



THE  
**DIE-HARDS**

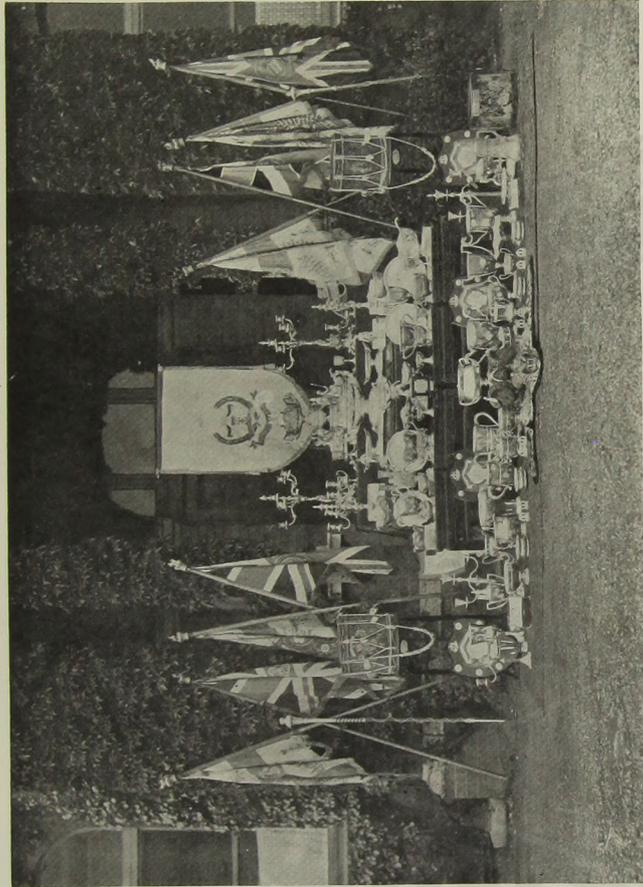
*The Journal of*

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

*(Duke of Cambridge's Own)*

**August 1923**

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[Photo by Mr. E. Morris, late Col. Serjeant, Middlesex Regiment.]

The Colours of 3rd and 4th Regular Battalions (disbanded in 1922) and 5th and 6th Militia Battalions. The majority of this Mess Plate was deposited at the Depot by the 3rd and 4th Battalions.

Copies of the above photograph can be obtained through the Editor of "The Die-Hards."

# THE DIE-HARDS

## THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

VOL. I. No. 5.

AUGUST, 1923.

PRICE 9D.

### THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN).

[57].

"Shires" Area  
 The Plume of the Prince of Wales. In each of the four corners the late Duke of Cambridge's Cypher and Coronet.  
 "Mysore," "Seringsapatam," "Albuhera," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vitoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Peninsula," "Alma," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol," "New Zealand," "South Africa, 1879," "Relief of Ladysmith," "South Africa, 1900-02."  
 Agents—Messrs. Lloyds.

#### Regular and Militia Battalions.

Uniform—Scarlet. Facings—Lemon Yellow.  
 1st Bn. (57th Foot) ... Rhine.  
 2nd Bn. (77th Foot) ... Singapore.  
 5th Bn. (R. Elthorne Mil.) ... Mill Hill.  
 6th Bn. (R. East Middlesex Mil.) ... Mill Hill.  
 Depot—Mill Hill. Record Office—Hounslow.

#### Territorial Army Battalions.

7th Bn. ... Drill Hall, Priory Road, Hornsey, N.  
 8th Bn. ... Drill Hall, Hanworth Road, Hounslow.  
 9th Bn. ... Drill Hall, Pound Lane, Willesden, N.W. 10.

#### Allied Regiments of Canadian Militia.

The Peterborough Rangers ... Peterborough, Ontario.  
 The Wentworth Regiment ... Dundas, Ontario.

#### Allied Regiment of Dominion of New Zealand.

11th Regiment (Taranaki Rifles).

Colonel-in-Chief:

Col. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and Duke of Cornwall, K.G., K.T., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., M.C., Col. W. Gds., Colonel-in-Chief 12th L., R. S. Fus., D.C.L.I., Seaforth, Leinster R., and R. Wilts Yeo., Personal A.D.C. to the King.

Colonel:

Lt.-Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O.

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**NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS, &c.**

The "Die-Hards" is published early in February, May, August, and November.

All Contributions intended for publication should reach the Editor not later than the 1st of the month previous to that of issue. Contributions must be written on one side of the paper only. Rejected manuscripts, &c., will only be returned if accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope. The Editor will thankfully receive Contributions from past or present Members of the Regiment or others interested, but necessarily reserves to himself the right to publication. All communications concerning the paper, including Advertisements, should be addressed to the Editor, "The Die-Hards" Journal, Mill Hill Barracks, N.W.

Subscriptions should be forwarded to the Editor, to whom all Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable and crossed "— & Co."

**ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 3/- (Post Free).**

**EDITOR'S NOTES.**

BY the end of the year we hope to be able to announce that the DIE-HARDS will become a bi-monthly publication, and produced at a cheaper rate.

Before doing so it must be explained that in order to carry out this change we must have a guaranteed circulation of at least 1,300 copies, otherwise the paper will not pay its way.

The suggested alterations will be brought before the next quarterly committee meeting of the Regimental Association, and if approved, the Journal will commence its new form early in 1924.

The proposed innovations under consideration are:—

- (a) A cheaper production.
- (b) More printed matter.
- (c) Publication of photos and illustrations.

We were delighted to see so many happy meetings among past and present officers and ladies of the Regiment at the first cricket week of the Regimental Club. This event promises to be a most successful annual institution.

It has been suggested that a lawn tennis tournament should be run concurrently with the cricket, on the Officers' Mess courts next year. With this we agree.

Contributors are reminded that though the

Journal at present appears only once a quarter, articles are welcome at all times. Please do not wait until the last moment before sending them along.

What we require is more articles and news from our readers who are serving in the Regiment.

The Editor invites criticism and will welcome ideas to improve the paper.

All articles and letters, etc., should be clearly written in ink or typed, and on one side of the paper only; and MUST be signed.

The signature is not necessarily for publication.

We note with satisfaction the appointment of the Rev. J. G. Tuckey, C.B.E., K.H.C., to a canonry of Ripon Cathedral, on his retirement from the Service in October next.

We understand this is the first occasion an Army chaplain has been honoured with such a high Church appointment.

The Rev. J. G. Tuckey lost one son when serving with the Regiment during the Great War, and another son is now with the 2nd Battalion.

We very much regret to state that the Depot band made its last public appearance during the cricket week.

Many of its members have been posted to the 1st Battalion, leaving a minority too small to continue its existence.

We publish a few photos with this issue. They were taken by Mr. E. Morris, late Middlesex Regiment.

The Editor will welcome any snapshot of regimental interest for insertion.

### 1st MIDDLESEX REGIMENT IN THE RETREAT FROM MONS.

A DIARY COMPILED AT THE TIME BY  
LIEUT.-COL. J. S. CUNNINGHAM, D.S.O.

August 10.—Left Woolwich 5 a.m.—Arrived Southampton 11.30 a.m.—"C" and "D" Companies embarked on *Princess Ena* and lay alongside all night—"C" Company officers occupied ladies' lounge.

August 11.—Left Southampton 4 a.m., escorted by destroyers—Disembarked Havre 3 p.m.—Much enthusiasm displayed—Arrived Sanvic—Pitched camp 10 p.m.

August 12-21.—Havre—In billets—Pitching and cleaning camps.

August 22.—Battalion left Havre—Destination unknown.

August 23.—Arrived Valenciennes 8 a.m.—Marched and took up position on Mons-Condé Canal—"C" Company on extreme left of Battalion—Cameronians on my left—My Company in sight of Condé—Entrenched position, with obstacles on paths—Heavy rifle and Maxim fire to my right about 8 p.m.

"B" Company attached—Blakeney wounded.

August 24.—Received order to retire at 1.40 a.m.—2 hours 40 minutes in coming—Retired Company to Quevrain—Joined remainder of Battalion—Sent Gould to say I had taken this route—he chased by Uhlans and fired at—Continued retirement to Jenlan—Entrenched—Bridges blown up.

August 25.—Continued retirement early—Rested at Haussy at noon—Carabiniers and other cavalry badly shelled—Losses apparently not heavy—Left bivouac just in time, as enemy began shelling just as we left—Shelled through village (name unknown)—Arrived Le Cateau in evening—Very long march—4th Division entrenched covered our retirement—Slept at Le Cateau in a shed.

August 26.—Paraded 4 a.m. to continue retirement, Battalion rearguard to Brigade—"C" and "D" Companies rear party—Lively exit from town—Had to barricade roads—Attacked all along by Uhlans—Three men in Company hit before clear of town.

Continued rearguard action—Told by Col. Cameron (staff, 5th Division) that we were going to stand and fight—Told to take Company behind a wood and join remainder of Battalion—Did so—Battery in position—Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and ourselves moved on to hill near Le Cateau—Took up position about 10 a.m.—Heavily shelled—Good many casualties—Spence wounded—Retired to second trench—Cavalry retired from our flank—Total of about 800 on our hill, Middlesex, Scots Fusiliers and Argylls—Masses of enemy

appeared front and both flanks—Must have been some thousands.

At 3.30 p.m. ordered to retire towards D'Estrée—Retirement successfully carried out—Men At—Wanted very little steadying and no panic—Ought to have all been scuppered—Shelled through village but enemy evidently cautious after losses—Continued retirement late into the night—Went into bivouac near D'Estrée—Very wet, uncomfortable night—Slept in wet straw next to Ross.

Fell in 2 a.m. and continued retirement west of St. Quentin to Ham (40 miles in 24 hours)—Spies shot—First wash for days—Outposts.

August 27.—Outposts 6 a.m. ? [Not very legible]—Left Ham 11.30 a.m.—Marched through Noyons—Men extraordinarily good, considering the circumstances.

Col. Ward, Brigadier—Major Ross, Brigade Major—Brigadier—[not legible] met with accident. Brigade Major killed at Le Cateau—Arrived Pontoise midnight.

August 28.—Good night—Outposts later—Counter orders frequent—Bivouacked outposts—Huddleston nearly shot by own sentry.

August 29.—Up early—Hurried move—Arrived Attichy—Bridges blown up.

August 30.—Left 6 a.m.—A delightful march for hours through Forest of Compiègne—Men tired out—Outposts—Weird night—Bad position—Had town section—Enemy reported all over the place.

August 31.—Left very early—Not attached—"A" Company fired at some Uhlans—Got in touch with enemy (all arms) during morning—"C" and "D" took up position on hill to cover retirement of 1st Cavalry Brigade, who had had a bad time—Took up position—Then got order from Rowley to get in touch with "D" Company and go for village of Néry—Went on with No. 9 Platoon—Gould following with remainder of Company—Went through village to right G [Gould] followed to left—Place had been badly shelled—Battery and Bays horses—Horses and men dead and wounded all over the place—Made way through village—Joined by C.O.—Continued to crest—Found "D" Company, who had assisted in capture of 8 guns and about 40 prisoners—Smashed blocks of guns—Told off as escort to prisoners—remainder of Company turned

up, having taken some prisoners\*—Paul got German horse which I rode for a time when mine was killed—Jefferd wounded and think in hands of enemy, as had to retire from Néry because of very superior numbers coming on—Retired to Frinons—Outposts—Had position told off in dusk, and got them somewhat mixed up in dark, as telescoped with "D" Company—Hairy night—Too many woods and dead ground about—Area for troops available too great.

September 1.—Left 5.30 a.m. for Dam-martin—Glad we had not been attacked—Many halts—Heat intense—Bivouacked.

September 2.—Left for Langy 1.30 a.m. arrived †L—sur Marne 1.30 p.m.—Rest camp 4 p.m.—Good night.

September 3.—Slack day—Good news.

September 4.—Moved 1.30 a.m., passed through Pontcaire.

September 5.—4.30 a.m. moved—Joined by Evatt and 1st reinforcement.

Started advance against enemy—passed through Joussigny—Villeneuve.

September 6.—Up at 6 a.m.—Quite late for a change—Horrocks and draft arrived—Continued advance through Serris and— [name illegible] and came to Le Chateau (?)‡ where met smart§ party of enemy—Driven off by Essex Regiment.

September 7.—Up at 3 a.m.—Expected order to move against enemy—Fine weather—XIX Brigade, *i.e.*, ourselves, on extreme left—No enemy in sight—Trekking on to— [name illegible, something like Pierreleve] to a bivouac where we halted.

