

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS
OF

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

No. 355.

MAIDSTONE, JANUARY, 1905.

[Vol. XXIV, No. 1.

REGIMENTAL COMPASSIONATE FUND.

Major-General Leach, C.B., Colonel of the Regiment, has kindly consented to become Patron of the Fund. The accounts are now in the Printer's hands, and a copy will be sent to each subscriber.

From January 1st, 1905, the administration of the Fund will be vested in the Officer Commanding the Depot, to whom all communications should be addressed.

The balance of the South African Regimental Memorial Fund (£46 11s. 9d.) having been paid into the Compassionate Fund, the charge for the repairs of the old 97th Colours and Tablets in Winchester Cathedral was defrayed out of the latter, at a cost of £30 11s., with the approval of Major-General Leach, C.B. Subscriptions for 1905 are now due, and can be paid to London and County Bank, Maidstone, to the credit of the Royal West Kent Regimental Compassionate Fund.

NOTICE.

The Editor *Q.O.G.* has lately acquired about 30 copies of an old print representing the uniform of the 50th Regiment in 1850. This print is already in possession of the various messes and institutes of the Depot and 1st Battalion. The print represents one mounted officer, three dismounted officers and a sentry grouped round a shattered oak tree. The latter is supposed to be symbolical of the 50th Regiment after the Sutlej Campaign, in which the battalion suffered very heavy losses. Copies can be obtained from the Editor, price 2s., post free.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

This month's news consists almost entirely of the Musketry and Field Training of the Battalion. We have been split up into half battalions for Training, and these have followed one another to the various Camps, viz.—a fortnight at Pembroke for Parts I and II Table B Musketry, and three weeks at Mellieha for Part III Table B, and a week's Field Training. The remainder of the Field Training will take place at Ghain Tuffieha, the whole Battalion marching there on 2nd March. I am glad to say that despite the rain and wind by which we were frequently assailed the men greatly improved in health, the percentage in hospital at the present time being just under four.

The Musketry figure of Merit has, I am glad to say, improved greatly, the increase on last year's score being about 20 points. The number of third class shots has decreased considerably more than half. The whole Battalion will be back in barracks by Christmas, and the comfort of having their Christmas dinners under a roof will be greatly appreciated by all.

As you may imagine we have not had a great deal of spare time to indulge in games, but we have made the best of the few square yards of ground that constituted our recreation field at Mellieha by playing a few Hockey and Football Matches against the different Companies of the 2nd Royal Sussex Regiment, who were with us at Mellieha.

The Officers have invested in a six-oared boat with a view of taking away the Governor's Cup from the present holders, the Royal Artillery. We have practically a new boat's crew, there being only one who pulled in the boat race two years ago; still, if we are to believe our Coach (The Rev. L. A. Hughes), that is rather an advantage than otherwise, there being fewer tricks to unlearn.

In conclusion, on behalf of the 1st Battalion, I wish you all a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.

1st Battalion Correspondent.

1st BATTALION INTELLIGENCE.

FOOTBALL NOTES.

On the 28th October the Officers and Sergeants had their Annual Football Match, which resulted in a very close game, the Sergeants being rather doubtful whether the better team won.

The Officers won the toss and chose to play against the wind and sun, and the Sergeants made the best of these disadvantages and scored in the first five minutes. This was the only ace registered in the first half, though there were a few narrow escapes that we had from the Sergeants' strong forward line.

On changing ends the game took a different aspect, and the Officers began and continued to press the Sergeants till the close of time. Lieut. Lynch-White scored the first goal for the Officers from a corner, and the other goal was scored from a free kick, which was awarded to the Officers, Lieut. Phillips making the shot. The Officers thus won by two goals to one. For the winners Lieut. Phillips and 2nd Lieut. Fisher played very well, while Sergts. Harris, Murphy and Sonnenberg did their best to avert defeat. Teams:—Officers—2nd Lieut. Cooke (goal); Capt. O'Dowda and Lieut. Parker (backs); Lieuts. White, Phillips, and 2nd Lieut. Hoare (half-backs); 2nd Lieuts. Hearle, Legard, Fisher, Searight and Belcher (forwards).

Sergeants—Clr.-Sergt. Murphy (goal); Sergt. Harris and Sergt. Dr. Lush (backs); Sergts. Balcombe, Murphy and Brown (half-backs), Sergts. Keen, Walker, Crockett, Merrick and Sonnenberg (forwards).

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Last month I think I promised you a better account of the Company's doings, etc., in my next letter, but I am afraid I shall have to say the same thing this time, and see what next month's issue will bring forth.

We are settled down once again in Barracks, after our experiences at Pembroke and Mellieha, and I can safely say all are glad to be under a substantial roof, as canvas is not at all comfortable this time of the year, and we were fortunate enough to drop in for a spell of cold days and storms.

On the 9th November we were called in from Pembroke to take part in the Review on the Marsa, in honour of His Majesty's Birthday. All troops in the Island were present, and after the usual salute, etc., a March Past took place, H.E. The Governor, taking the salute.

The firing this year at Pembroke has been very creditable, especially the young soldiers. Pte. Sheppard, No. 4 Section, did very well, and no doubt he is proud of the decoration he has won for himself.

After finishing the annual course at Pembroke, we moved on to Mellieha, and carried out Field Firing, etc., etc. The weather having altered for the better, we enjoyed ourselves pretty well. Before leaving the latter place a Camp Concert was held, in which all helped to make a huge success. Pte. McCabe distinguished himself in imitating George Robey, proving once again our noble Company is possessed of excellent and varied talent. No doubt he will be a great acquisition to the forthcoming Xmas festivities.

A draft arrived here on the 27th from Dover, but only four joined our Company. We were all pleased to see Sergt. Saunders once again, but I am sorry to say he has left our Company.

After many rumours we have now really lost Mr. White who left here on the 5th on board the "Dunera" en route for England. By the same boat several of the short service men left us, including Ptes. Buss, Whittaker, and Higgins from our Company.

The Company wish all Comrades in Hong-Kong and England an Enjoyable Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

The following I heard in No. 1 Section whilst at dinner: Pte. Duff:—"Why is a Newspaper like our Regiment?" Pte. Brains:—"Because it has leaders, columns and reviews."

A Company's Correspondent.

2nd BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Hong Kong,

November 19th, 1904.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

You see from this that we have arrived at our destination, "we" consisting of Headquarters, A, D, E and G Companies.

We have bidden a tender farewell to the rest of the Battalion, who are now steaming north to freeze amongst the Pekinese.

Ceylon and all its pleasant memories are left behind, and we are now settling down to our new quarters, which, as they are to be shared for three weeks with the Derbies, will not be unpleasantly empty. However, as the Derbies are old friends of ours, we shall look forward to some sturdy tussles on the football field and elsewhere.

To return to Ceylon; during our last few weeks there we did nothing but add to our laurels. We succeeded in capturing the Colombo Association Football League Cup, and the presentation thereof formed the occasion of an

eloquent speech by our energetic Skipper, Captain Elgood. Since my last letter we have still further strengthened our position by again defeating, on two occasions, the combined attacks of the Colombo civilians. The following represented the Regiment:—Goal, Clr.-Sergt. Spooner; Backs, Sergt. Sayer and Pte. Morris; Half Backs, Pte. Brewer, Sergts. Redmond and Mills; Forwards, Capt. Elgood, Sergt. Reynolds, Ptes. Butler, Clements and Moore.

Shortly before leaving our Sergeants shot the Staff of the Ceylon Volunteers, or rather shot against them, and defeated them by 50 points, this being our last appearance on the Hunupitiya Range. The following were the scores:

SERGEANTS, R. W. K. Regt.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total
Clr.-Sergt. Thorne ...	31	34	30	95
Clr.-Sergt. Jury ...	29	30	30	89
Sergt. Moir ...	24	29	23	76
Sergt. Andrews ...	29	28	27	84
Sergt.-Major Mitchell ...	35	28	26	89
Sergt. P. C. Kevin ...	27	31	28	88
Arm.-Sergt. Simons ...	29	31	26	86
Clr.-Sergt. Spooner ...	30	30	26	86
Sergt. A. Reynolds ...	33	21	26	80
Sergt. Redmond ...	26	27	24	77

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STAFF C.V.F.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total
Clr.-Sergt. G. Hunt ...	34	30	28	92
Qr.-Mstr.-Sergt. Lallgett ...	39	32	26	87
Clr.-Sergt. Fitzgerald ...	31	31	25	87
Clr.-Sergt. Stone ...	24	30	30	84
Clr.-Sergt. Heiss ...	26	29	27	82
Sergt.-Major Kent ...	25	29	25	79
Clr.-Sergt. Williamson... ..	25	32	21	78
Sergt.-Major G. Basset ...	26	27	18	71
Clr.-Sergt. Hall ...	29	29	13	71
Clr.-Sergt. Tago... ..	25	25	17	67

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On October 27th the Colombo Polo Club held a Gymkhana on the Race Course, and we took the opportunity of giving an "At Home." Capt. Moody carried off the Polo Scurry.

We are all heartily sorry to leave Ceylon, but by all accounts we have every prospect of having a cheery and strenuous life at Hong Kong.

2nd Battalion Correspondent.

DEPOT INTELLIGENCE.

The undermentioned N.C.O.'s and Men have been awarded Certificates of Education:—FIRST CLASS—3119 Sergt. H. Davis, Per. Staff, 3rd R.W.K. Regt. SECOND CLASS—5556 Pte. P. Wilson, 3rd R.W.K. Regt.; 6395 Corpl. W. White, Depot; 6529 Lce.-Corpl. M. Crisford, Depot; 7674 Lce.-Corpl. L. Waern, Depot. THIRD CLASS—7930 Ptes. Battey; 7832 James; 7883 Ash; 7931 Fort; 7829 Robinson; 7880 Down; 7844 Douch; 7915 Cannon; 7916 Bartholomew; 7859 Heath; 7831 Royle; 7941 Connell; 7837 Baldwin; 7845 Bishop; 7833 Hewitt; 7903 Legh; 7945 Harriss; 7946 Harvie; 7859 Glanville; 7899 Hay; 7885 Richardson; 7907 Stewart; 7926 Garvey; 7873 Graham; 7825 Moss; 7894 Raven; 7838 Faulkner; 7900 Montgomery; 7890 Williams; 7866 Way; 7860 Boother; 7827 Ramsay; 7849 Barker.

The undermentioned have passed Group I, First Class Certificate:—4628 Lce.-Sergt. Stringer; 6191 Corpl. Martin; 7248 Dr. Verrall; 7864 Pte. Hart; 7823 Pte. Garland.

The Detachment School at the Depot, although carried on in a condemned building during the past year, has produced some very satisfactory results, the following being the results for the year:—First Class Certificates 2, Group I 9, Second Class Certificates 11, Third Class Certificates 126. Total 139.

On the 15th December, a party of sergeants from the Depot, numbering about 20, paid a visit to the School of Musketry, Hythe, to engage the Staff at the latter place in a friendly game of football.

We started from Maidstone about 10 30 a.m. by that wonderfully fast ? railway, S.E. & C. Railway; about an hour later we arrived at Ashford Junction, and as we had a few spare moments on our hands (about 70 minutes), it was decided that we should explore the beauties of that station, which was done, I believe, very thoroughly. Again embarking on our journey, we at length arrived at Hythe, about 1.30, happy, but I must say, very hungry, and I am sure, without handling the truth carelessly, we did ample justice to the excellent light luncheon which we found prepared for us on arrival at the School.

After the repast had been washed down etc, we repaired to our dressing room, to dress for the match. We dressed and proceeded to the ground, which lies enclosed on every side by trees, walls and last, but certainly not least (as anybody who has done a course at Hythe will tell you) shingle.

We won the toss, and the Staff kicked off, but it was soon found that they were no match for us, but despite our continued attacks we only led by one goal to nil at the interval, mainly owing to the sterling defence of Sergt.-Instr. Wallingford (brother of the famous S.M.) at right back, and the ingenious trickery of Q.M.S. Cokayne, with both his feet and head, the latter especially.

On the resumption, we had matters all our own way, and scored three more goals, the staff failing to get through, the Depot Sergts. thus won by four goals to nil.

After a wash and brush up, we repaired to the Staff Mess and sat down to a most enjoyable meal with the Hythe Staff. After the tables had been cleared a kind of an impromptu smoking concert was held, in which the following artistes took part: Hythe Staff—Q.M.S. Burnett, Sergt.-Instrs. Wallingford, Chaney, and Green. Depot Sergts.—Col.-Sergt. Allen, Sergt. Pond, Sergt. Connors, S.M. Outten.

The time flew so rapidly that it was quickly seen that it was time to take our departure if we wished to catch the last train home. This we should have failed to have done if the training we have received in the early part of the morning, double round the square, had not stood us in good stead, and we arrived at Hythe Station with about 30 seconds to spare. We embarked again and after an uneventful journey, via Ashford, we landed in Maidstone about 10 p.m., after a thoroughly enjoyable day, which was, I am sure, ample remuneration for those who were bold enough to make the hazardous journey to Hythe by the S(low), E(asy) and C(omfortless) Railway.

A games competition took place in the Sergeants' Mess, Depot, on 16th November, between the Sergeants and their confreres of the Maidstone Companies, 1st Volunteer Battalion. Billiards and whist provided most competitors, and it will be seen that the Depot were successful in gaining 13 points against six by the Volunteers. The games proved interesting, sometimes excitable, and the evening passed away all too quickly. Results:—

BILLIARDS.

	Dpt.	Vol.
Sergt.-Inst. Perry v. Sergt. W. Meades	1	0
Sergt.-Dmr. Gee and O.R. Sergt. Bellion v. Col. Sergt. J. Upton and Sergt. F. Haswell	1	0
Sergt. Jarrad v. Col.-Sergt J. Upton	1	0
Col.-Sergt. Bass v. Sergt. F. Haswell	1	0
Sergt.-Major Grellier v. Sergt. W. Meades	1	0
Total.....	5	0

EUCHRE.

Competitors kept clear of this game.

WHIST.

Col.-Sergt. Ailwood and Sergt. Leaver v. Sergt. F. Meads and Sergt. W. Day	1	0
Col.-Sergt. Taylor and Col.-Sergt. Hunt v. Sergt. Avery and Sergt. H. Hughes	1	0
Col.-Sergt. Osborne and Sergt. Pye v. Bandmaster J. Hunt and Lee.-Sergt. H. Harden	1	0
Col.-Sergt. Moon and Col.-Sergt. Wimhurst v. Sergt. H. Lockyer and Col.-Sergt. W. Cogger	1	0
Sergt.-Inst. Perry and Col.-Sergt. Wilson v. Sergt.-Inst. H. Evans and Lee.-Sergt. H. Cogger	0	1
Col.-Sergt. Taylor and Col.-Sergt. Hunt v. Sergt. C. Avery and Sergt. H. Hughes	0	1
Sergt.-Major Grellier and Col.-Sergt. Neighbour v. Sergt. W. Meads and Col.-Sergt. E. Nicholls	0	1
Col.-Sergt. Moon and Col.-Sergt. Palmer v. Sergt. H. Lockyer and Col.-Sergt. W. Cogger	0	1
Col.-Sergt. Hunt and Col.-Sergt. Ailwood v. Sergt. F. Meades and Sergt. W. Day	1	0

Total.....5 4

CRIBBAGE.

Col.-Sergt. Ailwood and Sergt. Leaver v. Sergt. F. Meades and Sergt. W. Day	1	0
Col.-Sergt. Osborne and Sergt. Pye v. Bandmaster J. Hunt and Lee.-Sergt. H. Harden	0	1

Total.....1 1

TWENTY-FIVES.

Sergt.-Major Grellier and Col.-Sergt. Neighbour v. Sergt. Meads and Col.-Sergt. Nicholls	1	0
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CHESS.

Col.-Sergt. Taylor v. Sergt. Haswell	1	0
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At the R.A.T.A. meeting, held on the 22nd December, 1904, Major Style kindly presented the eight years' medal to Lance-Sergeant Kipps and six months' badge to Pvt. Cliffe, and spoke as to the benefit of belonging to the R.A.T.A. The following were elected on the committee for the ensuing year:—Lance-Sergeant Kipps, president; Lance-Corporal Turner, vice-president; Color-Sergeant Tapp, secretary; Private Ayres, A Company; Lance-Corporal Crisford, M., B Company; Lance-Sergeant Kipps, C Company; Lance-Corporal Crisford, L, D Company. Colour-Sergeant Allen gave them a few words of advice, and told them they would see some of the advantages when they joined the 1st Battalion. It was proposed and seconded that Lance-sergeants King and Kipps be presented with the gold ring for being committeemen.

E. J. KING, Lance-Sergeant, Sec.

XMAS DAY IN BARRACKS.

As usual the greater number at the Depot availed themselves of facilities for leave offered, and consequently few remained to spend Xmas Day in Barracks at the Depot.

About 75 sat down to a sumptuous meal in the Regimental Institute at Dinner time, and were visited by the Commanding Officer, Major R. C. Style and other Officers. Being Sunday the day passed quietly.

VOLUNTEER INTELLIGENCE.

2nd VOLUNTEER BATTALION, M (GREENWICH) COMPANY.

The forty-fourth annual dinner and prize distribution in connection with this company took place on Saturday at Holly Hedge House, Blackheath, the awards being distributed by his Worship the Mayor of Greenwich (Councillor Donald McCall, J.P.). Captain E. A. Lovibond, commanding the Company, presided. The dinner was excellently served under the direction of ex-Sergt. Gomer. Colonel Heward, in responding to "The Colonel and Staff," said that if the harmony at present existing between the rank and file and the staff continued there was no reason why the 2nd Battalion's flag should be second to any. The musical programme was sustained by Professor Elliott, Colour-Sergt. Roche, L.R.B., Messrs. George Marriott, Will McLeod, Arthur Withers, George Kenn, Jack Ellers, and G. L. Hunter. The prize list was a lengthy one.

The annual meeting of the "Queen's Own" Slate Club was held on 15th December at Headquarters, Sergt.-Major Lalley presiding. The Secretary, Sergt. Kiloh, reported that there were 81 members to "share out," each receiving 19s., less than usual owing to the large amount of sickness during the year. Sergt. Kiloh was again elected hon. sec., and votes of thanks were passed to the chairman and officers for their services. There had only been one death during the year—ex-Sergt.-Instructor Trueman.

A, B, G, H, J AND CYCLIST COMPANIES.

At the Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, on Saturday, December 10th, the Mayor of Greenwich, Councillor Donald McCall, J.P., distributed the prizes won in connection with these companies, and he was cordially thanked on the motion of Captain A. Chauncey, commanding A Company, who presided. His Worship replied in two sentences, expressing the pleasure it always gave him to come amongst volunteers. Colonel Satterthwaite said

that was the last time he should address them as their colonel. He did not know how long his new appointment would last, but no doubt Colonel Heward would succeed him in command of the Battalion. He only hoped that the same support would be accorded him as he (Colonel Satterthwaite) had received. There was little doubt that the camp this year would be held in Arundel Park. The only thing which would prevent it would be the mobilisation of the Thames and Home defences, which he did not think was at all likely this year. The musical programme was sustained by the Mayor of Lewisham, Captain Chauncey, Colour-Sergts. Harris and Allard, Sergts. A. Kiloh, Borrett, G. Barnes, Pte. Haddigan, and Messrs. Moughton, Percy Courtney, Fred Chamberlain. The prize winners were numerous.

