. Philip's 96.

July 22nd v. West Borough W.M.C. Depot 88, West Borough 50.

July 25th v. Turkey Mill. Depot 32, Turkey Mill 53.

August 4th v. Birling C.C. Depot 63, Birling 95.

August 7th v. Grocers' C.C. Grocers, 61 and 8 for five wickets; Depot 69.

August 10th v. Turkey Mill. Depot 58, Turkey Mill 106.

August 15th v. Church Institute. Depot 77, Church Institute 20.

August 19th v. Filmer's XI. Depot, 36 and 58 for 7 wickets; Filmer's XI., 81 for 5 wickets.

August 22nd v. East Farleigh. Depot 71, East Farleigh 124 for 8 wickets.

August 26th v. St. Philip's. Depot 31, St. Philip's 43.

August 29th v. Dobney Institute. Depot 26, Dobney Institute 38.

Sept. 2nd v. Filmer's XI. Depot 31, Filmer's XI., 54.

2nd VOL. BATTALION INTELLIGENCE.

The 2nd V.B. Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regt., during their stay in camp at Shorncliffe from 1st to 8th of August, 1903, fired a return match with the 1st Batt. (Regulars), Q.O.R.W.K.R. on the Hythe Ranges on Tuesday, August 4th, 1903.

This match has been standing over since 1882, as the 1st Batt. have been abroad since then, but now that they are stationed at Shorncliffe a capital opportunity was presented in which to again test the ability of the teams.

Capt. W. F. Soames, 2nd V.B., and Col. Sergt. Colyer, 1st Batt., captained their respective teams. The conditions were 19 aside, 16 to count. After the totalling up, it was found that the 2nd V.B. had won by 73 points. The shooting was not so good as it should have been, owing to a strong right wind and a bad light at 600 yds, but was, on the whole, fairly satisfactory. The teams drove to and from the range in brakes, and on their return the 2nd V.B. entertained their comrades to a meat tea and smoking concert.

During the evening the commanding officer (Col. Satterthwaite), and the officers of the Bn. numbering about 20 (including Lieut. Keenlyside of the 1st), paid the mess a visit and remained till about 11 p.m. The concert was thrown open to the garrison, and a most enjoyable time was spent.

The C.O. said it had been his intention to be present on the range, but unfortunately he was prevented at the last moment. He was very pleased to see that such a friendly feeling existed between his Battalion and the Regulars.

Capt. Soames in a few well chosen words, proposed the health of the 1st Batt., to which Col. Sergt. Colyer heartily responded.

THE CAMP AT SHORNCLIFFE.

Once every year the 2nd Vol. Batt. the Q.O.R.W. Kent Regiment blossoms into life and thrives for a week on the sea breezes and hard work at Shorncliffe Camp. On Saturday, Aug. 1st, we marched in, and 30 officers and some 550 men made themselves more or less comfortable in the Risborough lines. Colonel E. Satterthwaite was in command of the battalion. We found atmospheric conditions somewhat unpromising on arrival, for though the rain actually held off, heavy clouds led us to fear a wet skin before we could shake down under canvas. Though the weather did not extend a welcome, we found a great compliment had been extended to us by our regular battalion, whose band and drums met us at the station and played us in to our temporary quarters. This was a very pretty and kindly action and showed the good feeling existing between us and our comrades of the line, one likely to be greatly cemented by their action. The advanced party having made all preparations in the way of tent pitching, it did not take long to draw blankets and mattresses, and, the threatened rain holding off, everything was soon made snug. A short afternoon parade at two o'clock was necessary for the Mutiny Act to be read to the men. It is a moot point whether this ceremony might not be omitted with advantage. It seems Gilbertian to solemnly inform men, whose keenness brings them to spend their holiday in this way, that, for certain dire offences, they are liable to suffer "death or any less punishment as is in this Act provided." Fortunately we are sportsmen and appreciate the joke. On Sunday *reveille* sounded at 5.30, breakfast was at 7, and a brigade church parade service in the open air was held at 9.30. The service was conducted by the Rev. Canon Pollock (chaplain to the 4th V.B.) and the Rev. W. A. Carroll (vicar of Bickley and chaplain to the 2nd V.B.). The latter preached a short sermon, taking for his text I Samuel x., 24, "And the people shouted 'God save the King.'" "Loyalty" formed the subject of the discourse. During Sunday the weather took a turn for the better, and warm sunshine dried up the somewhat sodden ground of the camp. Late at night, however, a severe storm broke over the camp, and the mess tents suffered considerably. Anything but cheerful was the prospect on Bank Holiday, when we turned out at 5.30 a.m. to find that it was raining and blowing great guns. It at first appeared very doubtful whether we should be able to pay our contemplated visit to Caesar's Camp and the "Valiant Sailor" (both old friends). Eventually, however, the parade, which had to be postponed for half-an-hour, was formed up, and we got under way. After a good stiff up-hill march extended order work was gone through, and the four battalions rendezvoused at "The Valiant Sailor" for the return march to camp. Altogether for a first working day in camp Monday was a very stiff one, and we felt the effects next day. On Tuesday, however, the powers that be had sketched out for us an easy day's work, consisting of outpost duty in the neighbourhood of Hythe. Though not as fatiguing as Monday it was perhaps a more instructive outing. In the afternoon a shooting match took place on Hythe ranges between teams of 16 men from our battalion and the 1st (Regular) Battalion of the Regiment, in which we brought off the honours, the score for the distances—200, 500, and 600 yards—being Volunteers, 1,307 points; Regulars 1,234, the conditions were 19 a-side, 16 to count. The shooting was not so good as it should have been owing to a strong right wind and a bad light at 600 yards, but was, on the whole, fairly satisfactory. The event was duly celebrated in the sergeants' mess, where the sergeants of the Regular battalion were entertained. This is the first match we have been able to shoot with the 1st Battalion for 21 years, owing to their absence for all that time on foreign service. The third day of work in camp generally finds one fit and well, having got into the swing of things, so that we welcomed a fine day on Wednesday. An

early start was for the manœuvre ground, in the direction of Dover, via Caesar's Camp. It is a terrific hill that leads up to Caesar's Camp, and when manœuvring in this direction we get our collar work over early. The 2nd and 3rd Volunteer Battalions formed the defending party, while an attack from the east was delivered by the 1st and 4th Volunteer Battalions. The line taken up by the defenders rested on "The Valiant Sailor" and Perlingham, and the position proved so strong that the attackers were quite unable to force it. In the afternoon the Brigadier (Colonel Brock) lectured to the officers of the brigade on the morning's work. On Thursday positions were somewhat reversed, the 2nd V.B. this time finding itself with the attackers. This entailed a long march to within sight of Dover before the commencement of operations. The sun was somewhat trying, but the march was well done. The operations themselves were somewhat inconclusive. Thursday's was perhaps the longest day's work we have done in camp this year, but all ranks had by this become quite "acclimatized" to marching, and stood the day really well, and were quite equal to the task of turning out a cricket team in the afternoon to play the 1st (Regular) Battalion. The general idea of operations for Friday was, roughly, that an invading army, occupying Shorncliffe and Folkestone, had landed a quantity of stores, which were packed at Hythe near the railway station. The home army were supposed to be advancing from Ashford and Canterbury. The foreigners were represented by the 4th V.B. and half of the 1st V.B., the remainder of the brigade representing the home army. *Reveille* was at 5 a.m., breakfast at 6 and parade at 7. In the result the foreign army were quite able to hold their own, and the home force were repulsed after a spirited attack on the station. This being the last day of the manœuvres the Brigadier (Colonel Brock) took the opportunity at the "pow-wow" of thanking all concerned. He said he had noticed several improvements on the work of last year. The Brigadier hinted that probably the camp next year might be held at Arundel. Saturday was devoted to striking camp, and we were early astir. At ten o'clock none of the tents were left standing. At mid-day the Battalion entrained for home, Colonel Satterthwaite having addressed a few words to the men, congratulating them on their good behaviour and upon the way they had worked during the week. We were played to the station by the band of the Regular Battalion, who were very heartily cheered by our men as they marched away from the station at Shorncliffe. All ranks marched out of camp looking fit and well. The sergeants in the four battalions held a series of smoking concerts which were well patronized, the officers attending in good numbers. On Thursday a most enjoyable cricket match took place between a team of the 1st Regular Battalion and a team of the 2nd Vol. Batt., the weather being everything that could be desired. The regulars put a very weak team in the field and were defeated by 113 to 62. If the opportunity offers for a meeting next year it is hoped that the Line Battalion will be better represented.

1st Battalion.

Sergt. Merrick, run out.....	20
Lance-Corpl. Jeffries, c Field, b Barnes.....	0
Pte. Wood, b Fawsitt	5
Pte. Colvin, b Fawsitt	0
Pte. Long, c Barnes, b Fawsitt	0
Pte. Jeffries, b Fawsitt	1
Pte. Williams, not out	16
Pte. Bill, b Fawsitt	1
Pte. Davey, b Fawsitt	0
Pte. Kerridge, c Barnes, b Fawsitt.....	3
Pte. Padmore, st. Payne, b Barnes	7
Extras.....	9
Total.....	62

2nd V. B.	
Pte. J. Hedley, b Jeffries	35
Pte. G. Hedley, b Jeffries	27
Sergt. Payne, b Merrick	19
Pte. Wilson, b Wood	3
Capt. A. C. Chauncy, b Merrick	1
Sergt. Field, b Merrick	2
Lance.-Corpl. Lander, b Merrick	2
Sergt. Barnes, not out	1
Sergt. Fawsitt, not out	19
Extras	4
<hr/>	
Total (for 7 wks.)	113

From an Old Record we extract the following List :—
NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS & SOLDIERS
 WHO WERE SELECTED FOR RECOMMENDATION TO
HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH
 TO RECEIVE THE DECORATION OF THE
FRENCH MILITARY WAR MEDAL.

50TH REGIMENT.

1789 Sergt.-Major Robert Foley has served through the whole of the Crimean Campaign, and is most zealous in supporting the discipline of his regiment.

3500 Pte. Lawrence Ward, a good soldier on duty, and was remarkable for his conduct at the Battle of Inkerman.

3606 Pte. Michael Hannan has served through the whole of the Crimean Campaign, and was distinguished for his coolness and steadiness at Inkerman.

3810 Pte. John Brennan has served through the whole of the Crimean Campaign, and was distinguished for gallant conduct in the trenches on the occasion of a sortie in December, 1854.

3903 Private William Cooney, gallant conduct in the trenches on occasion of a sortie in December, 1854.

2783 Clr.-Sergt. William Turner has served through the whole of the Crimean Campaign, and was very active and attentive to his duties in the trenches.

3253 Sergt. Rich. W. Newcombe has served through the whole of the Crimean Campaign, and is a most trustworthy non-commissioned officer. He volunteered to take charge of the sharpshooters of his regiment employed in front of the left attack.

NINETIETH REGIMENT.

2628 Pte. John Goldsmith, uninterrupted service in the trenches. Attack of Rifle Pits, 19th April, 1855. Defence of Quarries, 8th June. Attack on Redan, on 18th June. Assault on Redan, 8th September. Personal encounter with a Russian soldier while in the act of stabbing an officer of 97th Regiment, and wounded through the face and nose.

NINETY-SEVENTH REGIMENT.

2711 Sergt. Patrick Donnellan. This sergeant was mentioned in General Simpson's despatch on account of his gallant conduct on 8th September last. He spiked one of the enemy's guns. He was likewise engaged with the enemy in the sortie on 31st August, and behaved most gallantly.

3459 Corpl. Andrew Curran. This corporal was bugler to the regiment on the above assault, and behaved in a remarkably cool and gallant manner, and was mentioned in the despatch.

1660 Pte. Henry Jackson was mentioned in the despatch as having highly distinguished himself at the assault on the Redan, 8th September last, and was wounded.

1822 Pte. John Cotterill was likewise mentioned for his gallant bearing, and was severely wounded. He was also engaged with enemy on 22nd March, 1855, and behaved most gallantly.

1841 Pte. Patrick M'Milty highly distinguished himself on the occasion of the assault on the Redan, 8th September last, and was severely wounded. He was also engaged in the sortie on 22nd March, 1855, and greatly distinguished himself.

2111 Sergt. William Newman was one of the first to enter the Redan of 8th September last, and took the Russian captain of artillery prisoner, when, taking him to the rear he was so severely wounded that his life was for a long time despaired of.

THIRTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

3131 Pte. Wm. Douglass volunteered and served as a sharpshooter during the first bombardments of Sebastopol. With nine other men, charged a party of Russians, and made them retire at Inkerman. Also at Inkerman volunteered to join Colonel Waddy, 50th Regiment, to follow the retiring enemy. Was wounded on 8th September, 1855.

The handsome trophy and album which are to be presented to H.M.S. Kent, by the members of the Association of Men of Kent and Kentish Men and subscribers in the county generally has been on view at the warehouse of Messrs. Jas. Bills & Co., 195-6, Aldergate-street, E.C. The trophy is in the form of a beautifully designed and artistically executed silver shield, and is intended to be competed for annually by the ship's gun crews. The album shows on the front pages in illuminated text the origin and conditions of the presentation, and is to be used as a record of the firing scores made in connection with the competition. A sum of money has also been invested to produce five guineas annually for 30 years, which is to go as a prize to the successive winners of the trophy. The object of the presentation is to mark the interest of the Men of Kent and Kentish Men in the ship named after their county, and at the same time to practically encourage good naval gunnery, upon which our command of the sea and safety of the Empire may be said to depend. Lord Harris, the President of the Association, who will be accompanied by a small deputation, will present the trophy to the cruiser in the presence of her crew at Portsmouth.

The funeral of Colonel Henry Walter Phillips, A.P.D., late 50th Regiment, took place at the Higher Cemetery, Exeter, recently. He leaves a widow and seven children. Colonel Phillips was the only child of the late Rev. H. W. Phillips, perpetual curate of Chacewater, Cornwall. He married Mary, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Arthur Stewart, of Saint Bridge, near Gloucester, and grand-daughter of the Hon. Edward Richard and the Lady Katharine Stewart.

All Subscriptions payable in advance, and all Correspondence be addressed to "THE EDITOR," The Queen's Own Gazette, The Barracks, Maidstone.

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS

OF

THE QUEEN'S OWN (ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT).

No. 340.

MAIDSTONE, OCTOBER, 1903.

[Vol. XXI, No. 10.]

EDITORIAL CHAT.

It is hoped that the History of the doings of the 2nd Batt. in South Africa, which is not yet out of the hands of the printers, will shortly be available for issue. Orders are now being booked.—Price 1/- post free.

It is contemplated to renew the publication of the Almanac, which for financial reasons had to be discontinued. A sheet Almanac is not a thing one can stow away in the waistcoat pocket and we feel we cannot produce one of a smaller size than those we have had previously—so its main features and size will be as before. The price will be the same, viz., 6d.

THE INCORPORATED SOLDIERS' & SAILORS' HELP SOCIETY.

6th October. 1903.

re No. 1278, Sergt. George Stratford, late 97th Foot
The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment.

Sir,—I am desired by my Committee to inform you, as commanding the Regimental District of the Royal West Kent Regiment, that they have undertaken to constitute the home of the above-named man, a "Princess Christian Cottage Home," and attached you will find particulars of his service, etc.