Town looted—Marched on until enemy's rearguard located at Signy Signets—River Marne—"A" and "C" Companies sent on in advance—Advanced Company over hill to take up position—Immediately shelled, dropping however in rear of Company, but on to "B" Company, which was badly handled—Shelled for 1½ hours—My horse killed and groom|| wounded—Serious losses amongst the horses—Remained on outposts and dug in—Remained there all night.

\*Note.—(Not in Diary). Men naturally elated about the guns and prisoners, evidently thought the war as good as won.

†I doubt the correctness of latter name.

‡Think must have meant Chateau Thierry.

§Must mean "small."

||Styles—one of the best soldiers and nicest men I have known. He did not recover.

September 8.—Relieved at 7 a.m. by Cameronians—Shelled—no casualties—Halted Company in rear—Later joined by "A" and "D" Companies, which had also been relieved—Enemy apparently then retired—After very heavy shelling from us—Bivouacked.

September 9.—Up at 3.30 a.m.—Advanced—Breakfasted en route—Crossed River Marne by pontoon bridge—Other bridges blown up by Germans—Marched through La Ferté, which had been badly handled by Germans—Brigade acted as flank guard to IIIrd Army Corps—Moved considerable distance in preliminary artillery formation—Dead horses (German) plentiful—Many evidences of hurried retreat of enemy—Broken down vehicles—cars—wagons—live shells thrown away—3,000 in one place—clothing, etc.

September 10.—Continued pursuit—"C" Company leading—News of captured prisoners—1,000—guns, etc.

Passed through Vause Vasset (?) Cerfroid-a-Chery (?)—Continual halts as men much done—Boiling weather—Heavy thunder-storm—All got pretty well soaked—Billeted at Marizy—Had a good rest and good meal—Major Ross appointed Brigade Major 11th Brigade.

September 11.—Up at 5.30 a.m. and moved off—Through Tigny—Rained—Cannonading all day—Germans retiring—Arrived at Buzancy—Billeted in a barn with the men—No lights.

September 12.—Up at 4.45 a.m.—Prepared to move on—Departure delayed owing to situation.

Voluntary outdoor service by the Rev. Webb-Peploe—"God Save the King" afterwards.

NOTE.—I have been much tempted to pad this diary with recollections, but think it better to let it stand.

Any such padding would necessarily have shown, by incidents recorded, the spirit and devotion to duty of the subalterns, warrant officers and other ranks of "C" Company.

"C" Company was, of course, only typical of the rest of the Battalion.

In common, I suppose, with many other officers, I never really knew my men until the Retreat from Mons.

I will give two instances only:—

1. When the order came for us to retire

from Le Cateau, I personally was very pleased. I had had enough of Le Cateau.

My Company was the last of the Battalion to retire, and I gave the orders in some form approximating to that laid down by regulation. Two men, whose names I unfortunately forget, said to me "Why should we retire now, Sir, when they are just coming on." They certainly were "just coming on" being massed in dense formations on three sides of the hill.

2. Pte. MacDonald (subsequently killed), my batman, never, as far as I can remember, failed to bring me a mug of tea just before the various moves, all of which were made at highly inconvenient hours. His haversack seemed to be a veritable widow's cruse.



### 1st BATTALION NOTES.

RAIN, Rain, go to—anywhere, only leave Cologne. Athletic sports, cricket and musketry camps are all right in fine weather, but in the sort we have been sampling since our last notes, they are tragedies. It rained all Albuhera Day, the final of the Rhine Army Sports had to be postponed a day for rain, and although no one has yet been drowned either in camp or in the butts, it is not because there is insufficient water. However, we still live in hopes of some fine weather during our next month's training.

### OFFICERS' NOTES.

With regret we announce the departure of Capt. and Qr.Mr. Stock to the Depot, after more years connection with the Battalion than most of us have been born. With a final "Nunc dimittis" he left on July 8th, and we wish him the best of luck at the Depot. In his place we welcome Lieut. Douthet, who joins us on promotion from the 2nd Battalion. We also welcome Capt. Lawrence, who has paired with us for a few months before migrating to the 2nd Battalion.

Major Stewart has gone to the Senior Officers' School for three months. On May 17th the officers gave a dance at the Zoological Gardens. Rain again did its best to spoil this, as the gardens which were effectively illuminated could not be used, and the band, which was to have played in

the gardens, was frozen out. But, in spite of this, the dance committee are to be congratulated on the excellent decorations and arrangements which ensured the dance being a success.

The number of officers who play golf is now so large that a golf competition has been arranged in the Mess, and the following reached the semi-finals:—Capt. Horrocks *v.* Capt. del Court; 2/Lieut. Crawford *v.* Capt. Haydon. The first semi-final ended in a victory for Capt. del Court after a great struggle in pouring rain. Capt. Lyons reached the semi-finals of the Rhine Army Golf Championship before succumbing to the ultimate winner of the tournament.

It was unfortunate that once more so few of us were able to attend the Regimental Dinner, but four members flew over and we are glad to hear that there was such a large gathering. We are particularly indebted to the O.C. "XYZ" Company for his detailed account of the menu, etc.

Last number we welcomed Lieut. Hill; now, we deplore his departure, for the land of "Bones," and hope he will soon pay us another of his visits.

Lieut. A. Clyné has joined us temporarily until the trooping season carries him Eastward.

### SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

The last quarter has not produced much of interest. The "Pokey Die" tournaments for April and May were won by Sergt.-Dmr. Heath and Sergt. Munday respectively. A most interesting event occurred during June. A wager was made between two members that "C.S.M. Bob Cullum would not do a certain walk under 10 minutes." He did it easily, "but he did sweat." Any of our friends knowing him, will quite understand why. Rumour has it that he lost several pounds as the result of his walk. [In weight or gold?—Editor.]

The Battalion being in camp in June, whist drives were not possible. We are cushy in having a very comfortable Mess and Ante-room. Since the last issue several old members have rejoined and also some new ones. Among these are C.Q.M.S. Purcell, Sergt. Kent and Sergt. Campbell. If any of our friends want lessons in "snaring rabbits" I advise them to write to Sergt. "Nappy Ogburn." He is our authority on the subject.

On May 16th we celebrated "Albuhera Day" by having a dinner and smoking concert. What else can be said but that it was a complete success. The dinner was excellent and the table decorations which included the Mess silver, were superb.

During the evening the Commanding Officer and officers visited the Mess and after the customary ceremonies, the R.S.M. proposed "The King," "Colonel-in-Chief," and "Colonel." After dinner the members adjourned to the concert room. Here some excellent turns were given. Some of the members added items to the show and things ran very smoothly (so did the champagne).

Someone insisted upon asking for "Ruins of Oliver Cromwell." I sincerely hope he was a Loyalist and not a Roundhead. Gradually—as dawn came—the Mess began to empty. This night is one that will be remembered for years to come. It was indeed "Some Albuhera."

These notes are very brief but next quarter I can promise something very interesting.

#### BOXING.

The Rhine Army Boxing season was wound up on May 10th-12th with the Individual Championships. Four entries were sent from the Battalion. Officers' Welter-weight: Lieut. F. Walden. Other Ranks: Light-weight—Pte. Howlett, "A" Coy.; Middle-weight—L./Cpl. Fisk, "C" Coy.; Light-Heavy-weight—Cpl. Hawkins, "C" Coy. Of these four three finished winners of their weights, which was a satisfactory ending to the season.

The results were:—

*Officers' Welter-weight.*—Lieut. F. Walden beat 2/Lieut. Sir H. G. Schiffrer, R.F.A., on points. There was no doubt as to the winner of this bout and Lieut. Walden lead all the way.

*Other Ranks, Light-Weight.*—Pte. Howlett beat—1st Series, Pte. Cox, 14/20th Hussars; 2nd Series, Gnr. McCord, R.A.A.C.; 3rd Series, Pte. Crowley, Hussars; 4th Series, Dvr. Boulding, 21st Med. Battery, R.G.A.

Pte. Howlett is to be congratulated on his performance this season; to begin the season a novice and to end Rhine Army Champion of his weight is a fine achievement and we hope he will keep on improving at the same rate.

*Middle-weight.*—Semi-final: L./Cpl. Fisk lost to Pte. Kibble, 14/20th Hussars. Pte. Kibble was the ultimate winner, and apart from being a very promising boxer, had a great advantage in reach on L./Cpl. Fisk, who put up a very game fight against odds.

*Light-Heavy-weight.*—Cpl. Hawkins beat—1st Series, L./Cpl. Johnson, K.O.Y.L.I.; 2nd Series, Sergt. Reader, West Yorks Regt.; 3rd Series, L./Cpl. Taylor, K.R.R.C.

Cpl. Hawkins has worked hard all the season with the boxers and his win is a fitting reward for his work.

And so ends a very satisfactory boxing season. Satisfactory in that we had more competitors than any other unit, that the boxing of the Battalion improved and that although we did not win the Inter-Unit Team Championship our team did the next best thing and had a very good try for it.

Before leaving boxing for the time being, we must add one word of appreciation for the time spent and help given by Sergt. Darby both in preparing competitors for the tournament and during the competitions.

#### FOOTBALL.

Although the football season ended in the Battalion soon after the last notes were sent in, the Rhine Army season has lingered on for a match *v.* British Army at Home and one *v.* West Ham. In both L./Cpl. Sammons was selected to play for the B.A.O.R. and was also appointed captain of the side. We congratulate him on the double honour and on leading the side to victory in the match against the Home Army. The Company Knock-out Competition result was a complete reversal of the League, since "C" Company, who were bottom in the League, won the Knock-out when reinforced by their Battalion players, defeating "D" Company in the final 3-0. However, "D" Company's average on the League and Knock-out won them the Football Shield.

Before closing these notes we have to report the loss of Sergt. Truss, who has gone for discharge. For three years he has been a familiar figure on the left wing of the Battalion football team and had improved very much at hockey, representing the Battalion this year in their important matches. We wish him the best of luck in civil life.

#### ALBUHERA DAY.

The weather did its best to spoil Albuhera Day, as it rained on and off for the whole day and only once for a brief moment did the sun shine, but that effort was scarcely noticed as the Quartermaster put on his surprise turn at that time in the form of a fire in his stores. Fortunately the outbreak was not serious and the delay caused in the programme by the hasty departure of competitors, spectators and officials, was only about twenty minutes. Among those who attended were Col.-Comdt. Steavenson, C.M.G., the Brigade Commander, and Colonel on the Staff Wallace Wright, V.C., C.M.G., D.S.O.

The results of the sports were as follows:—

*100 Yards.*—1, "B" Coy.; 2, "G" Coy.; 3rd, "C" Coy.; 4, "Q" Coy.

*Putting the Shot.*—1, "Q" Coy.; 2, "C" Coy.; 3, "G" Coy.; 4, "B" Coy.

*One-Mile.*—1, "D" Coy.; 2, "C" Coy.; 3, "Q" Coy.; 4, "B" Coy.

*Individuals:* 1, Capt. Horrocks; 2, L./Cpl. Sammons; 3, 2/Lieut. Worton.

*Boys' Race.*—1, Boy Amos; 2, Boy Russell; 3, Boy Smith.

*Veterans' Race.*—1, Sergt. Darby; 2, C.S.M. Duncan; 3, Sergt. Goodwin.

*220 Yards.*—1, "G" Coy.; 2, "Q" Coy.; 3, "B" Coy.; 4, "A" Coy.

*Long Jump.*—1, "Q" Coy.; 2, "C" Coy.; 3, "D" Coy.; 4, "B" Coy.

*Half-Mile.*—1, "D" Coy.; 2, "G" Coy.; 3, "A" Coy.; 4, "C" Coy.

*Open Relay.*—1, Gloucester Regiment; 2, 14/20th Hussars; 3, M.F.P.

*Corporals' Race.*—1, L./Cpl. Claydon; 2, L./Cpl. Phelps; 3, L./Cpl. Gibson.

*Potato Race.*—1, Pte. Bolden; 2, L./Cpl. Fisk; 3, Pte. Stemp.

*Children's Race (Boys).*—1, Boy Capel; 2, Boy Clark; 3, Boy Buckingham; 4, Boy Moore.

*Children's Race (Girls).*—1, Gray; 2, Clark; 3, Cullum; 4, Anderson.

*Hurdles.*—1, "B" Coy.; 2, "G" Coy.; 3, "C" Coy.; 4, "Q" Coy.

*Sergeants' Race.*—1, Sergt. Darby; 2, Sergt. Cullen; 3, Sergt. Green.

*Ladies' Race.*—1, Mrs. Bull; 2, Mrs. E. Green; 3, Mrs. Sullivan; 4, Mrs. Darby.

*440 Yards.*—1, "G" Coy.; 2, "Q" Coy.; 3, "D" Coy.; 4, "A" Coy.