3rd VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

On the evening of the 28th November the members of the Sergeants' Mess, A.S.C., Woolwich, met the Sergeants' Mess, 3rd Volunteer Battalion Royal West Kent Regiment in a series of games with the following results:—Billiards, won 9, lost 0; whist, won 6, lost 5; crib, won 3, lost 4; twenty-fives, won 4, lost 6; euchre, won 2, lost 0; darts, won 4, lost 2; the total scores being, won 28, lost 17, the Corps winning by 11 points. The games were finished shortly after 10 p.m., and then an adjournment was made to supper, to which everyone did ample justice. Supper over, S.S.M. Taylor (acting R.S.M. in the absence of R.S.M. Markwick, sick) took the chair and a concert was started, a good programme being rendered. During the evening Staff-Sergt.-Instructor Greaves, R.W.K.R., was the recipient of a case of pipes as a mark of esteem from the members of the Sergeants' Mess, A.S.C., Woolwich. Greaves, who has been a Hon. Member for over ten years, and is very well known throughout the Corps, is leaving the service, and the whole Mess turned up in force to wish him good luck. His reply was in his usual quaint style, and the customary toasts having been drunk, a very pleasant evening was brought to a close.—*A.S. Corps Journal*.

In replying to questions in the House of Representatives on Wednesday, Lieut.-Col. M'Cay (Minister for Defence) stated that Colonel Savage and Colonel Taunton, of New South Wales, were allowed respectfully compensation amounting to £1,154 17s. 2d. and £1,619 17s. 3d. The services of those officers were dispensed with in pursuance of a scheme of retrenchment rendered necessary to meet the wish of Parliament. It was not intended to establish a practice of granting gratuities on retirement.

Col. Taunton was an old 50th Regiment Officer, and left about 1872.

Royal Hotel, Weymouth,
December 28th, 1904.

The Editor, "The Queen's Own Gazette,"

Dear Sir,

One day last April, having an hour to wait at Winchester, I wandered down to have a look at the Cathedral, and quite by chance my eyes fell on the Memorial Tablets under the window dedicated to the memory of the Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Men of the old 97th or Earl of Ulster's Regiment, the existence of which, I confess, had quite escaped my memory.

I found it almost impossible to read parts of it on account of the stone having perished, and the surface become powder, and the words having crumbled away; further the type was "Old English," and for this reason not at all easy to read. The Colours, also, one of which is hung either side of the window, were in a very bad way, the Regimental Colour almost gone, and the Queen's Colour was hanging in shreds.

Feeling sure that this state of things was not known in the Regiment, I felt it my duty to inform the Officer Commanding the Depot and the Officer Commanding the 2nd Battalion, and offered, with their approval, to get out estimates and superintend the renovation of the tablets and repair of the Colours. In due course I received authority from both these officers to carry out my scheme, and after passing the estimates, the work was put in hand, and has just been completed.

In the new tablets the whole surface of the stones has been scraped, and they are now as good as new, and the inscription has been done in block type, which is plain and simple for anyone to read, but, as it took up a good deal more room than the original, it was found necessary to omit something, and after consultation with the Dean, it was decided to leave out the four texts of the old inscription, which, without altering the historical interest of the monument, gave us space to add a paragraph about the colours, to which no allusion whatever was made in the original. I was rather surprised that I had so much difficulty in finding out from the Regimental records, information about the history of these Colours, such as when and where they were presented, who they were presented by, the date they were deposited in the Cathedral, whether they were actually carried in the battles of the Crimea, in which the Regiment was engaged, or who carried them, all details of information I had expected to be readily supplied with on application to the Depot, but not so, and in spite of a pile of correspondence with everybody I could think of likely to help me, I had to give up and rest content with the bare fact, which is now recorded on the monument, that "These Colours were borne by the 97th, Earl of Ulster's Regiment, in the Crimea."

May I venture to suggest that in future each Battalion should start a "Colour Ledger," bringing the history of their Colours, past as well as present, up to date as far as possible, recording therein for reference all the events of interest concerning them as they occur.

It was not a proud moment for me when I had to fall back on the Dean of Winchester, as a last resource, for information, who in turn pumped his Vergers! It was a humiliation which, I think, need never be endured again if my suggestion meet with the favour of those concerned.

It was decided not to call upon the members of the Regiment for subscriptions, owing to the already frequent calls that had been rendered necessary as a consequence of the South African and other wars, but Colonel Brock very kindly placed at my disposal a sum of about £40, the balance of the South African War Memorial Fund, and I think we must all agree that the money could not have been more usefully or appropriately spent.

The Colours have been most skilfully mended and are now supported on gauze netting, and I was told would probably last another 25 years,

	£	s.	d.
Cost	5	10	0
The Tablets, re-faced and freshly inscribed and estimated to last 100 years, cost... ..	25	1	0
	£30	11	0

I enclose receipted bills, also copy of original inscription which I think should be preserved with the Regimental records

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

J. P. DALISON,

Lieut.-Colonel.

COPY OF THE INSCRIPTION.

TOP LEFT HAND TABLET.

The above Window is Dedicated by the Officers now serving and those who have lately served in the 97th or Earl of Ulster's Regiment, to the memory of Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, Drummers and Privates of the Corps, who lost their lives when the Regiment occupied the Pireus, Greece, in conjunction with the French, in 1854, and did duty in the trenches at the Siege of Sevastopol in 1854, and in 1855.

BOTTOM LEFT HAND TABLET.

Names of Officers who lost their lives :—

Lieutenant H. B. Ramsbottom, suffocated by the fumes of charcoal, 2nd January, 1855.

Major R. Colvill, died of fever on his passage from the Crimea to Scutari, 4th January, 1855.

Captain Hedley H. S. J. Vicars, killed in the trenches in the sortie made by the enemy, 22nd March, 1855.

Lieutenant and Adjutant J. Dermon, killed by the fragment of a shell, 18th August, 1855.

Lieutenant J. B. Preston, killed in the advanced works, 31st August, 1855.

Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. H. R. Handcock, died in camp on the 9th of wounds received at the assault on the Great Redan, 8th September, 1855.

Major A. F. Welsford, killed when in command of the ladder party at the above assault

Captain J. Hutton, found dead in Sevastopol, 9th September, having died of wounds received at the same assault.

Lieutenant and Adjutant D. A. McGregor, killed inside the Redan the same day.

Lieutenant Goodenough, died on the 20th of wounds received on the 8th September, 1855, at the same assault.

TOP RIGHT HAND TABLET.

2nd Kings, 20th chapter, 1st verse.—“Thus saith the Lord, set thine house in order, for thou shalt die and not live.”

Proverbs 27th chapter, 1st verse.—“Boast not thyself of to-morrow, for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.”

1st Peter, 1st chapter, 24th verse.—“All flesh is as grass, and the glory of man as the flower of grass”

2nd Samuel, 14th chapter, 14th verse.—“For we must needs die, and are as water spilt on the ground which cannot be gathered up again.”

St. John, 11th chapter, 25th verse.—“I am the Resurrection and the Life.”

St. John, 11th chapter, 26th verse.—“Whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.”

Acts, 7th chapter, 59th verse.—“Lord Jesus receive my spirit.”

All this was omitted in the renovated memorial.—J.P.D, 28/12/04.

BOTTOM RIGHT HAND TABLET.

Actual number of soldiers who lost their lives :—

	Sgts.	Cpls.	Drs.	Pvts.	Total
Killed in the trenches or died of wounds	3	7	—	162	172
Killed at the assault on the Great Redan	6	2	2	71	81
Died of wounds received at the assault	3	4	—	36	43
Died of cholera in the Pireus, Greece	1	4	3	114	122
Died of disease in the Crimea and at Scutari	4	6	1	98	109
Total	17	23	6	481	527

Sevastopol.

“These colours were borne by the 97th, Earl of Ulster's Regiment, in the Crimea.”

[On behalf of the Regiment we thank Lieut.-Col. J. P. Dalison for his efforts, which has resulted in the restoration of this interesting memorial. It is a matter for regret that no record was available in detail of the History of the Colours in question, but since we have the “Queen's Own Gazette,” we hope that no such item will escape its columns. A copy of each number, so far as was possible, was sent to the Copyright Office of the British Museum some years ago, and every month a number is added to the file and is available for reference.—Ed.]

WORK AND WAGES IN CANADA

CONTINUED.

All day long we loaded hay and stored it in the barns, my work being to stand at the top of the stack and catch the hay as it was forked off the waggon and pass it along to another man further in the barn, who worked it into the stack properly. There is a good deal of skill required in making a stack properly, and one unversed in farm matters would be astonished to see how much more hay one man can pack into a given space than another, and so really expert stackmakers often command one dollar 75 cents, or two dollars a day in addition to their board.

Work on the top of the stack was hot and dusty, for the barn had a galvanized iron roof and the hay was not in the best condition owing to the rains we had been having, but still the work was such that any young fellow could tackle it if he made up his mind.

All afternoon we continued with unvarying regularity loading the waggons, hauling to the barns, and then fixing up the stacks, and I must admit that when the call came for supper at six o'clock it was with a feeling of relief that I descended from the stack and walked up to the house.

THE DEADLY ROUTINE,

There is not much variety to be had in haymaking—the routine is the same day after day—and that is the one great fault which I have to find with nearly all the different kinds of manual labour in which I have been engaged since I came to Canada. It tends to make a man of active mind chafe at the mere machine-like work which he is called upon to perform, and to dull his intellect, which seems to get rusty from disuse. Day after day our work was always the same—and the itinerary of one day can be taken for the whole. Rise at five o'clock and start work at half-past; breakfast at half-past seven to half-past eight; dinner at twelve, supper at six, and bed at about eight or nine.

During the time I was on this farm I had several opportunities of talking to and hearing the opinions of men who owned larger or smaller farms in the neighbourhood, and I found that all agreed in complaining of the scarcity of labour and the damage frequently caused to their crops through their inability to get men to harvest them. One farmer told me that he had spent a whole day in a neighbouring town vainly trying to get five men for haymaking at one dollar 50 cents a day and their board, and that through being unable to find them his hay crop was worth from 300 dollars to 400 dollars less than it would have been had he secured the help he wanted.

Although haymaking may come decidedly hard at first on a clerk or a man used to more or less sedentary employment, still when once the first stiffness wears off and he gets into the knack of handling his fork there is nothing very trying about it. I will frankly admit that after the first day's work I went to bed aching in every limb, and that when I turned out in the morning I was so stiff I could scarcely stand, but that soon wore off, and by the third day I felt quite a veteran haymaker.

WHAT ONE MAN HAS DONE.

Just to show what can be done in this country by a man who makes up his mind to succeed, I will give the record of the man for whom I worked, a record which can be copied by any one willing or anxious to do so. Ten years ago he came out to Canada with a few pounds and secured work as a farm hand in Manitoba, where he remained for a few years, drawing regularly his 40 dollars a month and board. He saved his money and about two years ago bought the farm which he now owns in Quebec. He has nearly a hundred acres of good land, a herd of 12 or 14 dairy cattle and six or seven horses, to say nothing of pigs, calves, &c. He sells milk and butter and eggs and is going on famously, and yet not ten years ago that man came to Canada as a labourer; now he employs three men all the year round, and as many as he can get in harvest and hay time. He is a worker, there is no mistake about that. First up in the morning and last to bed at night, he goes on day by day adding to his stock and big banking account; growing more conversant everyday with the methods of the country and farming generally.

In the Old Country he had worked in a small store for a mere pittance a week, and might have still been doing so had he not kept his early made resolve to rise in the world. It is an old saying, but a true one, that there is always plenty of room at the top of the ladder, and it is an equally true one that in no country in the world is there an easier ladder to climb than that to be found in Canada.

My work on the farm lasted until the Tuesday night, when the last load of hay was safely stacked and I was paid off, receiving six dollars for my week's work, which, as I had my board and washing in addition, was practically all clear. My expenses had been very small—a few cents, merely for tobacco, postage stamps, &c., so that when I left I had just over 10 dollars, and began to feel quite a capitalist once more.

I had little idea as to what my next move was to be or where to look for work, but one thing was certain, and that was that it was not any use staying in the neighbourhood of the farm, so I packed my traps together, and bidding farewell to my employer, started off for the town six miles away.

His parting words to me were "Well, George, if ever you're this way again give us a look in. We'll find somewhere to sleep and a place at table for you whenever you care to come. Good luck," and off I went.

And here I would like to say that this is a fair sample of the kindness with which I have invariably been treated by my employers all through this country. When they see that a man is trying to help himself they will help him all they know, but for an idler they will do nothing.

I remember one day early in my search for work I applied at a flour mill, and the manager, noticing that I did not belong to the labouring class, although I applied for manual work, questioned me pretty closely as to my antecedents. When he asked me about my education and I told him I had been to a public school and then to one of the universities at home, he said, "And you're asking for manual work. How is that?"

I told him the facts of the case, and he said, "Look here, you'd better come up and stay with me for a day or two and take a look around. I'm sorry I can't start you at something, but I've no vacancy and I can't make one, but come and stay with me till something turns up."

I thanked him cordially for his kindness, but declined, stating that I'd rather get work and not be under an obligation to any one, and left him marvelling at my independence—and I got work an hour later.

As regards my further experience in search of work—the job I ultimately found which proved by far the hardest I had yet encountered—I will tell in the next letter of this series.

GEORGE ONWARD.

EMIGRANTS' INFORMATION OFFICE, 31, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.—The January Circulars of the Emigrants' Information Office and the annual Editions of the penny Handbooks show the present prospects of emigration.

"The third-class fare to CANADA is at present as low as £3, but it is too early in the year for ordinary emigrants to go there in search of work, unless they can keep themselves through the winter; other persons—especially farm and unskilled labourers, and mechanics—belonging to outdoor trades—should defer their departure till March or April. There has been plenty of work, and wages have advanced in various trades; but the cost of flour, bread, and house rent have also advanced, and small houses are scarce in Toronto, Montreal, and other places."

We beg to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the following subscriptions:—To 31st December, 1905—Lieut. Colonel J. H. Vandermeulen, Colonel H. Wilson, Mr. McKiernan, Brig. Surgeon Owen-Owen, Mrs. Jury, Mr. W. Osman, Major L. Brock-Hollinshead, Colonel H. D. Armstrong, Sergt. Mason, Miss Clarke, S. Strode, Esq., Sergt.-Inst. H. Evans. To December, 1906—Captain A. P. Pembroke. Subscriptions per Sergeant-Instructor Evans:—Colour-Sergeant Cogger, Sergeants J. Welch and F. Meades, Pta. A. Coatsworth, and Mr. Barnden. To 31st Dec., 1904:—Mr. A. Squires, Mr. S. J. Rutledge, Mr. J. Redmond.

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

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

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS
OF

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

No. 356.

MAIDSTONE, FEBRUARY, 1905.

[Vol. XXIV, No. 2.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

DEPOT.

Promoted Sergt., Corpl. E. Branson, 17th January.
Appointed Lce.-Sergt., Corpl. Boakes, 1st January.
Promoted Corpls., Lce.-Corpls. M. Crisford, 3rd January
and Cripps, 18th January. Appointed Lce.-Corpls, Ptes.
Thomas, 18th January and Wellard, 7th January.

3rd BATTALION.

2nd Lieut. C. F. Nunneley to be Lieut., dated 14th
January, 1905.

1st VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

E. Lattimer, gent., to be 2nd Lieutenant, dated 21st
January, 1905.

2nd VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Lieut. L. de B. Barnett appointed Instructor in Musketry,
dated 21st January, 1905.

4th VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Ernest Browne, gent., to be 2nd Lieutenant, dated 4th
January, 1905.

HONORARY DISTINCTIONS.

His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to
approve of the following Corps of the Regular and Auxiliary
Forces being permitted, in recognition of services rendered
during the South African War, 1899-02, to bear upon their
colours or appointments the words specified in each case :—
The Queen's Own (R.W.K.R.), "South Africa, 1900-02";
3rd Batt. the Queen's Own (R.W.K.R.), "Mediterranean,
1900-01"; 1st Vol. Batt. the Queen's Own (R.W.K.R.),
"South Africa, 1900-02"; 2nd Vol. Batt. the Queen's Own
(R.W.K.R.), "South Africa, 1900-02"; 3rd Vol. Batt. the
Queen's Own (R.W.K.R.), "South Africa, 1901-02"; 4th Vol.
Batt. the Queen's Own (R.W.K.R.), "South Africa, 1902."

COMPASSIONATE FUND.

Major R. C. Style, commanding Depot, desires to acknowledge
with many thanks the receipt of the following sums :—

JANUARY, 1905.

	£	s.	d.
Per F. S. W. Cornwallis, Esq. (Kent Soldiers' Fund)	20	0	0
Captain C. H. Stigand	2	0	0
Major R. J. Roche	0	10	0
— Macfadyen, Esq.	1	1	0
Captain F. W. Burbury	1	0	0
Colonel F. F. Johnson, C.B.	1	0	0
Major-General E. Leach, C.B....	2	0	0
Major J. W. Jones	1	0	0
Colonel W. H. Wilson	1	0	0
Colonel T. H. Brock	1	0	0
Colonel W. H. Bayly	1	0	0
Captain C. F. Hitchins... ..	0	10	6
Captain E. L. H. James	0	10	0
Colonel E. A. Grove, C.B.	5	0	0
Captain T. P. C. Smith... ..	0	10	0
Captain E. W. Brown	0	10	0
Captain J. Lees	1	1	0
E. J. Hudson, Esq.	1	0	0
Lieut.-Colonel J. P. Dalison	5	0	0
A. M. Streatfield Moore, Esq	1	0	0
Captain H. W. Beeching	1	0	0

SERGEANTS' ASSOCIATION.

Before this number reaches our readers the annual
gathering will have taken place at Woolwich, over which
General E. Leach, C.B., has kindly consented to preside.

The following is taken from the *Army and Navy Gazette* of 28th January :—We are pleased to notice that at length steps have been taken to reward the officers who did duty in Northern Nigeria during the operations in what is known as the Sokoto-Burmi area in 1903. The list of honours published in Tuesday's *Gazette* is not large, but it is, at any rate, evidence that the policy of "out of sight out of mind" does not hold good at the Colonial Office, whatever may be the case elsewhere. The work done by Colonel Morland, and those who served under him, was exceedingly valuable, and the circumstances in which it was undertaken added no little to the credit due to those who avenged the cruel murder of Colonel Moloney. It will be gratifying to the friends of the late Major Marsh, Royal West Kent Regiment, to find that his merits have not been allowed to pass unnoticed. He was a fine soldier, who had established a reputation by fearless leading and able administration. His loss to the army was great, and a passage in the *Gazette* records the fact that he would have been "recommended to his Majesty for reward had he survived." Unfortunately he was called upon to give his life in the discharge of his duty in the field. His character, however, was so well known that it will be many a long year before his name is forgotten in Northern Nigeria, where he had won the affection of all with whom he was associated, including the black troops, who, it is said, would have followed him anywhere, such was their admiration for him and their confidence in his powers as a commander. We give the despatches elsewhere, and, although they are now ancient history, the work of the officers who carried the operations to a successful issue deserves to be recorded, for certainly as much individual bravery is shown by the British officer in our "little wars" as in larger operations which are given greater publicity by the press.

The "London Gazette" on Tuesday night contained despatches relating to the field operations which took place from April to July, 1903.

Col. T. L. N. Morland, commandant Northern Nigerian Regiment, W.A.F.F., in a despatch dated Zungeru, Oct. 27, 1903, gives details of the military operations from the time the ex-Sultan of Sokoto left Gusau till the capture of Burmi and his death on July 27th.

The news of a repulse at Burmi was received at Zungeru on June 6th, and arrangements were made for concentrating a force of 500 men with three guns at Bautchi. Col. Morland was at this time ignorant of the action taken by Major Barlow and imagined he would join the Bautchi garrison. Two officers with a half company of infantry and a supply of ammunition were ordered from Zaria to Bautchi. Major Marsh with eight Europeans, 165 rank and file, and a 75mm. gun, left Lokoja for Loko by steamer on June 13, but owing to difficulties with carriers and the swollen state of the rivers, did not reach Bautchi till July 12. A similar force with two guns was held in readiness at Zungeru to proceed to Zaria under Col. Morland's command.