My Committee trust that it will not be too much to ask that notice of their action be published, as they are most anxious that all ranks should become acquainted with the scope of the objects of the Society.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. TUDOR CRAIG, Major,
Secretary.

The O.C., 50th Regimental District,
Maidstone.

Sergt. George Stratford served in the Army for upwards of eighteen years, of which thirteen years to 1867 in 97th (Q.O. West Kent) Regiment, being colour sergeant; and five years one month in the 38th (now South Staffs) Regiment as sergeant, until discharged on April 23rd, 1872. Is a survivor of the Crimean and Indian Mutiny campaigns, and in possession of three war medals, with clasps for Sebastopol and Lucknow. Had served two years in the Crimea and fifteen years in India. Pension 1s. 6d. a day. Has been married forty years. After discharge from the Army, Stratford was given employment as a War Office Messenger until the year 1899; then by reason of age he had to be discharged after twenty two years of such employment. Present age 68 years. Society pays rent of 8s. weekly at 10, Hogarth Buildings, Millbank, the almoner being Sister Agnes Elizabeth, 17, Pimlico Road, S.W.

A member of our Editorial Staff is busily engaged in reading the minutes of evidence taken before the Royal Commission on the War in South Africa, and he has come across the following in the evidence given by Major-Gen. Sir L. Rundle, K.C.B.

Q. No. 17881.—"And with regard to the marching, have you anything to say about that?"

"The marching was excellent. The men responded to any appeal made to them. One battalion marched 45 miles in 48 hours, and fought a successful action at the end. That was at Prinsloo's surrender, when we joined hands with Gen. Hunter.

Q. No. 17882.—"Have you any objection to mentioning the name of the battalion?"

"It was the Royal West Kent."

The following is an extract from Northern Nigeria Regiment, West African Field Force Orders, by Colonel J. L. N. Morland, D.S.O., Commandant N.N.R., W.A.F.F., concerning the death of the late Major F. C. Marsh.

[COPY].

Zungern, 19th August, 1903.

It is with the deepest regret that the Commandant announces to the Force the death in action on 27th July of Major Marsh, Royal West Kent Regiment and 2nd Battalion Northern Nigeria Regiment, who was killed by a poisoned arrow while directing the operations of a storming party at the capture of Burmi.

Major Marsh was one of the original members of the West African Frontier Force, raising B Company of the 1st Battalion, which he brought to a high state of efficiency, and commanding a portion of it in action in the Asaba hinterland in 1898, being mentioned in despatches for his services. Proceeding to South Africa in 1899, he went through the siege of Mafeking with the Bechuanaland Protectorate Regiment, was again mentioned in despatches and awarded a brevet majority for his services.

Later he was selected to command the mounted Infantry in Egypt.

Returning to Northern Nigeria this year he was appointed second in command of the 2nd Battalion, commanded a successful expedition to the Egbira country and from there proceeded at once to take command of a combined force for the subjection of Burmi, which resulted in a complete success.

A thorough and gallant soldier, earnest and hard working, he was esteemed by all and had gained to a very great degree the affection of his men. One of a family of soldiers, he has met a soldier's death at the head of his men in the hour of victory.

His loss to the force is a great one, and will be deeply felt by all who knew him.

The following extract from a letter written by Capt. P. M. Robinson, 1st Battalion, who was serving with the late Major Marsh:—

Asaka,
N. Nigeria,
July, 29th, 1903.

“He was hit by a poisoned arrow in the right leg, just above the knee, while bravely leading the men and directing operations against a town. The fire was very heavy, and the men hesitated about advancing under it. But he, seeing this check, ran forward and encouraged the advance by his personal example, and was wounded while so doing. He continued to give orders and directions even after being wounded, and he had to be taken back by force under the orders of the doctor. I was with him all day, with the exception of the actual time when he was wounded. I was his staff officer, and he had sent me back to fetch up reinforcements. I returned to him just after the doctor had reached him, and it was soon evident the arrow had been poisoned. I stayed with him for about five minutes, and saw him taken back out of the reach of the enemy's fire.

During this time he only spoke about the action which was going on, and kept asking me whether our men had been able to take the town. I was able to tell him that the attack was a success, and he realised this before losing consciousness, which he did about ten minutes after being wounded. I was then obliged to leave him, in fact he sent me away himself, realizing that he was keeping me away from my duty. This was his last lucid action, and the last words he spoke were those ordering me back to my post. The doctor tells me that he died, quite unconscious, and without pain, ten minutes after this, and twenty minutes after being hit. The poison must have been most virulent, but in the opinion of the doctor he suffered no pain.

“His last action was very typical of his character. He was always full of thought and consideration for others, and though he knew he was dying, and must have been anxious to keep me with him, he sent me back to my work.

“I buried him yesterday at six o'clock. I read the service over him myself, and all the officers attended his funeral. He lies in a green and pleasant spot, under a large shady tree. There is no stone or sign to mark his grave, for in these savage countries it is better so. I could always find the spot again, for I have taken the bearings of it.

“There is great sorrow felt among all the officers of this force at his death.”

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

We were not sorry to find ourselves back at Shorncliffe on the 20th September, after our six weeks experience under canvas. We stayed at West Down till the 9th September, and rain poured down steadily five days out of six, till we all got very sick of life. We parted with our extra baggage on the 6th, and for a fortnight had to exist on 42 pounds of kit, including bedding.

We left West Down at the right time, and the unfortunate 6th Division were caught in the hurricane on the night of the 9th, and every tent they had was either levelled to the ground or torn to ribbons. We encamped at Devizes that night, and, fortunately for us, our tents were protected by trees and hedges, which grew round the Park where we were encamped. Our only danger was the chance of getting a large branch of a tree on our tents. We saw ample evidence of the violence of the storm next day as we marched along to Corsham. The wires and large branches strewn the sides of the roads and the fields, and the fields of corn suffered tremendously.

On the 12th September Lady Methuen was “At Home” at Corsham Court, and the two Divisions, 5th and 6th, were invited. There was a great gathering, the Commander-in-Chief being there. There was a Band, the Drums and Fifes of the Guards, and the Pipers of the Scots Guards present to while away the time. An unpleasant diversion was caused in the middle of these festivities by a polo pony, which broke into the gardens, and seriously injured two ladies and a man, besides playing terrible havoc among the flower beds and the beautifully kept lawns, which were very soft from the unusual amount of rain that had fallen.

While at Corsham several officers took the opportunity to run in to Bath. Second-Lieut. Helmore had an adventure, and I attach herewith a cutting from the "Bath Herald" of September 14th, which describes his adventure:—

"A PLUCKY ACT.—Yesterday afternoon, about 1.30, as a private carriage was being driven through the Victoria Park, one of the occupants, an officer in uniform, perceived a child's hand showing above the water by the rustic bridge, in the small portion of the lake which lies close to the roadway. Jumping out of the carriage, the officer, only discarding his overcoat, jumped in and swam across the water, and had almost reached the child when a bystander rushed down the bank and wading in pulled the child out. The child's wet clothing was removed, and then wrapped in an overcoat the little two-year-old girl was taken to her home in the carriage, and is doing well. The name of the officer, we understand, is Lieut. W. Helmore, of the 1st West Kent Regiment, who is taking part in the manœuvres in Wiltshire."

At midnight of the 13th-14th September hostilities commenced. Our first march, on the 14th, was about 20 miles. The second day was not so trying, but after reaching our camping ground, a march of 12 miles, we were resting and awaiting orders when suddenly a report came that the enemy's cavalry had seized Hungerford. The 10th Brigade, followed by the 9th, was at once despatched to recapture the town. This was very quickly done, but it tired the men a little, attacking over heavy ground for two miles. We got back to camp at six, and were turned out at 3 a.m. to take up a position near Hungerford, to cover the movement of the baggage of the 2nd Army Corps, which had to move across the enemy's front. We had a long day of marching and fighting, but had the satisfaction of getting in touch with the enemy. All the papers have been full of the last two days' fighting, so I will not give you any further details.

The last two days were uneventful, save to those who had been hard at it for six weeks. I have heard remarks from some to the effect that the whole week was a sort of "nightmare," but we at last got some fine weather, so have much to be thankful for.

We have received orders to prepare a draft of 1 Sergeant, 3 Corporals, and 164 Privates for the 2nd Battalion by December. With volunteers I have no doubt we shall be able to send 200. It is lucky that most of these will soon be off on furlough, for at present we have not sufficient accommodation in the Barracks without utilising the drill shed, which does very well as a temporary measure while the weather is fine.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENT.

FROM SALISBURY PLAIN.

Mounted Officer (after repeated attempts to call the attention of a man by means of a pocket handkerchief, rides up to him): "Why did you not answer my signal?"

Private: "I beg yer pardon, sir, but I thought that yer was knocking the flies off yer 'orse."

WANTED TO KNOW.

- Would it not be better to call it Ups instead of Downs?
 What is the idea of taking a S.I.M. to manœuvres? Is it to teach the young ideas to fire blank?
 What doeth thou here?
 What a man should say when he does a graceful slide in a rather unpleasant position in about six inches of mud?
 Why does he always run after the postman? Is it that he has advertised and been successful?
 Why so many letters bear the Folkestone postmark?

2nd BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

D Company, 2nd Royal West Kent Regiment,

Kandy, September, 1903.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

The following is some of the doings of the above company (or I should have said part of the above company, as there are 42 men doing duty in Colombo, and 18 casuals going through their annual course of musketry at Diyatalawa) for the month of August, so you can see how heavily handicapped we are as regards sport, etc., so I trust the reader will not be too hard on us if we have not been so successful in winning games as other companies have done. The early part of the month we journeyed to Matale, about 18 miles from here, and played the planters at cricket, but we were far too weak for them, and were defeated by an innings and 30 runs. Col.-Sergt. Bullock and Pte. James were the only two who did anything worth mentioning; James bowled well by taking five wickets for 52 runs. I sincerely hope that by the time we play the return match the whole of the Company will be here, so that we shall be on a more equal footing. The planters gave us an excellent breakfast (*i.e.*, 12 noon), to which the boys did ample justice.

We have played two football matches against the Kandy Rovers, who are acknowledged to be the best sockers in Kandy. The first resulted in a win for the Company by one goal to love, and the other *vice versa*.

A shooting competition took place at Matale between six of the Company and six of the planters, which resulted in a win for the Company by 25 points. This is the first time the planters have been beaten. The following are the scores:—

D Co., 2nd ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT.	
Col.-Sergt. Bullock.....	80
Lce.-Corpl. Mills.....	75
Lce.-Corpl. Boldy.....	74
Pte. Grant.....	73
Pte. McKay.....	70
Pte. Rowe.....	56

Total..... 428

CEYLON PLANTERS RIFLE CLUB.	
Sergt.-Major Bassett	85
Lieut. Biddulph	78
Sergt. Tribe	71
Lce.-Corpl. Tytler	59
Vol. Pitfield.....	59
Corpl. Lyall.....	51
Total.....	403

'Bisley' targets were used.

Hockey has been in great demand lately, and as we are only novices, we have been playing between ourselves so that we could scrape a team together, which we did. Our first match was against the Kandy Wanderers, a new team. We proved successful, beating them by seven goals to one. I hope to record by next month a few games against the best teams here.

On the 29th we played a cricket match against St. Anthony's College, which resulted in a win for the Company by 12 runs. For D Company James, Mills and Ansell batted well, while Col.-Sergt. Bullock bowled with remarkable success, capturing six wickets for 15 runs, all clean bowled. The following are the full scores:—

D COMPANY.

Ansell, b Pierera.....	15
Milbourne c and b Van Sterrex	2
Cripps, c and b Pierera	8
Bullock, run out	1
Lowe, b Pierera	7
Denman, b Pierera	0
James, b Philip	20
Glynn, b Philip.....	0
Mills, c Andrew b Hill.....	15
Lawrence, c Van Sterrex b Philip.....	0
Clark, not out.....	0
Extras.....	4
Total...	72

ST. ANTHONY'S COLLEGE.

Andrew, b Bullock	25
Philip, b Bullock.....	2
Leo, c Mills b James	9
C. Hill, b Bullock	0
Van Sterrex, run out	2
V. Pierera, b Bullock	16
A. Pierera, b James.....	3
D. Pierera, b Bullock.....	0
T. Pierera, b James	0
Vanderstraat, b Bullock	0
H. Joseph, not out	1
Extras.....	2
Total :	60

VARIETY CONCERT.

Programme:—Overture, "Jasimine Polka," Mandoline and Banjo; song (comic), "Naval Scarecrow," Seaman Astell; song (sentimental), "Fighting Navy," Corpl. Graham, A.O.C.; song (comic), "On our side," Corporal Sutton, R.M.L.I.; song (comic), "I'll stick to the ship,"

(encored, "The cake walk"); Private Christie; selection (mandoline and banjo), Corpls. Stenning and Pelling; coon song, "Won't you love me, won't you?" Private James; Boxing Exhibition by Privates Garland and Lambert. Five minutes' interval. Part 2.—Song (comic), "How will I do," Private Graham; song (comic), "They're coming on again," Seaman Stratton, R.N.; song, "The curse of England," Signaller Ashdown, S.M.; encore, "Play that melody again," Signaller Ashdown, R.N.; song, "In the Army," (encore, "Buttercup Joe"), Corporal Jones; followed by an absurdity—"The Burglar's Apprentice"—Bill, (a professional burglar), Private Harby; Yonker (a yokel), Private James; Mr. Perriwinkle, Private Goodman. Scene 1—A country lane; scene 2—Interior of Mr. Perriwinkle's plate room. Chairman, Corpl. Rowlands; committee, Privates James and Harby.

FOOTBALL.

Kandy, 31st August, 1903.

D Co. 2nd ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT v. KANDY ROVERS.

This match was looked forward to with no small amount of interest, each side had scored a win, and a keen struggle was anticipated. L. Van Langenburg kicked off for the Rovers punctually to time, but the Kents at once pressed, and kept the ball in their opponents' half, and in less than five minutes from the start Mills dribbled down splendidly and passed to Byford, from Byford to Kelly, who scored with a beautiful low shot.

The Rovers now had a turn, and very nearly equalised, the ball just going over the crossbar. The Kents now got the ball, and some very pretty passing was seen; they were having the best of the game, the Rovers not seeming to relish matters at all. They, however, warmed to their work, and some up and down play continued for the next ten minutes, the backs on both sides being continually called upon. Glynn, in trying to clear, mis-kicked, and gave first corner to the Rovers, who failed to score. Some mid-field play was now indulged in, neither side showing to advantage. The Kents once again got the ball down, and Byford put in a clinking shot, which the Rovers' custodian beautifully saved. A minute later the same player put in another splendid shot, which the goalkeeper just saved, but put behind the posts, which gave a corner for the Company, but nothing ensued. The whistle then sounded for half-time—D Company, 1 goal; Rovers, nil.