*High Jump.*—1, "G" Coy.; 2, "Q" Coy.; 3, "C" Coy.; 4, "D" Coy.

*Three-Miles.*—1, "Q" Coy.; 2, "D" Coy.; 3, "C" Coy.

*Individuals:* 1, L./Cpl. Sammons; 2, Pte. Houghton; 3, L./Cpl. Lawrence.

*Band Race.*—1, Bdsmn. Chasney; 2, Pte. Grimwood; 3, Bdsmn. Taylor.

*Obstacle Race.*—1, L./Cpl. Lawrence; 2, Pte. Stemp; 3, Pte. Bolden.

*Inter-Mess Relay.*—1, Corporals; 2, Officers; 3, Privates; 4, Sergeants.

*Tug-o-War.*—The Sergeants beat the Officers.

*Inter-Company Tug-o-War.*—1, "B" Coy.; 2, "A" Coy.; 3, "C" Coy.; 4, "Q" Coy.

The Company placings for the Sports Shield were:—1, "G" Coy.; 2, "Q" Coy.; 3, "D" Coy.; 4, "B" and "C" Coy.; 5, "A" Coy.

At the conclusion of the sports the Commanding Officer gave away the prizes, and the Company Shields, which were won by Companies as under:—

Shooting, "D" Coy.; hockey, "Q" Coy.; sports, "G" Coy.; football, "D" Coy.; Tug-of-war, "B" Coy.; Championship Shield, "G" Coy.

In the evening there was a dance in the ballroom and the Sergeants held a concert, of which an account will be found elsewhere.

#### RHINE ARMY SPORTS.

For the second year we got within an ace of winning the Rhine Army Inter-Unit Team Sports, and this year the excitement was truly awful as everything depended on the last race, the hurdles, as to whether the Glosters or ourselves won. If we could beat them then all was well. All did not go well and our first man crashed so badly that the ground lost was impossible to make up. A bitter blow to our hopes and we condole most heartily with the unfortunate fallen. For the first time since the war we were able to put in a tug-of-war team, which had had regular training beforehand and they did well, reaching the final where they lost to the Gunners, after having accomplished a big task in hauling over the D.C.L.I. earlier in the afternoon. This was a big advance on last year and we congratulate them and their trainer C.Q.M.S. Pelly.

The running of the half-mile team, as last year, was outstanding, and Lieut. Worton, the last man, ran with splendid judgment. The places gained by the Battalion were:—

100 yards, 2nd; 220 yards, 2nd; 440

yards, 3rd; 880 yards, 1st; One Mile, 4th; Putting the Shot, 2nd; Long Jump, 4th; High Jump, 4th; Tug-of-war, 2nd.

Pte. Bolden was 2nd in the Individual High Jump, and R.S.M. Anderson was 2nd in the Individual Putting the Shot.

The following have been awarded their running colours for 1923:—

Capt. Horrocks, Cpl. Hawkins, Pte. Bolden, Pte. Painter, R.S.M. Anderson, Capt. Haydon, L./Cpl. Lawrence, Dmr. Burton, L./Cpl. Sammons, Sergt. Cullen, 2/Lieut. Worton, Lieut. Parker, L./Cpl. Stretton, Capt. Procter, Sergt. Rand, L./Cpl. Claydon, Lieut. Pennycook, Pte. Myhill and Lieut. Cubitt.

Tug-of-war: L./Cpl. Tibble, Cpl. Bartrop, Pte. Bayliss, Pte. Pinder, Pte. Theobald, Pte. Wallace, L./Cpl. Eldrett, Cpl. Raindle, Pte. Hatchett, Pte. Jenkins. Coach, C.Q.M.S. Pelly.

#### HOCKEY.

The Inter-Company Hockey League ended in a win for "Q" Company, followed by "B" and "C" Companies who tied, "A" Coy. and "G" Coy. being 4th and "D" 6th. The Knock-out provided some very keen games ending in a great struggle between "C" and "Q" Companies, out of which "C" emerged victorious by 2 goals to 1.

The standard of play throughout the Battalion, which was poor after a long lapse in which hockey was never played, has improved considerably this season, and there is every prospect of the hockey next year starting much stronger than this year.

#### CRICKET.

The weather, the sports of Albuhera Day, and the completion of the Hockey League delayed the start of cricket, and after only three practice matches and a little net work, we were called upon to play our first match in the Inter-Unit Knockout Competition, in which we were drawn against the Royal Artillery. The "Gunners" on paper seemed formidable and the most optimistic of us never expected the seven wicket win we obtained. However, this is not the first occasion the cricket XI have risen to the occasion when up against it. Winning the toss, we elected to put them in first, and L./Cpls. O'Brien and MacDonald started the

bowling. Both bowled excellently and keeping a good length and avoiding delivering any loose balls, this was soon rewarded and a good catch by O'Brien off MacDonald dismissed the first man. As the bowling remained steady, wickets fell easily, Kennett, who relieved MacDonald, was also very steady. Each successive batsman became more and more cautious, the only score being 32 by Lieut. Martin, who was bowled by O'Brien for 32. Lunch time came with the score at 87 for 6 wickets, and afterwards the wickets continued to fall at the same rate as before, and the Gunners' innings closed at 143. Capt. Lyon (who is allowed to play for us), and L./Cpl. Sammons opened our innings against Lieut. Baines, the fastest bowler out here, and Major Meldon, and seemed quite happy until L./Cpl. Sammons was bowled by Baines for 9 (1 for 17). Capt. Lyon soon followed (2 for 19), and Pte. Fry and Lieut. Worton came together. The latter, who was in good form, scored rapidly from the start and being well supported by Fry, the score reached 117 before Fry was bowled for a very valuable 19. Lieut. Clowes then joined Lieut. Worton and between them they carried us past the required score.

#### ROYAL ARTILLERY.

Col. Langbourne, st Sammons b O'Brien	...	9
Major Beldon, c O'Brien b MacDonald	...	2
Major Glover, b MacDonald	...	5
Lieut. Martin, b O'Brien	...	32
Major Ball, b Kennett	...	15
Col. Potter, run out	...	18
Lieut. Barrington, b O'Brien	...	14
Lieut. Baines, b O'Brien	...	12
Lieut. Pearson, not out	...	13
Lieut. Schiffner, b Fry	...	8
Sergt. Williams, run out	...	0
Extras	...	15
Total	...	143

#### 1ST BN. THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.

L./Cpl. Sammons, b Baines	...	9
Capt. Lyon, c Langbourne b Baines	...	7
Pte. Fry, b Ball	...	19
Lieut. Worton, not out	...	82
Lieut. Clowes, not out	...	18
Extras	...	12
Total (3 wkts.)	...	147
Capt. Procter, Pte. Baker, Major Bucknall, L./Cpl. O'Brien, L./Cpl. Kennett, and L./Cpl. MacDonald did not bat.		

The move of the Battalion to the musketry camp has stopped all cricket in June and even if we had been in Cologne the weather has been almost impossible for cricket.

However, we hope by the time these notes are published to have made a start again.

The following old choices have again been awarded their colours:—

Lieut. Clowes, L./Cpl. O'Brien, L./Cpl. Kennett, Lieut. Worton, Pte. Fry, L./Cpl. Sammons, and L./Cpl. MacDonald.

#### BASKET BALL.

It was impossible to finish the Inter-Platoon Basket Ball Competition before Albuhera Day, and the competition in progress will therefore count to 1923-24 shield.

The present state of the competition is given below and is not likely to be completed until we leave the musketry camp. With few exceptions the teams are very good, and the games at present played have been very close.

No. 20 Platoon *v.* winner of No. 5 and No. 11 Platoons. No. 22 Platoon *v.* No. 17 Platoon.

#### PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS DURING APRIL, MAY AND JUNE.

Appointed Paid Lance-Sergeant.—6190806 L./Sergt. H. Farrow.

Appointed Unpaid Lance-Sergeant.—6191058 Cpl. S. Tibbs.

Appointed Paid Lance - Corporals.—6189462 L./Cpl. G. Rawlings, 6194301 L./Cpl. A. Jones, 6192100 L./Cpl. R. Arnaboldi, 6191491 L./Cpl. O. Phelps, 6188411 L./Cpl. A. Reed, 6193936 L./Cpl. W. Fletcher, 6188940 L./Cpl. J. West, 6189440 L./Cpl. R. Glover, 6189209 L./Cpl. H. Hull, 6189179 L./Cpl. H. Gibson, 6193443 L./Cpl. R. Ecclestone, 2203910 L./Cpl. C. Soper, 6193844 L./Cpl. J. Reader.

Appointed Unpaid Lance-Corporals.—6189179 Pte. H. Gibson, 6192681 L./Cpl. E. Williams, 6192870 Pte. A. Reynolds, 6194796 Pte. E. Harris, 6189318 Pte. D. Stagpoole, 6193067 Pte. H. Frost, 6191815 Pte. A. Leggett, 6188853 Pte. C. Egan, 6190902 Pte. W. Burling, 6194084 Pte. E. Battersby.

Appointed Paid Acting-Corporals.—6189019 L./Cpl. J. Steward, 6190707 L./Cpl. G. MacDonald, 6193264 L./Cpl. C. Mardle, 6193259 L./Cpl. H. Warren, 6192105 L./Cpl. A. Lawrence, 6194301 L./Cpl. A. Jones.

#### BIRTH.

HUTTON.—On June 25th, 1923, to wife of 6188447 Cpl. S. Hutton, "B" Company, a daughter, Muriel Blanche, born at Military Families Hospital, Lindenthal, Cologne.

#### THE OLD COMRADES' REUNION DINNER.

THE annual Old Comrades' Reunion Dinner for all ranks, past and present, of the Regiment, took place at the Abercorn Rooms, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, London, E.C., on Saturday, June 23rd, 1923.

A large representative gathering of all ranks was present, 220 sitting down to dinner under the chairmanship of the Colonel of the Regiment, Lieut.-Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O.

The Chairman was supported by the following officers:—

Brig.-Gen. F. D. Lumley, C.B., C.B.E.; Cols. J. H. Hall, C.M.G., D.S.O.; G. B. Lempiere, H. W. E. Finch, C.B.E., D.S.O.; W. D. Ingle; G. A. Bridgman; L. G. Oliver. Lieut.-Cols. R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O.; V. L. N. Pearson, D.S.O.; W. H. Davy; C. P. Rooke, D.S.O.; E. E. F. Baker, D.S.O., M.C.; G. Beach, T.D.; J. S. Cunningham, D.S.O.; and A. M. O. A. Anwyl-Passingham, O.B.E., and 44 others.

Lieut.-Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse, Colonel of the Regiment, and Chairman of the Regimental Association, who presided, gave the Loyal Toasts and the toast of "The Regiment," and also replied after his health and that of the officers of the Regiment, proposed by Mr. E. Warren, had been drunk.

Sir Ivor read out a cablegram from the Officer Commanding 2nd Battalion conveying the best wishes of all ranks to all Old Comrades at the dinner. In his speeches he commented on the fine gathering of Old Comrades and remarked on the fact that the number of officers present was 57, of whom no less than eleven were Commanding Officers, past and present, and one, the Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion had flown from Cologne that day on purpose to be present. He spoke of the unveiling of the war memorial in the presence of the Colonel-in-Chief, who had kept his promise

to attend against the wishes of his doctors, and while he was still suffering from the effects of his painful accident; he informed the company that a telegram of loyal and birthday greetings to that Prince of Sportsmen had just been dispatched by him on behalf of the 300 Old Comrades, past and present, who were now gathered together. (The reply from H.R.H. The Prince of Wales is appended below.)

Sir Ivor dwelt on the grievous loss suffered by the Regiment from the disbanding of its 3rd and 4th Battalions since the last dinner, and called attention to their noble parting gift of some £1,400 each to the funds of the Regimental Association; he also deplored the loss of many officers transferred to other regiments, though he had no fear that any of them would ever forget the Die-Hards or the traditions which bound together all who had served in any battalion of the Regiment.

The 1st and 2nd Battalions were congratulated on their success in football and other sports at Cologne and Singapore respectively; the former might soon be welcomed home to Aldershot, while the old 77th was also looking forward, probably without many regrets, to a change of station.

In speaking of the Regimental Association, Sir Ivor alluded to the excellent report of its recent work just given at the annual general meeting.

The Association had prepared Roll of Honour books containing the names of all who had fallen in the war, which would shortly be on sale. It was also responsible for the History of the Regiment in the Great War, now being written. Author's fees alone amounted to over £800 and although most of this had been guaranteed, there still remained the cost of printing and publishing, which could only be covered by large sales. One could not get a good thing without paying a good price for it, and only the very best was good enough to commemorate the deeds of all "The Die-hards" in the Great War.