On June 30, Major Barlow proceeded with 30 mounted infantry and 80 infantry and a Maxim to visit various towns

in the vicinity of Burmi. All were friendly, with the exception of Great and Little Birri, which proved hostile. Both these towns were carried by assault on July 5, the casualties being Lieuts. Christy and Zekki Effendi slightly wounded, two men severely, and 13 slightly wounded; the enemy lost heavily. Captain Sword remained in command of the remainder of the force at Ashaka and continued to harass the Burmi people, Lieut. Gallagher and 15 mounted infantry inflicting considerable loss on a party of 200 of the enemy, who attacked him. On this occasion Sergt.-Major Dandola was wounded and 50 of the enemy's spearmen were killed. From Birri, Major Barlow proceeded to Nafada, 20 miles north of Burmi, to await the arrival of Major Marsh's forces, which joined him on the 24th. Major Marsh, having arranged for the co-operation of Captain Sword's force, marched for Burmi. On July 27, a junction having been effected with Ashaka force, the attack on Burmi began; two gates were breached by artillery fire, and a heavy front and flanking fire brought to bear on the defenders. A storming party, under Major Plummer, then advanced against the gates, but were met by such a heavy fire from men in the ditch that the advance was temporarily checked. Reinforcements were hurried up by Major Marsh, who accompanied them, and it was while directing operations that he was wounded by a poisoned arrow above the knee, which proved fatal in twenty minutes. The gates were now rushed by Major Plummer's storming party, the enemy offering a desperate resistance; and it was here the majority of the casualties occurred. Major Barlow, who with the Mounted Infantry had been cutting off the retreat of the enemy at the north-west of the town, took over command, the town was burnt and the force camped outside for the night. The ex-Sultan and the greater number of the irreconcilable chiefs and over 600 of the enemy were killed. The force which took part in the final attack on Burmi consisted of 18 officers, 3 British non-commissioned officers, 2 residents, 2 doctors, 445 rank and file infantry, with 4 Maxims, 80 rank and file mounted infantry, and 15 rank and file Royal Artillery with one 75mm. gun. The following were the casualties :—Killed : Major Marsh, 4 rank and file, 6 carriers. Dangerously wounded : Four rank and file (1 since dead). Severely wounded : Capt. Hamilton-Browne, 26 rank and file, 4 carriers. Slightly wounded : Major Plummer, Captain Lewis, 25 rank and file, and 3 carriers. The troops started to return on August 6, opposition having ceased.

In summarising the reports I have received, says Col. Morland, I wish to make it clear that the various officers concerned deserve the whole credit for the success of these operations. Remaining as I did at headquarters, except in the despatch of reinforcements and certain orders, which were generally too late, I had nothing to do with the operations in the field. At the beginning small bodies of troops pursued and hustled large bodies of the ex-Sultan's followers some 400 miles. The fighting value of his people does not seem to have been great. Capt. Sword's check at Burmi was more or less the result of an accidental meeting with a body of fanatics following a new Mahdi at Burmi; but if this had not taken place the movement might have

been spread and caused much future trouble. The following officers are deserving of special mention :—

Capt. P. M. Robinson, Royal West Kent Regiment, Staff Officer to Major Marsh, specially mentioned by Major Barlow.

Had Major Marsh lived I should have brought his services most prominently to your notice, for the able arrangements he made for the advance in and capture of Burmi. The death of this gallant officer is a great loss to the Northern Nigeria Regiment.

HONOURS AND PROMOTIONS.

It was also announced in the "Gazette" that the King had been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointments to the Distinguished Service Order, and promotion in the Army, in recognition of the services of some of the officers.

MEMORANDUM.

Capt. and Bt. Major F. C. Marsh, Royal West Kent Regiment, would have been recommended to his Majesty for Reward had he survived.

THE LATE COLONEL FYLER.

MEMORIAL WINDOW UNVEILED AT ARLESEY.

In the memory of the late Colonel A. E. Fyler, of Arlesey Bury, who died in March last year, a stained glass window was on Sunday afternoon unveiled in St. Andrew's Mission Church, Arlesey. Colonel Fyler was a devoted Churchman, and took much interest in the scheme for the erection of the Mission Church for the convenience of the large portion of the inhabitants of Arlesey who live at the Asylum end of the village, a mile or more from the parish church. To thus commemorate an esteemed benefactor, Mr. J. A. Leng, the vicar's warden, initiated a scheme which should also have the effect of beautifying the Mission Church, and his efforts met with willing response. A pathetic feature of the service on Sunday was the fact, alluded to by the Vicar (the Rev. G. J. Mayhew), who also had taken great interest in the work, that Mr. Leng himself was prevented from being present owing to his suffering from a spinal disease from which recovery is doubtful. The memorial takes the form of a beautifully executed representation of Christ as the Good Shepherd, and fills the middle light of the east window, thus partially fulfilling the original design of having this window entirely illuminated. At the foot is the inscription :—"To the glory of God, and in memory of Arthur Evelyn Fyler, Colonel 50th (Queen's Own) Regiment, this window is erected in affectionate remembrance by many friends and parishoners. December, 1904."

The church was well filled at the time fixed for the ceremony. A shortened form of evening service was read by the Vicar, the special Psalms being the 122nd and the 132nd. Besides the "Nunc Dimittis" there were sung the hymns, "Christ is our corner stone," "Fight the good fight," and "For all the saints," the last-named being a favourite of Colonel Fyler's.

After a short address by the Vicar, Mr. Victor G. Hore, the Colonel's nephew, unveiled the memorial window. He said: In unveiling this window, which has been put up to the memory of my uncle, I am glad to think that he will not be forgotten and that this window will serve to tell others their duty to God and their fellows in Arlesey. My uncle strove to do his duty to both, at the age of three score years and ten, when most men would have rested on their oars. It is to be hoped others may follow the energy of Mr. Leng and the subscribers to this memorial, and quickly fill in the other two panels, as the Vicar has suggested, and so complete and beautify this little sanctuary which my uncle had so much at heart.

The amount raised for the window was a little in excess of the cost incurred, and with the surplus an illuminated address, bearing the names of the subscribers, was purchased and presented to Mrs. Fyler. The following is a list of the subscribers :—General Leuch, An Admirer, Lord Alwyne Compton, M.P., Mr. Herbert Jones, Mr. Joseph Pollard, Mr. Guy Pym, M.P., Mr. Leng and family, the Rev. B. G. Way, Miss Passingham, Mr. W. J. and Mrs. Shannon, Mr. G. J. Gribble, Colonel Brock (Royal West Kent Regiment), Dr. De Lisle, Mr. Aaron Gibbs, Mr. Hanscombe, Archdeacon Bathurst, Mr. John Lawson, the Rev. R. C. F. Scott, Mr. R. Long, Mrs. Shaw, Mrs. Hutton, Signor G. B. Faini, the Rev. Mr. Walton, Mr. J. D. Harrison, Mr. J. Hughes, and General Anderson.—*Bedfordshire Express*.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Now that the Annual Course of Musketry has been completed I think it would be of interest to all to give you the result. The place of honour has been assigned to C Company, but G Company made such a close fight of it that the decision took some time to arrive at. The figure of merit of the two Companies were practically the same, but there were a few other points besides the figure of merit that had to be taken into consideration in choosing the best shooting Company. Among these were C Company had only two third class shots as compared with six which G Company had, also C Company had put through 90 men as against 75 that were exercised by G Company. I think the decision left G Company a little mournful, as the competition for this distinction produces the most healthy rivalry, and the Company that obtains the prize feels at least an inch or two taller at once.

The figure of merit of the Battalion this year is 180.3, which is 17 points better than last year, and the best Company shooting Company was 188, an improvement that is in every way satisfactory.

Of our Social Life in Malta there is a sameness which perhaps our readers will not notice so much as the Correspondent who endeavours to supply you with "copy." The Opera Season, which was heralded at the start by the abuse of the Malta press, and by the dissatisfaction of its most ardent supporters, is now beginning to brighten up, and the improvement during the last month shows what the Impresario can do when he really tries. The climax was reached on the 12th, when there was a special performance to welcome the Lords of the Admiralty, and the result was excellent, far better than anything your Correspondent has seen before in this Island.

On the 24th December a Race Meeting was held on the Marsa, and from the point of view of the onlooker it was most satisfactory, the fields being good, for Malta, and the finishes close. Captain Snow rode in two races, but was not very fortunate.

On the 27th December the Annual Treat for the children, in the shape of a Christmas Tree, took place in the School. In addition to the presents there was a very loquacious Conjuror, who kept the children fascinated throughout a performance lasting one hour. The Tea which preceded the other Entertainments was done great justice to, and it was a great pleasure to those who had spent so much time and trouble in perfecting the arrangements to see how much their efforts were appreciated. Mrs. Maunsell gave away the presents, and the gathering broke up about 7 p.m.

1st Battalion Correspondent.

F COMPANY.

I am afraid that as F Company's Correspondent I have been very remiss in forwarding you any news of our doings. The difficulty in a place like Malta is to find "copy" of a sufficiently interesting character to be acceptable to the readers of the *Q.O.G.* At present the most interesting piece of news to us is that we have gained a victory over H Company in the inter-company Football Competition, winning by two goals to love, and we are now waiting anxiously to meet A Company in the second round, when we anticipate another victory; confidence is a great help. We have played five other matches lately, and have come off winners in three, and were beaten twice.

We can also boast of a brilliant second eleven, by name the Hamtots, under the Superintendence of Pte. Barnes, the Cook, supported by Wraggs, who makes a great show in the field. This team has played 13 matches, and has won 7 and drawn 6. (This might with advantage be called the first eleven—1st Battalion Correspondent).

Much to the regret of the Company we hear that we are soon to lose Colr.-Sergt. Kill, our oldest soldier, who is going to the Volunteers.

On the 13th January the Battalion carried out a concentration march, and were inspected by H.E. the Commander-in-Chief at the end of it. I am told that the questions he asked put to a severe test the powers of observation of the Officers and N.C.O.'s of all the Companies.

F Company's Correspondent.

A COMPANY.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Christmas, with its accompanying friends—happiness and sorrow—has once more gone, and everyone has been making good (?) resolves for the future year.

Christmas Day passed off excellently in Barracks, thanks to the kindness of the Company Officers, and the good-will of the N.C.O.'s and men. It was decided to have the Christmas dinner altogether in one room (a splendid idea), and after No. 3 section room being chosen, each one transformed himself into a busy bee, and in a short period the productions from the clever-brained company gave the room an appearance of veritable fairyland.

It would take too much time and space if I tried to describe in detail the excellent scheme of decoration carried out, but I think a word of praise must be given to Pte. Lawrence, who not only superintended the decorative work, but designed the mottoes, etc., etc., which were placed round the walls, bearing cordial wishes to the C.O., Lieut.-Col. Fitton, D.S.O., Our Company Officers, Captain Buchanan-Dunlop, Lieut. R. Lynch-White, Lieut. and Mrs. Willis, Sergt.-Major and Mrs. Rogers, and Clr.-Sergt. and Mrs. Davis.

On Christmas morning everyone woke up with a smile on their faces (no doubt visions of their younger days, with full stockings, appearing before their half-opened eyes), and many and varied were the good wishes levied on each individual. One young fellow evidently thought of the home comrades, and expressed a wish that Marconi's Wireless Telegraph should be fixed on top of the bungalow, connecting with the like on the Gymnasium at the Depot, Maidstone, so that he could send his Christmas greetings to his chums there. Not a bad idea at all.

On returning from Church parade the dining-room represented a grand buffet, with the tables down the centre covered with snow-white cloths, glasses and silver. The beds were arranged so as to form settees round the room, and formed later on a most needful resting place for a few. A huge barrel was fixed up at one end of the room, with two trophies of bayonets guarding it on either side. When the bugle rang out clearly "Come to the cookhouse door, boys," great excitement prevailed as to the fate of the pudding, about which many conjectures had been made, but thanks

to our cook (who was credited to be a novice) it was safely brought to table in view of the admiring Company.

When all was ready, the scene was extremely picturesque steaming turkey, chicken, ham, vegetables, and pudding, happy young faces round the tables, and to form a background, the Officers, N.C.O.'s etc.

The Regiment and Company were toasted in wine by the Officers, and after wishing the latter a happy time, an attack was made on the good things provided. Great excitement was kept up all the afternoon and evening, thus ending one of the happiest Christmas Days on record.

We have been having very cold weather the last few days, accompanied by severe storms and gales. We are lucky to have finished our canvas sojourn at Pembroke, and the other camps, which I hear are in a fearful state of mud and wrecked tents.

Rumours are still floating concerning our return to the Homeland, the latest supplied to me being February 30th, 1904!!

I regret to report the still enforced absence from duty, through sickness, of our Sergt.-Major, who has had more than his share of trouble and illness since the Regiment arrived here.

Our congratulations go to Crpl. Ely (I Section), who has been promoted Lance-Sergeant, and Pte. Burrows to Lance-Corporal.

If any of our readers are acquainted with Italian, I should be pleased to correspond with them privately, in that language only.

A young soldier, on Christmas night, was doing sentry on the Main Guard, Valetta. About 11.15 he heard footsteps approaching, when he gave the challenge:—

"Halt! who goes there?"

"Oh, sir, please don't point that gun at me," cried a shrill frightened voice.

He again challenged, "Halt! who goes there?" and the answer came in shady tones through the darkness,

"Oh, please sir, it's only Sergt. Keen's washerwoman with his clean shirt."

There was a moment's silence, and then the clear voice of the sentry rang out, "Pass Sergt. Keen's washerwoman with his clean shirt, all's well."

"A Happy and Prosperous New Year" is the wish of all ranks to the same in the 2nd Battalion and Home.

Yours truly,

"A" Company's Correspondent.

SPORTS NEWS.

FOOTBALL.

1st Battalion v. Royal Dublin Fusiliers, played on the Marsa on the 7th January, 1905. Having lost the toss we kicked off against a very heavy wind, with the result that play in the first half was almost entirely in our half of the ground. After about fifteen minutes play, the Dublins managed to score in a tussle round our goal. For the rest of the first half our opponents kept up a perfect bombardment, and managed to score three times.

On changing ends the Dublins at once broke away, and very nearly managed to score. From this point until the end of the game the play was fairly even, and towards the end we were awarded a penalty kick which Pte. Cogger managed to score from. The game ended 4-1 in favour of the Dublins. For our team Pte. Cogger, Pte. Lord, and Corpl Cassidy played well. Our team was as follows:—Corpl. Cassidy (Goal); Pte. Lord, Corpl. Lamb (Backs); Ptes. Green, Ellen and Hunter (Half-Backs); Pte. Langridge, Lce.-Corpl. Keeble, Pte. Cogger, Lce.-Corpl. Davis, Pte. Eastgate (Forwards).

The only excuse I can give for our defeat is the want of training of the team and combination, this match being the first we have played for nearly six weeks owing to the Batt. being out in camp.

1st Battalion v. Hants. Regiment. The less I say about this match perhaps the better. In the first half we managed to score twice to our opponents once; in the second half however, matters were reversed, our team being quite played out. At the call of time the score stood 3-2 against us.

HOCKEY NOTES.

On the 29th December, 1904, we played the Army Service Corps. The game was very uninteresting, as our opponents were so weak. After a very one-sided match we were left victorious (3-1). The score by no means represents the play, as we were pressing the whole time. Our team was as follows:—Pte. Eufoy (Goal); Pte. Scott and Lieut. Leir (Backs); Colr.-Sergt. Murphy, Lieut. Phillips, Lieut. Hoare (Half-backs); Sergt. Walker, Lieut. Legard, Lieut. Fisher, Pte. Westlake, Corpl. Doe (Forwards).

On the 10th January we played the 2nd Essex Regiment, and again had rather a dull game, as our opponents were playing two men short. The game throughout was nearly always in the Essex half of the ground. Shortly after starting Lieut. Legard managed to score, that being the only goal scored in the first half. On changing ends we pressed our opponents very hard, and managed to score twice, both by Lieut. Cooke. Shortly before the end of the game Lieut. Wilmer, of the Essex Regt., made a splendid run through, and managed to score a somewhat lucky goal.

Our team was as follows:—Pte. Dufoy (Goal); Lieuts. Leir and Parker (Backs); Lieuts. Dobson, Phillips and Hoare (Half-backs); Pte. Judge, Lieut. Legard, Lieut. Cooke, Sergt. Saunders, Sergt. Walker (Forwards).

Hockey out here is far from being what it should. This I suppose is due to the scarcity of grounds, and also to the disgraceful way they are kept. So far this season we have been rather badly handicapped in not having either of our regular Backs, Captain Dunlop being home on sick leave, and Lieut. Brock being *hors de combat* through a sprained ankle.

CHRISTMAS TREAT AT THE DEPOT.

The annual Christmas Tree and Entertainment of the women and children at the Barracks took place in the gymnasium on January 5th, and was a complete success.

The commencement was made at four p.m., when tea was served. After full justice was done to this, all assembled before the *piece de resistance*, a brilliantly lighted Christmas Tree, laden with toys, the distribution of which took Father Christmas, impersonated by Sergt. Harper, some considerable time.

With intervals to enable the youngsters to stretch their limbs to the strains of the 3rd Battalion Band, items were contributed by Col.-Sergts. Allen and Ailwood, with sleight of hand and conjuring tricks, ventriloquism by Col.-Sergt. Allen and Ptes. Hart and Winter.

Roars of laughter and aching sides were the result of a comic sketch by Col.-Sergts. Allen, Osborne and Hunt, whilst blind boxing and weight-lifting turns were contributed by Sergt.-Instructor Parry, from Sevenoaks, and Sergt. Pond.

Mention must be made of the items by the children themselves, in which the families of Allen, Bance, Bourne, Palmer and Gilburd were represented.

The innovation of entertaining the audience from our own talent proved successful, and great credit reflects on the performers, who acquitted themselves so well, also those on whom fell the work of catering and management. It was unfortunate that through sickness Capt. J. Couch, on whom, with Mrs. Couch, fell the brunt of the work, should be prevented from seeing the result of his labour, and we wish him complete recovery.

Amongst those present were Major R. C. Style and officers at the Depot, and those who associate themselves with the care and instruction of the children. All were pleased to see Mrs. Brock, wife of our late commandant, who came to Maidstone specially to be present.

DEPOT BRANCH R.A.T.A.

Dear Mr. Editor,

On Friday, 13th January, Colonel Fawkes, late R.A., Hon. Sec. and Treasurer of the R.A.T.A., very kindly visited the Depot and had a few words with us on the subject of Temperance. He spoke to the men in the Drill Hall, and began by asking them whether they honestly liked the taste of alcohol and the flavour of a cigarette, or whether they only indulged in them because it looked "grand." He himself joined the Army many years ago, and for the first six months of his service he smoked regularly, but did he like it? Certainly not! Then why did he do it? Simply because everybody else did, and he thought that was the way of a good many recruits. About this time he gave it up altogether, and for 30 years he had not touched a drop of alcohol nor smoked a single cigarette, and he had always enjoyed very good health. He then pointed out that if they saved weekly the amount of money they spent on cigarettes, that at the end of their nine years service they would have a nice little sum to start civil life with. Colonel Fawkes then presented Sergts. King and Kipps with the gold rings for being Committeemen for the last 12 months, and heartily congratulated them on the good work they had done.

The members of the Sergeants' Mess invited Colonel Fawkes to their Mess, whither he now went, and spoke a few words to the Sergeants, and told them how pleased he was with the interest they took in the subject of Temperance. He had a short conversation with Col.-Sergts. Tapp and Allen, congratulating the latter for all the A.T.A. medals he had earned, especially the Award of Merit.

Colonel Fawkes was very pleased with his visit to the Depot, and was sure we would always keep our A.T.A. numbers up as long as we had such an energetic secretary as Col.-Sergt. Tapp, and also as both the Recruiting Sergt. (Col.-Sergt. Osborne), and the Orderly Room Sergt. (Sergt. Bellion) belong to the R.A.T.A.