On resuming each side played for the supremacy; they could not have worked harder had they been playing in a cup final. At last the Kents brought the ball down, and Mills, in trying a shot at goal, had hard lines, the ball just missing by inches. The Rovers now had a run down, and managed to get a corner, but nothing resulted. The Kents in turn had a run down, and again Mills put in a clinker, but the goalkeeper saved in first-class fashion. A second or so after, Byford, who had been playing a grand game, put in an almost impossible save, but the goalkeeper was there. The Rovers now got the ball down, and Tuley, in trying to clear caused another corner for the Rovers, but still they could not score. The Kents then had their own way for the next

ten minutes, shot after shot bombarding the citadel of their opponents, whose custodian seemed to be always there, and who undoubtedly saved them from a disastrous defeat. Another corner for the Kents off Watt resulted in nothing, and immediately after another off the same player, but nothing ensued. A minute later Byford again had the hardest of luck—he put in a lightning shot, but the goalkeeper would not be denied. Another corner for the Kents came to nothing, but just a minute before time they had a run down, and Kelly again scored, and secured a most meritorious victory for D Company by two goals to nil.

It was a very hard game throughout, and much praise is due to the eleven, who one and all did their utmost to win, especially Lce.-Corpls. Byford and Mills, and Ptes. Lawrence and Glynn. Our team was as follows:—goal, Pte. Smith; backs, Rowe and Glynn; half-backs, Tuley, Briginshaw and Lawrence; forwards, Burgess, Jones, Mills, Byford and Kelly.

I intend to contribute monthly to the *Q. O. G.*, that is if the Editor will accept the same.

From "GIBBO,"

D COMPANY'S CORRESPONDENT

DEPOT INTELLIGENCE.

On the night of the 29th September the Corporals of the Depot, and a few friends from the 1st Volunteer Battalion, met together to say "good-bye" to Lance-Corporal H. Smith (Depot), whose tour of duty at the Depot had expired. The evening was a complete success, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all present, the songs being splendidly rendered, and were helped in a great measure by the way in which the piano was manipulated by the accompanist.

"A-BELL."

CRICKET AVERAGES—SEASON 1903.

	BATTING.		Most In Innings.	Average.
	Innings.	Not out.		
Pte. Evans.....	12	4	76*	17.00
Sergt.-Dr. Gee	16		49	14.75
Major Martyn	3		23	14.00
Cr.-Sergt. Neighbour ...	11	3	40	13.85
Cr.-Sergt Bass	11		39	9.63
Lce.-Cpl. Lee.....	10	1	38	8.40
Pte. Ayres.....	25	3	29	7.54
Sergt. McVicar.....	16	3	17	7.46
Sergt. McGregor	11		33	6.45
Lieut.-Hickson	13		31	6.23
Lce.-Sergt. Balcombe...	13	1	27*	16.6
Mr. Cates	24		18	5.79
Capt. Pack-Beresford...	4		11	5.75
Dr. Askew.....	13		13	5.69
Q.M.S. Gilburd.....	3		10	4.66
Sergt. Reeves	20	3	13	4.35
Pte. Sergeant	7	1	10*	4.16
Corpl. Bellion	13	2	21	4.09
Lce.-Cpl. Smith.....	6		9	4.00

BOWLING.

	Overs	Wkts	Runs	Maidens	Average
Pte Ayres	316	108	601	75	5.5
Pte. Evans	108	36	199	24	5.5
Lieut. Furber	29	14	94	1	6.9
Pte. Butcher	89	29	202	14	6.9
Sergt. Reeves	42	15	135	7	9.0
Sergt.-Dr. Gee	29	8	77	1	9.6
Dr. White	19	3	3	8	10.2
Pte. Martin	24	8	83	3	10.3
Sergt. McVicar	76	17	189	17	11.1
Cr.-Sergt Bass.....	48	12	157	4	12.1
S.M. Grellier.....	16	3	36	4	12.0
Lce.-Sergt Balcombe	32	5	84	2	16.8

SERGEANTS' RIFLE CLUB.

A competition in connection with the above named Rifle Club took place at Boxley ranges on the 24th September last for the Colyer Cup, under the usual conditions, and resulted in Sergt.-Major Grellier winning the same with a total of 95 points out of a possible 105 points. Quartermaster Sergt. H. Bass and Col.-Sergt. Osborne followed with good scores. The following are the scores:—

	200.	500.	600.	Total.
Sergt.-Major Grellier ...	31	31	33	95
Q.-M. Sergt. H. Bass...	30	31	31	92
Col.-Sergt. Osborne.....	31	31	29	91
Col.-Sergt. Seager	27	30	29	86
Sergt. Dugay	32	30	23	85
S.I.M. Evenden	33	28	23	84
Q.M.-Sergt. Gilburd ...	29	27	26	82
Lce.-Sergt. Balcombe...	28	27	20	75
Sergt. Reeves	26	21	21	74
Sergt. Pond.....	26	26	21	73
Col.-Sergt. Taylor	27	23	22	72
Sergt. Blount	25	16	23	64

This match took place with the Benenden Rifle Club at Benenden, the Depot winning by 20 points. On leaving 200 yards it was found that the Depot were leading by 5 points, but when the "shoot" was finished at 500 yards, the Benenden Club were leading by 6 points, thus gaining 11 points on the Depot score at 500; it therefore came as a surprise that the Sergeants should finish up at 600 yards by winning the match by 20 points. Scores:—

SERGEANTS' RIFLE CLUB.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
S.I.M. Evenden	27	20	28	84
Col.-Sergt. Osborne.....	30	28	30	88
Sergt Grellier	25	27	22	74
Col.-Sergt. W. E. Bass	25	27	22	74
Q.M.S. H. J. Bass	27	25	29	81
Sergt. Pond	32	28	26	86
Col.-Sergt. Wimhurst	32	28	30	90
Sergt. Blount	22	23	23	68
Sergt. Reeves	28	31	28	87
Sergt. Dugay	33	25	29	87
	281	271	267	819

BENENDEN RIFLE CLUB.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Mr. Lausdell.....	27	31	29	87
Mr. Springett	32	24	21	77
Mr. Miles	31	30	28	89
Mr. Weston	27	28	16	71
Mr. Ticehurst	26	30	30	86
Mr. Hyland.....	29	30	26	85
Mr. Appack.....	23	23	20	66
Mr. Thirkell.....	22	25	18	65
Major Neve	30	28	28	86
Mr. Rolfe	29	33	25	86
	276	282	241	799

Thanks to the kindness of Major H. Neve, both teams were afterwards entertained to supper, the tables being laid in the open, and as the weather was fine, with very little wind and a bright moonlight, everybody was sorry when the time came to separate. Later, Q.M.S. Bass proposed the health of Major Neve, thanking him, on behalf of both clubs, for his hospitality which had been so very much enjoyed by all. Major Neve, in replying, stated that it gave him great pleasure to entertain both clubs, and thanked all present for so kindly toasting the health of himself, Mrs. Neve, and the little ones. In the course of further remarks he mentioned the successes of the Benenden Rifle Club at the South Eastern District Rifle Meeting, which he thought were very creditable, seeing that the Club had carried off three cups, and that their membership was only about 16. He hoped to have the pleasure of meeting the Sergeants' Rifle Club next year.

The annual shooting match between the Sevenoaks Rifle Club, Depot Sergeants, Rifle Club, "G" Company 1st Vol. Batt., "K" Company 1st Vol. Batt., and the Bromley Detachment 2nd Vol. Batt., Royal West Kent Regiment took place at Shoreham Ranges on Saturday, September 12th, and resulted in a win for the Sergeants of the Depot who compiled a grand total of 685 points, giving them an average of 85.62 points each, the next best being the Sevenoaks Rifle Club with a total of 647 points, being an average of 80.87 points each. The Sevenoaks Club was leading by 12 points on leaving 200 yards, but the Depot Sergeants led by 4 points at 500 yards, which lead they still further increased at 600 yard, eventually winning by 38 points. The Sergeants are to be congratulated on this their third win in their latest victims being the Benenden Rifle Club, winning by 20 points, and the Maidstone Detachments of the 1st Vol. Batt., winning by 12 points. It is an interesting fact that in the last-named match, this is the first time that the Depot have beaten the Maidstone Detachment for ten years.

SERGEANTS' RIFLE CLUB DEPOT.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total
S.I.M. Evenden	31	33	29	93
Col.-Sergt. Osborne	27	32	31	90
Col.-Sergt. Grellier	31	28	31	90
Q.M.S. H. Bass	26	33	30	89
Sergt. Dugay	31	32	25	88
Sergt. Reeves	27	30	23	80
Sergt. Sharp	29	24	26	79
Qr.-Mstr. Sergt. Gilburd ...	29	22	25	76
	231	234	220	685

SEVENOAKS RIFLE CLUB.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Mr. F. Ledger.....	34	21	26	91
Mr. E. Simpson	31	30	28	89
Mr. P. M. Holloway	28	30	24	82
Mr. B. Steane	30	29	22	81
Mr. R. Reid	32	24	23	79
Mr. J. Sharp	31	20	26	77
Mr. W. E. Brewerton.....	27	28	21	76
Mr. A. E. Derrett	30	26	16	72
	243	218	186	647

BROMLEY DETACHMENT 2ND VOL. BATT. R. W. KENT REGT.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Sergt. Fawcitt	28	26	29	83
Sergt. Smith	31	26	26	83
Lieut. Noel Clark.....	26	32	21	79
Serg. Hanmore	23	29	24	76
Lieut. Clark.....	22	27	25	74
Col.-Sergt. Towell	26	30	18	74
Pte. Mortlock	24	25	23	72
Pte. Amos.....	25	21	25	71
	205	216	191	612

"G" Co. 1st Vol. Batt.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Pte. Langridge.....	30	29	30	89
Pte. Townsend	26	26	25	77
Sergt. Marchant	28	22	24	74
Lce.-Corpl. Waterman	27	25	20	72
Pte. W. Burgess	27	22	18	67
Sergt. Weth	27	26	12	65
Lce.-Cpl. Overton	30	21	13	64
Pte. T. Sealey	29	16	16	25
	215	187	138	560

"K" Co. 1st Vol. Batt.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Sergt.-Inst. McRedmond.....	30	33	28	91
Sergt. Lane	23	26	27	76
Lce.-Corpl. Smith	24	28	23	70
Corpl. Johnson	27	22	19	68
Pte. Hodgkin	18	28	18	64
Sergt. Fife	17	23	14	54
Corpl. Carr	21	14	18	53
Corpl. Tear	26	14	6	46
	186	183	153	522

VOLUNTEER INTELLIGENCE.

"A" AND "B" COMPANIES, 2ND VOL. BATT.

The annual prize meeting was held at Milton Range, Gravesend, recently. The weather was beautifully fine, but a fresh and somewhat variable wind was blowing and low scoring was the order of the day. The usual match between past and present members took place in the afternoon and ended, after a keen struggle, in a victory for the latter. As the afternoon was advancing and there seemed little prospect of finishing the match before the light failed, it was decided, by mutual consent, not to shoot at the 600 yards' range. The prize winners and scores are as follows:—

No. 1 COMPETITION (7 shots at 200, 500 and 600 yards).

	200	500	600	Total.
Sergt. G. Barnes, A, £2 10s.	24	22	31	77
Pr.-Sergt. R. A. Smith B. £2.....	26	27	33	86
Sergt. E. Bryant A, £1 10s.	22	26	26	74
Corpl. W. Eyles, A, £1 10s.	25	25	22	72

CONSOLATION PRIZES.—Ptes. Jenkinson, Raymond and Wilkinson, 10s. each.

Mr. WHITE'S PRIZE (To maker of highest score at 600 yards in No. 1 Competition, previous winners barred).—Won by Sergt. Covill.

RANGE PRIZES.—200 yards, Mr. Roberts' prize, Corpl. Clayton; 500 yards, Messrs. Wolverton's prize, Pte. Groombridge; 600 yards, Messrs. Waddell's prize, Sergt. Barnes.

CHALLENGE CUP.—Presented by the late Mr. W. G. Lemon, I.P., LL.B., to be held for one year by the maker of highest score in No. 1 Competition; won by Sergt. Barnes.

The recruits' prizes were won by Ptes. Armstrong and Kearslake.

PAST v. PRESENT MATCH.
PRESENT.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	Total.
Pr.-Sergt. Smith	29	28	57
Sergt. Bryant	29	26	55
Pte. Walker	30	25	55
Corpl. Eyles	31	24	55
Corpl. Clayton	24	29	53
Clr.-Sergt. Harris	26	23	49
Sergt. Barnes	27	16	43
Lce.-Sergt. Clothier	21	20	41
Pte. Colville.....	26	8	34
Sergt. Haywood	20	10	30

Total 472

PAST.

Pte. A. Gomer.....	28	26	54
Pte. Bridger.....	27	26	53
Sergt. W. H. Gomer, jun.....	24	28	52
Clr.-Sergt. Barker	28	24	52
Clr.-Sergt. Hollis.....	28	21	49
Sergt. Thomson	25	23	48
Sergt. W. Comer.....	27	21	48
Assist. Sergt.-Inst. Trueman	18	22	40
Sergt. Barham	18	22	40
Clr.-Sergt. Smith.....	26	0	26

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We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following subscriptions:—

To December, 1903—Mrs. Maunsell, Bde.-Surgeon Owen Owen, Mrs. Rowe.

To December, 1904—Mr. J. Judge, Mrs. Jury.

DEPOT FOOTBALL.

The Football season has opened; hardly perhaps with a blaze, but certainly with a good steady glow of enthusiasm. Each evening the strenuous recruit may be seen in the Barrack Field, emulating the deeds of his elders, who, apparently, have lost very little of their youthful vigour.

The Depot team is in the process of forming; it still lacks that unity which means strength.

There is no dearth of material for the back division, and its members will mostly be here throughout the season, but it is much more difficult to find forwards, and as they are generally drawn from among the recruits, each successive draft leaves a lamentable gap. All things considered, however, our prospects are fairly bright, and we hope to win a good percentage of our matches.

The Company League has started, and matches are to be played on each succeeding Monday, until the first round is finished. There are to be two rounds, each Company playing every other twice. Up to date we have played the following matches:—

On September 5th, v. Maidstone Church Institute Wanderers F.C. This match, after a good game, resulted in a win for the Church Institute by four goals to two.

September 12th, v. Snodland F.C. We were again beaten by four goals to two. Had our forwards been stronger, and better together, the positions might probably have been reversed.

September 19th, v. Loose Institute F.C. This match was played in a heavy wind, blowing straight up the ground. We started with the wind in our favour. We scored three goals in the first ten minutes, but were only able to add two more and eventually won by five goals to two.

September 26th, v. Eccles F.C. Played at Eccles. A good, even game, more so than the score, viz., four to one against us, would indicate.

October 3rd, v. T. Batt. R.E. At Maidstone (the first match of the season on the home ground). A very good game, especially during the first half, the only score being a lucky goal for the Depot. In the second half the R.E. team seemed to play better together, and scored three times, the match ending in their favour by three goals to one.

The Company League will be played as follows:—

A v. B. C v. D.
A v. C. B v. D.
 B v. C.

The first match, A v. B, was played on Wednesday, September 16th, postponed from the preceding day on account of the weather. It was a close and well contested game, with the issue in doubt until the whistle put an end to play. In the first half the exchanges were even, and at half time goals were two to one in B Company's favour. After this, however, A Company did most of the pressing, and succeeded in adding four goals to their total, while B only scored twice. The match thus ended with five goals to four in A Company's favour.

C v. D.

D Company seem to have retained most of their last year's form, and proved too strong for C, beating them by eight goals to one, a result which, however, they had to play for.

VOLUNTEER INTELLIGENCE.

THE RECENT CAMP.