The Regimental Journal, THE DIE-HARDS, of which the Association had also assumed control, was worthy of all support. It was to that journal that they must look to obtain details of the quarterly entertainments which were being arranged by the Old Comrades' Dinner Committee, and for announcements of all other regimental entertainments and events.

The total invested funds of the Association amounted to £8,600, and from the income

derived from this and subscriptions, the Association had been able in 1922 to expend £638 in loans and grants to Old Comrades. The amount so disbursed during the past four years is over £2,610.

The chief object of the Association, however, was to find employment for its members; 72 had been found permanent jobs in 1922, and that number had already been exceeded in the first half of the present year.

A good name with employers was being built up and must never be impaired. When employers wrote to the Secretary for "another man as good as the last" success was assured, and with such a man as Major Steed in charge of the work this ideal would constantly be maintained.

The following telegram from H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, the Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, was received too late for announcement at the dinner:—

To: GENERAL MAXSE.

"Please convey to Old Comrades, Middlesex Regiment, my sincere thanks for their birthday greetings.

"EDWARD P., Colonel-in-Chief."

Mr. E. Warren, who was the oldest past member of the rank and file present, in well chosen words proposed the "Officers of the Regiment."

The 9th Battalion very kindly provided the band for the evening.

A photograph of the gathering was taken, which we hope to publish in an early number.

#### LIST OF OLD COMRADES

Who were present at the Reunion Dinner held at the Abercorn Rooms, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, June 23rd, 1923. Lieut.-Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O. (Colonel of the Regiment) presided:—

Avant, A.	Bridgman, Lieut.-Col. G. A.
Anderson, Major G. B.	Burdon, Capt. C. S.
Anwyl-Passingham, Col. A. M. O.	Brendle, Pte.
Ayres, C.S.M. J.	Byrne, Lieut.-Col. S. C.
Briersley, Pte.	Bridgman, 2/Lt. J. E.
Berry, J.	Burrows, Sergt. J. W.
Bonner, Pte.	Bailey, C.S.M.
Beach, Lieut.-Col. G.	Baker, Lieut.-Col. E. E. F.
Beam, R.S.M. W.	Blumfield, Col. J. L.
Bidgood, C.Q.M.S. G.	Chipp, Major T. F.
Billings, Sergt.	Chidley, C.S.M. A.
Boothby, J.	Cronin, J. H.
Bunidge, G. W.	Cranfield, Lieut.-Col. S. W.
Bartlett, Sergt. G. S.	Creedon, W.
Beattie, C.S.M. C.	Cunningham, Lieut.-Col. J. S.
Bisset, Col.-Sergt. J.	
Blinco, A.	
Bellers, Col. E. V.	

<p>           Carey, L./Cpl. W. H.            Cuthbert, W.            Crouch, E. J., Sergt.            Colgan, P.            Dymore, Lieut. H.            Duffield, R.Q.M.S.            G. H. E.            Degnin, H. H.            Dade, Lieut. M.            Dobner, Lieut. A.            Davey, Col. W. H. C.            Davies, Pte. W.            Dundas, Major A. C.            Dyden, L./Cpl. H. D.            Edwards, S.M. M. G.            Everett, C.            Elms, H.            Evans, R. E.            Finch, Col. H. W. E.            Fisher, J.            Foster, Capt. H. E.            Fairclough, M.            Fleming, Cpl.            Garner, Col. W.            Gusscott, Q.M.S. R. T.            Green, C.Q.M.S. A.            Ginbey, H. F.            Grace, C.S.M. W.            Gregory, H.            Gardiner, Capt. M.            Gibson, Sergt. C.            Green, Sergt. H. M.            Heath, Lieut.-Col. R. M.            Hewitt, Col.-Sergt. H.            Holmes, Pte. F. E.            Hunter, Pte. W.            Horsted, Pte.            Hodgkins, Lieut.            Humphrey, Sergt. J.            Harman, W.            Harper, W. L.            Heffer, Capt. H. E.            Honner, Sergt. J.            Holman, R.Q.M.S. F. J.            Hook, W.            Hanks, G.            Holmes, Col.-Sergt. W.            Heacock, C.Q.M.S. A.            Hazell, W.            Hanagan, Q.M.S. F.            Havard, L./Cpl. A. W.            Hedgman, G.            Hanks, Pte.            Hall, Col. J. H.            Ingles, T. E.            Ingles, T. F. W.            Ingle, Col. W. D.            Jones, Cpl. C. P.            Judd, Sergt. J.            Jameson, Capt. J.            Jarney, E.            Jefferd, Capt. W. W.            Johnson, Pte. T.            King, Capt. J. H.            King, Sergt. E. J.            Keating, Lieut. S. J.            Lawson, Capt. E. L.            Langston, Pte.            Le Poidevin, L./Cpl. A.            Lloyd Jones, Major W.            Land, A.            Lempriere, Col. G. B.         </p>	<p>           Lambourne, Col.-Sgt. J.            Lumley, Brig.-Gen. F. D.            Lewis, C.Q.M.S. A.            Morton, E.            Meachen, W. A.            Marsh, Pte.            Manders, C.S.M.            Morrison, W.            Moore, Capt. R. N.            Murray, Lieut. H. A.            Money, Major H. G.            Marsh, Lieut. J. N.            Meadley, Capt. H. E.            Merrison, J. F.            Mill, Major E. L.            Morey, Sergt. A.            Moore, Lieut.            Morris, Col.-Sergt. A.            Mitchell, Major E. A.            Measer, Capt. F.            Malvisi, Capt. S.            McDonald, D.            Northcott, L./Cpl. W. H.            Newman, Lieut.            Nosgrove, Sergt. A. W.            Oliver, Col. L. G.            Orton, Pte.            O'Connell, M. J.            O'Donoghue, Sergt.-Dmr.            Peters, Pte.            Pigott, R.S.M. R.            Pinner, Pte.            Purches, C.Q.M.S. G.            Pike, Sergt. W. S.            Piper, H. J.            Poulton, Pte. W. H.            Pargiter, Major L. L.            Pearson, Lieut.-Col.            V. L. N.            Phillips, Capt. H.            Parker, Pte.            Quick, W. G.            Reeves, A.            Radcliffe, Lieut.            Rooke, Lieut.-Col. C. P.            Rouse, W.            Rose, C.S.M.            Rees, J.            Ryan, Sergt. J.            Ryder, D. G.            Rackham, Lieut. B. B.            Reid, Lieut. J. G. E.            Rose, H. E. B.            Roots, C.S.M. H.            Snow, W.            Shawcross, M.            Stephens, A.            Sando, L./Cpl. A.            Smith, Pte. G. E.            Sparkes, C.S.M.            Sheridan, Sergt.-Dmr.            Stock, Capt. V. E.            Smith, W. J.            Saunders, C. E.            Strickland, R.S.M. W.            Stewart, Major W. A.            Saltmarsh, F.            Slaughter, Pte.            Smith, T. J.            Shaw, G.            Shonler, C.S.M. C. A.            Staines, L./Cpl. L.         </p>	<p>           Samuel, Lieut.-Col. W. H.            Stafford, Pte. W.            Safferty, Col.-Sergt. A.            Smith, R.S.M. W.            Schaper, C.S.M. F.            Sullivan, D.            Steed, Major F. S.            Smith, 2/Lieut. E. H.            Twigg, C.S.M. H.            Thorne, Capt. M.            Taylor, Pte.            Tew, C.S.M. H.            Terrey, R.Q.M.S. S.            Taylor, Sergt.-Dmr. N.            Turner, Sergt. W. H.            Walker, Pte.            Whiting, Pte.            Winder, R.S.M. J.            Watkins, R.S.M. B. G.            Weddell, Sergt. J. M.            Webb, R.Q.M.S. H. S.            Wood, M.            Willmer, H.            Woodward, C.            Watson, Col.-Sergt.            Wallis, O.R.S. G.            Whittaker, Sergt. A.            Weston, Sergt. A.            Wells, H.            Warren, Q.M.S. E.            Weller, Lieut. A. V.            Warden, Col. C. W.         </p>
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## 2nd BATTALION NOTES.

### SPORTS NOTES.

DURING the quarter under review the Battalion Athletic Sports meeting and Cross-Country Run, and the Inter-Company Tug-of-war Competition have all been held. In addition to these the Battalion distinguished itself in the Command Athletic meeting by winning the tug-of-war shield and nine cups for various individual and team events. There were no more trophies to be won at this meeting and there were only three events which were not won by the Battalion, namely, the 100 yards, the hurdles, and the 440 yards. In each of these events, however, the Battalion gained the second place. Amongst the cups which were won by the Battalion, was the Middlesex Perpetual Challenge Cup, presented by the Battalion this year for the winners of the team events.

The Battalion sports were held on January 11th, 12th, and 13th.

The Regimental sports went off very well, although considerable difficulty was experienced in running off the preliminary heats owing to the heavy rain.

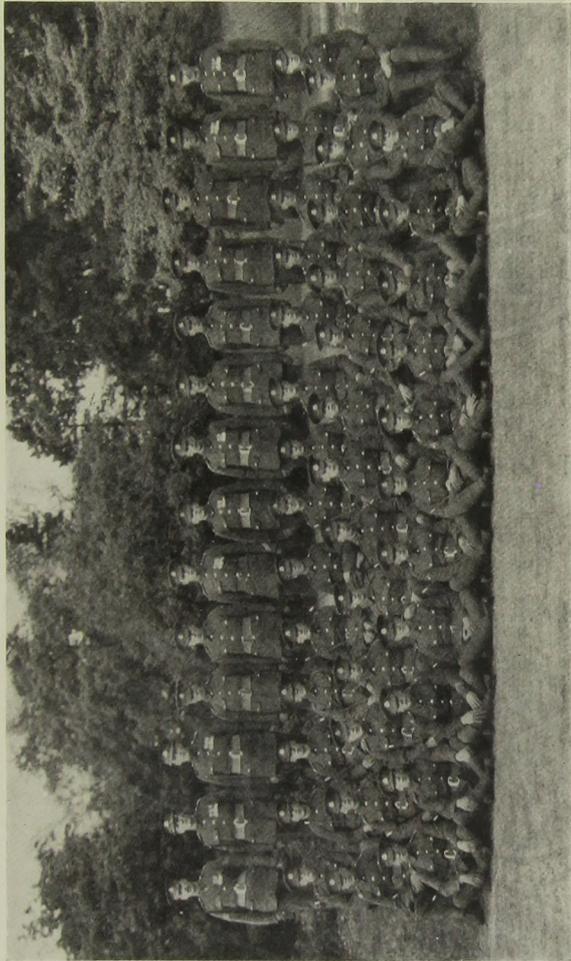
On the final day the going was heavy, but the times on the whole were quite good.

Lieut. E. L. Heywood won the Championship Medal for the third time running.

There was quite a large attendance, the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes entertaining as usual.

100 Yards.—Winner, Cpl. Pitchford. Time, 10 2-5th sec.

220 Yards.—Winner, Sergt. Wayte. Time, 26 sec.



[Photo: Mr. E. Morris.]  
RECRUITS OF "ALBUHERA" AND "MONS" SQUADS WITH THEIR INSTRUCTORS.

440 Yards.—Winner, Lieut. Heywood.  
Time, 58 sec.

880 Yards.—Winner, Bdsmn. Turner.  
Time, 2 min. 20 sec.

One Mile.—Winner, Bdsmn. Turner.  
Time, 5 min. 11 1-5th sec.

High Jump.—Winner, Sergt. Colbourne.  
Height, 5 ft. 1 in.

Long Jump.—Winner, Lieut. Heywood.  
Distance, 19 ft. 6 in.

Hurdles.—Winner, Lieut. Heywood.  
Time, 19 sec.

Putting the Weight.—Winner, Sergt. Capel.  
Distance, 31 ft. 10 in.

Championship medal, Lieut. Heywood.  
Machine Gun Competition.—No. 1 Sub-section.

Wiring Competition.—"A" Company.  
Time, 6 1/2 min.

Relay Race.—Headquarters 1.

Rifle Grenade Competition.—"D" Company.

THE GARRISON SPORTS, FEBRUARY 3RD, 1923.

The introduction of many team events which were keenly contested, was the feature of the Garrison sports.

As can be seen by the results, the Battalion carried the day.

Perhaps the most satisfactory event of the day was the defeat of a well-known runner from up-country in the Mile by Bdsmn. Turner. He also defeated the same runner in the Half-Mile on the same afternoon.

The Battalion carried off the following with the exception of those marked \*

100 Yards.—Winner, Bateman. Time, 10 2-5th sec.\*

Long Jump.—Winner, L./Cpl. Palmer.  
Distance, 18 ft. 6 in.