I now take this opportunity of mentioning that the monthly subscription to the Depot Branch is N.C.O.'s and Duty Men 4d., Recruits 2d.

Depot R.A.T.A. Correspondent.

DETACHMENT NOTES.

A party of 73 Recruits joined here (Lydd) on the 7th inst., 27 going to No. 1 Co., and 46 to No. 2 Co.

The undermentioned have been appointed Lee.-Corpls.:—
Ptes. Hart, Williams, and Legh, No. 2 Co., all of last draft.
Ptes. Carr, Clear, No. 1 Co. Corpl. Crisford has joined for duty.

A party of Recruits belonging to No. 1 Co. have just finished their Recruits' Musketry, and have made some very good scoring, only two of the party being put back for further instruction. No. 2 Co., 103 strong, start on Monday.

The Detachment have played several football matches since they have been here, and have been fairly successful.

Lydd, 27th January, 1905.

FOOTBALL.

DETACHMENT v. LYDD, F.C.

Played at Lydd, on December 17th, on the ground of the latter and ended in a win for Lydd by 4 goals to 1. The game was not so one-sided as the score represents, the Kents having as much of the game as their opponents, but with bad luck the game ended as above. Lydd were considerably strengthened by two players from the Royal Garrison Artillery, two from the Royal Engineers, and one from the Army Service Corps.

DETACHMENT v. 23rd CO., R.G.A.

Played at Lydd on 31st December, on the ground of the Gunners. The Gunners, who are rather a heavy team, turned out two short, but found good substitutes in Day and Hall, of the Kents, the former playing a grand game at half-back. The Detachment forwards from the kick-off at once made for the Gunners' fortress, but found it very hard to penetrate, and it was not until after twenty minutes' hard shooting that Taylor scored the first with a beauty. This seemed to rouse the Gunners, who from the kick-off took the ball straight down the field and scored without an opponent touching it. Half-time arrived with the score one all. In

the second half the game was very evenly contested, Mills scoring for the Detachment and Hall (sub.) for the Gunners and a very interesting game ended in a draw, 2—2.

DETACHMENT v. 23rd CO., R.G.A.

Played at Lydd, on Wednesday, 4th January, on the ground of the former. The last match played between these teams ended in a draw, 2—2, the Gunners turning out two short and taking in two substitutes of the Kents. Both sides to-day were fully represented and a good game was expected. The Gunners, winning the toss, elected to play with the wind in their favour, and soon bore down on the Detachment goal, the defence having all their work to keep them out. From a goal-kick the Detachment forwards secured the ball and, well led by Taylor, transferred matters to the other end, Carr being very unlucky in not scoring, the ball missing by inches. The Gunners, however, were not to be denied, and their left wing taking the ball down the field ended in scoring the first goal after twenty minutes' hard play. From then and until half-time the Detachment forwards were continually swarming around their opponents' goal, but were unable to score, Taylor once getting to within five yards and shot by, half-time arriving with the Artillery leading by 1—0.

On restarting, the Kents, having the advantage of the wind, were very soon hovering around the Gunners' goal and shots were sent in from all directions, the goalkeeper punching out right and left until Taylor, slipping between the backs, gave him no chance and made the scores level. Five minutes later, Carpenter gave the Kents the lead from a penalty. The Gunners now bucked up, and in less than a minute from the centre-kick made the score level, Hayward only half clearing a stinger. From this until time the Detachment had all the game, and goals were scored by Carpenter and Wood, the Detachment thus winning a very pleasant game by 4—2. There was not a man who could be starred above another, every man of the winning team playing a good, hard game.

DETACHMENT R.W.K. REGT. v. NEW ROMNEY.

Played at New Romney on 7th January, and ended in a win for the Detachment by 5—0, Romney were out-matched at every point of the game, and were lucky to escape with the above score.

DETACHMENT R.W.K. REGT. v. HAMSTREET ROVERS.

Played at Hamstreet on the 14th inst. Hamstreet, who were rather a heavy team, had the advantage of the wind in the opening half, and managed to score once. On resuming the Detachment, with the wind, at once made for the home goal which had very many escapes, Carpenter scoring after getting well in, which was quickly followed by another from Taylor, Carr hitting the upright and Taylor pouncing on the rebound gave the goalkeeper no chance. From this the Detachment seemed to fall all to pieces, and several easy chances were missed. Hamstreet taking advantage of this made the scores equal. Nothing more being scored the game ended in a draw, 2—2.

3rd BATTALION INTELLIGENCE.

Lieut. A. I. Irons resigns his commission, dated 8th February, 1905.

No. 8017 Boy J. Haynes joined the permanent staff on 1st February, 1905, for duty as drummer.

The training of the Battalion for 1905 takes place at Shorncliffe. Date of assembly, 19th June, 1905.

Second Lieut. C. D. Young joined the Depot for a course of instruction.

Colour-sergeants W. Wimburst, F. Taylor, and Sergeant B. Pond, Permanent Staff, have been to the School of Musketry, Hythe, through a "Refresher course."

Sergeant D. Leaver, Permanent Staff, proceeded to Hythe on the 10th February, 1905, to undergo a course of instruction at the School of Musketry.

Lieut. H. B. Wheeler was successful in passing the requisite examination on the termination of his attachment to the Northamptonshire Regiment for four months.

1st VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

The annual smoking concert and prize distribution took place on 26th January in the Village Hall, Orpington, in connection with the K Company 1st V.B., R.W.K.R.

There was a large company of residents, with a splendid muster also of the men of the company. Capt. A. Tennyson Smith, the chief officer, presided, and was supported by Col. C. Stanley Williams, V.D., who distributed the prizes. The hall had been profusely decorated. The evening was pleasantly passed with toast and song.

DEPOT FOOTBALL.

Very little progress has been made with the Inter-Company Shield; as matters now stand C Company has a slight lead only, having been beaten once, and that by B, who has nothing else but defects to record. The interest in the Shield Competition seems to be very slight, owing, no doubt, to the far superior strength of C Company, a large proportion of whose players are in the Depot team; in fact, when C takes the field the usual shouts to be heard are "Well played, Depot!" It is a great pity that the interest in the competition is so small. The recruits are keen enough, and it would be very much better if the Shield Competition was for recruits only. Turning to the doings of the Depot team in the League, we have two wins and one defeat to chronicle since the last issue. The win over Eccles was a good performance, seeing that they had only suffered defeat once before, and a 4 to 0 victory was more than the most sanguine Depot supporters expected.

We have not been beaten on our ground this season, but Snodland, Tovil, and Malling have all taken two points from us away. The return Snodland match is still to be played, and as it is on our ground we hope to spoil their record. The other outstanding matches are away from home, so it will be a hard struggle to maintain our position as second.

To-day we lose Colour-sergeant Crouch and Powers a promising recruit, and in a week's time Colour-sergeant Bass will also be missed. He has kept goal consistently well, and it will be impossible to adequately fill his place. As some set-off to this Private Wright has arrived from the 2nd Battalion.

The position of the first few clubs in the Maidstone League is as follows:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals.		Pts.
					F.	A.	
Snodland	11	9	0	2	34	11	20
Depot	12	7	3	2	30	16	16
Malling	10	6	2	2	23	10	14
Eccles	10	6	2	2	25	13	14
Maidstone Albion	12	4	3	5	21	14	13
Tovil.....	12	3	5	4	20	15	10

WORK AND WAGES IN CANADA.

CONTINUED.

When I left my work at the farm at the finish of the hay-making, as related in my last article, I had no idea as to what my next employment was going to be, or, indeed, where I was going to look for it, for I was in a farming district, and all the hay-making was practically over, my late employer having been among the last to complete his harvesting. Such hay as yet remained uncut did not amount to much, and the farmers were quite capable of getting it in with their regular help, without being obliged to hire any extra "hands."

I had not the remotest idea as to what place to make for, or how to fill in the few days which remained ere I was to take up my employment as register keeper at the Province of Quebec Rifle Association's Meeting, for, as those readers who have followed me in these accounts of my wanderings will remember, I had secured employment as register keeper at this association's meeting, to be held at Point aux Trembles, and had to report there for duty on the morning of Tuesday, August 9th, at 8 o'clock.

This meant that I would have to leave the locality I was then in on Monday, and as I finished my farm work on Tuesday night I had Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday in which to either loaf or live on my savings, or, as an alternative, to secure some sort of temporary job which would, at any rate, keep me for the four days and pay my expenses.

As I tramped along the country roads towards the town I reviewed the situation and cast about in my own mind to see whether I could not think of some sort of job which I could get to see me over Sunday. I had often heard in the course of my wanderings through the country that work could almost always be obtained for a day or two on the railway, and so I wandered my way towards the section foreman's house, and finding him at home, stated my errand and asked for a job.

Luckily for me he said that he would be able to give me work on Thursday, Friday and Saturday as one of his men had asked for leave on those days, but he could do nothing for me till then. It was getting pretty late when I saw him, and as I was feeling pretty tired with my labour in the hay field, and the wages he offered me were 1 dollar 25 cents a day, I decided to take a holiday on Wednesday and start in my new work rested and refreshed. I therefore went to a boarding house, and after having a thorough bath, which washed some of the dust of the hay off, turned in and slept as soundly and peacefully as I have ever done in my life.

Wednesday I spent in a thoroughly idle manner, and although it was certainly a rest, still I had by now become so accustomed to active work that by the afternoon I became tired of doing nothing, and wished I had taken a job of any sort just for something to do. However, all things have an end, even holidays, and I went to bed early so as to be ready for work in the morning at six o'clock.

ON THE RAILROAD.

When I look back upon those three days of railroad work now I honestly think that had I had any idea as to what was before me—had I realised how really hard the work was going to prove to me as a novice—I would not have taken it—I would rather have loafed away the whole of the remainder of the week—but I had no premonition of what was before me and went blindly on in my ignorance to what proved to be the hardest three days' work I have ever done in my life—or hope to do either for that matter.

My experience as a railroad section hand reminds me of an experiment which was tried by a cousin of mine in the Old Country some years ago in order to satisfy himself as to whether the work given the tramps to do in the casual wards of the workhouse was beyond the capacity of any one unused to hard manual labour. My cousin was, at the time of which I write, a man of about forty-five or fifty, and although not of large build possessed rather more than the average strength. He had never, so far as I know, done a day's work with his hands—he was a commercial man, an important person in his locality, and a magistrate. In this latter capacity he was impressed with the number of men who were constantly brought before him charged with refusing to perform their tasks in the casual wards of the local workhouse—of which, by the way, he was a guardian—and as many of them complained that it was physically impossible for them to perform the tasks allotted them under the Poor Law Act, and as under the same Act he was compelled to commit to prison any one refusing to perform his task, he decided to settle the question for his own satisfaction, and by his own experiment to find out whether the work could be done by anyone unused to manual labour.

At this time the task consisted in breaking a certain number of hundred-weight of stones to be used for road repairing. I think it was four, but am not certain. The stone in large blocks was put into the cell occupied by the casual and had to be broken into pieces sufficiently small to be passed through an iron grating perforated with holes about two and a half to three inches in diameter, and this stone had to be broken before the unfortunate casual was given his breakfast and allowed to proceed on his way.

BREAKING STONE.

Adopting such disguise as he was able to, my cousin, in company with a friend of his who was also another guardian, presented himself at the workhouse gates as a tramp and was placed in the casual ward and had his task set him by the taskmaster.

He commenced with energy and determination, and as he afterwards told me, felt convinced that there would be no difficulty in breaking the stone in the allotted time. A few hours' work, however, showed him that it was not so easy as it had at first seemed and after a time he came to the decision that it was impossible.

The time allowed to complete the work passed, and found my cousin with hands bleeding and almost raw, and the task not half done. The taskmaster charged him with being refractory and refusing to perform his task, and would have been taken to the police court and so charged had he not disclosed his identity and demanded his release. His companion had done no better, and they both came to the decision that it was utterly impossible for a man unused to manual labour of the hardest kind to do the task then demanded by the law, and it was the representations they made to the authorities that ultimately caused the entire alteration of the regulations.

My cousin afterwards said in my presence that had he for one moment realised what he was undertaking he would never have attempted what he did, and confessed that the memory of what he went through would remain with him till he died.

Now my position as regards my job on the railroad section gang is very similar, and I am certain that had I known what I was undertaking I would never have commenced work, and I am equally confident that the memory of those three days will remain with me for many long years, for they were undoubtedly the three hardest days' work I have ever done in my life. My advice to any one unused to manual labour is to keep clear of railroad work—try hay-making, waggon driving, builders' labouring or anything, but not section gang work, for it is almost, if not quite, impossible for the average clerk or young fellow of that class to tackle it with comfort to himself or satisfaction to his fellow-workers or boss. I found it almost beyond me, and I had come fresh from a hay-field and was in the pink of condition.

DRIVING A HAND-CAR.

I reported at the truck house in which the little hand-cars used for patrolling the track were kept at six o'clock, and waited until half-past until the other members of the gang put in an appearance. The foreman did not turn up until later, and so a husky French-Canadian took charge, and sending the other fellows down the track to work, told me to accompany him on the hand-car on the daily inspection of the track included in the section. We started off at a fair pace, each working one handle, but we had not gone far ere I discovered that it was by no means light work to drive the car, and I also realized that the other fellow was leaving me by far the hardest share of the work to do, and so I promptly relaxed my efforts, and this soon made him do his share of the work. In spite of this, however, I found it terribly trying—the incessant bending over the handles as they descended gave one a pain in the back—even when they were at their highest point I was always in a more or less stooping posture, and as mile after mile passed I became more and more cramped and my back and arms ached until I felt as if I must give in.

Just when I was beginning to think that I should have to give up we arrived at the end of the section, and as we had to lift the car off the rails and turn it round for the run back, I gained a few seconds' respite, which enabled me to stand up and stretch myself, and I do not know when I have valued a few moments more than I did then.

The run back was made right in the teeth of a strong wind which made the work twice as hard as it would otherwise have been, and by the time we regained the car shed I was feeling fairly played out, and almost ready to drop just where I stood. We stowed the car in its place, and my companion gave me three shovels and told me to go down the track to where the rest of the gang were at work and to join them in "lifting" and "packing" some new ties which had been put in a few days previously, whilst he went to get a pail of oatmeal and water to take with us.

Before starting off I glanced at my watch, and saw that it was only ten minutes to eight. We had left on our run at about 6.35, and as the extended portion of the section we had patrolled seven miles to the eastward and we had covered the fourteen miles out and home in about an hour and five minutes, deducting the time taken in turning the car round at the end of the outward run and in stowing it away in the shed on our return.

Shouldering my shovels I plodded off down the track towards where the other men were working, feeling as if I had already done a good day's work, whereas I had only just begun.

(To be continued.)

Under command of Lieuts. Johnstone and Case-Morris a draft of 100 N.C.O's and men of the 2nd Battalion Royal West Kent Regiment, who were not qualified to proceed with the Battalion to China, embarked on board the "Dilwara" at Ceylon, on the 2nd ulto., and enjoyed the usual pleasures and discomforts of the voyage, till their safe arrival at Southampton on 29th January, where one man (Drummer Crow) was passed on to the Royal Hospital, Netley, the remainder taking the Depot at Maidstone by surprise on the evening of Tuesday, 31st. However, the wheels were at once set in motion, quarters and a meat tea being provided the latter.

This party should have gone straight to the Provisional Battalion, and arrangements were being made with the latter to receive them, when a wire was received on 2nd February, from the Medical Officer at Southampton, that owing to a case of small-pox during the voyage, the men were to be kept at Maidstone for ten days.

During their sojourn here we managed to give the men plenty of sport in the way of hockey and football.

Finally, on the 11th February, 41 were sent to Dover to finish their time, the remainder being passed to the Reserve

NOTICE.

The Editor *Q.O.G.* has lately acquired about 30 copies of an old print representing the uniform of the 50th Regiment in 1850. The print is already in possession of the various messes and institutes of the Depot and 1st Battalion. The print represents one mounted officer, three dismounted officers, and a sentry grouped round a shattered oak tree. The latter is supposed to be symbolical of the 50th Regiment after the Sutlej Campaign, in which the Battalion suffered very heavy losses. Copies can be obtained from the Editor, price 2s., post free.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of the following subscriptions:—

To December, 1905.—Colonel C. R. King, Major H. Isacke, Miss Blannin, Mr. W. Dadd, C. Donnelly, E. J. Elgood, Esq., F. Grey, Esq., Col. G. Henderson, Mr. W. J. Hannan, Major R. J. Roche, Sergeant-Instr. Wood, Mr. W. Locks.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

At Maidstone, on 12th November, 1904, the wife of Clr.-Sergt. Allen of a daughter.

At Maidstone, on 11th December, 1904, the wife of Pte. Allen of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

At Maidstone, on 24th December, 1904, Clr.-Sergt Crouch to Miss L. King.

DEATHS.

At Maidstone, on 31st January, 1905, No. 8012 Pte. Taylor, of typhoid.

At 12, Learmouth Gardens, Edinburgh, suddenly, of heart failure, on the 6th January, Edith, the wife of Lieut.-Colonel Montagu Wynyard.

THE TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:—

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

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

Copies will be sold at 1d. per Number to Non-Commissioned Officers and Men serving or who have served as such. If sent by post 1s. 6d. per year.

Extra Copies or back numbers can always be supplied.

The price of back Numbers will be as follows: To N.C.O's and Men, 1d.; to all other Subscribers, 2½d. (Postage ½d. extra).

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

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

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS
OF

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

No. 357.

MAIDSTONE, MARCH, 1905.

[Vol. XXIV, No. 3.]

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

LINE BATTALION.

Major H. Isacke is seconded whilst a student at the Staff College, dated 23rd January, 1905.

Lieut. A. K. Grant to be Captain, vice Major H. Isacke, dated 23rd January, 1905.

H. Jex Dresser, gent., to be Second Lieutenant, dated 28th January, 1905, to complete establishment.

H. J. Vicat, gent., to be Second Lieutenant, dated 28th January, 1905.

1st BATTALION.

Promoted Corporal—Lance-corporal E. Collins, 14th January, 1905.

Appointed Lance-Corporal—Ptes. H. Goss and G. Tranter, 10th January, 1905; R. Driscoll, 18th January; P. Simmons, W. Russell, O. Rogers, 25th January.

Corporal F. M. James promoted to a commission as 2nd Lieut. in E. Lancashire Regt., dated 11th February, 1905.

2nd BATTALION.

Appointed Band Sergeant—Sergeant A. Moss, 27th September.

Appointed Lance-corporal—Pte. E. Newell, 31st October, 1904; R. Thorne, 10th October.

3rd BATTALION.

Lieut. A. I. Irons resigns his commission, dated 8th February, 1905.

REGIMENTAL INTELLIGENCE.

The undernamed attended the examination of candidates for 1st Class Certificates of education at Malta:—Corporal F. M. James, who passed in German; Corpl. R. Brown and Sergeant E. Sonnenberg, who gained the coveted certificate; and Lance-corpl. S. Reeves who passed in Group I.

2nd BATTALION.

Sergeant C. Hindmarsh relinquished the appointment of Band-sergeant and is succeeded by Sergeant Moss.

DEPOT.

Colour-sergt. H. Crouch and Sergt. C. Cramp have joined the details at Lydd, being relieved at the Depot by Colour-sergt. G. Rigglesford and Sergt. R. Urquhart.

Lance-corpl. A. Thomas and Pte. Thompson have extended their service to complete 8 years with the colours.

Sergt. H. Garwood has been passed to the Army Reserve.

3rd BATTALION.

Colour-sergts. W. E. Bass, A. Tapp, and A. Outred have gone to Birmingham to undergo a course at the Royal Small Arms Factory.

REGIMENTAL DINNER.

To the Editor of the Queen's Own Gazette.