The Brigadier Commanding, regarding the annual training of the West Kent Volunteer Brigade at Shorncliffe has issued an order in which he says he "desires to place on record his appreciation of the successful endeavour made by all ranks to profit by the week's training, and he was glad to notice a decided improvement in the way the operations were carried out." Lieut.-General Lord Grenfell, commanding the 4th Army Corps, visited the Brigade at manoeuvres on August 5th, and was pleased to state that he considered the men were servicably turned out, keen, and of good physique. The Brigadier noticed that in many cases the scheme issued for the daily operations was not sufficiently explained to the section leaders and men. The extensions generally were insufficient, and greater advantage should be taken of cover, but the Brigadier recognised the great difficulties which were caused by the restricted nature of the manoeuvre ground and the quantity of standing crops. The general conduct of the men in camp was quite satisfactory. The Brigadier desired particularly to congratulate the brigade on their marching, and to recognise the cheerful and smart manner in which the long marches to and from the manoeuvre ground were executed. He also desired to thank commanding officers for the support they have given him, and the brigade staff for their excellent work."

According to an announcement made in the *Parish Letter* for St. Alfege with St. Mary, Greenwich, it is probable that the brass tablet to the memory of the local Volunteers who fell in the South African war will be unveiled at a special service on the afternoon of Saturday, October 10th, the ceremony being performed by Colonel T. H. Brock, at one time Adjutant of the 2nd Vol. Batt. The Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment), and now commanding the 50th Regimental District at Maidstone. The tablet, we gather, is to be placed on the west wall of the church, close to the choir vestry, and its position will correspond with that of the tablet to the memory of the Rev. Brooke Lambert, the late vicar. It is only right and fitting that the memory should be kept green of those gallant men who laid down their lives for their Sovereign and their country in that terrible campaign against the Boer, for which, as has been shown during the last few days, England was so shamefully unprepared. We are glad that the movement to that end is at last bearing fruit.

But as was said at the annual dinner of the Active Service men of the local Volunteer battalions, held at the Bridge House Hotel a few months ago, something more than a tablet in the parish church of Greenwich is desired, and is certainly desirable. It was originally proposed that some lasting memorial should be set up on Blackheath, in the immediate neighbourhood of the headquarters of the 2nd Vol. Batt.—a most appropriate spot. Is it too late to express the hope that this will yet come about? A memorial on the historic heath would be an object lesson to the very large number of people who will never see the tablet in the parish church. It would keep ever present in their minds the names and doings of the men of their own neighbourhood who found it a right and pleasant

thing to die for their country, and help to stimulate them, too, to noble deeds. Amidst all the muddling and shameful welter of the campaign, nothing was more noteworthy, nothing more noble, than the manner in which Englishmen of all ranks and stations, all classes and professions, sprang to the defence of Great Britain when her honour and her integrity were threatened, and those who died in her behalf are worthy of all possible praise.—*Kentish Mercury*.

The O.C. 50th Regimental District gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following donations and subscriptions towards the Regimental Compassionate Fund:—

	Donations.			Annual Subscriptions.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Major J. W. Jones	1	0	0	1	0	0
Capt. P. Umfreville.....	10	0	0	10	0	0
Major R. C. Style	10	0	0	10	0	0
Major A. Martyn.....	10	0	0	10	0	0
Capt. C. G. Pack-Beresford	10	0	0	10	0	0
Lieut. L. Hickson	5	0	0	5	0	0
Lieut. H. D. Belgrave.....	5	0	0	5	0	0

SCENES FROM SALISBURY PLAIN.

Brodrickson to Old Soldier—Who's that bloke with the white band on his arm?

Old Soldier—Why, he's the umpire.

Brod.—Garn, what do yer take me for. This ain't a blooming cricket match.

Orderly Sergeant (with all the swagger of a fully-fledged Lance-Corporal)—Turn out *with* your feet!

Company—I suppose we shall have men parading with some other person's next.

Our latest to Colour-Sergeant—We have got to give all our straps, bar our *rifle and bayonet*.

Sergeant to Native—Does it always rain like this here?
Native—Noa sur, there do be snoa soamtimes.

Is there any truth in what we hear that he said the "W. Down, S. Camp," means "Wet Down, Soaking Camp."

THE TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

The Officers of both the Line Battalions and Depots, 10s. per month.

Other Subscribers, 3s. per year, including postage.

Copies will be sold at 1d. per Number to Non-Commissioned Officers and Men serving with the Colours. If sent by post, 1s. 6d. per year.

Extra Copies or back numbers can always be supplied.

The price of back Numbers will be as follows: To N.C.O. and Men, 1d.; to all other Subscribers, 2½d. (Postage extra).

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All Subscriptions payable in advance, and all Correspondence be addressed to "THE EDITOR," The Queen's Own Gazette, The Barracks, Maidstone."

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS
OF
THE QUEEN'S OWN (ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT).

No. 341.

MAIDSTONE, NOVEMBER 1903.

[Vol. XXI, No. 11.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

2ND BATTALION.

Promoted Sergt., Lce.-Sergt. Kallend, Aug. 8th 1903 ; promoted Corpls., Lce.-Corpl. H. Briginshaw, Aug. 8th, 1903, Lce.-Corpl. E. May, Sept. 14th, 1903 ; appointed Lce.-Sergt., Corpl. C. Pope, Aug. 8th, 1903 ; appointed Lce.-Corpls., Ptes. S. Rowland, F. Brown, M. Bearham, and T. Hensley, Aug. 19th, 1903 ; Pte. R. Rouse, Aug. 14th, 1903.

On 10th October Col. T. H. Brock, commanding the 50th Regimental District at Maidstone, unveiled a brass mural tablet in the parish church of St. Alphege, Greenwich, to the memory of those members of the 2nd V.B. Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regt. who fell in South Africa. The ceremony was made the occasion of a special service, which was attended by about 250 men and 16 officers of the battalion, the mayor of Greenwich (Mr. R. S. Jackson) and most of the members of the borough council, together with a large number of townspeople, the church being crowded in every part. The clergy present were the Rev. S. M. Bardsley, vicar of Greenwich and acting chaplain to the battalion ; the Rev. C. Swainson, rector of Charlton ; the Rev. W. A. Carrol, vicar of Bickley ; the Rev. T. R. H. Sturgess, and the Rev. W. W. Fearon. The officers present included Col. E. Satterthwaite, commanding the battalion ; Cols. Frigout, Latzer, and Simpson ; Capt. Soames, and Capt. Morphew (commanding the guard of honour). The battalion band accompanied the music. During the service Col. Brock, accompanied by the mayor of Greenwich, the vicar of Greenwich, and the memorial committee, proceeded to the memorial, which is placed in the west wall of the church ; and Col. Frigout, on behalf of the subscribers, asked Col. Brock to unveil the tablet. This having been done, the guard of honour presented arms, and the buglers outside the church sounded the "Last Post." The acting chaplain then formerly dedicated the tablet, which bears the following inscription:—"To the glory of God and in memory of Sergt. Edward Eveleigh, Privates Harry Barnes, Hubert E. Creasey, Frank A. Helmer, Arthur F. Lucock, Douglas Morton, William Painting, Herbert W. Turpin, Edwin W. White, this tablet has been erected by their comrades of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. Since the inauguration of the Volunteer movement in 1859, the South African war of 1899-02 was the first occasion on which the Government invited the force to furnish Volunteer companies for

active service abroad. To this call 191 members of this battalion responded, and embarked for the front. 'Endure hardships as a good soldier.' II Tim. ii, 3. Oct., 1903." The acting chaplain gave a short address based on the text on the memorial, and the service concluded with the National Anthem.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

We have had a very dull and dreary time since we came back from Manœuvres, and I have very little news to give you : the rain has been so persistent that we have had few chances of decent football, and when the rain stops for a short time we get a gale that would spoil any game. However, we have managed to play three matches ; the first was against the 1st Royal Dragoons, and, after a good struggle, we managed to beat them by one goal to love.

It was not a very fast game, as neither team was in training.

The second match was against the Holy Trinity F.C. but they brought a weak team, and we won as we liked by 6 goals to love. The shooting was good, but the forwards were never hustled, as they were in the third match they played against the 2nd South Lancs. We made a very poor show and lost badly, the S. Lancs. scoring 7 goals against 1. The S. Lancs. were a faster team, and besides they were in excellent condition, while our team seemed to have no life in them after about twenty minutes' fast play, during which time the game was very level. Our forwards had plenty of chances, but were so done that they were unable to take advantage of them. They are now starting to train in earnest ; they live and mess together, and in a month's time we hope to see their form improve at least 50 per cent. One of our best men, unfortunately, is down at Bulford going through a Mounted Infantry course ; a second is away at Aldershot working for his 1st Class Certificate. I am afraid they will be back too late to help us much this year. I am sending you a list of our fixtures, and shall be glad if you can find room for it in your columns.

We are very short-handed just at present : Major Annesley, Captains Pedley and Moloney, Lieuts. Annesley and Ingram, and Second-Lieut. Paget, have gone away on leave. Capt. Hotham and Second-Lieuts. Waring, Helmore, and Humphreys are away at Eastbourne putting 100 recruits through Table A. Lieuts. Snow and Knox are at Bulford, the former having been selected for the appoint-

ment of Adjutant to the Mounted Infantry for the present course of instruction, and the latter having taken down a few Section of 34 N.C.O.'s and men to be trained in Mounted Infantry duties.

Capt. Woulfe-Flanagan left us on the 19th to commence his preliminary study of the Japanese language at the University of London. I hope he will remember all the disinterested advice that was offered to him by those who appeared to have a considerable amount of knowledge of Eastern ways and customs.

Our latest recreation comes in the form of Regimental tours, but our plans have been badly upset by the inclemency of the weather; we find no difficulty in getting a copious supply of water for our camping grounds.

The Garrison have tried to raise a Hockey Team; so far they have only played twice, and each time they got a real good beating.

Lieut. Elgood has received orders to hold himself in readiness to take out the draft of the 2nd Battalion in December. The draft has been selected and all the N.C.O.'s and men are away on furlough till the 20th of November.

Twenty-five per cent. of the Battalion, exclusive of the draft, are also away on furlough.

The following men are training for our football team, and more are to be added as soon as they return to the Battalion: 2847 Sergt. J. Merrick, 6335 Lce-Corpl. F. Davis, 6124 Lce-Corpl. S. Weeks, 6079 Pte. W. Lord, 5536 Pte. G. Green, 4838 Pte. A. Gowans, 6725 Pte. A. Cogger, 5530 Pte. W. Harris, 7319 Pte. F. Haines, 7296 Pte. J. Gowers, 6746 Pte. G. Wright, 7242 Pte. W. Langridge, 3885 Pte. C. Taylor.

Colonel F. Wintour presented the Mess with a very handsome silver inkstand and blotting book on his promotion into the Norfolk Regiment. He expressed his sincere regret at leaving, which is undoubtedly echoed by all who had the pleasure of knowing and serving with him.

1ST BATTALION CORRESPONDENT.

LIST OF FIXTURES, 1903-4.

Date.	Opponents.	Ground.	Result.	Goals F. A.
1903.				
October 7..	1st Royal Dragoons	Away	Won..	1 0
" 10..	Holy Trinity Church F.C.	Away	Won..	6 0
" 17..	2nd South Lancashire Regt.	Away	Lost..	1 7
" 21..	Colannad A.F.C.	Folkestone..		
" 26..	The Buffs	Home		
" 31..	11th Field Company R.E.	Home		
Novem. 4..	1st Royal Dragoons	Home		
" 11..	Pleydell A.F.C.	Home		
" 14..	Folkestone F.C.	Folkestone..		
" 21..	2nd Royal Sussex Regiment	Away		
" 25..	1st Provisional Battalion	Home		
Decem. 2..	Folkestone Wednesday	Home		
" 5..	Folkestone F.C.	Home		
" 16..	2nd Royal Sussex	Home		
" 19..	2nd York and Lancashire Regt..	Home		
" 26..	11th Field Company R.E.	Away		
1904.				
Jan. 6..	Colonnade A.F.C.	Home		
" 16..	1st Provisional Battalion	Dover		
" 20..	2nd South Lancashire Regiment	Home		
" 27..	The Buffs	Dover		
Feb. 17..	Pleydell A.F.C.	Away		
" 24..	2nd York and Lancashire Regt..	Dover		
March 16..	Folkestone Wednesday	Folkestone..		
" 19..	Holy Trinity Church F.C.	Home		
Easter Mon.	Waverley Athletic F.C.	Ashley Park		
	add 2nd batt corres			

2nd BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Oct. 8th, 1903.

Dear Mr. Editor,

As I am no good at writing myself, I employ myself running round and trying to get other people to write for the Q.O.G. It is rather a hard thing to do, as there is nothing going on. Hockey and football occasionally, but no cricket, except pick up games on Thursdays. Major Maunsell has arrived. The Sergeants of the Battalion gave a very successful dance in the Sergeants' mess last week, and there has also been a big dance given by the Warrant Officers and Sergeants of the garrison. A, B, G, and H Companies are all here at present, but G and H go to Trinco next month to relieve C and E. F Company is remaining at D'lawa as there is no room for any more men down here. Polo is bucking up now, with Capt. Foster and Lieuts. Grant and Hibbert we often now get four a side, which has been unknown for some time. You will probably by the time this reaches you have seen Capt. Lister who went home sick by last mail.

Yours sincerely,

2nd BATTALION CORRESPONDENT.

Colombo,

Oct. 8th, 1903.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I regret to say that owing to the dissipated life led by the regular and official correspondent of the 2nd Battalion, The Queen's Own, he is again unable to adequately express the great thoughts which seethe through his manly, if erratic brain. Consequently I, unworthy though I am, have consented to take upon me the mantle of Elisha (or was it Elijah) and endeavour to give you some idea of our adventures during the past month.

On the 28th September Brigadier-General G. L. Money, C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., commanding Troops Ceylon, presented to those men of the Battalion quartered in Colombo the King's South African Medal. The men were formed up in quarter column on the Barrack Square, and received the G.O.C. on his arrival with the general salute. The G.O.C. before presenting the medals addressed the Battalion, pointing out in a few well chosen words the value which every recipient of the medal should regard it; it being a tangible proof of service well rendered to Country and to King.

In addition to the King's S.A. Medal, the G.O.C. presented the medal for distinguished conduct in the field to Sergt Dorrell, A Co., shaking hands with him and addressing some remarks, which were, however, inaudible to your abnormally long-eared correspondent. After the conclusion of the parade the G.O.C. breakfasted with the officers of the Battalion.

Cricket and football are as popular as ever. I regret I cannot conscientiously say, like one of your correspondents, that "I have *again* played a brilliant innings."

Should you, Mr. Editor, require any excavations made amongst your front rank masticators I can confidently recommend Surgeon Dentist, Barrack Square, who I will guarantee to operate both quickly and efficaciously.

Many of the companies have taken up hockey, and the sight of a forest of sticks waving in the air whenever the battle is joined is most exhilarating to the spectators on the side lines.

So far, no one has ventured to take on any outside team, but shortly we hope to be sufficiently advanced to be able to challenge, with some hope of success, one of the local clubs.