Hand Grenade Competition.—Winners, "A" Coy., Middlesex.

High Jump.—Winner, Sergt. Colbourne.  
Height, 5 ft. 1 in.

220 Yards.—Winner, Bdsmn. Gower.  
Time, 25 2-5th sec.

Hurdles.—Winner, Bateman. Time, 17 2-5th sec.\*

Tug-of-War.—Winners, "H.Q." 2 Coy., Middlesex.

Tin Ring Course.—Winners, "B" Coy., Middlesex.

440 Yards.—Winner, Lim Yong Liang.\*  
Machine Gun Competition.—Winners, No. 1 Sub-section, Middlesex.

Relay Race.—Winners, Middlesex Regt.

880 Yards.—Winner, Bdsmn. Turner.  
Time, 2 min. 16 3-5th sec.

Mile (Open).—Winner, Bdsmn. Turner.  
Time, 4 min. 58 2-5th sec.

Wiring Competition.—Winners, "A" Coy., Middlesex.

Rifle Grenade Competition.—Winners, "D" Coy., Middlesex.

The Cross-Country Run was won by Lieut. Stephenson with Bdsmn. Turner a close second. Headquarters 1 were the winning team.

The Inter-Company Tug-of-War Competition was won by "H.Q." 2 after many keenly contested pulls between the various companies.

#### HOCKEY.

The hockey season ended with a match against our strongest opponents, namely, the Singapore Cricket Club. At the beginning of the year this team was usually too strong for us, but our team has improved considerably and we have a bigger reserve to fall back upon. This was proved in our final match with them where we won by one goal to nil in spite of the fact that several of our regular players were away on detachment in Johore.

#### CRICKET.

Cricket and football are both about to commence, the Garrison and Singapore Cricket Leagues, and the Singapore Football Senior and Junior Leagues. It is hoped that the same good results may be obtained by the Battalion this year as last in all these Leagues.

#### OFFICERS' NOTES.

Capt. G. N. A. Cursons, M.C., has rejoined the Battalion from the Machine Gun School, at Ahmednagar, India.

Capt. W. W. Jefferd and Lieut. A. V. Weller have left the Battalion for a tour of duty at the Depot.

Major H. F. Spence has left the Battalion with Mrs. Spence, on eight months' leave in England.

Major D. C. Owen, D.S.O., has joined the Battalion on posting from 3rd Battalion.

Capt. C. T. Whinney, M.C., and 2/Lieuts. P. E. C. Tuckey and H. P. Lambert have joined the Battalion.

Capt. V. J. Garrow has joined the Battalion from the Depot, accompanied by his wife.

Capt. and Qr.Mr. J. English has joined the Battalion on appointment as Quartermaster, accompanied by his wife and family.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

Before starting my notes this quarter I think it will be advisable as we have reached the end of the Army year, to mention the trophies won by the Battalion since our sojourn in Singapore. The following are the year's harvest:—

1. Malaya Borneo Exhibition Football Cup (for keeps).
2. 1st Division Football League Shield.
3. Singapore Football Association Cup.
4. Garrison Shield won by "A" Coy.
5. Governors' Hockey Cup won by "H.Q." 2 Coy.

Five trophies is not a very big win for one year, but as that is all there is to collect, we mustn't grumble.

It was with great pleasure I notice that the late 3rd Battalion had won No. 2 twice and No. 3 once during its stay here in 1908.

The Mess has been very strong at tennis lately and thanks to the energetic efforts of Smudger & Co., the court has been considerably renovated and improved. A tennis handicap (singles) was played off quite recently, the winner being C.S.M. Mantell and the runner-up Sergt. Follenfant.

Twice have we played the Civilian Warders at football. The first game we beat them 2—0, in the second game which took place on Easter Monday, they returned the compliment and beat us 1—0. There was nothing startling about the play, Wouf did (exceptionally) well ?? in goal, and I think it quite likely he will be picked for the regimental goalkeeper this year. However, time will prove.

The Easter holidays went off very well, considering the very inclement weather. A tennis "At Home" had been arranged for Saturday, but was cancelled owing to rain.

On Easter Monday we played a billiard tournament. The following are the scores:

MIDDLESEX.		WARDERS.	
Sgt. Palmer	... 150	Mr. King	... 95
C.Q.M.S. Wigginton	150	Mr. Walsh	... 109
Sgt. Blake	... 150	Mr. Lindsay	... 102
Sgt. Steadman	... 150	Mr. Adcock	... 122

The regimental sports took place on January 13th, 1923, when the Sergeants

carried off a fair share of the spoils, thanks to the strenuous efforts of the undermentioned prize-winners:—

Sergt. Wayte—2nd, 100 yards; 1st, 220 yards; 3rd, 440 yards; 2nd, Long Jump; 1st, 100 yards, open.

Sergt. Capel—2nd, Hurdles; 1st, Putting the Shot.

Sergt. Hewett—3rd, 220 Yards; 2nd, 440 Yards.

Sergt. Colbourne—1st, High Jump. Height, 5 ft. 2 in.

The Sergeants' and Veterans' Races were run off, the winners being:—

Sergeants' Race.—Sergt. Wilson.

Veterans' Race.—R.S.M. Douthet.

The Garrison sports followed shortly after and were held at Tanglin. The Mess was "At Home" to the Garrison; a few made themselves quite at home by 6 p.m. In several cases chairs were utilized for beds, but "Nuff said."

The Cricket and Football Leagues, First and Second Divisions, are in full swing, besides the Inter-Company Cricket and Football Leagues, so shall be quite busy in the sports line for the next few months, and the Mess is anxiously looking forward for more silver trophies to adorn the table. We all wish the regimental teams the best of luck and hope they repeat last season's successes.

During the month of March "A" and "B" Companies left us and went for a fortnight's training in jungle warfare, at Kota Tinggi. Everybody looked very fit and well when they returned. Later "D" Company went for an eight days' route march. I believe they were assisted on their weary way by the drums. It is hard to decide which of the two parties spun the biggest yarns on their return to barracks; it must have been most wonderful jungles they went through; Tarzan is not in it—ask Drummy.

We have had quite a lot of losses during the present trooping season.

Departures: R.S.M. Douthet, Sergts. Payne, Pilgrim, Hill, Wallace, Egan, and Fox.

Arrivals: R.S.M. Paris and Sergt. Campbell, C.Q.M.S. Baker, and Band-Sergt. Glover joined us from Egypt, and Sergt.-Dmr. Siddons from England.

A farewell dinner and smoker was given in honour of R.S.M. Douthet. After dinner he was presented with a souvenir and he gave a short speech appropriate to the occasion. We all miss (Bob) and wish him the very best of luck.

Sergt. Tungate, D.C.M., did very well on his course of musketry in India, and came back to us with a big smile and a "Distinguished." Congrats! It was very unfortunate that he was admitted to hospital almost as soon as he rejoined us, but we all hope to see his smiling face in the Mess very shortly.

Sergts. Cox and Peck have just returned from India. It was unfortunate that they had to spend Christmas Day on the water. A few more words before I close. Any would-be candidates for Singapore before coming here please go through a course of "Kruschen," this country is very bad for the liver, as the majority of our new arrivals will tell you; so prepare "Kruschen" or "Spingahs."

'ERB.

#### BAND NOTES.

Since the restarting of the Journal the band have not had much to say for themselves, but now we intend to start and hope to keep up the reputation always held by the band—in sport as well as music.

The band have had a good many successes in practically every branch of sport—hockey, cricket, football, running, etc.

The following are a few of the different matches recently played:—

Hockey: Band v. S.R.C., 5—0.

Cricket: Band v. Y.M.C.A., 103—60.

Football: Band v. S.R.C., 3—1; v. McAllisters, 2—1.

It is with much pleasure that I am able to state that we have the following Battalion champions in the band:—

Running (Mile)—Bdsmn. Turner. Swimming—Bdsmn. Botting. Billiards—L./Cpl. Palmer.

A billiards match was held for "Under the rank of Sergeant." There was a rumour of Palmer playing the best player in the Sergeants' Mess, but we may be able to comment on that in the next issue.

In the musical line we find there is plenty of work for us to do. The people at Government House and the Botanical Gardens, especially, are quite used to seeing us. When in the Stadium we always have a very large audience who appreciate the music.

On April 20th a dance band went to Malacca and from there to Kuala Lumpur.

While at Malacca the band (ten strong) played the Club, and I think there is no

disgrace in saying we were beaten 4—2. We were very unfortunate in losing L./Cpl. Secretan during the first ten minutes of the game, owing to his knee being put out.

We played at "St. George's Ball," Saturday evening, and at a special church service, Sunday evening.

The following is an extract from the *Straits Times*:—

"The dance was held on Saturday evening last, and undoubtedly the services rendered by Bandmaster Cooke, his N.C.Os. and men left nothing to be desired. The time was perfect and the manner of encores called for after each dance proved conclusively the appreciation of all present. Three good hearty cheers for the band brought the dance to a close at about 3.45 a.m.

On Sunday evening, in Christ Church, Malacca, the Middlesex Band attended the evening service, which was thoroughly enjoyed by the large congregation present. It was undoubtedly one of the most beautiful services yet held in Malacca, and for the presence of the band a vote of special thanks is due to Bandmaster Cooke. The opening and closing voluntaries, "All Souls' Day" and "Silver Trumpets" respectively, were beautifully rendered; while the cornet solo, "The Last Watch," by Sergt. Fairchild, was especially appreciated.

From Malacca we travelled to Kuala Lumpur to perform at St. George's Ball there on Monday evening, and returned to Singapore Wednesday morning.

In closing the notes for this quarter, we wish all our contemporaries the best of luck and good wishes—and would be very pleased to hear from any of them at any old time.

"G" STRING.

#### OFFICERS' CLUB.

##### ANNUAL DINNER.

OF the 128 members of the Club, 59 attended the first annual dinner, which was held at the Trocadero on June 25th. This dinner may well be considered as one of the most memorable in the annals of the Regiment, as being the first occasion on which all officers who have ever served in any Battalion of the Regiment assembled at such a function. A portion of the regimental plate was brought from the Depot, and the

table was decorated with flowers in the Colours of the Regiment. As a permanent record for all time, we append a full list of those who attended:—

Lieut.-Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O.  
Brig.-Gen. F. D. Lumley, C.B., C.B.E.  
Col.-Commndt. F. W. Ramsay, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

Col. J. L. Blumfeld, T.D.  
Col. H. W. E. Finch, C.B.E., D.S.O.  
Col. R. F. B. Glover, D.S.O.  
Col. J. H. Hall, C.M.G., D.S.O.  
Col. R. H. Hayes, C.M.G.  
Col. G. B. Lempiere.  
Col. Sir G. C. Mashiter, K.C.B., C.M.G.  
Col. L. G. Oliver, C.M.G.  
Col. A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham, O.B.E.  
Col. G. W. W. Savile, C.B.E., D.S.O.  
Col. C. W. Warden.

Lieut.-Col. E. E. F. Baker, D.S.O., M.C.  
Lieut.-Col. G. Beach, T.D.  
Lieut.-Col. J. S. Cunningham, D.S.O.  
Lieut.-Col. W. H. C. Davy.  
Lieut.-Col. C. D. Drew, D.S.O.  
Lieut.-Col. C. A. H. Graves, O.B.E.  
Lieut.-Col. R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O.  
Lieut.-Col. V. L. N. Pearson, D.S.O.  
Lieut.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O.  
Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel.

Major P. B. Allott, O.B.E.  
Major G. B. Anderson, M.C.  
Major H. P. F. Bicknell, D.S.O.  
Major G. L. Brown, D.S.O.  
Major A. C. Dundas, O.B.E.  
Major C. Jarrett, D.S.O.  
Major W. Lloyd-Jones, D.S.O.  
Major H. G. Money.  
Major L. L. Pargiter, D.S.O.  
Major L. J. Passy.  
Major R. A. Slee.

Major W. A. Stewart, O.B.E.  
Major F. S. Steed, D.C.M.  
Major O. H. Tidbury, M.C.  
Major G. W. H. Tupper.  
Capt. R. D. Bennett, M.C.  
Capt. L. F. Findlay.  
Capt. H. E. Foster.  
Capt. G. L. Fox.

Capt. C. W. Haydon, M.C.  
Capt. H. E. Hefter, M.C.  
Capt. J. P. Jamieson, D.S.O.  
Capt. W. W. Jefferd.  
Capt. A. Joyce, M.C.  
Capt. J. N. Lamont, M.C.  
Capt. F. A. L. Lawrence.  
Capt. R. N. Moore.  
Capt. W. H. Parmeter.  
Capt. H. Phillips, M.C.  
Capt. V. E. Stock, M.C.  
Capt. M. Thorne.