Sir,—Kindly allow me space in the "Queen's Own Gazette" to inform officers past and present that the Regimental Dinner has been fixed to take place at the Grand Hotel, Trafalgar-square, on the Tuesday in Ascot week, viz,

June 29th. It may interest them to know that I sent an enquiry to some fifty of the subscribers who have retired or who are serving at home, and whose addresses were obtainable, asking them whether they preferred the dinner to be held at the Hotel Cecil (as last year), or at the Trocadero, or at the Grand Hotel. By far the larger number selected the Grand, and therefore the dinner will take place there this year.—Yours truly,

J. K. KENNEDY, Captain,

Hon. Sec. R.W. Kent Dinner Club.

Whitwell Hall,

Reepham, Norwich.

February 20th, 1905.

SERGEANTS' ASSOCIATION, "THE QUEEN'S OWN" (R.W.K. REGT.)

The 2nd Annual Dinner of the above Association was held at the Drill Hall of the 3rd V.B., R.W.K. Regt., at Woolwich, on Saturday, February 11th.

The Officers present were:—Major-General E. Leach, C.B., who presided, Colonels T. H. Brock, E. Satterthwaite, V.D., E. J. Moore, V.D., C. S. Williams, V.D., Lieut.-Col. R. J. Passby, Major R. C. Style (Commanding Depot), Captains and Adjutants O. B. Simpson, E. H. L. Warner and W. H. Annesley.

Sergt.-Major J. H. Oatten, 50th Regimental District, occupied the Vice-Chair, and 120 past and present Warrant Officers and Sergeants sat down to dinner, while a string band, conducted by Band-Sergeant Scudder, 3rd V.B., provided the Music.

After dessert, and the usual Loyal and Patriotic Toasts had been drunk, Col.-Sergt. H. Lockyer, 1st V.B., proposed the Toast of "The Queen's Own," speaking with eloquence of the famous history and records of the Regt., and coupling the names of Major-General E. Leach and Col. T. H. Brock with the toast.

The Toast of the Sergeants' Association, Royal West Kent Regiment was in a few well-chosen words proposed by Major-General E. Leach (the President), and Quartermaster-Sergeant. F. Smith, 4th Volunteer Battalion,

responding, thanked the President, Patrons, and Vice-Presidents of the Association for their valued support, and stated that the Association now numbered 348 past and present Sergts. of the Regiment, this being an increase of 70 since the last dinner.

Pensioner Sergt.-Major W. Brown proposed the health of the Sub-Committee, which, under Sergt.-Major M. Audsley, 3rd V.B., had so ably assisted in the decorating and other arrangements that had helped to make a success of the gathering.

Cablegrams were received, and much appreciated, from the Sergts. of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, now serving at Malta and China respectively.

At 10.30 p.m. a most pleasant reunion was brought to a close with Auld Lang Syne, many of the members having some distance to travel; several from Maidstone had to get back from Chatham, there being no train beyond there. This feat was duly accomplished.

Maidstone,

B. H. G.

February 23rd, 1905.

Also present—Pensioners and Ex-Sergts.—

Messrs. W. Brown, W. Locks, — Light, W. Mitchell, E. Dicker, E. Sillitoe, W. Dawson, W. Matthews, J. Kelly, E. Parish, J. Hunt, C. Donnelly, W. Hamman, — Howland, — Reddersen, J. Cooper, G. Paine, R. Frost, — Balchin, A. Conway, A. Lockyer, C. Seal, T. Barker.

Serving Regulars—

Sergt.-Majors J. Outten and B. Grellier, Q.M.S. Gilburd, Sergt.-Major M. Audsley (3rd V.B.), Sergt.-Major M. Lalley (2nd V.B.), Sergt.-Instrs. Cooke, Pike, Tench (2nd V.B.), Sgt.-Instrs. T. Callaghan, H. Evans (1st V.B.), Sgt.-Instr. E. Holland, Sgt.-Maj. F. W. Elvins (4th V.B.), Sergt.-Instrs. A. G. Wood, Lee, Drew (3rd V.B.), Col.-Sergt. A. E. Wood, Sergt. Stringer, Lce.-Sergt. Allright, Sergt. Sharp, Sergt. Harper, Sergt.-Dr. Gee, Col.-Sergt. W. E. Bass, Col.-Sergt. Seager, Sergt. Selves, Sergt. McGregor, Col.-Sergt. F. Ailwood, Sergt. E. Branson, Lce.-Sergt. Kipps, Sergt. R. Daykin, Col.-Sergt. J. Hunt, Col.-Sergt. C. Osborne, Col.-Sergt. I.M. W. Evenden.

Volunteers—1st V.B.—

Col.-Sergts. W. Cogger and E. Nichols, Sergt.-Dr. Watson, Sergts. H. Lockyer, Pollard, Hilborn, Avery, Merrells, Lce.-Sergts. E. Taylor and Carter.

2nd V.B.

Q.M.S. Baker, Col.-Sergt. Bowen, Sergts. Walker, Franklin and Hall, Lce.-Sergt. Purton.

3rd V.B.

Band Master A. Barber, S.I.M. Prately, Col.-Sergts. G. Gonn, Dollimore, Goodbody, Radley, Beer, W. Davies, M. Clarke, Sergts. Sutherland, Clancy, Welsby, Marshall, Tindall, Seabright, Gabbett, Trayte, and Goldsmith.

4th V.B.

Q.M. Sergts. Webb, Molloy, and J. Smith, Col.-Sergts. Blackhall, McCoan, Trueman, Hickmott, Dunk, and R. Moffatt, Band-Sergt. Lane, Sergts. Darling, G. Foster, Chrisfield, Court, Boys, W. H. Brown, and Rowbottom.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Those visitors who have come out to Malta in order to escape from the rigours of an English winter must be bitterly disappointed. Such cold as we have experienced the last week I have seldom met even on the heights of Shorncliffe Camp at their worst. A violent and cutting east wind that nothing will keep out whistles through the houses that were never built to withstand cold weather.

Despite the minor details of weather and such things, we have managed to put in a considerable amount of gaiety along with our work. There have been lots of dances, both at the Palace and at the Club, with a few subscription ones to fill up the gaps. Thanks to our Mess President and his able assistants we gave quite a successful little dinner and dance in the Mess on the 25th January. About fifty people sat down to dinner, and others coming in afterwards kept the dance going till about three a.m.

I am glad to be able to give a very good account of our invalids. Lieut. Waring, who has had a very severe attack of enteric and dysentery, is convalescent. Lieut. Ingram and Second-Lieut. Dobson, both down with Mediterranean fever, are going on well, and I hope that all three will soon be on their way home for some sick leave. The reliefs, which have just been published, have naturally caused a good deal of disappointment, as we had hopes, born of various rumours, of seeing England once again in the autumn. Some still go on hoping that a second edition of reliefs will be published, but the chances are somewhat slender.

I forgot to mention in my copy for January that Sergt.-Dr. Lush and Pte. Humphreys had been decorated with the medal for "Long Service and Good Conduct." The medals

were presented on church parade by Major-General Sir W. F. Kelly, K.C.B., on the 1st of January, and we heartily endorse his words that they may live long to wear them.

The annual billiard handicap took place in the Reading Room last month, and thirty-six entered for the competition. Pte. Markham, F Company, successfully defeated all his opponents, after an exciting finish with Pte. Somerville, of the Band, while Lce.-Corpl. Harris (Band) was third.

On the 1st February we supplied a Mounted Infantry Company, which, under Capt. C. V. Molony, proceeded to Ghain Taffieha for the course. The four section commanders are Second-Lieuts. Fisher, Searight, Leir, and Cooke, and the strength of the rank and file was 208. The fact of having to supply this Company rather upsets the calculations of the Commanding Officer, who had hoped to have the Battalion intact during the training season, but it was impossible to postpone it. Now, with five officers and over 200 men away, and four officers on the sick list, we are once more reduced to hot weather proportions.

The chief item of interest in the way of sport during this month has been the Inter-Company Football Shield Competition. This shield was presented by Colonel T. H. Brock while the Battalion was at Meerut, and has always been competed for most keenly. In the first round the results were as follows:—F Co. beat H. Co. by 2 goals to love; B Co. drew with G Co., but on re-playing the match G Co. won by 2 goals to 1 (this was a good game, both sides fighting gamely); Band and Drums drew with D Co. On replaying D Company won by two goals to one. This was also a very good game, and the Band and Drums had bad luck in getting one or two of their men placed *hors de combat*. I am not surprised at this considering the rocky ground they play on. A Co. beat C Co. Second round:—G Co. beat E Co. by 1 goal to love. F Co. beat A Co. by 4 goals to 1. A fought hard, but were quite out-manœuvred by F, whose team is showing exceptional form this year.

The officers have been indulging in a few hockey matches, assisted by one or two men occasionally. We played the R.G.A. officers on the 16th January, and after a good game the result was a draw, each side scoring three goals. On the 24th January we played the Rifle Brigade, and managed to defeat them by 1 goal to 0. We played them a return match on the 28th January, and after a closely contested game we drew with them, three goals being scored on either side. Since the M.I. Company left we have had to stop hockey, as all our professionals were included in it.

The next item of interest is the boat race for the Governor's Cup. We have purchased a boat and have got a crew, but we have no waiting man, so that if anyone has to fall out we shall find ourselves in difficulties, as we cannot call on the M.I. for filling the vacancies. They are twelve miles away, and busy all day, which would prevent them coming into Valetta to train and row daily.

1st Battalion Correspondent.

Floriana Barracks, Malta.

Dear Mr. Editor,

What with nearly half of my Company in the mounted infantry with Mr. Fisher at Ghain Tuffehia and a good many on staff employments in Valetta, it is very difficult to send you any news interesting this month, and the little I have thought of has made me nearly bald, the result of digging at my hair trying to collect stray specimens (of news).

Sports have been very slack, and now the football season is drawing to a close. A good game was played with F Company, and ended in a result of 6—1 in their favour. For the Company, Ptes Banks and Wilding played a good game, both showing fine form. Some very fine combination was shown by F Company, which would not hurt us if we took a tip from them now and again.

A tug-o'-war team, under the admirable supervision of Corpl. Cockle (who, by the way, is always to the front in any matter connected with sport), gave an exhibition of their prowess on the rope, but I have been advised that the less said the better on the result. Anyhow, we *might* win the shield some day.

To-day the whole of the troops on the island took part in a grand review on the Marsa, held by H.E. the Governor, and the scene when the march past took place was very fine. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught is expected here shortly which, no doubt, will mean another review and later on one for the King. Our comrades in England will learn that Aldershot is not the only place for reviews, etc.

We were all very disappointed on seeing in the "Broad Arrow" that the list of reliefs for this station and elsewhere did not include our Regiment. Everyone seems anxious to get home, or at least a shift from here. The weather the last few days has been terrible for this island—as I am writing this I am nearly frozen, to-day being bitterly cold, with severe hail and snow storms.

As one of our Company, we are glad to see Sergt-Major Rogers doing duty again.

I must not conclude my few notes without mentioning that excellent and talented comedian, Pte. McCabe, who fairly brought down the house at the A.T.A. concert the other evening. His movements and antics caused many a pain (in the sides) of the occupants of the front seats.

The Regimental sports will take place in a few days, but I am afraid too late for this month's issue. I trust the Company will not be backward in trying to win a few prizes.

"A" Company Correspondent.

I have much pleasure in reporting that a tea followed by a smoking concert, in connection with the above Association, was held in the R.A.T.A. Room, Notre Dame Barracks, on Wednesday, February 8th. Some 180 members and friends sat down at 6.30 to tea and did ample justice to the good things provided. At 7.30 tables were cleared and then followed the concert. Excellent advice to our young members was given by the Rev. L. A. Hughes, C.F., after which Ptes. McCarthy, Francis, O'Shea, Jones, and McCabe kept everyone merry. The singing of Pte. McCarthy was greatly applauded, and the jokes of Ptes. Francis and McCabe (The Two Mac.'s), caused roars of laughter. Pte. Klein gave some good advice to young men about to marry, which curiously enough was not resented by any one of the fair sex present. Pte. Fordham's songs were also ably rendered, and a most enjoyable and pleasant evening was brought to a close at 11 p.m. by singing the National Anthem.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves, the concert room was packed, and Corpl. Cockle proved an excellent chairman. Our hearty thanks are due to the able committee (Corpls. Maslin, Collins, and Bagwell), also to Drummer Gregg and Pte. A. Wood, the latter arranging and printing the programme of the evening's entertainment.

By One Who Knows.

2nd BATT. CORRESPONDENCE.

Tientsin.

Dear Mr. Editor,

North China is a very sudden and curious change from Ceylon. This place, as far as I can make out, is a glorified mud flat, intersected by canals and covered with ponds which afford fairly good skating. We all heard before coming here that the winter was very severe, but so far, although it freezes hard at night, the days are delightfully bright and warm.

Hockey on the ice is played a good deal at present, and C and H Companies have great games, which not only afford good exercise but also considerable amusement. At present C and H Companies are here, and B and F at Peking. The detachments interchange every six months by route march.

The barracks here are not very beautiful and are also very dirty; but they are at present undergoing a transformation by being thoroughly whitewashed, by which means we hope to hermetically seal up in the woodwork a good many of the bugs which I hear are very bad in the summer. Tientsin

is a very big scattered town and is divided up into concessions, which are respectively two British, French, German, Italian, Austro-Hungarian, Russian, and Japanese; there is also the Chinese city, which is a wonderful place, with very narrow streets and curious shops.

Every nationality here of course has troops, so there is a curious mixture of uniforms to be seen in the streets.

So far there has not been very much football, but there is a big competition coming off which I will tell you about later.

This is the time of year for dust storms, which I am told are very bad here. Mercifully, so far, we have been spared one, but every precaution, such as papering up the windows, is taken. Route marching is chiefly the order of the day at present, as in the rains most of the roads are impassable and the country is under water.

At the present moment we have two teams going through a course of gun drill with two naval 12-pounders, and also another team doing a course of mule transport.

There is going to be a big concert at the Soldiers' Home shortly, which I will tell you about in my next letter.

TIENTSIN CORRESPONDENT.

DEPOT NEWS.

The usual Morris tube competition for the recruits proceeding to join the Details, took place at Maidstone, on the 13th February, 1905, on the "Luard" M.T. Range.

The 14 recruits who made the best aggregate scores in the practise shoots competed at targets representing a 12-inch bullseye at 200 yards (seven shots) for the gold challenge medal and the prizes presented by the O.C. Depot.

Good shooting was the result, Pte. E. Harvey of A Company, Depot, winning the 1st prize with 33 points, out of a H.P.S. of 35, Ptes. A. Seymour, A Co., and T. Golds-rink, C, divided the 2nd and 3rd prizes with 32 points each to their credit, while Pte. R. Clift received 4th prize with 28 points. The average per man for the shoot was 26.5.

Afterwards Major R. C. Style presented the prizes to the successful competitors in the Library.

The gymnastic competition for the same draft also took place, Pte. Winter winning the 1st prize, Pte. Sawyer, 2nd, Pte. Higgins, 3rd, Pte. Ward, 4th.

An impromptu concert took place in the Regimental Institute, on the 9th February (Sergt.-Major Outten presiding) amongst the recruits with a view of raising some

talent for the minstrel troupe, and were successful in finding two or three who are able to give a good turn. Pte. Bostock sang in good style, Sergt. Harper proved a great success with "Queen of the Earth" and "Genivieve". Another item was Pte. Taylor who proved himself a sort of second Houdini as the "Handcuff King." Col.-Sergeant Ailwood delighted the audience immensely with his gramophone with "Troops leaving Southampton." There were about 200 present. Everyone present seemed to be well satisfied with the entertainment which was brought to a close by the singing of the "National Anthem" at 9.30.

DEPOT FOOTBALL NOTES.

The Depot team met Maidstone Church Institute in the semi-final of the Hospital Charity Cup on February 25th at Tovil. In the first half the Depot had all the best of the play and scored two goals through Sweeney, the first after a good individual effort and the second from a corner. It looked any odds on the Depot winning comfortably, but early in the second half Cl.-Sgt. Bass running out of goal to clear kicked the ball on to an opponent from whom it bounced back through the goal—a piece of bad luck. From now to the end the Depot lacked finish and dash, and the Church Institute scoring the match ended in a draw of two goals all.

The only League Match played by us also ended in a draw of one goal all. It was against Maidstone Albions at Barming. With half a gale of wind in our favour we pressed continuously in the first half, but only scored once, through Sergt. Connor; our opponents also scored once, the ball hitting the goal keeper and post simultaneously, and falling an inch or so over the line. With the heavy wind against us, and the score level, it seemed certain that we would be beaten in the second half, but some excellent goal keeping, and the fine defence of the halves and full backs prevented any scoring, in fact, towards the end, through good individual play by Sergts. Jarrad and Stringer, we had as much of the play as our opponents.

It was a fine effort on the part of the Depot team, as, owing to Lieut. Hewitt being injured in the first half, they had only ten men on the field. It was an exciting match to watch, and as Cl.-Sergt. Bass saved shot after shot, and the halves and full backs defended with great determination, even a somewhat hostile crowd was forced to applaud.

The positions of the first four teams in the League now are :—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals.		Pts.
					F.	A.	
Snodland	13	11	0	2	41	14	24
Depot	14	7	3	4	32	18	18
Malling	11	7	2	2	31	10	16
Eccles	12	7	3	2	27	15	16

GAMES COMPETITION.

On the 15th inst. the members of the Sergeants' Mess, Depot, and the Sergeants' Mess of the Maidstone Detachment Volunteers met at the headquarters of the latter. A very pleasant evening was the result, the Volunteers winning the games by nine points to six. The usual compliments were passed to the visitors. Sergt.-Major Outten, responding, thanked the hosts for their hospitality, and stated that the Depot would, he hoped, be able to give a better account of themselves next time. Results:—

TWENTY-FIVES.

VOLUNTEERS.		DEPOT.	
Col.-Sergt. Nichols	2	Sergt.-Major Outten	1
Sergt. W. Meades		Sergt.-Major Grellier	
Col.-Sergt. J. Upton	2	Sergt. Hyde	0
Col.-Sergt. H. Lockyer		Col.-Sergt. Moon	

WHIST.

Sergt. C. Avery	0	Sergt. Pond	2
Sergt. F. Haswell		C.-S.-I.-M. Evenden	
Sergt. H. Hughes	2	Sergt. Pye	0
Col.-Sergt. J. Brown		Col.-Sergt. Rigglesford	
Sergt. W. Day	0	Col.-Sergt. Osborne	2
Bandmaster Hunt		Col.-Sergt. Hunt	
Col.-Sergt. E. Nichols	2	Sergt.-Major Outten	0
Sergt. W. Meades		Col.-Sergt. Seager	
Col.-Sergt. G. G. Hughes	2	Col.-Sergt. Taylor	0
Sergt. H. Harden		Sergt. Martin	
Sergt. W. Day	1	Col.-Sergt. Osborne	2
Bandmaster Hunt		Col.-Sergt. Hunt	
Sergt. C. Avery	2	Sergt. Pond	0
Sergt. F. Haswell		C.-S.-I.-M. Evenden	
Sergt.-Inst. Evans	2	Sergt. Branson	1
Sergt. F. Meades		Col.-Sergt. Wilson	
Col.-Sergt. J. Upton	1	Sergt. Hyde	2
Col.-Sergt. H. Lockyer		Col.-Sergt. Moon	
Col.-Sergt. J. Brown	1	Sergt. Pye	2
Sergt. H. Hughes		Col.-Sergt. Rigglesford	

CRIBBAGE.

Col.-Sergt. G. G. Hughes	1	Col.-Sergt. Taylor	2
Sergt. H. Harden		Sergt. Martin	
Col.-Sergt. G. G. Hughes	1	Col.-Sergt. Taylor	1

EUCHRE.

Sergt. H. Harden	1	Sergt. Martin	0
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SUMMARY.