The King's official birthday comes, like other birthdays, but once a year, that once being early in November. In consequence, like wise virgins, we are thinking of the sights and proper "furious joy" with which all good soldiers of the King salute his natal day. Being Anglo-Saxons, on this occasion at least, we shall not be dumb dumb, that is, if the Government give us plenty of blank, and now, Mr. Editor, I must close. I *could* describe to you in an epic poem ten years long how every dewy moon prehistoric warriors of Asian renown, filled with martial ardour, career, knees up, in wild and furious advance, around the Barrack square. I *could* describe (but I wont), the war song that they sing, these and many other matters could I tell of, but the night grows old, and the years roll on, and soon this world will meet with its predestined end. Why should I hasten this inevitable event? No! nature shall work out her fate unassisted by me.

I am, Mr. Editor,

YOUR IRRESPONSIBLE CORRESPONDENT.

Colombo,
Oct. 8. 1903.

Correspondence from the "Beautiful Valley of Bongh," otherwise known as Diyatalawa.

Heavy soldiering has been the order of the day; since the departure of B Company for Colombo. H Company has been firing its annual course of musketry and A Company has been doing field firing. For the latter amusement, the country around is eminently suited; the succession of grassy hills cut up by valleys containing invariably marshes and, frequently bushes and trees, forming a fine terrain for placing targets representing an enemy in position with his scouts, patrols, ambushes, etc.

Owing to working hours being rather long, there has not been much opportunity for Company cricket or football matches. One or two games, however, were played, the full Company teams not being available.

1st football, A Company beat H by one goal to nil.

2nd football, H v. A. A draw, nil all.

On Sunday, August 9, A Company played a team from H.M.S. Perseus. Result, A Company won by 4 goals to 1.

At cricket, H Company played A, and, won by one wicket and ten runs. Score: A Company 52, H Company 62.

The officers' tennis court has been done up, and wire netting placed round, which is a great improvement, and to a certain extent obviates the necessity of keeping squads of boys down in the paddy fields below to retrieve the balls.

Lieut. Unwin, R.A.M.C., has lately introduced a pack of hounds? or rather they are called hounds for courtesy; in reality one actually has a mild resemblance to a beagle,

another is more or less a dachs-hund; there is a third which with a considerable sketch of a vivid imagination might be taken for a descendant of a fox-terrier of the 3rd or 4th generation. The remainder are pariahs pure and simple.

The *raison-d'etre* of the pack is for hunting hares which are numerous, but difficult to find in the valley of Bongh. These animals (hounds, not hares), do hunt after a fashion, and frequently manage when after a hare to fix on to a porcupine. There is a tradition that they even caught a hare once.

On Saturday, August 8th, a detachment of one hundred or so of sailors from H.M.S. Perseus came up to stop for eight days for a change of air. The authorities intend to make a naval sanatorium up here, and send the sailors in detachments for a few days at a time to freshen them up, after their long service in the Persian gulf, and other choice spots, such as Aden and Obbia. The time, 8 days, however, is rather short for this sort of thing. It takes more than that to get used to the change of climate.

During the last month Company concerts have been the rage. B Company started the fashion and produced a most entertaining programme.

The other Companies not to be outdone, at once competed and A and H Companies each gave a concert within a week of one another.

These concerts are held in a sort of palm-leaf built barn called the theatre. It is well suited for the purpose, having a stage with scenery and footlights, and electric lights throughout.

At other times it would be used as a church, and even sometimes as a lecture room.

The music for these entertainments was provided by Ptes. Vile and Holder on the mandoline, accompanied by Lce.-Corpl. Pelling and Lce.-Corpl. Stenning, R.E., on the banjo, and was really excellent.

The other items consisted of songs, nigger dances, boxing and gymnastic exhibitions, and the last item was always a short sketch in costume.

Among the performers Lce.-Corpl. Pelling and Pte. Gregory and Lce.-Corpl. Jones gave excellent songs and were always encored. The latter was very amusing in his song, "Buttercup Joe," in which he appeared in complete countryman's kit, smock and all. Pte. Christie's cake walks were also exceedingly well done, while Pte. Shepherd as a clown gymnast provoked roars of laughter.

A change of companies has now taken place, F Company and headquarters having gone up to Diyatalawa, and also a party of casuals under Lieut. Fiennes, and A Company has come down to Colombo.

Append^d are the programmes of the three Company concerts. I hear that the naval detachment has also been provoked into competing in this line of entertainment, and have recently given a concert.

B Company's Concert, 22nd July, 1903, at 9 p.m., sharp, at the Theatre Royal, D'lawa. Chairman, Col. Sergt. Grey.

Programme;—Overture, Lce.-Corpl. Pelling, Pte. Holder and Pte. Vile; Song, "Tanner the half a dozen," Pte. McCormic; Song, "What for," Lce.-Corpl. Pelling; Song, "In the shade of the Palm," Pte. Lawton; Song, selected, Pte. Gregory; Mandoline and banjo, Lce.-Corpl. Pelling, Pte. Holder and Pte. Vile; Song, "The Captain cried, 'I'll stick to the ship,'" Pte. Christie. Interval of ten minutes. Overture, Pte. Vile's musicians; Variety gymnasts, Pte. Strodden and Pte. Shepherd; Cake walk, Pte. Christie; Song, selected, Pte. Gregory; Song, "When the gentle breezes blow," Lce.-Corpl. Pelling; Selection, Pte. Vile's musicians

Sketch entitled "The Miser," characters, Miser Dene, a reputed miser, Pte. Shepherd; Detective Hurst, a Scotland Yard detective, Pte. Gates; Burglar Bill, a well-known burglar just released from prison, Pte. Lawton; Gentleman Harry, a swell coachman badly wanted by the police, Corpl. Childs. Scene 1. Country lane. Scene 2. The old miser's cottage. "God save the King."

A Company's programme, 7th August, 1903, Overture, Jesamine Polka; Song, Sentimental, "The hat my father wore," Corpl. Graham, A.O.C. Comic, "I'll stick to my ship," Pte. Christie; Sentimental, "The Coster's dream, Pte. Tyson; Musical Selection, Lce.-Corpl. Pelling, Lce.-Corpl. Stenning, and Ptes. Holder and Vile; Song, Comic, "Mesmerism," Lce.-Corpl. Jones; Song, Sentimental, "Hearts of Oak," Pte. W. Weeks; Song, Comic, "What For," Lce. Corpl. Pelling; Pte. Christie's Minstrels, Ptes. Christie, Masters and Buckley. Interval of ten minutes. Comic Song and Dance, Gnr. Hewett, R.G.A.; Boxing Exhibition, Ptes. Tyson and Windsor; Song, Comic, "The Pudding," Pte. Gregory; Song, Sentimental, "Cheer up Buller," Pte. Berry; Song, Comic, "Stick to me tight," Pte. Graham; Song, Sentimental, "Sometimes," Corpl. Keen; Song, Comic, "In the Army," Lce.-Corpl. Jones; Song, Sentimental, selected, Pte. Compton. Sketch, "Heir to a Million." Harry Broad, Sportsman, Pte. Anderson; Mr. Belks, Esq. Broker's Man, Pte. Berry; Mrs. Jonesy, Pte. Vile; Bill Tiddler, Sloskin's Chum, Pte. Gregory; Septimus Samuel Sloskins, Shoemaker etc., supposed heir. "God save the King."

H Company's Variety Concert, 11th August, 1903. Programme. Part 1—Overture. "Jesamine Polka," mandoline and banjo; song, "Naval Scarecrow," Gn. Astell, R.N., song (sentimental), "Fighting Navy," Corpl. Graham; A.O.C.; song, "On our side," Oorpl. Sutton, R.N.; song (comic), "I'll stick to the ship," Pte. Christie; selection, Corpls. Stenning & Pelling, Ptes. Vile & Holder; coon song, "Won't you love me?" Pte. F. James; boxing exhibition by Ptes. Garland and Bishop, 2nd Royal West Kent Regt. Interval of five minutes. Part 2—Song, Stoker Lister, R.N.; song (comic), "How will I do?" Pte. Graham; song, "They're coming on again," Gn. Stratton, R.N.; song (comic), "He only did it once," Pte. Vile; song, "The life of a man," Gn. Belcher; song, Ashdown; song (sentimental), "Play that melody again," Pte. Compton; song, "The horse the missus dries the clothes on," Gn. Jenner. Sketch, "The Burglar's Apprentice—Scene 1, Country lane—Scene 2, Interior of Plate Room—Characters, Bill, a Pro. Burglar, Pte. J. Darby; Septimus, Bill's Apprentice, Pte. F. James; Old Man Periwinkle, Pte. H. Goodman. "God Save the King."

"D" COMPANY 2ND R.W. KENT REGT.
KANDY, CEYLON.

2nd October, 1903.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Doings of the above Company for the month of September.

HOCKEY:—Our first match with a good team was against the Kandy Rovers on the Bogambia Ground, which resulted in an easy win for the Rovers by five goals to one, which was fully expected, but hope with a little more practice to turn the tables.

FOOTBALL:—This match commenced at 5 p.m. on the Bogambia Ground on the 4th, against Bogambia (all Europeans) and should have proved an interesting game but for a sad accident which occurred less than a minute from the start, Mr. Ellis in jumping at the ball came in contact with Pioneer Jones' leg with such force that it shattered Mr. Ellis' hip bone. Improvised splints were soon on the scene and two of our fellows carried him in a stretcher to the Planter's Hospital, where every attention was given him (at the time of writing, he was progressing favourably, and hopes to be about again in a couple of months). The game was resumed, and a half-hearted game resulted in a win for "D" Coy by four goals to nil.

"D" Company—Goal, Jack Smith; backs, Rowe and Bentley; half backs, Buginshawe, Glynn, Tuley; forwards, Hardy, Byford, Mills, Jones, Burgess.

Bogambia—Goal, Phillips, sen.; backs, Ellis and Goodman; half-backs, Payne, Smart, Lock; forwards, Walker, Matthews, Boyd, Griffin, Phillips.

Referee; Lance-Corpl. Sheen.

Linesmen: Lance-Corpl. Pope and Private Arnold.

A medium team turned out against St. Paul's on the 10th on the Bogambia Ground, and a very good game ended in favour of the Company by two goals to nil. Byford, Mills and Arnold are worthy of mention.

Kandy Rovers tried hard to get their own back against the Company on the 15th on the Bogambia. They played a sound game and on several occasions all but scored, but Jack Smith our custodian was always there. Half-time no score.

On resuming our fellows at once got the ball down and in a scrimmage a goal was scored for the Kents by Hall, the Rover's own back. Nothing further ensued, and the game ended thus: "D" Coy., one goal; Kandy Rovers, nil. Great praise is due to Smith for his goal keeping, and on form I think the Scotsman should be given a trial in the regimental team.

HOCKEY:—A hockey match was played on the Bogambia Ground on the 19th, against the Kandy Rovers, and a keenly contested game ended in favour of the Company by two goals to one. Lance-Corpls. Boldy and Miller and Clr.-Sergt. Bullock all played a good game.

CRICKET:—No match, worth mentioning, took place this month, except two Company games, got up respectively by Lance-Corpl. Mills and Private James. Mills' team got away with the first match, but James' turned the tables in the return match. Pte. James, playing

for St. Anthony's College, compiled the splendid total of 78 runs, not out, the finest individual score he has made in Ceylon.

BOXING:—Jack McAuliffe, the Light Weight Champion, being in Ceylon at the time of writing, put a show on the Sinhalese Theatre on the 17th, and had the assistance of six men of the Company, when the following competed against one another in a four-round contest—Pte. Mears and Smith were the first to appear, their weights being pretty equal, about 11st. 6lbs. This proved to be a stubborn contest, and eventually ended in Smith winning on points. Ptes. Cripps and Burgess, two feather weights, then delighted the audience with four scientific rounds, which were heartily applauded. There was not much to choose between the two at the end, but Burgess was declared the winner. Lce.-Corpl. Pope and Pte. Bentley then faced one another for what proved to be a determined fight. Bentley being a trifle heavier outfought his man, who finally gave in; in the middle of the fourth round this bout also caused rounds of applause. Smith then faced the Champion for three rounds exhibition, and was applauded for the gameness shown on his part, but held out his hand in the last round, his previous exertions in the first bout overtaking his strength.

The rainy season has started in earnest, and no sport can be properly indulged in, but the Company had the luck of finishing the month by beating the Bogambia football team by five goals to two on their ground, Mills, Byford, and Bentley again showed to advantage.

From "GIBBO,"

D COMPANY'S CORRESPONDENT.

"ODDITIES AND ENDITIES."

I don't know whether it is the climate, or because we are near the treaty ports, but the fact remains that the Boxer movement has extended down to Colombo.

Only in a country farther east that movement, I believe, caused several heads to be struck off, whilst in Colombo it has only caused a few black eyes,

Now that boxing is subsiding (without any casualties at present) a new craze has followed, namely, Developers.

These are all very well in their way, those who use them no doubt benefit, but what on earth is that mysterious bag that hangs from the ceiling, filled with oil rags, old shirts, boots, etc., and is honoured with the name of Punching Ball.

This article is no doubt part of the stock in the developing business; it seems one has only to hit this bag of mystery two or three times in succession and you become a Jack McAuliffe.

A man who knows all the latest told me the other night that D'lawa is to be the new naval headquarters, vice Trincomali. Being of rather a timid disposition, and seeing that my informant paid for the pot, I was too polite to ask how ships could be got through mountains. He may, of course, have had in mind Aerial Navigation.

Who was that individual at Kandy, when competing in the noble art one Saturday night, thought it advisable to retire after the first round on the plea of getting ready for church?

What did the Orderly mean when he said that Ice-bags should be provided at the Garrison Sch., Colombo.

Yours Au Courrant,

G Co. CORRESPONDENT.

Colombo,

October 2nd, 1903.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

An exhibition of the "noble art" took place here last week, nearly all the participants being men of G Company. Below I give a few particulars:—

ARMY v. NAVY.

The first item was an exhibition contest between Sandwell and Kemp, rather a one-sided affair, the first named being heavier and much taller had it all his own way.

The next item was a four-rounds contest between Kirns and Bexon, who both went hammer and tongs at it, and if they had kept on much longer would have been like the Kilkenny Cats—nothing left of them.

The next to appear were Kirby of the West Kents and McNamee of H.M.S. Pomone. Kirby is a fine boxer and a powerful man, and eventually knocked his opponent out in the second round.

Pte. Connor was to appear next in a contest with Fitzgerald, a negro, but unfortunately Connor was indisposed. He had previously fought the negro in a ten-rounds contest for a purse of 300 rupees, presented by some planters. Connor was awarded the fight, a very stubborn one, by the way. He is to be congratulated, more so because the negro was 20lbs. heavier and four inches taller.

The last item was a ten-round contest between Pte. Roberts (R.W.K.) and Jerry Pierce (H.M.S. Pomone). These two were well matched, and, if anything, Roberts had the best of his opponent up to the seventh round, the military making sure their man would win. The sailor, however, made a better show in the final rounds, and the Referee awarded the sailor the fight.

Yours Au Courrant,

G Co. CORRESPONDENT.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of the following subscriptions to December, 1903:—Major Hewitt, Mr. Sillitoe, Major Morpew; to December, 1904; Miss Blannin.

For doings of 2nd Battalion in South Africa:—Miss Blannin, E. Sillitoe, Mrs. Hampton Moody, A. Finnes, Esq., and W. Dadd.

DEPOT INTELLIGENCE.