Lieut. R. M. Lester.  
Lieut. B. B. Rackham, M.C.  
Lieut. J. G. C. Reid.  
Lieut. A. V. Weller.

The regimental cricket week was held at the Depot from June 27th to 30th.

The Officers' Club were "At Home." Amongst those who attended, we noticed

the following:—Lieut.-Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse; Col. and Mrs. Savile; Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Poole; Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Samuel; Mrs. Scott-Moncrieff; Col. Hall; Capt. Foster; Major and Mrs. Lloyd-Jones; Mrs. Passingham; Capt. and Mrs. Thorne; Capt. and Mrs. and Miss Jamieson; Lieut.-Col. Beach; Col. Hewitt; Col. and Mrs. Glover; Mrs. and Miss Ash; Mrs. Reid; Lieut.-Col. Cunningham; Major-Gen. and Mrs. Davidson; Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Rooke; Mrs. B. E. Ward; Miss H. Ward; Mrs. G. Neale; Col. and Mrs. Finch; Major and Mrs. and the Misses Steed; Major and Mrs. Amor; Lieut. Molz; Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Molz; Capt. R. D. Bennett; Capt. Hefter; Lieut.-Col. C. D. Drew; Mrs. Ross; Col. and Mrs. E. V. Bellers.

No doubt the success of a cricket week depends upon the cricket, but from a social point of view it depends a great deal more upon the weather. We were extremely fortunate in having four glorious fine days. Auld acquaintances never forgotten were materially brought to mind, and exchanged many happy recollections over cups of kindness or tea. Our largest gathering, who assembled on the Saturday afternoon, had their attention distracted by air as well as by land. The R.A.F. held their pageant at Hendon, and a constant stream of planes hovered over the cricket ground throughout the afternoon. The Depot band was thoroughly appreciated, and everyone was unanimous in its praise. The enclosure, decorated with flowers and shrubs, looked charming. Lunches and teas were provided in marquees and in the open. Altogether the four days were a great success both socially and "cricketally." In some respects, however, it might be better to limit visitors' days to two instead of four, so that everybody might have more chance of meeting everybody. We want the cricket week to be a real reunion—no good-byes, only *au revoir* until we meet again next year. The following are the results of the four matches played:—

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT *v.*  
COL. C. DISNEY-ROEBUCK'S XI.

Won.

(June 27th, 1923.)

COL. C. DISNEY-ROEBUCK'S XI.

Col. E. English, b Benham	...	...	0
Mr. G. Churchill, b Pain	...	...	20
Mr. C. West, b Northcott	...	...	41
Mr. F. Landale, b Northcott	...	...	19
Mr. H. Brown, c Pargiter b Pain	...	...	10

Mr. H. Oglethorpe, c Pargiter b Pain	...	...	2
Capt. L. Sutton, b Northcott	...	...	1
Mr. E. Resher, c Pargiter b Pain	...	...	7
Major G. Cockburn, not out	...	...	7
Mr. W. Webb, c Phillips b Northcott	...	...	0
Col. C. Disney-Roebuck, b Pain	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	15
Total	...	...	122

Bowling: Benham, 1 for 24; Jamieson, 0 for 14; Pain, 5 for 39; Northcott, 4 for 30.

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.

Capt. H. Phillips, b Oglethorpe	...	...	2
L./Cpl. H. Northcott, b Sutton	...	...	0
Mr. E. Pain, 2nd Bn., b Sutton	...	...	0
Capt. T. Jamieson, late 4th Bn., b Sutton	...	...	68
Major L. Pargiter, b Sutton	...	...	11
Major H. Money, late 3rd Bn., b Sutton	...	...	9
R.S.M. R. Pigott, c Landale b Sutton	...	...	0
Mr. J. Reid, not out	...	...	42
L./Cpl. A. Benham, c Roebuck b Brown	...	...	5
Capt. V. Stock, b Sutton	...	...	0
Pte. H. Willis, b Sutton	...	...	2
Extras	...	...	10
Total	...	...	149

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT *v.* CRYPTICS.

Lost.

(June 28th, 1923.)

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.

Capt. H. Phillips, b Dunglass	...	...	10
Mr. J. Reid, b Mackinon	...	...	3
L./Cpl. W. Northcott, b Frost	...	...	30
Capt. T. Jamieson, late 4th, b Young	...	...	20
Major L. Pargiter, c Webster b Frost	...	...	0
Capt. A. Fox, 9th Bn., b Young	...	...	3
Major H. Money, late 3rd Bn., lbw b Frost	...	...	0
R.S.M. R. Pigott, run out	...	...	7
L./Cpl. A. Benham, lbw b Young	...	...	0
Mr. E. Pain, 2nd Bn., b Young	...	...	0
Pte. H. Willis, not out	...	...	1
Extras	...	...	18
Total	...	...	92

CRYPTICS.

Mr. E. Resher, b Phillips	...	...	41
Mr. G. Churchill, c Northcott b Pain	...	...	16
Lord Dunglass, run out	...	...	19
Mr. D. Whitecombe, b Jamieson	...	...	40
Mr. N. Chamberlain, c Pigott b Northcott	...	...	12
Mr. G. Banks, not out	...	...	25
Mr. P. Webster, b Fox	...	...	9
Capt. D. Turnbull, not out	...	...	15
Extras	...	...	17
Total (6 wks.)	...	...	194

Mr. G. Young, Mr. E. Mackinon, and Mr. J. Frost did not bat.

Bowling: Pain, 1 for 33; Benham, 0 for 21; Jamieson, 1 for 32; Phillips, 1 for 26; Northcott, 1 for 47; Fox, 1 for 18.

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT *v.*

MR. C. D. SOMAN'S XI.

Tie.

(June 29th, 1923.)

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.

R.S.M. R. Pigott, c Soman b Beg	...	...	8
Mr. J. Reid, b Beg	...	...	23
Mr. J. Charlesworth, 1st Bn., c Beg b Bajanna	...	...	6
Capt. T. Jamieson, late 4th, lbw b Bajanna	...	...	35
L./Cpl. H. Northcott, c and b Bajanna	...	...	3
Capt. H. Phillips, b Beg	...	...	18
Major L. Pargiter, c Driskell b Bajanna	...	...	1
Major H. Money, late 3rd Bn., c Soman b Bajanna	...	...	0
Capt. A. Fox, 9th Bn., lbw b Beg	...	...	0
Mr. E. Pain, 2nd Bn., not out	...	...	4
L./Cpl. A. Benham, lbw b Beg	...	...	4
Extras	...	...	9
Total	...	...	111

MR. C. D. SOMAN'S XI.

Mr. H. Bloodworth, b Fox	...	...	10
Mr. C. Soman, b Benham	...	...	0
Mr. R. Talyar, c Pargiter b Fox	...	...	17
Mr. A. Tyrlle, c Pigott b Benham	...	...	35
Mr. M. Bajanna, c Money b Benham	...	...	22
Mr. A. Physick, c Pargiter b Fox	...	...	6
Mr. M. Beg, c Jamieson b Fox	...	...	1
Mr. G. Isles, c Fox b Benham	...	...	1
Mr. R. Driskell, lbw b Benham	...	...	0
H. Willis, not out	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	20
Total	...	...	111

Bowling: Benham, 5 for 18; Pain, 0 for 12; Northcott, 0 for 9; Fox, 4 for 33; Jamieson, 0 for 19.

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT *v.* HAMPSTEAD.

Won.

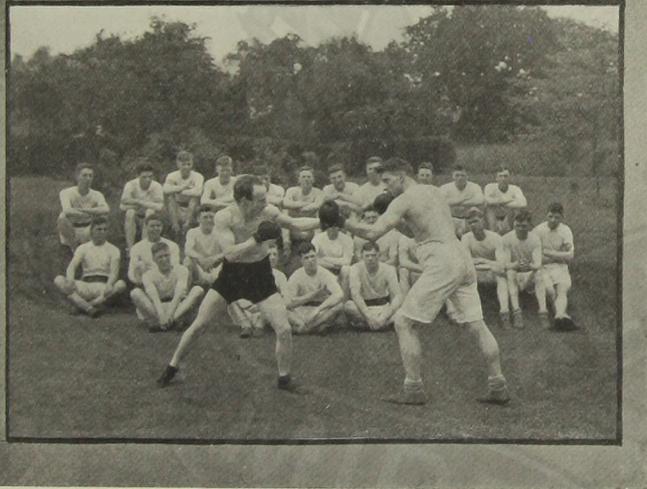
(June 30th, 1923.)

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.

Mr. J. Reid, c and b Gow	...	...	1
R.S.M. R. Pigott, b Gow	...	...	0
L./Cpl. W. Northcott, b Gow	...	...	0
Mr. J. Charlesworth, 1st Bn., b Wright	...	...	26
Capt. H. Phillips, c Bennett b Gow	...	...	10
Major L. Pargiter, b Baker	...	...	91
Major H. Money, late 3rd Bn., b Mackie	...	...	11
L./Cpl. A. Benham, lbw b Gow	...	...	1
Capt. V. Stock, b Roderick	...	...	14
Sergt. E. Burns, b Bennett	...	...	15
Pte. H. Willis, not out	...	...	2
Extras	...	...	34
Total	...	...	205

HAMPSTEAD.

Mr. T. Farmiloe, run out	...	...	9
Mr. G. Palmer, c Pargiter b Phillips	...	...	6
Mr. G. Muddock, b Phillips	...	...	11
Mr. R. Crampton, b Phillips	...	...	21
Mr. W. Danby, b Northcott	...	...	10
Mr. J. Mackie, c Pargiter b Phillips	...	...	1



[Photos: Mr. E. Morris]

RECRUITS AT THE DEPOT UNDERGOING INSTRUCTION IN PHYSICAL TRAINING AND BOXING.

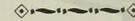
Mr. T. Roderick, b Phillips	...	...	...	12
Mr. G. Gow, b Benham	...	...	...	27
Mr. A. Baker, c Pigott b Benham	...	...	...	0
Mr. A. Bennett, not out	...	...	...	20
Mr. H. Wright, lbw b Benham	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	2

Total ... .. 119

Bowling: Phillips, 5 for 58; Benham, 3 for 30; Northcott, 1 for 29.

## OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES.

Will members kindly forward any views or suggestions to the Hon. Secretary in connection with next year's "At Homes" (or on any other points) for consideration of the committee at their next quarterly meeting on October 27th.



## DEPOT NOTES.

## OFFICERS.

Lieut. R. L. Hill, posted to the 1st Battalion with effect from 23/4/23.

Lieut. J. G. E. Reid, posted from the 1st Battalion for a tour of duty at the Depot as Assistant Adjutant.

Lieut. B. B. Rackham, M.C., appointed Acting Adjutant of the Depot, 26/6/23.

Major A. C. Dundas, O.B.E., joined 1st Battalion, July 18th.

Capt. H. Phillips, M.C., relinquished his appointment of Adjutant and is attached to the 1st Battalion.

Capt. and Qr.Mr. M. W. Farrow retired on reaching the age limit on June 13th, and was relieved by Capt. and Qr.Mr. V. E. Stock, M.C., from the 1st Battalion.

We offer our congratulations to Capt. H. Phillips, M.C., on his success in the Army Golfing Championship. He was fifth in order of merit in the individual competition.

It is hoped that in future years the Regiment may enter a team of golfers in the Regimental Competition.

## GENERAL.

Training of recruits is now in full swing.

There are now four squads; each squad is designated by name, in addition to the month they started training.

Those now in training are known as "Albuhera," which was formed on April

16th; "Mons" started on April 23rd; "Ypres" was formed on May 28th; and "Nivelle," commenced on June 25th.

The following warrant officers and non-commissioned officers have proceeded to the Vocational Training Class at Hounslow pending discharge:—

C.S.M. W. Manning, D.C.M.; C.Q.M.Ss. J. Steward and J. Adcock; and Sergt.-Cook W. Phipps.

Owing to the reduction of establishment, C.S.Ms. E. Cullum and H. Gray, D.C.M., C.Q.M.S. A. Purcell, Sergts. C. Kent, F. Campbell, D.C.M., and C. Mabb have rejoined the 1st Battalion.

The undermentioned recruits have been appointed temporary (unpaid) lance-corporals, with effect from June 20th, 1923:—

Ptes. A. Mansfield, W. Lee, T. Martin, and Ravenall; also J. Henderson, from July 7th.

The undernamed obtained 3rd Class Certificates of Education at an examination held at Mill Hill on May 30th, 1923:—

All except four of these men were recruits with about six weeks' service.