	VOLS.	DEPOT.
Twenty-fives	2	0
Whist	5	5
Cribbage	1	1
Euchre	1	0
	9	6

Volunteers won by 3 points.

The men composing the draft which joined the details at Dover on the 15th February were:—7797 Ptes. J. Scott, 7825 J. Rentford, 7904 H. Angus, 7905 W. Pearce, 7906 H. Craycraft, 7907 G. Stewart, 7908 J. Austin, 7909 E. Bough, 7910 H. Fuller, 7911 W. Fletcher, 7912 C. Winter, 7914 W. Potter, 7915 F. Cannon, 7916 C. Bartholomew, 7919 A. Heath, 7920 J. Coles, 7923 C. Gausden, 7924 A. New, 7926 M. Garvey, 7927 C. May, 7928 C. Richfield, 7929 T. Goldspink, 7930 A. Batty, 7931 H. Fort, 7933 T. Maslen, 7934 G. Ward, 7935 W. Langham, 7938 T. Hamlyn, 7939 H. Howell, 7940 T. Collyer, 7941 P. Connell, 7942 B. Turrell, 7943 H. Ott, 7945 W. Harris, 7946 E. Harvie, 7947 S. Major, 7948 E. Payne, 7950 A. Seymore, 7952 T. Power, 7953 J. Allen, 7954 J. Wrotham, 7955 G. White, 7956 T. Muggeridge, 7961 A. Game, 7962 A. Higgins, 7963 H. Clift, 7964 T. Pryer, 7965 A. Marshall, 7966 C. Sawyer.

The undermentioned N.C.O., Men, and Boys, have been awarded 2nd and 3rd Class Certificates of Education at the Half-Yearly Inspection of the Detachment School, held at Maidstone on 10th February, 1905:—

2nd CLASS CERTIFICATES.

7931 Ptes. H. Fort and 7907 W. Stewart.

3rd CLASS CERTIFICATES.

3168 Lce.-Corpl. H. Mockford, 8009 Ptes. J. S. Adams, 7974 H. Knight, 7929 T. Goldspink, 7999 W. Morris, 7976 P. Lyndon, 7910 H. Fuller, 8029 F. Kendall, 7963 H. Clift, 7998 J. Gentry, 8001 G. Marsh, 8020 S. Glazebrook, 7969 A. Middleton, 8000 J. Burton, 7939 H. Howell, 7937 W. Sansum, 7950 A. Seymore, 7996 W. Upton, 7987 Funnell, 7982 Boy G. Johnson, 8006 Boy H. Fletcher.

WORK AND WAGES IN CANADA.

CONTINUED.

There must be some degree of truth in the old saying that it is always the darkest hour which immediately precedes the dawn, for I had my hardest work immediately before having to undertake duties which were of a clerical character and more on a par with the work to which I had been accustomed as a journalist in the Old Country.

This work, my regular readers will remember, consisted of keeping a register at the annual rifle meeting of the Province of Quebec Rifle Association, and I had been engaged by the secretary of the association as far back as the 29th of July as the result of an application I made for employment in response to an advertisement in the "Star." In the letter accepting my services as register keeper I was told that I was to attend at the ranges at Point aux Trembles on Tuesday, the 9th of August, at 8 a.m., and must bring a field glass with me. I was also notified that my pay was to be at rate of two dollars 50 cents a day, which, needless to say, seemed quite a large sum in comparison to the wages I had been earning by my manual labour.

Now, while I have the subject fresh in my mind let me impress upon all young immigrants who are in search of employment, or upon those who, although already employed, desire to better their positions in life, to read the advertising columns, not spasmodically, every now and then, but systematically day by day, for even though at the moment they may not be wishing for employment, they may see an advertisement of some position which they would like to take, and timely application may secure them this. Let them also carefully scan the items of general news, for they may see that some new factory or mill is to be built, or that some works or farms are building additional premises, and additional premises will mean additional help, and an employer cannot but be favourably impressed by the foresight of anyone who applies for a position in such a manner and on such information.

ONE MAN'S LESSON.

I remember once, when I was a boy, I was told the tale of a certain well-known man, then almost—if not quite, a millionaire, who had commenced life as an errand boy and who was then the head of the very firm in which he had started years before in the most lowly position. He was by no means ashamed of his beginning, and, indeed, seemed to take a great delight and pride in narrating how he secured his first employment, and I do not think I can do better than narrate the anecdote as an example either to young lads beginning their work in life or to anyone in search of employment of any sort, for that matter. It illustrates clearly what an important thing it is for anyone looking for work to look beyond the ends of their noses, to keep both their eyes and their ears open, and shows them that though they may make an application for work and be refused on the ground that there is none, there may be something to do which they can get if they will only point out what it wants doing.

It seems that the hero of this anecdote applied at the main office of a large firm one morning and asked for a job in any capacity, but was told that they didn't need any help by one of the clerks who declined to carry the manager by referring the application to him.

Just at the moment the manager passed through the office, and our hero, boldly stopping him, said: "Please, sir, that gentleman says there's no work for anyone to do here. Those windows want cleaning. There's no one doing it. Please give me the job."

Up to this time the fact that the windows were undeniably very dirty and quite escaped the notice of the manager, engrossed as he was with the details of his business, but it had not escaped the quick eye of the penniless boy, who wanted work, and who looked about him to see if he couldn't show an employer something to give him to do. The manager was so impressed by the boy's brightness in looking for and pointing out something to be done that he engaged him on the spot, and thus laid the foundation of a career which is now conspicuous, even amongst the many great successes which have been made by men who started at the bottom of the ladder and worked their ways steadily until they have reached the top.

AS A REGISTER-KEEPER.

And now, after this digression, let me resume the story of my own experiences. When I accepted the position as register-keeper, I knew I would have to be in Montreal on the Monday so as to be able to get to the ranges by the time mentioned on the Tuesday morning, so I decided to spend the day in that city and to call upon several employes with whom I thought I might possibly be able to secure a job of some sort. I, therefore, made it my business to reach the city as early as possible on the Monday morning, following the termination of my work with the section gang on Saturday.

I called on several firms during the day, and secured the promise of employment at the works of the Canadian Rubber Company on Monday, August 15th, as rough painter, etc., on the new building works they were carrying out. The wages offered were 15 cents an hour, and as this meant at least 1.50 dols. a day I was very glad to know that I had secured work to start in at so soon after my register keeping would terminate, and I, therefore, went to bed that night with a light heart, and started for the ranges early in the morning, taking my dinner with me, for I did not wish to pay a quarter of a dollar for a meal down there.

I should explain here that I was staying with the parents of a friend of mine in Montreal, although, of course, I was "paying my way," and as I was residing in the West End of the city, 5 dols. a week was a very small sum to pay for the comforts and attention which I had—indeed, I shall never forget the kindness with which I was treated by all in the house.

I allowed myself about an hour and a half to get to the ranges the first morning, for I wished to be in time. The cars were crowded with shooters of all kinds, militia, farmers and civilians on their way to the ranges. A twenty cent return ticket took me out and home again at night, and this outlay was well justified by the fact that accommodation at Pointe aux Trembles was scarcely to be had, and was very expensive even if I had not been so comfortably situated with my friends in Montreal.

THE REGISTER KEEPERS.

I found little difficulty in picking out my fellow register keepers when I reached the association offices near the butts. They were a strangely assorted lot—clerks out of work, and militiamen formed a large proportion of them, with a sprinkling of South African veterans and a Canadian who had just returned from serving with the Japanese army in the Far East. There was also a Dane who spoke—I afterwards discovered—about seven languages. Altogether they were a very superior set of fellows to those with whom my work had of late thrown me, and it was an inexpressible relief to find myself once more with men whose station in life was more on a par with my own.

At 8.30 a sergeant-major of the Scots paraded us and handed out our instruction boards to us, carefully reading over the rules, &c., which we had to observe, and explaining to us how we were to mark the scores both on the blackboards and the score cards to order the firing, and, indeed, all the duties which we were called to perform during the meeting.

We then had sponges, chalk and pencil served out to us and were told to go to the stores tent to select a large shelter umbrella apiece, as the weather was decidedly threatening. Armed with our various impedimenta we formed up in single rank and were marched off to the butts, each man being allotted to a target. A certain number of register keepers were under control of an officer known as the Range Officer, and it was his duty to hand out and collect the score cards, check the scores on the cards with those on the score boards, to telephone all challenges as to shots, &c., to the markers at the targets, and, in fact, to exercise a general supervision over everything in his section of the firing line.

SCORING THE SHOTS.

The value of the hits was shown at the targets by a disc, white for bulls eye, red for inner, black and white for magpie, and black for outer, and as the disc was shown it was my duty to call out the name of the man whose shot was being scored, and the number of it, the result and the value which had to then be marked on the blackboard—and then, if no protest was made—enter it on the scoring card—something as follows:—

"Private Jones first on score, bulls eye, 5." Then when the competitors had each fired their allotted number of shots I had to add up their totals, call the range officers, and have him check the individual scores and the totals on the blackboard with those on the score card, get him to initial it, and then get it ready for another batch of competitors.

There was nothing very trying or tiring in the work, and the only things which in any way troubled me were having to remain so constantly in one position and to keep my eyes constantly fixed on the targets to see the signal disc when it was hoisted by the marker. The firing was all done in signals of three, so there was no excuse for anyone making any mistakes. In addition to the above duties I had to see that the competitors observed the rules and regulations of the association and the meeting, and that they used no gauges or other appliances on their rifles, that they fired without extra rests, that their rifles were held in their proper positions outside the coat, and that in the event of a certain percentage being made out of the possible total their rifles were tested as regards the "pull" of the trigger, etc., by the range officer.

1ST VOLUNTEER ACTIVE SERVICE COMPANY.

The annual dinner of above will be held at Headquarters probably on Saturday, 25th March, at 7 p.m. Tickets and all information in connection with this function may be obtained from Sergt. H. F. Attree, 11, St. Margaret's Road, Brockley, S.E.

ANAGRAM LETTER.

[To those of our readers who have any spare time on their hands we offer the following puzzle. The solution will appear next month,—Ed.]

I send you this letter in a *rag man* knowing that the *house rats* of such learned books as yours will soon come to a *red nuts and gin* of my meaning. I can well imagine the *no stern action* of your father the *crymangle* should this *early bat* of my feelings for *surly foe* fall into his hands. I will therefore place it on the *I creep safe* where you will find it when you descend to your *quite spruce* garden. I am sure the *crymangle* would consider any of his *I hire parsons* worthy of the severest *mne thumps* should he dare to approach him as the accepted *there we sat* of his only *aged Ruth*. To-night I am going to the *I rear too* and I wish you could be with me to heard the new *a dry shop* performed by the *carthorse*. When I return I shall look for your *nice herald* as no *moon starrer* ever looked for the light of a newly discovered planet.

If it is burning I shall come with what *mad policy* I can command and present myself as a *cat dined for into my arm* to your respected *norse cat*—so to call him. Please send *new door* by *great help*. I am much occupied in the *nay I repent* it at present; the *strain cash* have been stirring up a spirit of *to love ruin* among the men, one of them was shot and I was his *go nurse*. With his last *the bar* he told me that he had acquired *the law* by the sale of *oil soap* but had lost the greater part of it in trying to crush the *ten tea pots* of foreign countries.

He informed the *live agents* that visited him that he belonged to the *best in prayer church*, and that he thought the doctrines of *sin sat on a tin tar tub* was a *Simon Peter* in tears.

Some *sly ware* of my acquaintance tried to get possession to his wealth, but he had left it all to the *sheep at Cairo*.

I enclose a *thymates* ring of *neat leg* design and hope it will be accepted by my *rice soup* girl.

MARRIAGES.

At the Parish Church, Ashford, on 22nd December, 1904, Sergt. J. Hyde, P.S. 3rd Batt., to Miss C. Austen.

DEATH.

At Edinburg, on 4th March, 1905, Major Norman Houston Leckie, late The Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment), only son of the late Captain Charles Taylor Leckie, R.N., and grandson of Major Norman Sharp, of Houston, Linlithgowshire.

THE TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:—

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

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

Copies will be sold at 1d. per Number to Non-Commissioned Officers and Men serving or who have served as such. sent by post 1s. 6d. per year.

Extra Copies or back numbers can always be supplied.

The price of back Numbers will be as follows: To N.C.O.s and Men, 1d.; to all other Subscribers, 2½d. (Postage ½d. extra).

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

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

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS
OF

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

No. 358.

MAIDSTONE, APRIL, 1905.

[Vol. XXIV, No. 4.]

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Second Lieutenant R. L. Hoare resigns his commission, dated 25th February, 1905.

Second Lieutenant W. F. Helmore to be Lieutenant, vice J. T. Twisleton-Wykeham-Fiennes, promoted, dated 4th December, 1904.

Second Lieutenant F. B. Humphreys to be Lieutenant, vice A. K. Grant, promoted, dated 23rd January, 1905.

3RD BATTALION.

Arthur William George Brooke, Gent., to be Second Lieutenant, dated 25th February, 1905.

COMPASSIONATE FUND.

Major R. C. Style desires to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following sums:—

	£	s.	d.
Captain T. T. Burt	1	0	0
Colonel R. H. Doran... ..	1	0	0
Major E. V. O. Hewett	1	0	0
D. P. Forster Walker, Esq.	1	0	0
Colonel C. R. Hallett	1	0	0
Colonel C. R. Crosse... ..	1	1	0

The name "Macfadyen" in last month's number was shown in error, being that of the bankers through whom the sum was remitted.

REGIMENTAL DINNER.

The Regimental Dinner will be held at
THE GRAND HOTEL, TRAFALGAR SQUARE,

ON

JUNE 20th, 1905.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Mr. Editor,

The last five days have been full of interest and mild excitement owing to the visit to this jewel of the Mediterranean of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, the Inspector-General. He has had every hour occupied. On his first day he went out to Ghain Tuffieha and inspected the Battalion in camp there, and watched them take part in a tactical scheme. He seemed very pleased from all that one can gather.

His next two days he inspected the various forts in the island, of which there are a goodly number. Last night, the 14th March, there was a combined naval attack by torpedo boats; we watched the searchlights from the shore, and it would appear impossible for anything bigger than a cockle shell to come anywhere near the island without being detected, much less get right into the harbour and do damage among the shipping. Of course the boats were running without lights, and it is said that some destroyers managed to get in, though our defenders, the gunners, swore that not one of them would have been able to get within 500 yards of the shore.

On the next day H.R.H. had a great parade on the Marsa; the Battalion, much to everyone's delight, was not called in to participate in the delights that were afforded by a high wind and clouds of such dust as only those who dwell in Malta can realise and appreciate. The remarks about the parade pointed to the fact that sufficient care was not bestowed to ceremonial. The marching left much to be desired, and the officers might with advantage be instructed a little more fully in the necessary accomplishment of saluting. The men on parade were complimented on their appearance, and with the material here it will not be a difficult matter to bring the troops to a high state of discipline on parade. H.R.H. published an order to the effect that he was very pleased with the turn-out of the troops on the Marsa and with his inspection while at Malta.

On the occasion of the departure of the Duke of Connaught at about 10 p.m. on the 15th March the fleet was illuminated, and it was a pretty sight to see the "Essex" steaming out of the harbour through the brilliantly lighted vessels of the Mediterranean Squadron.

We shall now settle down to the usual humdrum life we live in Malta, and it will be more acceptable after the hurry and rush of the last few days.

On the 20th February, before the Battalion went out to Ghain Tuffieha, we gave another little dance in the Mess, which was quite a success. The advantage of having a well-laid dancing floor, even though a small one, is undoubted in a place like Malta where there are not more than free or four in the whole island.

As regards sport I fear there is little for me to tell you this month, as your correspondent has been left behind at Floriana and knows little of the games the Battalion has been indulging in while in camp. I must refer you to A Company's Correspondent who is very regular in forwarding to you his most acceptable information. I have an idea that he will shortly have some rivals, who, I hope, will be as successful. Our boat's crew have only had one day's practice since the Battalion has been away. We were unlucky to start with, as we were not able to get the boat taken out to St. Paul's Bay owing to the gales that have been blowing, and our training must go on there for the present.

The crew I hear are looking forward to the time when they start training in earnest, and take a pleasure in giving up such elusive pleasures as smoking and cake with their afternoon tea.

It is as well to prepare them for what is to come, and the run of half a mile before breakfast will have to compensate them for the other pleasures they are giving up during this most appropriate season of Lent.

We sent off two of our invalids in the s.s. "Dilwara" on the 7th March. Lieut. C. R. Ingram and 2nd Lieut. T. Y. Dobson having shaken off the worst of their attack of Mediterranean fever have gone home for four months to recoup, and I hope that they will return fit and in time enough to allow some of those who require a change to get away on leave before the summer is over.

Lieut. Parker is in hospital, but we all hope that he will soon be released, as the doctors are under the impression that he has got this wretched Mediterranean fever and are waiting, so they say, for the second wave. He dropped me a line the other day saying that he hoped to see me by Christmas.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENT.

RIFLE COMPETITION.

SERGEANTS 1ST BATT. R.W.K. REGIMENT v. DETACHMENT ROYAL MARINE LIGHT INFANTRY.

200, 500, and 600 yards, Bisley targets and marking, 10 aside; 8 best scores to count.

This competition took place on the afternoon of the 15th March, on the Royal Naval Range at Ghain Tuffieha Camp, and resulted in a win for the Royal Marine Detachment by 50 points.

Our opponents were much too strong for us owing principally to their knowledge of the peculiarities of the light at 600 yards, their team being composed of the Range Permanent Staff, who naturally get plenty of opportunity for practice.

The range runs practically east and west, so that at 5 p.m., when our team was firing at 600 yards, the sun was straight in their eyes, and the targets were very much in the shade. This, no doubt, accounts for the very poor scores at 600 yards.

The following are the scores of the teams:—

Detachment Royal Marine Light Infantry.

	200 Yards.	500 Yards.	600 Yards.	Aggre- gate.
Q.M.-Sergt. Littleworth	34	30	25	89
Sergt. Hayes ...	31	33	20	84
Private Grey ...	28	29	26	83
Col.-Sergt. Sommers ...	30	28	24	82
Lance-Sergt. Clear ...	30	26	24	80
Sergt. Willing ...	25	25	25	75
Private Adams ...	23	33	19	75
Chief-Mate Davis ...	24	26	22	72
*Corp. Horsley ...	23	17	12	52
Totals ...	225	230	185	640

*Score counted out.

Sergeants 1st Batt. R.W.K. Regiment.

	200 Yards.	500 Yards.	600 Yards.	Aggre- gate.
Col.-Sergt. Naylor ...	25	31	24	80
Col.-Sergt. Murphy ...	28	24	27	79
Sergt. Osborne ...	27	31	20	78
Col.-Sergt. Button ...	32	28	16	76
Col.-Sergt. Saunders ...	27	29	18	74
Sergt. Wood ...	27	24	19	70
Sergt. Moore ...	22	25	21	68
Lance-Sergt. Stace ...	20	27	18	65
*Sergt. Brown ...	18	23	22	63
*Sergt. Nicholson ...	24	26	13	63
Totals ...	208	219	163	590

*Scores counted out.

In addition to the team taking part in the above competition, opportunity was given to any sergeant wishing to practice at the same distances. The whole of the sergeants off duty availed themselves of this opportunity and the following are the best eight scores out of a total of twenty who fired:—

	200 Yards.	500 Yards.	600 Yards.	Aggre- gate.
Sergt. Saunders ...	27	29	28	84
Sergt. Firman ...	29	26	25	80
Q.M.-Sergt. Cover ...	28	28	23	79
Sergt. Murphy ...	31	24	24	79
Sergt. Page ...	27	31	18	76
Lie.-Sergt. Humphreys	22	27	23	72
Col.-Sergt. Davis ...	25	25	22	72
Sergt. Seaton ...	25	27	19	71
Totals ...	214	217	182	613

Ghain Tuffieha Camp,
13th March, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,

You will see by the above heading we are once more under a canvas roof, but I must say a most delightful and healthy spot (when fine weather exists). We left Floriana at 8.30 a.m. on the 2nd March, and to the inspiring tunes of the fifes and drums we enjoyed an excellent march, arriving in camp in time for dinner, a good repast having been provided by the cooks, who had gone on in advance.