The last has been seen of the old guard room at Maidstone Depot, and sundry pieces of old wood are being fashioned into ornamental articles as mementos, whilst others are being converted into articles of usefulness, such as fowl runs, and thus continue to deprive "birds" of their liberty. Curio hunters did not find this a happy hunting ground, there being only one or two interesting finds.

CORPORALS' MESS, DEPOT.

On the afternoon of the 24th October the return shooting match between the Corporals of the Depot and 1st V.B. R.W. Kent Regiment was fired on Boarley Range. The day was anything but an ideal one for shooting, the wind and light being very bad, which accounts for the low scoring which took place. The Corporals of the Depot, however, managed to uphold their reputation, and were returned the winners of the match by 52 points. Scores:—

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Corpl. Walker	24	23	20	67
Corpl. Boakes	29	28	15	72
Corpl. Fletcher.....	25	24	11	60
Corpl. King	27	25	0	52
Corpl. Collins	25	21	12	58
Corpl. Branson	29	33	16	78
Corpl. Dixon.....	31	27	21	79
Corpl. Bance.....	27	21	15	63
Corpl. James.....	27	30	22	79
Corpl. Cramp	23	21	16	60

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VOLUNTEERS.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Corpl. Merralls.....	26	27	20	73
Corpl. Manning	26	22	12	60
Corpl. Smith.....	24	24	17	65
Corpl. Harden	17	12	15	44
Corpl. Muggeridge	23	23	14	60
Corpl. Groom	14	14	18	46
Corpl. Measday.....	25	25	11	61
Corpl. Placket	25	6	20	51
Corpl. Andrews	30	27	22	79
Corpl. Lambden	30	27	20	77

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After the conclusion of the match the teams adjourned to the well-known establishment of ex-Sergt.-Major Locks, where an excellent tea was partaken of, after which an exceptionally pleasant evening was spent in the concert room till about eleven o'clock.

DEPOT SERGEANTS' RIFLE CLUB.

Taken on a whole, the Rifle Club of the Sergeants at the Depot may be said to have had a fairly successful season during the past summer, or rather remnants of summer, having taken part in five matches, three of which were won and two lost.

The first match was at Tunbridge Wells on the 13th May (10 a side), when the Team compiled a total of 832 points as against 808 points of our opponents, but owing to the fact that the Depot had to "count out" 147 points, and Tunbridge Wells only 117 points, the match was lost by six points.

The second match was against the Maidstone Detachment 1st Volunteer Battalion, at Boxley Ranges, when the Depot again suffered defeat by 21 points, although they improved on the score made at Tunbridge Wells by no less than 84 points.

The third match against Benenden Rifle Club, and which was fired at Benenden on the 8th August, resulted in the first win of the season for the Depot Sergeants by 20 points, and reflects credit on the team in having pulled off their first win on a difficult range, and against a club several of whose members had been very successful in the South Eastern District Rifle Meeting. No doubt many of these whose good fortune it was to be present at this match carry with them many pleasant recollections of the very enjoyable time spent at Benenden.

The next match was against our old opponents, the Maidstone Detachment 1st Volunteer Battalion, and was fired at Boxley on the 15th August, and for the first time for ten years, resulted in a win for the Depot by 12 points. The last occasion on which the Depot beat the Maidstone Detachment was on the 26th August, 1893, when they won by the narrow margin of three points, the final scores on that occasion being: Depot, 749; Maidstone Detachment, 746 points. It is interesting to note that at the match fired in August last, the scores were: Depot, 809; Maidstone Detachment, 797 points.

The last match, so far as inter-club matches are concerned, was fired at Shoreham on the 12th September, against the Sevenoaks Rifle Club, G Company 1st Vol. Bat., K Company 1st Vol. Bat., and Bromley Detachment 2nd Vol. Bat., the result being a win for the Depot by the very comfortable margin of 32 points over the score made by the Sevenoaks Rifle Club, who finished second.

The last match of the season took place at Boxley Range on the 24th September, when the members of the Sergeants' Rifle Club wound up the season by competing for the "Colyer Challenge Cup," which was won by Sergeant Major Grellier with a total of 95 points, and which was compiled as follows:

200 yds., 31. 500 yds., 31. 600 yds., 33.

Qtr.-Mr.-Sergt. H. Bass was a good second with 92 points, whilst Color-Sergt. Osborne was third with 91 points.

The following are the scores made by those members who fired in all of the six matches mentioned above:

Col.-Sergt. Osborne	86	84	88	84	90	91	Avg.	87.1
Sergt. Dugay	81	89	87	83	88	85	"	85.3
S.I.M. Evenden	93	78	84	79	93	84	"	85.1
Qr.-Mr.Sergt. Bass	77	73	81	80	89	92	"	82.2
S.-M. Grellier	74	76	74	79	90	95	"	81.3

Sergt. Reeves, who fired in five of the above matches finished with an average of 80.8.

DEPOT FOOTBALL.

We have been rather more successful during the past month, chiefly, however, in our Wednesday matches, in which we usually have the easiest work.

The team does not seem to be improving as fast as might be expected; there is very little combination, and the forwards are by no means always in their places, and these are the points in which we are usually outclassed by our opponents. We have been rather unlucky in temporarily losing the services of two of our players, but we hope to see them in their proper places shortly. We have played the following matches:—

October 7th, v. Maidstone Wednesday.—A fairly good game, which we won by 6 goals to 1.

October 10th, v. Tovil (1st League match).—Played at Tovil. In this game our want of combination was very apparent, and although everyone played their hardest we lost by 3 goals to 0.

October 14th, v. M.C.I.W. Wednesday team.—We again won by 6 to 1.

The League match on October 17th, v. Eccles, was postponed on account of the death of a member of the Eccles club.

Oct. 21st, v. Mr. Armstrong's XI.—The result, 10 to 0 in our favour, speaks for itself.

Oct. 24th, v. East Malling.—Played here. A good game resulted in a win for our opponents by 4 goals to 1.

Oct. 31st, v. Aylesford—This League match was played at Aylesford. At the end of the first half we led by 2 goals to 1, and after changing ends added three more goals to our score, finishing with 5 to 1 in our favour. The game would have been a pleasanter one had the partizanship of the Aylesford spectators been kept within more reasonable bounds.

Nov. 4th, v. Mr. Armstrong's XI.—We again proved rather too strong for this team, beating them by 5 goals to 1.

Nov. 7th, v. Holmesdale.—Played on our ground. The opposing team was too good for us, and playing well together won a match which was all in their favour by 3 goals to 1.

The first round of the Company League has been played and the results are as follows:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals.	Pts.		P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals	Pts.		
D...	3	3	0	0	21	2	6	C...	3	1	2	0	5	17	2
A...	3	2	1	0	16	9	4	B...	3	0	3	0	4	18	0

In order to make the matches last out the season, it has been decided to play three more rounds.

2ND VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

The Battalion Annual Prize Distribution will take place at the Borough Hall, Royal Hill, Greenwich, on Saturday, 5th December, commencing at 7.30 p.m. Col. T. H. Brock has kindly consented to distribute the prizes.

At the recent examination at Hythe School of Musketry there were 94 in the class, and of these 76 were successful. Sergt.-Inst. G. Barge, the popular Sergt.-Inst. of the Bromley Detachment, 2nd Vol. Batt., was among this number, and succeeded in attaining the twelfth position.

PRIVATE L. HALE

For many years past there have been few more familiar figures in Fleet Street than that of Leonard Hale. His name will perhaps be almost unknown, but frequenters of the West End of the City would recognise in his portrait a man whose patriarchal appearance and red cap attracted attention to himself as he stood day by day at his post at the corner of Chancery Lane. News of his death will be received with regret by thousands of persons who only knew the old man by sight.

Leonard Hale was born on November 5th, 1821. In March, 1840, he joined the 50th Regiment (Queen's Own) at Chatham, and at the end of the year was sent out with a draft of recruits to join the regiment at Sydney. After remaining there for about three months, during which time their principal duty was that of guarding convicts, the draft followed the rest of the regiment to Madras. The ship in which they were despatched, the Ferguson, was wrecked in Torres Straits, but the crew and soldiers were picked up by the vessels Orient and Marquess of Hastings. From Madras they went on to Calcutta, and about three months later the regiment was ordered to Chinsura, and later to Burmah. After a stay of six months it was again ordered to Chinsura. Three months later it left for Gazepoor, and then marched to Cawnpore. Taking part in the Gwalior campaign against the Mahrattas, Hale was present at the battle of Punnar, December 29th, 1843, for which he received the bronze star. The regiment afterwards marched through Meerut to Loodiand, and was engaged in the Sutlej campaign, against the Sikhs, 1845-6. Hale took part in the battles of Moodkee, December 18th, 1845, Ferozeshuhur, December 21st and 22nd, 1845, Aliwal, January 28th, 1846, and Sobraon, February 10th, 1846. He received the medal for Moodkee, and three bars for the other engagements. During the action at Ferozeshuhur, on the night of December 21st, he captured a horse from the enemy for his commanding officer, Colonel Ryan, whose horse had been shot, and on the 22nd, while under fire, he procured water for the horse of the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Hugh Gough. At the battle of Sobraon he took the regimental colour from the hands of a wounded officer (Lieut. Needham), and handed it to another officer (Lieut. Carter). He also captured a Sikh Colour, which now hangs in Maidstone Parish Church. After the campaign, the 50th moved again to Loodiand, and while there a disaster happened which terminated Hale's active military career. On May 20th, 1846, a terrific hurricane wrecked the quarters of nine companies,

a great many soldiers, besides women and children, being killed. Hale was so seriously injured that, after being in hospital two months, he was invalided home, and in 1847 was discharged, on a small pension, as unfit for further service. Many years later, his pension was increased for the part he took in the battle of Sobraon in capturing the Sikh colour. He afterwards joined the Berkshire Militia, and during the time of the war in the Crimea was very successful in obtaining recruits for the Regular Army, and was also stationed with the Militia at Corfu for nearly a year. He subsequently acted as drum-major in the 19th Berkshire (Reading) Volunteers. At this time he adopted a complete red uniform, including cap, for his own protection while at the targets. The commanding officer was so pleased with the idea that he allowed Hale to wear it regularly as his uniform. He appeared in this dress at the grand review in Hyde Park in 1861, when the Duke of Cambridge inquired the meaning of the unique uniform. On being informed, he repeated it to the Queen, whose attention was drawn to the hero of Sobraon. For the last twenty-seven years Hale stood at the corner of Chancery Lane and Fleet Street as a licensed messenger. His pension, increased by the little he earned in taking messages, enabled him to support his wife and himself, but the infirmities of age, and a growing deafness (a legacy from the injuries received at Loodiand), pressed severely on poor old "Redcap." On Sept. 30 he was knocked down and severely injured by a van in Fleet Street, and he died last Saturday, within five days of his eighty-second birthday.

Daily Graphic,

At the inquest held the jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

Sergt.-Major B. H. Grellier was present at the funeral to represent the Regiment, and took a wreath sent by the officers of the Depot. Another representative was present in the person of W. Adams, late 50th Regiment, who is the author of a piece of poetry on Chelsea Hospital, which we regret being unable to find space for. Pte. Hale leaves a widow.

REGIMENTAL COMPASSIONATE FUND.

The Officer commanding 50th Regimental District acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following amounts for the Regimental Compassionate Fund:—

DONATIONS.

	£	s.	d.
D. Forester Walker, Esq.	1	0	0
Major H. Isacke	0	10	0
2nd Batt. R.I.	10	0	0
Balance of Regimental Memorial Fund in accordance with wishes of Sub- scribers	46	11	9

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION.

Major H. Isackes	0	10	0
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Wellington.

15th September, 1903.

DEAR COLONEL BROCK,

I have to thank you for your letter of August 11th informing me that £5 has been paid to credit at the Bank of New Zealand in London as a donation towards the Veterans' Home from the Compassionate Fund of the Royal West Kent Regiment. I again thank you for the sympathy shown towards the movement, and I am glad to inform you that our Home is now built, and we trust to have 40 inhabitants selected within the next two months. I may add that we have had over 200 applications for the vacancies, and most of these selected will have seen service in the Mutiny or in the Crimea, and all of them will have good characters.

Believe me,

Yours very faithfully,

RANFURLEY.

BIRTH.

At Maidstone, on Oct. 1st, the wife of Lance-Corporal G. Bance, Depot, of twins, girl and boy.

DEATH.

2nd BATTALION.

At Ceylon, on Sept. 5th, 1903, No. 5894 Pte. A. W. Gilbert (internal hæmorrhage).

THE TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

The Officers of both the Line Battalions and Depots, 4s. per month.

Other Subscribers, 3s. per year, including postage.

Copies will be sold at 1d. per Number to Non-Commissioned Officers and Men serving with the Colours. If sent by post 1s. 6d. per year.

Extra Copies or back numbers can always be supplied.

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"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS
OF

THE QUEEN'S OWN (ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT).

No. 342.

MAIDSTONE, DECEMBER 1903.

[Vol. XXI, No. 12.]

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

LINE BATTALIONS.

Supernumary Capt. S. H. Pedley to be Capt. 16th July.
Lieut. P. S. Hall resigns his Commission, dated 7th Oct.
Gent. Cadet F. Fisher, from R. Military College, to be
2nd Lieut., dated 10th October, 1903.

Major E. D. Caird, Ordnance Officer, 3rd Class, to be
Ordnance Officer, 2nd Class, dated 8th September, 1903.

Gent. Cadet F. J. Hearle, from R. Military College, to
be 2nd Lieut., dated 4th November, 1903.

Supernumary Lieut. R. J. T. Hilyard, to be Lieut.,
dated 22nd November, 1903.

1ST BATTALION.

Promoted Col.-Sergt., Srgt. J. Saunders, 1st Oct., 1903.
Promoted Corpl., Lce.-Corpl. F. Russell, 23rd Nov., 1903.
Appointed Lce.-Corpls., Ptes. A. Ackland, 3rd Nov.
1903, and J. Baker, 21st November, 1903.

DEPOT.

Appointed Lce.-Sergt., Corpl. W. Collins, vice Lce.-
Sergt. Davidson, transferred to the Army Reserve,
1st November, 1903.

3RD BATTALION.

Supernumary Capt. G. Wilson, is absorbed into the
establishment, dated 10th October, 1903.

Lieut. K. L. Cameron resigns his Commission, dated 31st
October, 1903.

1ST VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Cadet Corps (Skinner's School), William E. Beck, Gent.,
to be Lieut., dated 14th November.

2ND VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Capt. (Honorary Capt. in Army) G. Morpew, is granted
the Honorary rank of Major, dated 31st October.

3RD VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

The undermentioned Gentlemen to be 2nd Lieuts:—
E. T. Williams, P. H. F. Buchler, and S. M. Priday,
dated 28th November.

4TH VOLUNTEER BATTALION

Lieut.-Col. and Hon Col. F. A. Newington resigns
his Commission with permission to retain his rank and to
wear the Uniform of the Battalion on retirement, dated
10th October, 1903.

Lieut. W. J. Woodman resigns his Commission, is
appointed Surgeon-Lieut, and is borne as Supernumary
whilst commanding the West Kent Volunteer Infantry
Brigade Bearer Company, dated 10th October.

Qr.-Mstr. and Hon. Lieut. H. Hayman is granted the
Hon. rank of Captain, dated 10th October.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Our football team has been undergoing some severe train-
ing since I last wrote to you, but we are sadly deficient in
pace, especially in the forward line, where it is so necessary.