6077634 Pte. W. Bell.  
6195682 Pte. W. Boothby.  
6195683 Pte. E. Britton.  
5878482 Pte. W. Claxton.  
6195670 Pte. P. Evans.  
6195678 Pte. J. Fletcher.  
6195666 Pte. E. Foulger.  
6195660 Pte. E. Goble.  
6195618 Pte. W. Higgins.  
6195634 Pte. H. Hickman.  
6745562 Pte. R. Hobbs.  
6194375 Pte. A. Johnson.  
6189156 Pte. W. Kimber.  
6195668 Pte. W. Lee.  
6195658 Pte. A. Mansfield.  
6195676 Pte. H. Meakins.  
6195674 Pte. J. Merry.  
6195626 Pte. F. Orton.  
6194114 Pte. E. Ormes.  
6195631 Pte. H. Pearce.  
6195388 Pte. L. Smith.  
6195686 Pte. J. Smith.  
5987968 Pte. R. Sage.  
6195691 Pte. S. Trewick.  
6195661 Pte. T. Wiggett.  
6195669 Pte. F. Willis.

The following recruits obtained the highest points:—

- 1, Pte. F. Willis, 286; awarded prize.
- 2, Pte. J. Fletcher, 268; awarded prize.
- 3, Pte. J. Smith, 254.

R.Q.M.S. F. Holman, discharged to pension after 21 years' service, on July 7th.

R.Q.M.S. F. Holman is taking over the duties of Pensioner Paid Recruiter at Mill Hill.

In accordance with the new establishment and conditions of service at the Depot, the following non-commissioned officers and men have been relieved from the 1st Battalion:—

C.Q.M.S. A. Lewis, by C.Q.M.S. Gray.

Sergt. H. Tisdale, by Sergt. Pain.

L./Sergt. E. Shepherd, by L./Sergt. Brockman.

Cpl. F. Thompson, by Cpl. Stacey.

Sergt. H. Rogers, by Sergt. Darby.

L./Cpls. G. Green, A. Carter, A. Le Poidevin, A. Stenning; Ptes. Kimber, A. Pearce, A. Handford, H. Carnell, L. Trend, A. Galliford, M. Doherty, W. Hunter, J. Richer, A. Stone; Drummers C. Venn, H. Mynott, and J. Murphy.

During the trooping season 1923-24 reliefs will be found from the 2nd Battalion from Sergts. Sheridan and Williard.

Sergt. H. Rogers proceeded to Aldershot for a course of instruction at the Army Physical Training School, 25/6/23.

Ptes. H. Carnell and W. Hunter have been awarded medals for Long Service and Good Conduct.

Messrs. W. Strickland, D.C.M., and J. Judd, D.C.M., have been appointed civilian ex-soldier employés in the officers' and sergeants' messes respectively.

The following have been awarded squad badges for the best recruit in the squad:—

*April and May.*—"Albuhera" Squad: Ptes. Mansfield and Lee. "Mons" Squad: Ptes. Britton and Potts. "Ypres" Squad: Pte. Henderson.

*Best Recruits at Physical Training.*—"Albuhera" Squad: Pte. Walsh. "Mons" Squad: Pte. Britton.

*Prizes for Best Kits laid down.*—Pte. Ford, "Albuhera" Squad; Pte. Wilkinson, "Mons" Squad.

We congratulate L./Cpl. A. Mansfield on winning the Army Rifle Association bronze badge for the Recruits' Match in June. He obtained 111 points out of a possible 120. L./Cpl. W. Lee was second, with 110 points; Pte. F. Willis third, with a total of 105; The average score of the team of 30 competitors was 82.

Wireless listening-in sets have been installed at the Depot in the Lecture Room,

Officers' Mess, and Sergeants' Mess. We hope they will prove a source of amusement to all.

Gen. Sir George Milne, G.C.M.G., G.O.C. Eastern Command, visited the Depot on July 13th. He inspected the barracks, institutes, and squad undergoing training, and expressed satisfaction with all he saw.

#### ALBUHERA DAY.

The 112th anniversary of the Battle of Albuhera was observed as a holiday at the Depot.

Special "Albuhera Day" sports were held for the benefit of the recruits, and, in spite of the cold and bitter wind that prevailed, the various events were entered into with enthusiasm by the competitors.

The following are the results:—

*440 Yards.*—1, Pte. Copelin; 2, Pte. Britton; 3, Pte. Fletcher.

*Inter-Squad Blind Competition.*—1, Cpl. Burt's team; 2, Cpl. Thomas's team.

*Three-Legged Race.*—1, Ptes. Higgins and Evans; 2, Ptes. Sewell and Newstead; 3, Ptes. Boothby and Button.

*Sack Race.*—1, Pte. Ford; 2, Pte. Mansfield; 3, Pte. Ravenall.

*220 Yards.*—1, Pte. Copelin; 2, Pte. Hornett; 3, Pte. Britton.

*440 Yards, Open.*—1, Cpl. Fleming; 2, Pte. Ford; 3, Pte. Hamer.

*Ladies' Egg and Spoon Race.*—1, Mrs. Stone; 2, Mrs. Carter; 3, Mrs. Crouch.

*Veterans' Race.*—1, Pte. Foley; 2, ex-R.S.M. W. Smith; 3, ex-Sergt. C. Gibson.

*880 Yards, Open.*—1, Cpl. Burt; 2, Cpl. Thomas; 3, Cpl. Fleming; 4, Pte. Pestall.

*Enlisted Boys' Race.*—1, Boy Middleton; 2, Boy Gordon; 3, Boy Laws.

*One Mile Race.*—1, Cpl. Burt; 2, Cpl. Thomas; 3, Sergt. Tisdale.

*Potato Race.*—1, Pte. Willis; 2, Pte. Hornett; 3, Pte. Copelin.

*Inter-Squad Relay Race.*—1, "Albuhera" Squad; 2, "Mons" Squad; 3, "Ypres" Squad.

*Bun and Treacle Race.*—1, Pte. Mansfield; 2, Pte. Clark; 3, Pte. Sewell.

*Children's Race (Boys).*—1, Francis Oldham; 2, William Adcock.

*Children's Race (Girls).*—1, Isobel Adcock; 2, Gladys Rogers.

*Tug-of-War.*—1, "Albuhera" Squad (Cpl.

Burt's team); 2, "Ypres" Squad (Sergt. Williard's team).

*Champion Recruit.*—Pte. Copelin.

At the conclusion of the sports the prizes were distributed by Mrs. Pearson to the successful competitors.

#### BOXING.

A most successful Novices' Inter-Squad Boxing Competition was held at the Depot during the week ending July 11th. Teams of 12 were selected to represent their squads. Forty-eight competitors stepped into the ring out of a total of 110 recruits.

This high percentage is most encouraging, and the general form displayed was exceptionally good.

These meetings will in future be held once a quarter, and it is hoped that many of these lads will join their battalions fit to enter the ring against all comers.

"Albuhera" Squad won the competition after beating "Mons" Squad in the final. The names of the winners were:—

A./L./Cpls. Mansfield and Lee, Ptes. Foulger, Hinsby, Walsh, Ormes, Evans, Higgins, Ford, Orton, Pearce, and Hamer.

Good loser prizes were awarded to A./L./Cpl. Henderson, Ptes. Varley, Lowry, Wiggett, and Smith.

#### REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOTES.

THE committee held its quarterly meeting on June 23rd. The Secretary reported that:—

	Since April 1st.	Since Jan. 1st.
Amount of grants made ...	£84/8/11	£247/12/4
Number of cases dealt with ...	147	220
Number of cases assisted ...	55	133
Number of men registered for employment ...	432	468
Number of men found permanent employment ...	28	92
Number of men found temporary employment ...		4
Number of parcels sent out from Ladies' Guild ...	17	34

Arrangements to hold quarterly entertainments for Old Comrades in each quarter were approved.

Grants for the year were sanctioned on behalf of Battalions to the undermentioned charities:—

	£	s.	d.
British Legion (affiliation fee) ...	1	1	0
Charity Organisation Society ...	2	2	0
Charity Organisation Society (Registration Branch) ...	1	1	0
Friends of the Poor ...	2	2	0
Gordon Boys' Home ...	1	1	0
Hospital for Sick Children ...	2	2	0
National Association for Employment of Ex-Soldiers ...	2	2	0
Netley Charitable Fund ...	2	2	0
Newport Market Training School ...	1	1	0
Royal Drummond Institute ...	2	2	0
Royal Soldiers' Daughters' Home ...	2	2	0
Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society ...	2	2	0
Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association ...	2	2	0
St. Dunstan's ...	1	1	0

A special sub-committee consisting of the undermentioned were appointed to consider a revision of the rules of the Association:—

Capt. H. E. Foster (chairman); Lieut.-Cols. Beach, Rooke, and Pearson; R.Q.M.S. Duffield, and Mr. E. Morris.

Many subscribers will be gratified to hear that this special sub-committee have under consideration a proposal to grant preferential assistance (if needed) to those who subscribe to the funds of the Association whilst in a position to do so.

The Roll of Honour, in book form, giving the names of officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men of all battalions of the Regiment who were killed, or died of wounds or sickness during the war, with plates of memorial, tablet, and also unveiling ceremony, are now available, and can be obtained on application to the Secretary. Price—morocco bound, 21s.; stiff paper cover, 2s. 6d.; post free.

#### ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Association was held at 6.30 p.m. on June 23rd at the Great Eastern Hotel.

Lieut.-Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O., presided, and in his opening remarks, whilst welcoming the new chairman of the Association, alluded to the loss sustained by the resignation of Brig.-Gen. Ross from that position.

The chairman (Col. J. H. Hall, C.M.G., D.S.O.), in presenting the Annual Report for 1922, explained the position as regards the Roll of Honour books and the Regimental History. He drew attention to the enlarging

activities of the Association in taking over the administration of the Regimental Cottage Homes and of the Regimental Journal (THE DIE-HARDS), and also in organizing quarterly entertainments for Old Comrades. He mentioned the very great assistance the Ladies' Guild had given to the Association, and the increasing number of men for whom the Association, through its Secretary, had been able to find employment.

Sir Ivor Maxse, in proposing a vote of thanks to the committee of the Association for their work during the year, alluded to the satisfactory state of the finances, the indebtedness of all to Mrs. Ross and the members of the Ladies' Guild, and the debt of gratitude that the Regiment and the Association owed to Major Steed, the Secretary, "without whom we could not have carried on so well and efficiently."

#### OLD COMRADES' QUARTERLY ENTERTAINMENT.

The first quarterly entertainment for Old Comrades and their wives will be held at The Veterans' Club, Hand Court, Holborn, at 6.30 p.m. on Friday, October 5th. Admittance free. Refreshments will be provided at reasonable rates.

(N.B.—Old Comrades are requested to discountenance any form of requests for pecuniary or other assistance at these entertainments.)

### 8th BATTALION NOTES.

#### YPRES DAY CHURCH PARADE.

Capt. W. H. Parmeter in command, Lieut. M. H. Summers, 2/Lieut. D. R. Pattison, and 50 men of "B" Company (Ealing, Hanwell, and Brentford), 8th Bn. Middlesex Regiment, together with between 40 and 50 former members belonging to the Old Comrades' Association under the command of Lieut. Richards, attended church parade at St. Stephen's, West Ealing, on Sunday morning, July 22nd, the anniversary of the first gas attack made by the Germans at Ypres, 1915, in which the Battalion suffered heavy losses.

Assembling at the Drill Hall, West Ealing, at 9.30 a.m., the men marched to St. Stephen's Church headed by Battalion drums. The 11 a.m. service was adapted by the Rev.

H. W. Mayguard, Vicar, to a memorable service. The hymn "On the Resurrection morning" was sung and suitable prayers included.

In the course of an address to the men, the Rev. Mayguard said that the keeping of anniversaries was a great thing for us, lest we forget. It was fitting to pay the homage of the living to the gallant dead for their example, which had enriched the reaction with dignity the homes they had left. After the service the party marched back to the Drill Hall via St. Stephen's Road, Castle Bar Road, Haven Green, Ealing Broadway, and Uxbridge Road. Capt. Parmeter then placed a wreath of tulips and carnations in the Battalion colours—red and yellow—subscribed for by the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the company, on the memorial tablet to Major A. C. Ruston and men of the company who fell in the 2nd Battle of Ypres. A card on the wreath was inscribed, "In proud and glorious remembrance of Major A. C. Ruston and N.C.Os. and men who fell at the 2nd Battle of Ypres, 1915." After Capt. Parmeter had placed the wreath, Sergt. Witts sounded the "Last Post" and "Réveillé."