After dinner that great mysterious being, Morpheus, seemed to claim every individual for his victim. I do not think the victims in question grumbled, and in a short time nearly every one was in the land of nod, dreaming of all sorts of things, i.e., when the battalion was going home, and what boat, etc., etc.

Friday morning, doomed to disappointment, as regards weather. Instead of waking up and finding blue eastern skies, we were confronted with horrible looking clouds which threatened unmercifully and made every one's spirit drop to zero. The rain soon came down, and in a few minutes our somewhat picturesque camp was transformed into a seething ploughed field.

Nothing could be done that day, but the N.C.O.'s enjoyed a very interesting lecture on outpost duty, etc., in a spare marquee. The next day was as bad as the previous one, mud being predominant everywhere; in fact, we had mud for dessert. We started on an early morning run, but, sad to say, before we had gone five minutes from the camp, a heavy downpour came and nearly drenched us all. After a hurried retreat we got back to our tents in safety. After breakfast the N.C.O.'s were treated to a very enjoyable lecture by the officer commanding the company on map-reading, reports, etc., which proved very useful and interesting.

Sunday, as a day of rest should do, dawned brightly, and after a short service under Lieut.-Colonel Filton, E.S.O., everyone made their own plans how to spend the day. Football and hockey were indulged in, and a few went to Valetta to see the carnival.

Monday morning we just escaped sudden death, as a fearful thunderstorm hovered over our tents. I suppose the storm thought we needed more training, and passed a few yards from us, where it brought down havoc and destruction on a Maltese farmhouse. The lightning struck the side of the dwelling-house, killing instantly a fine cow, horse, mule, pig, and a little chicken which was on the cow's back at the time. A woman upstairs was also struck and paralysed from head to foot.

The scene was visited by many of the officers and men during the day, who showed in a practical manner their sorrow for the losses which had occurred.

At 9.30 a.m. we fell in and enjoyed a fine concentration march to St. Paul's Bay. The weather being delightful everyone felt in high spirits and took great interest in the march. The scouts did pretty well, but two had a great weakness for Mellieha and wandered a little out of the way.

The weather during the whole of the week has been magnificent, a bright sun shining the whole time. Several movements have taken place during the week, in which we have been engaged with various other companies.

On Saturday we took part in attacking an enemy (represented by the Hampshire Regiment, who are under canvas at Mellieha). Our company formed part of the left half Battalion under Major Annesley, D.S.O.

After a series of advances, in skirmishing order, which was very amusing (owing to cultivated ground causing us to advance very cautiously round walls, etc.), we caused the enemy to retire near Mellieha Ridge. After a charge, accompanied by a sort of wild Indian war cry from the men, the "assembly" sounded, and we all formed up and found ourselves in the midst of a brilliant throng of Generals, etc., from H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, I.G.F., downwards. H.R.H. then inspected the men, walking along each rank, asking them individually many questions as to their service and where they came from. Later on H.R.H. visited the camp before leaving for Valetta.

To-day, our second Sunday here, we had Church parade on the M.I. ground. A football match took place this afternoon between two companies, and as the weather is still all that could be desired no doubt there will be a large "gate."

I must not forget to mention, in conclusion, we fell up against two of our old friends, Ambeet and Pickles. They are basking in the dignified fashion common only to Mounted Infantry men. At present they are very great, but Pickles condescendingly came across to our tent and offered me a ride on his horse, but as I happened to be in the know of a very dark plot I politely refused. He had two severe falls on Saturday through his horse stumbling over a fly! Ambeet, I am sorry to say, is looking very melancholy since he has been on the Mounted Infantry.

I am informed he is contemplating matrimony. If this is correct I am sure we all wish him success in this new venture.

A Company's Correspondent.

FOOTBALL.

SERGEANTS v. CORPORALS.

A football match between the above two teams took place at Happy Valley, Hong Kong, on Tuesday, the 7th February. The juniors turned out one man short, but as the sergeants mustered in full force they decided to lend their junior brother non-coms. the services of Sergeant Keban. This step nearly proved a catastrophe for the sergeants. Had it not been for Sergeant Keban's brilliant play the corporals would have been irretrievably beaten, as it was Sergeant Keban who scored the only goal for the corporals. Besides Keban, Eley, and Bass played a splendid game for the juniors. Whilst the sergeants all played a good game, though some fancied that they were playing push-ball, consequently the Referee had to caution the players, that pushing is not allowed at football. However, the game ended in a win for the sergeants by 3 goals to 1. The following were the teams:—

Sergeants—Moir, Andrews, Sayer, Fairholme, Goulds, Mallon, Chasteneuf, Redmond, Spooner, Reynolds, and Moss.

Corporals—Jones, Turner, Eley, Sarney, Bass, Christie, Pelling, Byfood, Rouse, and Sergt. Keban.

THE SILENT CLAY KICKER.

2nd BATT. CORRESPONDENCE.

A Company,
2nd Royal West Kent Regt.,
Murray Barracks, Hong Kong,
21st February, 1905.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

As these notes are not confined strictly to Regimental incidents, it is to be hoped that your authorised correspondents will not consider them an encroachment on their rights. They are intended to supplement your regular contributions and to convey our impressions of Hong Kong, as far as I am capable. To begin with—I suppose I must do it in tabular form—on our first landing in the “Flowery Land,” we were very favourably impressed with the little Island, in fact we were impressed with everything until Barracks was reached. Here, I regret to say, our allusion died as suddenly as it was inspired. It cannot be said that our Barracks are dismal, on the contrary, they are very imposing, especially outside. But what is most essential, convenience—is lacking. It seems that when these Barracks were being built, what the builders had in view, must have been inconvenience. For the latter quality, they certainly surpass anything we ever saw. However, as H.E. the Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan, K.C.M.G., said at the Soldiers’ Home Xmas Concert, “there is no class of people that can take the smooth and the rough better than the Soldiers of the King,” accordingly, we are quite resigned to our fate.

The change from the broiling hot climate of Colombo, to the keen and biting cold climate of Hong Kong was at first very severely felt by all of us, however, a bright fire, in a strange looking grate, helps to make everyone contented. From a soldiering point of view Hong Kong is hardly the station one would choose owing to its mountainous surface, which makes soldiering—well, anything but pleasant; but to leave that aspect severely alone, as a station, Hong Kong will stand a favourable comparison with a good many stations. Moreover, there are amusements to be had here that should satisfy every temperament and taste, no matter how fastidious. There are innumerable Temperance Societies, Debating Societies, Literary Unions, Soldiers’ Clubs, and a very commodious Soldiers’ Home. And for people who are voluptuously inclined—well, they can enjoy themselves as much here as anywhere.

Standing on the Kowloon ferry boat at night, in the middle of Victoria Bay, one gets a fine view of Victoria with its magnificent buildings rising tier upon tier in terrace like fashion, with its lofty peaks forming an awe inspiring back ground. When viewed on a fine and well lit night it makes an impression not to be forgotten in a hurry. In fact, it seems hardly credible, that the place that is so full of energy, enterprise, and industry to-day, was a mass of barren rocks sixty odd years ago.

Xmas we spent in the usual way. Though on Boxing Day there was a grand concert at the Soldiers’ Home, under the distinguished patronage and immediate presence of his Excellency the Governor and several gentlemen of the Executive Council, with all their ladies. The concert

was a grand success, all the ladies present being kind enough to assist. On the whole the talent displayed was of an exceptionally artistic order. Before leaving his Excellency addressed the troops at great length, which evoked loud and repeated cheers. On the Governor leaving the platform the troops stood up—Highland fashion—and sang “He’s a Jolly good Fellow,” the singing was accompanied by so much warmth and enthusiasm, that his Excellency seemed to be greatly affected. “God save the King” brought the successful evening to a close. The concert was organised by J. J. Bullin, Esq.—Vice Deputy Registrar General for Hong Kong—and Mrs. Bullin.

Alas! we suffered a great shock on the 8th and 9th of this month. The Island was invaded. Doubtless, Reuters’ were not aware of it, so that no undue anxiety was caused anywhere. But may it not be recorded in the book of chronicles, to our everlasting disgrace, we suffered defeat! However, to be more concise, the occasion was the annual mobilization of the troops in the South China Command. The mobilization this year took the shape of an invasion from sea. The invaders were:—The Navy and four Battalions of Native Infantry, the whole under the command of Rear-Admiral the Honourable Carzon-Howe, R.N., and Colonel W. G. B. Western, C.B., while the defence was left in the hands of Major-General Villiers-Hatton and the remainder of the Garrison, which consisted of the R.G.A., a couple of hundred real live khaki-clad Volunteers, and our four Companies, not forgetting our Band, who were in the thickest of the fray. D, E, and G Companies were left in Barracks in reserve, though, as it happened, they subsequently turned out to repel the invader from the sacred precincts of the Headquarter office. As a result of this the Band distinguished themselves by capturing thirty-five blue jackets, and promptly confined them to the guard-house. A Company took up a position on top of Mount Parker, the highest peak in the Island—an elevation of 1853 feet. This mountain overlooks several bays and inlets, and was important, presumably, for its strategical position. (Considering that the “enemy” left us severely alone, I may be justified in saying that we were inexpugnable on our mountain fastness). We moved under active service conditions, with the same impedimenta a column would move on the march. The ascent up to the summit took no less than two hours. When the summit was reached a thick raw of fog prevailed, in fact it was absolutely impossible to see three yards in front, and to get to our assigned position we had still about a mile to go. Most of the Company got over the ground fairly well by following the sounds and shouts of Capt. R. M. G. Tulloch and the connecting files, who were being dropped behind every five or six yards—it was the only way to do it. But those who had to escort the baggage and transport coolies, well, it was hardly an enviable billet, and the least that can be said, for about two hours—pandemonium reigned supreme. The thick fog, raw weather, unprecedented cold (for this island), mist, and rain lasted most of the twenty-eight hours we were up there, and it is doubtful whether any of us spent a more miserable night on the veldt.

Doubtless this ascent on Mount Parker would have been a simple matter for the Men of Carthage who followed Hannibal over the Pyrenees, and across the Alps, on to immortal glory at Lake Thrasymentis: but we are hetero-

geneous; and in the days of degenerate times and imperfect physique, we, the men of Kent, may be pardoned if we considered this gigantic effort a creditable performance.

Though we have indulged a good deal in football, hockey, and cricket since we have been here, I fear I cannot send you any news in that line, for various reasons; first of all I am not quite *au fait* with everything that occurred, and secondly, and this is the most tangible reason, a few weeks ago I have read in the "Queen's Own Gazette" that a certain Company, now in North China, was greatly annoyed over a certain Company's achievements at football in Colombo. Now be it remembered that I am a person of strictly Christian proclivities, so that it is quite natural that I should take a charitable view of the susceptibility of the Company in the North. Now, if I were to record five defeats and two victories, it is quite possible that I may cause unutterable sadness. No, no, ye Northerners! I am not egotistic enough to cause you sleepless nights, never fear. However, I hope B Company beats every team in Peking.

The "great" General Stoessel, of Port Arthur fame, and some of his lesser shining lights, passed this way *en route* to European Russia. On his way to the Russian Consuls house, General Stoessel passed our Barrack gate. It is on record that he looked very thoughtfully at the sentry and corporal at the gate.

By the way, it seems to me that the ladies of the "Flowery land" are better off than their sisters in the West; whereas it is only the most advanced and daring of women-folk that appear publicly in "Bloomers" at home, whilst here in Hong Kong the most staid and simple of matrons is clothed in the above-mentioned garment. Of course, it cannot be said that the bloomers one sees in Hong Kong are as fashionable as those that emanate from Bond Street; but that is only a minor detail.

The Hong Kong races, which is one of the events of the year, commences to-day. The whole of the *belle monde* are expected to turn out in force. The officers have a specially decorated stand for the occasion. I am afraid my tales have now reached a point where, according to the traditions of the Blood and Thunder Penny Dreadful, I should write that "sensational motto," to be continued in our next.

THE LAST OF THE DANDIES,

A Company's Casual Correspondent.

VOLUNTEER INTELLIGENCE.

ACTIVE SERVICE COMPANY'S DINNER.

The third annual dinner of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the 1st and 2nd Volunteer Battalions of the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) who saw active service in South Africa was held on 25th April at Holly Hedge House, Blackheath. This was the first occasion on which the function had been held here, and the reunion was perhaps even more successful than either of its

two predecessors, the first of which took place at Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, while last year the Seven-oaks Drill Hall was the venue. Both Battalions were well represented, between 60 and 70 of the Active Service men being present. The dinner was excellently served under the direction of SerGs. W. H. Gomer, while the arrangements generally reflected the greatest credit on Sergt. H. F. Attree (hon. secretary). Sergt-Instructor Tench, assisted by SerGs. Kiloh, Stokes, Borrett, Primett, Wright, Hearnden, Corpls. Foster, Williams, and Private Cox were indefatigable in looking after the comfort of the guests. The programme of the dinner bore on the front page a reproduction of a photograph by Capt. Watney of Norval's Point railway bridge. Mr. (late Lieut.) W. G. Morris, who was on active service, presided, and among the company, which numbered close upon one hundred, were Colonel E. Satterthwaite, V.D. (Commanding West Kent Volunteer Brigade), Colonel E. J. Heward, V.D. (Commanding the 2nd Battalion), Surgeon-Lieut.-Colonel H. W. Roberts, Capt. and Hon. Major G. Morphey (who commanded the Company while on Active Service), Capt. and Adjutant O. B. Simpson, Capt. C. S. Marchant (Active Service) and W. F. Marchant, Surgeon Capt. R. A. Fegan, Lieut. L. D. Barry Barrett (Active Service), Capt. and Hon. Major and Quartermaster A. Martin, Colonel F. W. Frigout, V.D., Major Morris, Sergt.-Major Lalley, Colour-Sergt. Scott, Sergt. Wood, Staff-Sergt. W. Smith, and the following Active Service men:—Colour-Sergt.-Instructor G. Church, Transport-Sergt. Wainscott, Colour-Sergt. Wheller, SerGs. Amer, Attree, Rumbold, Hilborn, Cornwell, Paine, Martin, Kozel, Parkes, Corpls. Barlow, Dawe, Pinn, Pickett, Terry, Lance-Corpls. Higgett, Wellington, Jarvis, Privates Crocksford, Whitlock, Cloke, Wood, Field, Piercy, Lowell, Humphrey, Chudleigh, Lawrence, Richardson, Paige, Terry, and Woodhams. Those writing regretting absence included Mr. G. Wills, Editor of "The Kentish Mercury," consequent upon serious illness in his family. In proposing "The First Volunteer Service Company," Colonel Satterthwaite (who was received with loud cheers) said it hardly seemed five years ago that they went through the ordeal of getting the Active Service Company together. Of late the value of the Volunteer force had been doubted in some quarters, but he did not put any faith in these doubts; he honestly believed that given encouragement the Volunteers would prove as efficient as ever (applause). As they knew 191 men of the 2nd Vol. Battalion of the Queen's Own went out to Africa, and to these they owed a great debt of gratitude (hear, hear). They had added to their appointments the words "South Africa, 1900-02," and this was the first time that such honours had been bestowed on Volunteers. He coupled with the toast the name of Major Morphey, who, on rising to reply, was received with loud applause. He said that it was a very great pleasure to again meet them, and this, their third annual dinner, proved a very good augur for the future—they were a growing plant which would have a deep root. In South Africa they endeavoured to do their duty (applause). He had heard from all those who were abroad and were unable to be present that evening; they were thinking of them and those whom he was addressing had them too in their minds and hearts (hear, hear). In order to keep the event going strong it was arranged that the

officers should take it up by turn to preside over these annual gatherings, to which they all looked forward with eagerness (cheers):—"Our Fallen Comrades, including him who has just passed away at home (Sergeant-Instructor Pike)" was drunk in silence.—Captain C. S. Marchant proposed "The Queen's Own," and referred to the good feeling which existed between the volunteer battalions and the territorial regiment—which he declared emphatically and amidst loud cheers was absolutely the best regiment in the service. England might take it for granted that whenever there was any fighting—no matter with whom—and volunteers were wanted they would be ever willing to be in it as they were during the South African war (applause).—Capt. O. B. Simpson, in reply, regretted that he was not out in Africa with the Active Service Men. He tried very hard to go, but was unable. He expressed indebtedness to the non-commissioned officers of the battalion, to whom its efficiency was principally due. He specially mentioned Sergeant-Instructor Church, who did so much work in connection with the first Active Service Company—he was a sergeant in his company 16 years ago—and to Color-sergt. Wheller Sergts. Attree and Wainscott. In South Africa the company fully sustained the reputation of "The Queen's Own" (applause).—Sergt.-Instructor Church, Color-sergt. Wheller, and Sergt. Attree appropriately replied, referring to the good feeling and comradeship which existed between "our regular comrades and ourselves" (hear, hear).—"The Visitors" were toasted on the proposition of the Chairman, Surgeon Lieut.-Colonel Roberts replying, assuring the members of the Active Service Company that the honour and glory which they won for the battalion and regiment in South Africa would never be forgotten. While they were away those at home carefully watched their movements and admired their actions, and he was confident that should the time ever come again when their aid was desired it would be just as readily rendered (applause).—Colonel Heward proposed the "Chairman," of whom he spoke in flattering terms. While in South Africa he ever thought of his men (loud cheers), earning their esteem and gratitude. He regretted that he could not call him Captain Morris, but he hoped that the time was not far distant when he would rejoin the Battalion.—The Chairman humourously replied, remarking that the toast was purposely omitted from the list, but owing to Col. Howard's fighting tactics he found that he had not taken sufficient "cover." He thanked the sergeants' mess for allowing the use of their quarters for the dinner. Next year they would meet in the 1st Battalion district.—Sergeant-major Lalley then took the chair, and an enjoyable musical programme was gone through, those taking part being Sergt.-major Lalley, Colour-sergts. Wheller, Sergts. Kiloh, Borrett, and Brown, Messrs. T. Crockford, E. A. Dale, J. Ellis, H. Wood, T. Moughton (pianist), &c.

Kentish Mercury.

Drummers Football Club,
2nd West Kent Regiment,
Tientsin, North China.

Dear Mr. Editor,

I am sending you the results of a few matches played by the Drummers' Football Club. To tell you that we are just making our debut in the football world is my first duty, we are ably assisted by our trainer and secretary, Drum-Major Inglis.

Our first match began by defeating the N.C.'s of the Garrison by 2 goals to 1. Our next match was with a team from Tientsin City Football Club; this match we managed to romp home by 5 goals to 1. The next was with the same club, who put a much stronger team in the field, after a hard game we won by 2—1. The civilians are wanting us very much to enter in the league. The winners get a very nice cup for this competition. I am sorry to tell you that we never, as we thought we were not strong enough, and am sending you a cutting from the Chinese Review concerning team, hoping you will find a little space in our well loved Gazette, I remain,

Yours truly,

Drummer's Correspondent.

It is a great pity that the Drum-Major did not get his drummer team to enter for the cup competition. Although some of his men play for the other teams he could still probably have put a good team on the field. We feel sure, having seen the drummers play on several occasions, that they would have had a very good chance of being in near the finish for the cup.

DEPOT NEWS.

A draft, composed of Lance-sergt. Allwright and 18 recruits, left Maidstone on the 8th March to join the details at Lydd. The customary prize competitions took place in the Shooting Gallery and Gymnasium.