The weakest spot in the team is in the forward line, and
your correspondent has frequently noticed the excellent
chances thrown away by too much finicking work by the
wing men. They apparently will not understand, much to
their trainer's disappointment and in spite of copious in-
structions, that their object is to get the ball rapidly down
the wings and then work it to the centre. They prefer to
show how excellent they are in running circles round one
of their opponents, and end by losing the ball without gain-
ing an inch of ground. Our two backs are good and the
halves very fair, the centre forward and the two insides are
moderate but too slow in pace, and they appear to find it
impossible to steady themselves sufficiently to shoot a goal
with any vigour.

We played the 1st Royal Dragoons again on the 4th November, and though we had the best of the game throughout our opponents were faster, and whenever one of them got away he generally succeeded in scoring. The result was a tie, three goals all.

The same thing occurred in our match against the Buffs on the 7th November. The ball was in our opponents half nearly all the game; they broke away, however, occasionally and scored because we were not fast enough to catch them. The Buffs won the game by 4 goals to 2. The ground was in a wretched condition, and the goalkeeper scarcely being able to stand in the thick mud had small chance of stopping a decent shot.

We met our old opponents, the 2nd South Lancashire Regiment, on the 18th November in the Army Cup, and were beaten by 5 goals to 1. The game was wonderfully even despite the contradictory look of the score, and for the first half we really had the best of the game. Oh for someone who could shoot a few goals when they get a sitting shot! The South Lancashires only got up to our goal twice in the first half, but they scored both times, while we were peppering away at theirs for more than half-an-hour without result. In the second half the South Lancashires had their turn with the wind at their backs and kept us hard at work defending. They got three more goals, but two of them were from scrimmages in front of goal. However, they pressed us all the second half, and our backs did great service in keeping them out so well. I hope I have not spoken too strongly about the team; perhaps they will take it to heart when they see it in print and know that the greatest wish of your correspondent is to see them improve.

HOCKEY.

We have had some very pleasant games of hockey this month. The Garrison cricket ground has been placed at the disposal of Regiments, and we have taken every advantage of it.

Folkestone, who can turn out a very powerful team, and did not forget to do so when we played them on the 20th October, beat us soundly by 8 goals to 3; Second-Lieutenant Phillips (2 goals) Lance-Sergeant Payne (1 goal). It was our first game, and the team wants to practise together, and I am sure should render a good account of themselves. We played the Royal Field Artillery on 2nd November, and, fortune helping us, we won fairly easily by 4 goals to love; Captain O'Dowda (2), Second-Lieutenant Hoare (1), Corporal Lee (1). On the 14th November we played Sandling Park on the Garrison ground. It was an excellent game, and after a struggle we won by 2 goals to 1; Captain O'Dowda (1), Second-Lieutenant Phillips (1). The ground was wet and heavy, otherwise the score would have been heavier. We are going to play the Yorks and Lancs. at Dover on Thursday next, when I hope to be able to tell you next month that the team is improving.

It was with the deepest feelings of regret that we heard of the sad death of Lieutenant Luard, who died of enteric fever in Somaliland. We offer our sincerest sympathy to his sorrowing parents.

We have been trying to shoot for the Queen Victoria Cup, but the weather has been so hopeless that so far only one of the practices has been finished (200 yards), and then the wind was too strong to permit of accurate shooting. I hope to give you further news next month.

1ST BATTALION CORRESPONDENT.

RECRUITS AT EASTBOURNE.

On October 14th a party of 120 N.C.O's and men under the command of Captain Hotham went to Eastbourne to fire a Recruits' course of Musketry. Second-Lieutenants Waring, Helmore, and Humphreys also accompanied the party. The officers had to put up in lodgings, but the men were quartered in an old redoubt on the sea front, where the rooms are below the level of the ground and consequently somewhat damp and uncomfortable, but the amusements of the town, consisting of three theatres and sundry other attractions, of which the less said the better, quite counter-balanced the discomforts of the quarters. The people of the town seemed unaccustomed to troops, as whenever we went to the range we excited great interest and were followed by crowds of shouting children. The range, which belongs to the town and not to Government, is not fitted up with the latest improvements. There are only four targets and no telephone, and the targets themselves were in varying stages of decay. The shooting on the whole was good, only eight men out of 100 exercised were put back, and the party averaged 276.61 on the first three parts. We returned to headquarters on November 6th after a stay of just over three weeks. Many of us hope to be sent to Eastbourne again, but this is improbable, as the authorities consider the expense too great. A word of thanks is due to the Permanent Staff of the Sussex Artillery Militia who did everything they could to help us.

The Sergeants of the Battalion had their annual prize shooting competition on the 2nd November. The feature of the match is that all members firing obtain a prize. The conditions were:

- 5 rounds at 200 yards, Bisley target.
- 5 „ at running man.
- 5 „ at snap shooting.

Sergts. Brown and Osborne tied for first place with the fine score of 51 out of a possible 55, but were closely followed by Col.-Sergt. Colyer and Sergt. Ashby.

The prizes given this year were of a most useful kind, comprising watches, shirts, tea sets, etc. Sergt. Woolmer was the lucky man of the meeting, as, besides winning a prize, he had a spoon to carry it home on.

On the 1st inst. the prizes were presented to the various winners by the Commanding Officer at a smoking concert held in the mess. All the officers at headquarters attended, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Some good songs were sung. Amongst those I would mention Sergt. Seaton, Sergt. Osborne, and Sergt. Naylor. The latter rendered a song of his own composition, showing how sergeants at Eastbourne enjoy themselves when at musketry.

1ST BATTALION INTELLIGENCE.

Sergt. G. Seaton has qualified in musketry at School of Musketry, Hythe.

Lance-Sergt. Harris and Lance-Sergt. J. Kingham have re-engaged to complete 21 years' service.

Ptes. G. Holland and E. Pronger have been permitted to extend their service to 12 years, and Private F. Mody to 8 years.

Lance-Corpl. J. Francis, Dr. W. Bromley, Ptes. W. Cowlard and W. Davey have been discharged on completing their first period.

Private H. Wraith has been transferred to the Royal Dublin Fusiliers.

Lance-Sergt. T. Edwards, Ptes. E. Stone, W. Hannay, G. Blencoe, S. Cook, W. Reeve, J. Pettitt, A. Marshall, E. Saunders, and F. Hutchings have been transferred to the Army Reserve.

Corporal E. Soughton has been granted a certificate from School of Cookery, Aldershot.

Pte. L. Hale.

TRIBUTE TO AN OLD WARRIOR.

An old military hero, Private Leonard Hale, late of the 50th Foot, now the 1st Battalion Royal West Kent Regt., passed away recently in London at the advanced age of 83 years. He lived at Neville Court, Fetter-lane, and was well known in Fleet Street as a licensed messenger. For thirty years he stood at the corner of Chancery lane wearing a red peaked cap and his medals, among them being those for service in the Sikh and Crimean wars. He was on September 30th crossing Fetter Lane when he was knocked down by the horses attached to a trolley and died some weeks later. He was buried in Ilford Cemetery after a service at St. Dunstan's Church, Fleet Street, and among those present was Sergt.-Major Grellier, of the Maidstone Depot, who placed a beautiful white wreath on the coffin, the tribute of the officers and men of the West Kent. It was Private Hale who helped Corporal Johnson, another gallant soldier of the old 50th, to capture the Sikh colours during one of the fiercest and most sanguinary wars in the history of our great eastern dependency, and for some years past these colours have hung on the walls of All Saints', Maidstone, the garrison church of the West Kent Depot. On Sunday morning Canon Joy, the vicar, who is also chaplain to the forces, standing in the north aisle, immediately opposite the captured colours, addressed the officers and men of the Depot as follows: I ask you to-day to join in rendering our last tribute of respect to a comrade of our own, one of the old 50th. Leonard Hale was only a private, but he was a true man every inch of him, and the Sikh colours that hang on these sacred walls, and whose story you all know so well, tell us what manner of man he was. He and his comrade, Corporal Johnson, captured these colours, and so long as they hang upon these sacred walls so long the names of Corporal

Johnson and Private Hale will not be forgotten by the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. Private Hale was a man who was true to the traditions of our glorious motto, "Quo fas et gloria ducunt"—where duty and glory lead. In this life we have to obey the call of duty, and we doubt not that in the hereafter of our great Christian hope our departed comrade has received the call to glory. The buglers of the Depot then sounded the "Last Post" as a final tribute to him whose daring bravery added not a little to the splendid traditions of one of the oldest and most famous regiments of the British army. At the foot of the case containing the Sikh colours is a brass plate bearing the inscription:—"These colours were captured from the Sikhs by Corporal Johnson and Private Hale, 50th Queen's Own Regiment, at the battles of Sobraon and Ferozeshah."

Private Hale's widow, being anxious that the old regiment should have possession of his medals, consented to part with them to Colonel Brock, who has presented them to the officers of the 1st Battalion. Everyone at the Depot had the privilege of seeing them on Nov. 24th before they were sent to the 1st Battalion. Mrs. Hale also presented her husband's walking-stick to Sergt.-Major Grellier, who has very kindly passed this on also to the 1st Battalion.

THE LATE LIEUT. LUARD.

In memory of the gallant young officer referred to below, Lieut. Eric Dalbiac Luard, a most impressive service was held on Wednesday, 25th November, in the Parish Church of St. Peter, at Ightham. At the request of the parents of the deceased officer, the service was conducted by the Rev. Julian Guise, rector of Addington, who was assisted by the Rev. J. A. Heslop, curate of Ightham. The processional hymn was "Fight the Good Fight," after which the 39th Psalm was read, followed by part of the fourth chapter of St. Paul's First Epistle to the Thessalonians, commencing at the 13th verse. To this succeeded hymn 165 (the favourite hymn of Winchester College), "Oh God, our help in ages past," followed by prayers, and a short address by the Rev. Julian Guise.

The themes on which the preacher most pathetically dwelt were "Love and duty," concluding with the lines:—

"He prayeth best who loveth best,
All things both great and small,
For the great God who dwells above,
He made and loves them all."

This was followed by hymn 537, "Peace, perfect peace." Immediately after the conclusion of that hymn the buglers (six) from the Depot at Maidstone of the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regt.), to which the deceased officer had belonged, sounded the "Last Post." The Benediction was then given, and the service ended with the "Auf Wiedersehen," most solemnly rendered by the organist of the parish, Mr. W. G. Hardeman.

The beautiful little Church was more than filled with parishioners and friends, who came to do honour to the dead, including the following representatives of his regiment:—Colonel Brock, commanding the district; Colonel Harrison, commanding 1st Battalion; Captains Pack Beresford, Lister, and Burt; Lieuts. Hickson, Elgood, Belgrave, Hildyard, and Pullman; 2nd Lieut. Helmore; Captain and Quarter-Master Couch, Sergt.-Majors Grellier and Outten, and eight Sergeants.

In addition to the father and mother of the deceased (Major-General and Mrs. Luard), the following friends and relations and very many others attended the service:—Colonel Warde, M.P., and Mrs. Warde, Collet, Mrs. Fredk. and Miss Norman Mr. and Mrs. Edward Norman, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Matthews, Mr. T. Hartley, Mrs. and Miss Maud, Lady Church and Miss Church, Mr. John Church, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Willink, Mrs. Provost, Mrs. and the Misses Wilkinson (2), the Ladies Pratt, General and Mrs. Goldsworthy, Colonel and Mrs. Wyndham Bailey, Captain and Mrs. Lewis and the Misses Gregory, Mr., Mrs., and the Misses Monckton, Mr. and Mrs. B. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. G. Stanley, Messrs. Kilburn and Williams (churchwardens), Mr. Parks, Mr. and Mrs. Tompkin, Mr. H. Marks, Mr. King, Mr. Darling, the Misses McCleverty, Rev. Prof. Church and family, Mr., Mrs., and Miss MacDermot, Mr. and Misses Mist, Miss Bell, Mrs. East, Mr. J. Johnson, Mr. J. and Mrs. Palmer, Mr. W. Daniels, Miss Poole, Mr. F. A. Forbes, Mr. and Mrs. Weekes, the Hon. and Rev. E. Bligh, General, Mrs., and Miss Kemball, Dr. and Mrs. E. Walker, Mr. and the Misses Cooper, etc.

In addition to the Ightham choir, that of the adjoining parish of Seal St. Lawrence was permitted, at its own request, to join the former, part of the combined choirs being in the chancel and part in the chapel of St. Catherine, now known as "The Mote Pew." The only flowers permitted in the church, those on the altar, were beautifully arranged by one of the servants from Ightham Knoll, Harriet Huish. The seating of the large congregation was undertaken by the churchwardens, Messrs. J. Williams and Burleigh Kilburn.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

The late Lieut. E. D. Luard, who died of typhoid fever on the 13th November at Garrero, in the course of the Somaliland campaign, was born on April 16th, 1878, and was consequently in his 26th year. After being educated at Bilton Grange, and subsequently at Winchester College, he was appointed to the Worcestershire Militia, then commanded by his godfather, Colonel Prescott Decie. He obtained his commission in the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) on the 12th January, 1898, and, after serving in Ireland and at Chatham, proceeded with the 2nd Batt. to Alexandria. Soon after the outbreak of the South African war that Battalion was ordered home, and, after ten days in England, sailed for South Africa. The record of active service of the Royal West Kent during that war is

almost identical with that of Lieut. Luard, who was never reported sick during those years of trial and privation.

This part of his record is contained in the official Army List, and runs as follows:—"Operations in the Orange Free State, April and May, 1900; operations in the Orange River Colony, May to 29th November, including actions at Biddulphsberg and Wittebergen (1st to 29th July); operations in Cape Colony, South of Orange River, 1900; operations in the Transvaal, Sept., 1901, to November, 1901, and May, 1902; operations in Orange River Colony, 30th November, 1900, to September, 1901, and November, 1901, to May, 1902; operations on the Zululand frontier of Natal in September and October in 1901. Queen's medal with three clasps and King's medal with two clasps."

He returned home with drafts of men for discharge in September, 1902, when he was presented with an address of congratulation by the inhabitants of Ightham, and he rejoined his regiment in Ceylon in January of this year.

Last May he was specially selected by the Commander-in-Chief for service with the King's African Rifles in Somaliland, and was appointed to the 2nd Batt., his brother, Capt. C. E. Luard, D.S.O., being a company commander in the 1st Battalion, also now in Somaliland. He had for some time been in command of a fort at Olesan, and had just taken part in the concentration of the Brigade of King's African Rifles for the renewed expedition against the Mullah (now in progress), when he was seized with the fever, which in a few days terminated the existence of a man of great strength, of splendid constitution, of activity, and powers of endurance rarely surpassed.

He is dead, but, writes one who knew him well, no one who ever knew Eric Luard was not the better for that knowledge. They knew him as a modest gentleman, a most faithful friend, proud of his village, his regiment, and his race. His many friends, his King, and England, are all the poorer to-day for the blow which struck down in his prime one who bore himself so gallantly in every phase of life.

Major-General Luard, late R.E., has generously offered to the Depot a miniature rifle range for the amusement and training of recruits, in commemoration of his son, Lieut. E. D. Luard, who was himself an excellent shot and an enthusiast in rifle shooting. This generous present has been accepted by the Officer Commanding 50th Regimental District, and it will be called "The Luard Miniature Rifle Range."