#### YELLOW FLASHES.

The Battalion is camping this year in Arundel Park. From year to year we experience the ups and the downs, and most of us prefer the latter. A favourite resort on the River Arun, that is certain to be visited by many from the camp, is "The Black Rabbit." It is feared that the extra worry thereby caused to the refreshment caterers at this spot may cause white hairs to appear.

A recruit went to Bisley from Hounslow; The Sergeant said, "Fire five rounds slow."

His shots hit the grass;  
When they said, "You're an ass,"  
He replied, "Well, you said, 'Fire them rounds low.'"

This recruit might take a light step  
From Bisley to Mill Hill Depot;

Under our Mr. Croucho  
He can practise incognito,  
And to Hounslow return *novus homo*.

The following interesting extract from the *Wellington* (New Zealand) *Post* was received from Mr. E. Bezar, late 57th Regiment,

whose photo, together with another old "Die-Hard"—Mr. W. B. Hinter—we produce on another page:—

#### SIXTY FIVE YEARS AGO.

##### WHAT THE ADVENT OF RIFLES MEANT.

"I believe," writes Mr. E. Bezar, "the following may be classed as a unique experience in British warfare. Sixty-five years ago, on Sunday, 18th March, 1858, a force moved out of Aden to the mainland, comprised of 100 'Die-Hards,' 50 bluejackets, 50 native sappers and artillery, with two six-pounder guns, and 400 Sepoys. Our commander was Captain W. E. Brown, and the whole force was under the command of Brigadier-General Coughlan, with Captain Thacker (uncle of Dr. Thacker) Brigade-Major. Two native scouts on swift camels preceded us, and after a few miles' march sing-singing we saw the two scouts coming our way. As they met us we were halted. They explained something to the General, who turned in his saddle and shouted to throw the advance guard out in skirmishing order. We wondered why, as we could see no sign of an enemy, but before we were extended we were made well aware of the cause, for less than a mile ahead there rose with a yell that shook the ground almost like the recent 'quake about three thousand mounted Arabs—some on horses and others on camels. They started to shoot, so did we. Their fire was perfectly harmless, but our rifles, the first ever used in that part, gave them a surprise. All the remaining force had the old 'Brown Bess.' Arabs and animals began to drop, and after an attempt to outflank us, they made homeward. On reaching a village, we had a rest. Shortly we saw three mounted men coming our way with a white flag. A conference was held, and a settlement arrived at, and we returned that day. We had expected to be three days away. The Arabs acknowledged a loss of three chiefs, seventy others killed, and many wounded. Many animals were also lost. The whole of the 40,000 people of Aden must have lined the roads as we passed to our bungalows, cheering us their best. Not a man on our side had received the slightest injury.

"The cause of the trouble was the stopping of the supplies from the mainland. Water was the greatest loss. From a thousand to fifteen hundred camels arrived daily, mostly loaded with water. In those days the prac-

tice of condensing water was in its infancy, but to-day they have plenty, and possibly need none from the mainland. During our twenty-nine months there it only rained three times, and on two occasions the fall was trifling, but the third was as if some thousands of tons of water had gathered over Aden and suddenly fallen down. It broke through the front wall of 'King Solomon's Tanks' (the wonder to all who see them), and rushed down through the town, carrying with it everything in its way, including 300 camels, into Shark Bay. Our men saved all the camels, and the owners wanted to give us three rupees for each we saved, but this was declined."

### 9th BATTALION NOTES.

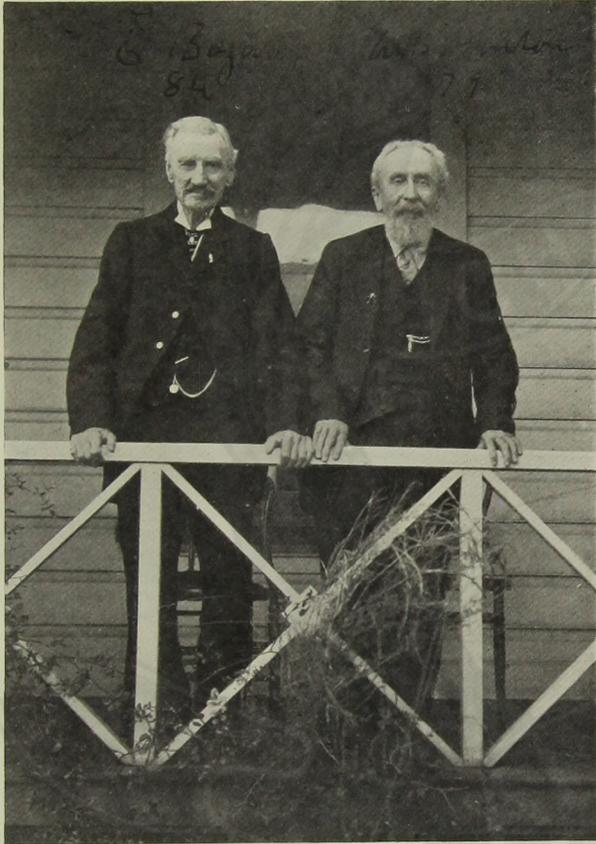
BY the time that this number of the Journal appears the summer annual training will once again be over, and we shall be filled with regrets at the thought of not experiencing for another twelve months the joys of leaky tents (or scorching canvas, as the case may be), of manœuvres over flooded country (or under blazing sun), and energetic parades in delightful surroundings, not to mention such things as torchlight tattoos.

Several interesting incidents have taken place since the last notes went to press, including the unveiling of the Golders Green War Memorial on April 21st. The Battalion provided a party for a guard of honour to Princess Louise, who performed the unveiling ceremony. Subsequent to this a very successful recruiting route march was held the same evening, the Battalion leaving Pound Lane shortly after six o'clock, and proceeding through Harlesden, up the Harrow Road, through Kensal Green, and returning via Kilburn Park and Willesden High Road.

The quarterly dinner was held at Pound Lane on April 23rd, at which there was a good gathering.

Weather, by some curious accident, favoured the Whitsun camp at Bisley, and some good training and musketry was carried out. Another musketry week-end camp was held at Bisley on June 8th to 10th. Week-end training camps were held at Stanmore and Pinner respectively on June 16th and 17th, and July 7th and 8th.

The Battalion is sending representatives as usual to compete in the Annual Bisley



THE OLD "DIE-HARDS."

The above photo, taken in 1921 shows Mr. E. Bezar (left), who is now 84 years of age. He joined the 57th Regiment in 1855. He served through the New Zealand War in 1863 with the Die-Hards, and afterwards retired with the rank of Colour-Sergeant and settled in New Zealand, together with eight others of the Regiment. Only three are now left. Of Mr. Bezar's relations who took part in the Great War, two nephews were killed, two wounded, a son shell-shocked (still in hospital), one grandson wounded, and another returned fit and well. We heartily congratulate Mr. Bezar on this splendid record, and we wish him the very best of good wishes and luck from all serving Die-Hards.

The other old Die-Hard in the photo is Mr. W. B. Hinton, aged 79.

Meeting events this year. We would still emphasize the fact that there are yet a number of men in the Battalion who have not joined the Rifle Club, and point out that the more men that join will correspondingly make it possible to organize more competitions.

We very much desire to call the attention of all members of the Battalion—past and present—to the remarks of the Editor of the Journal. The paper is not receiving the support that it should do, and as no paper can continue on such a basis it is most essential—and the least to expect—that everyone becomes an annual subscriber without delay. A Regimental Journal is an invaluable link between past and serving members of each Battalion, and also between the Battalions themselves, and it is surely up to all to see that it is able to carry on successfully.

## WE HEAR—

That there are no more officers in the Battalion whose names lend themselves to juggling with in this column. We still have hopes of being reminded by some super-wit that the list is not really quite exhausted.

\* \* \*

That, in spite of this, we are entitled to say that during the Harrow pageant one of our Company officers was found a-Botting on the highway.

\* \* \*

That we have to congratulate Lieut. I. E. Furlong on his promotion.

\* \* \*

That Lieut. D. Cleugh has again been called back on business to New York. We quite miss trying to pronounce his name properly—*vide* this ditty:—

There once was a fellow named Cleugh ;  
His name was pronounced by a few  
Completely wrong ;  
Therefore this song  
To ask—is it Clow, Cluff, or Clue ?

\* \* \*

That there is no truth in the report of the formation of an Officers' Motor Car Squadron.

\* \* \*

That the new military mathematics include the equation: "Plus four(s) equals minus two (quid)."

◆◆◆◆◆

THE 4th BATTALION AT  
AUBOURG STATION.

A STORY OF GALLANTRY.

By W. BRAZEAR, LATE 4TH BN. MIDDLESEX  
REGIMENT.

ON the morning of August 23rd, 1914, a party of the 4th Battalion Middlesex Regiment, under Capt. Glass, was in position at Aubourg Station. The time I am not sure of, but I remember the church bells ringing. We held our position with confidence, until our leader, Capt. Glass, received a bullet wound. Capt. Roy then took command, and a rumour came through that we had to retire. Some went immediately, but Capt. Roy ordered us to hold on, as he did not think the information given to retire was genuine; but the rumour came again, and others retired. There were then very few left to defend the position, which was a good one, providing the Boche artillery did not find us, and that didn't happen during my stay. We were on the top floor of the Aubourg Station, in the corridor facing the canal, where the enemy were expected to cross. The windows being a little high, we carried beds from the bedrooms, and piled them up to lay level with the windows, and put sandbags on the window ledges. We were comfortable, and prepared to stop the enemy from crossing the canal bridge. Several of the enemy did try, but paid the penalty; we were only a few, but misled them with our rapid fire. We held good until midday; by then we had dwindled down to three men: I do not remember their names, but one—a Jack something—was killed shortly afterwards, and if the other is still alive and reads this article, he will remember this incident. As we were only

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three, we decided to get out into the open. The quickest way was to slide down the roof on to the station platform. We took up a position a little in rear, still watching the bridge, each man taking his turn at watching. After I had my turn, I gave my right-hand man a dig in the ribs, for I thought he was asleep; but I found that he had received a bullet in the forehead and had died without a murmur. This was the Jack something. Shortly after this the enemy cleared the canal bridge of the obstacles we had put there (a wagon and other things); they had their artillery up, and made short work of the obstacles, and as I was expecting them to do the same with us, we decided to find company. Getting farther back, we found some men in a trench, packed like sardines; and, continuing to our right rear, we met a party under Capt. Roy covering the main road, where the enemy were likely to advance. We settled with them, and we had not been there long before we saw troops advancing from the Aubourg Station towards us. We were told not to fire, as they were in khaki; that delayed us, for we found out when they were closer that it was just a line of our chaps being forced on by the Boche. Then we were ordered to open fire. I remember Capt. Roy's order, "Fight on, men; they are only a few German dogs in front of us." But they were so many in numbers that they trampled over us. Capt. Roy did not last long after that; he fought until he fell; he was a "Die-Hard," but he died easy—a thorough hero. You will see a cross in a field close to Aubourg Station where Capt. Roy fell.

The Regimental Calendar for 1924 is now in course of preparation, and readers who have not already ordered a Calendar are requested to do so as early as possible.

Individual subscribers are reminded that their subscriptions for Nos 5 to 8 (issues August, 1923, to May, 1924) of "THE DIE-HARDS" are now due, and should be remitted to the Editor at once. Copies of this issue will not be sent to those past subscribers who have omitted to renew their subscriptions.

## OBITUARY.

WE regret to record the death of ex-C.Q.M.S. A. Firmston, which took place suddenly at Plymouth on May 5th last. C.Q.M.S. Firmston joined the 4th Battalion on its formation as a drummer-boy in 1900, and served with it until 1916, when he was invalided home from France. After the Armistice C.Q.M.S. Firmston was posted to the 3rd Battalion, and remained with that Battalion until discharged to pension in 1922.

The late non-commissioned officer was a prominent athlete, and was for several years captain of the 4th Battalion regimental football team, including the year that the Battalion was in the final of the Army Cup Competition.

He leaves a widow and two small children.

It is with deep regret we have to announce the death of Mrs. English, the wife of Capt. J. English, 2nd Middlesex Regiment. This sad event took place at Singapore in April last.

Our sympathy goes out to Capt. English in his terrible loss.

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## COMPETITIONS.

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The winning numbers in the first competition, as published in No. 4 issue, May, 1923, are :—

Lowest number—15. Prize, £1.

Highest number—602. Prize, 10/-.

Those who purchased the above copies are requested to cut out the number on the front page of the Journal and post it to the Editor, who will forward the amounts direct to the winners.

The winners' names will be published in the November issue.

### FUNNIEST EXPERIENCE COMPETITION.

Open to all purchasers of THE DIE-HARDS.

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The decision of the Editor is final.

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