All ranks wish to convey their deepest thanks to General Luard, and will value the present, not only for its own use, but owing to the name of his son, which the range will bear as a memento of a gallant soldier and true comrade.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I am sending you a copy of two * orders published by Colonel Morland, the Commandant of the West African Frontier Force.

I cannot but think that they will both prove interesting to all who belong to the regiment, the former because it contains words of great and deserving tribute to the memory of one whom we could ill afford to lose, and who was a personal friend of many of us.

The latter because, though only a brief and official account, of a small and comparatively unimportant action, fought 150 miles S.W. of Lake Chad; yet an action at which three officers of the regiment were present, *i.e.* Major F. C. Marsh, Captain E. M. Robinson, and Lieut. J. C. Parker.

Yours sincerely,

PINK.

Lokoja, 20th Oct., 1903.

The first of these orders has already been published.—Ed.

A report has been received from Major Barlow to the effect that Burmi was captured by the Banchi Expeditionary Force on 27th July after severe fighting.

The ex-Sultan of Sokoto, Alkalis of Kano and Sokoto, Maidakin, Kano, Sarikin Tejari, Sarikin Bajoga, and practically all the irreconcilable chiefs in the Protectorate were killed, and some 700 of their followers and the inhabitants of Burmi.

The casualties on our side killed were Major Marsh, four soldiers, six carriers, severely wounded; Captain Hamilton-Browne; slightly wounded, Major Plummer, Capt. Lewis; wounded 62 men, seven carriers, chiefly slight.

The complete success of this action reflects the very greatest credit on all concerned, and is only marred by the death of their gallant commander.

The force engaged numbered about 25 Europeans, 500 rank and file, four maxims, and one 75 m/m gun.

DEPOT INTELLIGENCE.

The following have obtained certificates of education:—

Second class—Dr. R. Verrall, P.S. 3rd Battalion. Third Class—Dr. T. Evans, P.S. 3rd Battalion Privates A. Dryden, O. Rogers, F. Lauder, T. Rooke, C. Womersley, J. Cox, W. Walker, G. Tweedale, and G. Hyland.

Pte. H. Page has been transferred to the Duke of Cornwall's L.I. to serve with an elder brother.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of the Rev. Canon Joy, Vicar of Maidstone, and acting Chaplain to the Troops. All who knew him respected and loved him, and the interest he took in all of us, soldiers, was of the greatest. No portion of All Saints' Church was dearer to him than the many memorials of our comrades, and it will be remembered that he especially desired to be allowed to contribute to the South African Memorial Window, in his capacity as Chaplain to the Depot of the Regiment. The Officers, N.C.O.'s, and Men of the Depot, R. W. Kent Regiment, attended the funeral, and wreaths were sent by the Officers, and by the N.C.O.'s and Men.

DEPOT FOOTBALL NOTES.

During November we have proved rather more successful in the football field, having won four times out of six. In our League matches we have now won three and lost two games, and, at the time of writing, divide the third place in the League table with the M.C.I. Wanderers. The first two matches in November have already been reported.

On November 14th we played a League match—v. Tovil—on the home ground. A first rate game resulted in a win for the Depot by one goal to love, thanks partly to the sporting conduct of our opponents in allowing us to replace Col.-Sergt. Bass, who was hurt in the first few minutes of play.

On the 18th we played a friendly match—v. the M.C.I. Wanderers Wednesday team—at the Barrack Fields, beating them by 5 goals to nil.

Saturday, 21st, League match—v. Snodland—played on our opponents' ground. The play throughout was of a very even order. In the first half Snodland managed to find the net with a shot which was, perhaps, helped a little by the wind, and this was the only score during the match. The home team thus won by 1 goal to nil.

November 28th—v. Malling.—A League match was played on the Barrack Field. Our team were better together and showed more of that combination which is so essential for success, winning a good game by 2 goals to 1.

The following are regular players in the team:—Goal-keeper, Corp. Cassidy; backs, Sergt. Tapp and Dr. Verrall; halves, Col.-Sergt. Crouch, Sergt. McGregor, and Col.-Sergt. Neighbour or Sergt. Pond; forwards, Sergt. Jarrad, Dr. Sweeney, and Corp. Walker, the remaining two places being filled by recruits, of whom the following have played: Pte. Stapley and Pte. Russell.

The table of the Company Competition is appended:—

Coy.	Plyd.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Goals.	Points.
A	5	3	1	1	25	16
D	5	3	2	0	23	6
C	5	2	3	0	10	23
B	5	1	3	1	10	23

There has been a reversal of form on the part of D Company, who have sustained two defeats by C and B.

LIST OF FIXTURES, 1904.

Date.	Opponents.	Ground.
Jan. 6 ..	Colonnade A.F.C.....	Home
„ 16..	1st Provisional Battalion	Dover
„ 20..	2nd South Lancashire Regiment	Home
„ 27..	The Buffs	Dover
Feb. 17..	Pleydell A.F.C.....	Away
„ 24..	2nd York and Lancashire Regt... ..	Dover
March 16..	Folkestone Wednesday	Folkestone ..
„ 19..	Holy Trinity Church F.C.	Home
Easter Mon.	Waverley Athletic F.C.	Ashley Park

3rd BATTALION NOTES.

Major J. P. Dalison has been granted leave to travel in Egypt and the Soudan, and Captain and Hon. Major A. C. Pine has been granted leave to travel in Australia until the end of March next.

We hear that Sergt. Hyde is being sent home with a view to his being posted to the permanent staff from the 2nd Battalion

Our new Militia Reserve is gradually increasing, as up to the present about 140 have joined.

Seeing that some have served in the Royal Horse and King's Dragoon Guards, Royal Horse, Royal Field and Royal Garrison Artillery, Lancers, Hussars, and Foot Guards, not to speak of Army Ordnance and Army Service Corps, and, of course, Infantry, one wonders what will happen when they are called out for drill.

As regards the different branches of the service, they form a little Army Corps in themselves, and provided the kindly public supply the equipment, one may yet see a battery of Royal West Kent Artillery, a squadron of Royal West Kent Cavalry, and a supply and transport branch of the 3rd Battalion.

TO THE EDITOR "QUEEN'S OWN GAZETTE."

SIR,—Some three weeks ago I received a letter from an ex-Colour Sergeant (now a pensioner) asking my assistance with a view to getting up an annual dinner for the sergeants past and present of the whole of the Royal West Kent Regiment, to include Regulars, Militia, and Volunteers. I thought the matter over, and the attached rules in connection with the same have been drawn up, which, I think, would tend to keep us all in touch with one another, whether we were serving or not; and, it appeared to me, with such an association, we could, perhaps, help many of the widows and orphans of ex-sergeants of the regiment.

I would now ask your assistance by publishing this letter and attached copy of rules in the next issue of *The Queen's Own Gazette* in order that the suggestion mentioned above may become an accomplished fact, and which, I feel sure, would be beneficial to the whole regiment whether serving or not.

Of course, the sergeants serving with the Battalion abroad could not attend the annual dinner unless they happened to be home on leave, but by becoming members of the association it would help to keep up that comradeship and old associations with which the regiment has so long been connected.

All entrance fees, &c., should be made payable to Sergeant-major J. Outten, and should be addressed to "The Secretaries Sergeants' Association, the Barracks, Maidstone."

Your obedient servant,

H. BASS,

Qr.-Mr. Sergt.,

Honorary Secretary, pro. tem.

RULES.

1.—TITLE.—That this association be called "The Association of Sergeants of the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment."

2.—MEMBERSHIP.—That all warrant officers, staff sergeants, sergeants, and lance-sergeants, past and present who have served with the Line, Militia, and Volunteer Battalions be eligible for membership.

3.—SUBSCRIPTIONS.—That the entrance fee be 1s, and the annual subscription 1s. The annual subscription to be payable on 1st of April.

4.—MANAGEMENT.—That the Association be governed by a Council, consisting of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Honorary Secretary, and Committee of Management.

5.—OFFICERS.—That the Regimental District Sergeant-major for the time being be appointed treasurer, and that the secretary keep a register of all members and account for all sums received and expended. That the Committee of Management consist of three elected members of the Association, the treasurer, and honorary secretary.

6.—ANNUAL DINNER.—That an annual dinner be held in January of each year, at a time and place to be arranged by the Committee of Management, and that the secretary give due notice of such dinner to all members. That the subscription to such dinner be 3s. 6d.

7.—ACCOUNTS.—That the accounts be audited by an auditor to be appointed annually, and that a printed balance sheet and list of members be sent to each member each year.

8.—FUNDS.—That any accumulated funds be deposited with the Bank, and be devoted to the management of the Association or other purpose in such manner as the Committee of Management may think fit, whose decision in any matter not provided for in these rules shall be final.

The Barracks, Maidstone.

REGIMENTAL COMPASSIONATE FUND.

Colonel T. H. Brock, commanding 50th Regimental District, acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following sums :—

	Donation.	Annual Subscription.
Lieut.-Col. W. G. B. Western, C.B.	1 0 0	
Major W. E. Rowe	1 0 0	
Captain Moody		0 10 0
Captain E. F. Venables	0 10 0	0 10 0
Captain P. Hastings	1 0 0	
„ J. Joslin	0 10 0	
Lieut. G. Elgood	0 5 0	0 10 0*
„ H. Pullman,	0 5 0	0 10 0*
Captain M. F. Buckle, D.S.O. ...	0 10 0	0 10 0

* Two years.

VOLUNTEER INTELLIGENCE.

2nd BATTALION.—A, B, G and H COMPANIES.

The annual prize giving and smoking concert took place on Saturday evening, 28th November at the Portland Hotel, London Street, Greenwich. Capt. A. Chauncy (A and B Companies), who presided, supported by Lieut.-Col. F. W. Frigout, V.D., who distributed the prizes, Lieut.-Col. Kent-Lemon, V.D., Captain and Adjutant Simpson, Capt. A. Pownall (G Company), Capt. E. J. Dolphin (H Company), and Lieut. Watson. Col. Frigout, who joined the battalion as far back as 1859, and only retired a couple of years ago, spoke of the great interest he continued to take in all the doings of the battalion. He thanked the officers for asking him to distribute the prizes. An excellent musical programme was contributed.

The board of officers convened in camp to judge the general work of the Companies throughout the year have awarded the Field Officers' Challenge Cup to C (Dartford) Company. The commanding officer has accepted with regret the resignation, after 32 years' service, of Quartermaster-Sergt. A. Perry (C Company), who has been granted permission to retain his rank and wear the uniform of the battalion, with the letter "R" on the shoulder-straps.

“THE LYDDITES.”

Oh! the working Detachment at Lydd,
 Their valour could never be hid;
 For they worked all the day,
 But all labour was play
 To the West Kent Detachment at Lydd.

If I sing all the deeds that they did,
 My song would be cheap at a quid;
 But to give them their dues,
 I'll just mention a few
 Of the deeds of the party at Lydd.

Each morning at breaking of day,
 They'd turn out for work blythe and gay;
 But the principal part,
 Of the joy in each heart,
 Was the thought of their Engineer Pay.

With their chums of the gallant R.E.,
 They were jolly as jolly could be;
 As with crowbars and nails,
 Shifting sleepers and rails,
 They patched up the line by the sea.

(It would open your peepers,
 To see all the sleepers,
 They laid on that line by the sea).

On the railway they'd always combine,
 And their skill was remarkably fine;
 With their shovels and picks,
 They could show you some tricks,
 When clearing the grass from the line.

They may talk of the sailors in blue,
 Who are capable all things to do;
 But there's no sort of work
 That the soldier will shirk,
 For our Tommy's a "handyman" too.

So here's luck to the party at Lydd,
 And the plate-laying work that they did;
 "Men of Kent," bold and true,
 Here's a bumper to you,
 Engineering "INVICTAS" at Lydd.

A Games Competition took place on December 10th, 1903, at the "Duke of Marlborough" between the Staff Serjts, and Serjts. of the Depot and the Serjts. of the Maidstone Detachment of Volunteers, 1st V.B., W.K. Regt, when a most enjoyable evening was spent. After a very keen contest the Volunteers were successful by the narrow margin of one point. The following is the result of the various games:—

WHIST.

VOLUNTEERS.		DEPOT.	
Serjts. W. Meades and Baber	2	Clr.-Serjts. Bass and McVicar	1
Serjts. Horton and Band Mstr.		Clr.-Serjts. Pearson and	
Hunt	0	Neighbour	2
Serjts.-Instr. Evans and Serjts.		S.M. Outten and S. I. Perry	1
F. Meades	2	Serjts. Pye & Clr.-Serjts. Seager	1
Clr.-Serjts. Hughes and Serjts.		Serjts. Daykin and S. I. Perry	1
W. Day	2	Clr.-Serjts. Pearson and	
Serjts. H. Lockyer and Avery	2	Neighbour	2
Serjts. Horton and Baber	0		

TWENTY FIVES.

Clr.-Serjts. Nichols and Upton	2	Serjts.-Maj. Grellier and	
Band Master Hunt and Serjts.		Serjts. McGregor	1
Meades, W.	0	Clr.-Serjts. Bass & Serjts. McVicar	2

DRAUGHTS.

Serjts. Avery	0	Serjts. Sharp	2
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FOUR HAND CRIB.

Clr.-Serjts. A. Lockyer and Serjts.		Clr.-Serjts. Hunt & Clr.-Serjts.	
Harden	1	Taylor	2
Clr.-Serjts. Cogger and Serjts.		S.-Serjts. Parry and Serjts.	
Haswell, F.	2.2	Reeves	1.0
Serjts. Horton and Band Mas-		Clr.-Serjts. Pearson and Clr.-	
ter Hunt	2	Serjts. Neighbour	0

SINGLE CRIB.

Serjts. Lockyer, H.	2	Serjts. Sharp	1
Serjts. Horton	2	Clr.-Serjts. Neighbour	1
Serjts. Baber	0	Clr.-Serjts. Pearson	2
Grand total	21	Grand total	20

There were thus seventeen competitions—the Volunteers winning ten and the Depot seven, but on counting the points of the Games the margin, as will be seen, was very narrow.

Serjts.-Major Outten, in a few chosen words, heartily thanked the members of the Volunteers' Mess for their kindness in inviting them there that evening, and hoped they would have an equally pleasant time when the return visit took place at the Depot.

Bandmaster Hunt, President of the Volunteers' Mess, suitably responded.

BIRTH.

At Shorncliffe, on Oct. 12th, the wife of Dr. F. Edmonds of a son.

MARRIAGES.

At St. Peter's, Greenwich, on November 22nd, 1903, Serjts.-Dr. W. Lush to Mary Jane Booth.

At St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey, on October 31st, 1903, Serjts. W. L. Page to Elizabeth Amy Murrunt.

At St. George's, Greenwich, on November 14th, 1903, Serjts. J. Wren to Susan Morgan.

At All Hallows, East India Docks, on October 27th, 1903, Serjts. A. Davis to Jane Davis.

At St. Thomas's, Bethnal Green, on November 21st, 1903, Lance-Corpl. J. J. Keyte to Ann Douglas.

At Michael's, Folkestone, on November 14th, 1903, Lance-Serjts. E. C. Skiggs to Annie Steel.

At the Parish Church, Sandgate, on November 14th, 1903, Corpl. J. T. Smith to Clara Allard.

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