In the shooting Ptes. Holland and Pearce tied with 31 points each out of a possible 35. In the shoot off Private Holland proved the victor, winning the "Luard" gold challenge medal and first prize, also the distinction of having his name placed on the winning roll, Private Wilson taking the 3rd prize.

The gymnastic competition resulted in Pte. Wilson winning the first prize, while Ptes. Lydon and Gill took second and third respectively.

Lieut. A. Taylor-Jones, 1st Vol. Batt. R.W.K., satisfactorily completed a course of instruction for a P.S. certificate at the Depot, from 1st to 28th February,

Private W. E. Newnham has been transferred to the Army Reserve.

Sergt. W. F. Coomber joined for a tour of duty on 4th March.

Lance-Corpl. L. Cusford, and Privates F. Kendall and W. Morrish have been awarded second class certificates of education.

Lance-Corpls. A. Thomas and W. Coles, and Privates T. Stedman, W. Brotherwood, T. Sylvester, W. Hinton, J. Curran, A. Lockwood, H. Hutchings, W. Slater, A. Pettett, W. Watkins, and H. Skinner have been awarded third class certificates of education.

Lance-Sergt. A. Allwright and 18 men joined the Provisional Battalion on 9th March.

Colour-Sergt. W. Seager and Lance-Sergts. E. J. King and H. Kipps embarked on the 24th at Southampton for Malta to rejoin the 1st Battalion on completion of two years at the Depot.

Private W. Allen has been granted the third good conduct badge.

Boys A. Winch and G. H. Johnson have been posted to the Provisional Battalion.

Lance-Sergt. Ventham has joined for duty from the Provisional Battalion.

Corpl. B. Fish and Private R. Leach arrived at Netley from the 1st Battalion.

Private R. White has joined on being transferred from the Royal Dublin Fusiliers.

DEATH.

We regret to announce the death of Color-Sergeant Pike, 2nd Vol. Battalion, whose death on 21st March, 1905, came somewhat as a surprise to those who knew him. He had extended his service beyond 21 years and appeared to have years of life in front of him. A widow and six children are left.

Also that of ex-Color-Sergeant W. Neighbour, who on 14th March, passed away at the London Hospital, following an operation for a tumour on the spine. He served 19½ years, being discharged to pension on 20th June, 1903. He leaves a widow and three children.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of subscriptions to December, 1905, from Colonel C. M. Churchill, Colonel E. W. G. Bailey, Major J. W. Jones, D. P. Walker, Esq., Miss Chawkey, Mr. W. Hurrell, Mr. E. Sillitoe, Mr. Thornton, Mrs. Maunsell, Miss Leckie, and a donation from Colonel R. P. Doran in addition to subscription already paid.

ANAGRAM LETTER.

[In the eleventh line "I rear too" should have been "I roar too." We therefore delay the answer to give those who were unable to make anything of these words another chance.—ED.]

DEPOT BRANCH R.A.T.A.

On the 5th April, Major Style kindly presented the one year medal to O.R. Sergt. Bellion and Pte. Ayres, he also gave a short address on the advantages of belonging to the Association, with the result that after the meeting seven fresh members were enrolled. Acknowledged with many thanks donations to the Depot Branch Fund from Major Style, Captains Annesley, Master, and Lieut. Masterman.

COMPANY FOOTBALL.

At the same time Major Style presented the football shield to D Company, who won the Company Competition with nine points, C Company being second with seven. The shield was presented by Col. Brock to the Depot three years ago and has been won by D Company each year. Color-Sergeant Neighbour received the shield as Captain of the Company football team.

3rd BATTALION.

WHITE HORSE CLUB—KENT MILITIA BATTALIONS.

The inaugural meeting was held on March 17th at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, London. Present, Lieut.-Colonel E. W. G. Bailey, commanding 3rd Batt. R.W.K. Regt., in the chair; Lieut.-Colonel Elliot, commanding Kent Artillery; Major Murray-Lawes, commanding Medway Division Submarine Miners, R.E. Militia; Lieut.-Colonel Sir H. Lennard, Bart., Kent Artillery; Major Lewis Barnet, Reserve of Officers, late Kent Artillery; Past and Present of 3rd Buffs, Colonel Toke, Lieut.-Col. Tatham, Major Wilkinson, Major Tufnell, Captain R. A. Keith, Past and Present Officers 3rd R.W.K. Regiment, Colonel E. Luck, Col. J. Bonhote, Major A. Boscawen, M.P., Major J. Fleming, Captain R. Grewing, Captain Bellman,

Major Vipan, D.S.O., late 3rd Buffs, was appointed hon. sec.

Col. Brinckman, C.B., commanding 3rd Buffs, and Col. Holland, commanding Thames Division Submarine Miners, R.E. Militia, were both unavoidably absent, but are fully in accord with the object of the meeting.

3rd BATTALION NOTES.

The following N.C.O.'s. and men have been awarded the Militia Long Service Medal:—Nos. 3415 Sergeant W. Hockley, 3586 Pte. C. Gibling, 4284 Pte. E. Hoskins, 4076 Pte. B. Nash, 564 Pte. W. Paine.

Col.-Sergeants Bass, Tapp, and Outred, Per. Staff 3rd Batt. Royal West Kent Regiment, have been granted certificates, i.e., care of arms, etc., from the Small Arms' Factory, Birmingham.

No. 2837 Sergt. D. Leaver, has qualified at the School of Musketry, Hythe.

Second-Lieuts. S. E. L. Baddeley and A. Frazer joined the Depot to undergo a course of instruction on appointment.

REGIMENTAL DINNER.

By a printer's error, the date of the Regimental Dinner was given in last month's number as June 29th. The correct date, viz., Tuesday in Ascot Week, is, obviously, June 20th. Officers intending to be present are invited to notify Captain J. H. Kennedy early.

1st VOLUNTEER BATTALION NOTES.

A, B, F, & L COMPANIES (MAIDSTONE).

This detachment is waking up. Recruit drills have been going on regularly since November, and two strong squads have been formed. Fortnightly parades for the trained men commenced in February, at two of which the adjutant has been present. The Cyclists formed a Morris Tube Shooting Club early in the winter, and have been holding monthly spoon competitions, the scoring having been particularly good.

During March the social side of Volunteer life has been to the fore. On the 3rd inst. a very successful dance was held at the Masonic Hall, which had been artistically decorated for the occasion. The company numbered about 120, and included representatives from the Depot (R.W.K.R.), the Yeomanry, R.A.M.C (Vol.), and 1st Surrey Rifle Volunteers, as well as a few civilian friends. Dancing, which commenced shortly after 8 o'clock, was kept up with much spirit until 3 a.m.

On the 15th inst., at a smoking concert held in the Hollingworth Hall, kindly lent for the occasion by the committee of the Church Institute, the N.C.O.'s of the detachment took leave of their old friend, Color-sergt. Cogger, who is retiring after 37 years' service. Major Smith presided, and in the course of the evening asked Color-sergt. Cogger's acceptance of a handsome marble dining room clock and pair of bronze ornaments as a parting gift from the officers and N.C.O.'s of the detachment. In making the presentation Major Smith said he felt it a very great honour indeed to be asked to come there that evening and make that presentation. He had always looked upon Color-sergeant Cogger as a model volunteer, a noble example to the younger men, for not only was he always on parade, but he was one of those men who never had a grievance.

Color-sergeant Cogger thanked the donors most sincerely for their gift, and in the course of a most interesting speech enumerated a few of the changes he had seen in the Volunteers during the 37 years of his connection with the force. Advantage was taken of the gathering to offer the congratulations of the detachment to Mr. E. Lattimer on his appointment to a commission in the Battalion. This was done in the way of a presentation sword which Major Smith handed to Mr. Lattimer, with the good wishes of the sergeants of the A, B, and F Companies and the members of the Cyclist Company.

The cyclists are looking forward to a series of interesting manœuvres with the 4th Battalion and Civil Service Rifles in the neighbourhood of Bredgar and Stockbury at Easter, and it is also hoped that some of the Infantry will be able to get out on one of the days at least.

GAMES COMPETITION.

On the evening of the 20th February, the members of the Sergeants' Mess, A.S.C., Woolwich, paid a return visit to the 3rd V.B. West Kent Regt., to take part in a series of games. Last time the Corps won easily, but this time a draw resulted. Play commenced about 7.30 p.m., and the 3rd V.B. began by taking everything before them. An adjournment was made about 10 p.m. for supper, which was a very substantial one, and on play being resumed, the Corps somewhat recovered themselves, with the result that the evening's play was declared a draw. The game over, a "Smoker" was commenced and continued till nearly 1 a.m., when all retired, having spent a very jolly evening. The following are the results:—

		A.S.C.	3rd V.B.
		Won.	Won.
Billiards	...	2	4
Whist	...	7	7
Crib	...	6	1
Twenty-fives	...	3	5
Euchre	...	0	1
Dominoes	...	0	1
Darts	...	4	3
		22	22

Dear Mr. Editor,

I have not been the regimental postman long, but long enough to learn just a wee bit about Tommy Atkins and his sweetheart. It is my duty, of course, to bring letters to the regiment, and some curious epistles I have seen (not inside) but outside the envelopes. Of course I bring "Love," not "Divorces," as the civilian postman does, and I will here give you a few of the verses I see:—

"Not quite in rhyme nor very teasing,
And some not altogether pleasing."

"Run, postman, do,

And do not tarry,

But take this letter quickly,

'Tis the one I hope to marry."

By the sound of this little epistle I should think it was an order and not a request.

The next I should call an insult. It is the same as the last one, except that a "not" has been inserted after the word "hope" in the last line. Poor Tommy, love is lost in this case, but the young lady might have made a mistake.

Now I should be a very rich man had I as many farthings as letters of the following description that I have handled:—S.W.A.K. and T.T.O.I.L. Of course from my long experience I know what these letters mean, and have become rather good at solving riddles and such like.

The first to have one's letters (Sealed with a Kiss) sounds all right. The second is not so common (To the One I Love), and it is quite refreshing that the young lady should let not only her own special but everyone else know what she thinks.

The next is the most complimentary that I have had the pleasure of handling:—

"I wrote it,
Ship brought it,
Postman handed it
To the fool who took it."

Well, it was only St. Valentine's Day, when such liberties can be taken without any offence meant or received.

I trust my next endeavour will be an improvement, but all things are difficult at the start.

Yours truly,
THE POSTMAN.

THE TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:—

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

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

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

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS

OF

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

No. 359.

MAIDSTONE, MAY, 1905.

[Vol. XXIV, No. 5.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

1st BATTALION.

Appointed Lance-Corporals :—Privates R. Gutteridge, 1st March. S. Bowden, 17th March. A. Baker and W. McCaffrey, 20th March.

2nd BATTALION.

Promoted Color-Sergeant :—Sergeant G. Barden, 15th October, 1904.

Appointed Lance-Corporals :—Privates D. Pelling, 9th January. E. Jones, 14th January. H. Lynes and C. Cooper, 23rd January. E. Fitzgerald, 2nd January.

DEPOT.

Promoted Sergeant :—Lance-Sergeant C. Stringer, 20th March.

Appointed Lance-Sergeants :—Corporals W. Palmer and A. Lewis, 25th March.

Appointed Lance-Corporal :—Private R Bishop (Details), 16th March.

1st VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

The Volunteer Officer's Decoration has been conferred on Captain H. A. Beeching, dated 31st March.

2nd VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Lieut G. R. Eden resigns his commission dated 24th March.

Lieut. F. J. Hearle	..	...	...	...	0	10	0
" W. C. O. Phillips	...	...	...	...	0	10	0
" R. G. C. Brock	...	...	...	...	0	10	0
" F. Fisher	...	...	...	...	0	10	0
Capt. H. D. Buchanan-Dunlop	...	...	...	...	0	10	0
" H. W. Snow	...	...	...	...	0	10	0
Lieut. R. L. White	...	...	...	...	0	10	0
" H. A. Waring	...	...	...	...	0	10	0
Major W. R. Annesley	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
" N. H. S. Lowe	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
" F. H. Hotham	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Capt. C. V. Molony	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
" J. W. O'Dowda	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Major S. H. Pedley	...	...	...	...	1	0	0
Lieut. H. J. Vicat	...	...	...	...	0	10	0
Capt. H. S. Bush	...	...	...	...	0	10	0

REGIMENTAL DINNER.

Captain Kennedy informs us that the following officers have already notified their intention to attend the Regimental Dinner, fixed to take place at the Grand Hotel, on Tuesday, 20th June :—

Brigade-General Alderson, Lieut.-Col. Armstrong, Col. Brock, Capt. Beeching, Capt. Heygate, Mr. Hudson, Capt. Kennedy, Capt. Kitson, Capt. Lees, Col. Maunsell, Capt. O'Dowda, Lieut. Parker, Major Roche, Capt. Simpson, Col. Wilson, Lieut. Waring, Major-General E. Leach, C.B., Major R. C. Style, Capt. W. H. Annesley, and G. D. Lister, and Lieuts. A. D. E. Knox and A. S. Hewitt.

It would be of great help to the Committee if officers would write to Capt. Kennedy as soon as possible and tell him of their intentions.

REGIMENTAL COMPASSIONATE FUND.

Major R. C. Style, Commanding Depot, desires to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following sums :—

	£	s.	d.
Captain P. Hastings	5 0 0
Major L. Brock-Hollinshead	1 0 0
Capt. P. M. Robinson	1 0 0
Col. C. E. Harrison	1 0 0
Capt. W. H. Annesley	0 10 0
Capt. G. F. H. Keenlyside	0 10 0
Lieut. C. Ingram	0 10 0
" A. D'E Knox	0 10 0
" F. B. Humphreys	0 10 0
" W. F. Helmore	0 10 0

REGIMENTAL DINNER.

The Regimental Dinner will be held at

THE GRAND HOTEL, TRAFALGAR SQUARE,

ON

JUNE 20th, 1905.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Ghain Tuffehia Camp.
March 14th, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,

We are now nearly at the end of our sojourn here, having only about ten more days' rock climbing, etc., to do. Everyone feels that barracks, with a good bed, will be a delightful change, after the tent boards of the last few days.

This morning, under a boiling sun, "F" Company took up an excellent position on Mellieha Ridge, and were attacked by our Company and "H," under Major Annesley, D.S.O. Some excellent lessons were learnt in advancing in skirmishing order. Our scouts did very well, and soon located the enemy.

In the afternoon a very interesting Hockey Match was played. Right-half v. Left-half Company. Sergt. Balcombe (who is quite an enthusiast in the game) captained the teams, and the game furnished an enjoyable afternoon, and an excellent diversion from the ordinary routine.

Wednesday "G" Company, under Lieut. Phillips, took up a strong position on the right of Mellieha Ridge. Our Company formed a reconnoitring patrol, and having spotted the enemy, informed "D" Company, who were waiting behind in Camp. The latter made the attack in first class style.

After the assembly had sounded the whole three Companies were formed up and addressed by the C.O., who pointed out the little errors, etc., but was very pleased with the whole affair.

Friday night we indulged in the luxury of a night attack. "F" Company joined with us, and took up a position on Wandia Ridge. The night was very dark, and we had to be very careful not to get on high mounds, as the enemy (scouts of "A" and "F," under Lieut. Legard) would easily distinguish us by our helmets. It was very amusing as well as instructive in going out with patrols, every object appearing to be one of the enemy. The latter were very cunning, but could not get through our lines.

Several minor attacks were made during the following days, at which many useful lessons were learnt.

On Tuesday, the 21st, sports were held on the M.I. Football Ground. Amongst our Company winning prizes I noticed Corpl. Cockle and Private Wright, who ran in fine style. In the evening a Camp Concert was held (an account of which I am sending you). We were represented by Private McCabe, who, I am sorry to say, has left us. As a comedian his place will be hard to fill.

On Thursday we marched back to Floriana, and arrived in barracks none the worse for our camping out.

Floriana Barracks.

Once more we are settled down in the barrack-room—oh these shifts!! We had no sooner quieted down before a wireless telegraphy message informed us the G.O.C. Infantry Brigade would inspect us.

Of course, Mr. Editor, you know what that meant. Nothing but rushing about from morning until night. Our Company, with "C," was detailed to show kits—and I

think the General was highly pleased with what he saw, as not many complaints were heard after his departure.

On Tuesday we marched to the Marsa, in drill order, and were inspected again—yes, Mr. Editor, again—are we not blessed by inspections? I suppose the next will be shortly.

Several of our Company left us on Monday, April 3rd, for England, including Lance-Corpls. Hayman and Ackland. We wish them all good luck in their fresh sphere of life.

The cricket season is beginning now, several of the men turning out in the evenings for practice. I hope I shall be able to send you an account of many good matches this season.

A draft arrived here on Sunday, causing our Company to swell to the extent of five.

Lance-Corpl. Barrett leaves for England to-day to undergo a course of gymnastics.

Who is the individual who requires "duff" when on guard?!!

"A" Company's Correspondent.

SPORTS NEWS.

OFFICERS v. SERGEANTS OF BATTALION.

Played on the Ghain Tuffehia Ground, on Monday, 20th March.

The Officers were unable to put their full team in the field, chiefly owing to sickness, and had to call on the services of three substitutes. The Sergeants kicked off with the sun behind them and after about five minutes managed to score. The Officers at once bucked up and within a few minutes Second Lieutenant Fisher made the score equal. From here to within ten minutes of time the Sergeants had things very much their own way and managed to score twice, for which, if I am not mistaken, a Sergeant with the notorious name of "Vivian Woodward" was largely responsible.

Suddenly (within ten minutes of time) new life seemed to be infused into the Officers and they at once began to press. Lieutenant Phillips easily managing to score from a good pass. On starting the game once more the ball was quickly transferred to the Sergeants' quarter, and after about two minutes play Lieutenant Phillips again managed to score, thus equalizing the scores. During the last few minutes of the game the Officers came near scoring, but could not quite bring it off.

ATHLETIC SPORTS.

On Tuesday, 21st March, some scratch sports were got up on the Ghain Tuffehia Parade Ground. Private Fowler ("G" Company) was certainly the pick of the runners, winning the mile easily and in very fair time. Private Sherry ("D" Company) also ran very well in the 100 yards, and we only hope he may do as well in the forthcoming Garrison Sports.

Besides these two races there was a quarter-mile race, a marching order race, and the everlasting sack race, which as usual caused a fair amount of amusement. Between the races the spectators were kept occupied in watching the antics of a comic trio (Privates McCabe, Welch and Dr. Francis).

BOXING.

At a Boxing Contest, held at the Valletta Gymnasium, between the Army and Navy, the Battalion had three men fighting out of five events, which composed the programme of the evening. Private Darley ("D" Company), after a very good fight in which an extra round was fought, gained the verdict over a Private of the Rifle Brigade. The fight of the evening was between Private Baker ("F" Company) and Petty Officer Peters, of H.M.S. Prince of Wales (Champion of the Mediterranean). Baker, although a smaller man in reach and height, put up a splendid fight. The men were so evenly matched in the eight rounds that another round had to be fought, and in this Peters just managed to gain the verdict. The last fight of the evening was between Private Smith ("F" Company) and a Petty Officer of the Navy. Directly the fight started Smith went for his man and knocked him all over the ring, and within a minute from the start had knocked his man out. This is the fourth fight Private Smith has fought since he has joined the Regiment, in each case managing to knock his man out within a minute.

A Boxing Club has been recently started in the Battalion and already we have a lot of young blood coming on, and may hope later on to do still greater things in the ring.

FOOTBALL NEWS.

On Sunday, the 12th, "G" and "D" Companies played their return match in the semi-final for the Regiment Football Shield, on the first occasion the match having ended in a draw, one goal all.

From the beginning of the game to the end "G" Company held the upper hand and won easily by 5—0. The scoring was opened by Private Ellen from a penalty kick, this goal being quickly followed by another scored by Lance-Corporal Davis, Sergeant Walker scored the third goal, Lance-Corporal Davis the fourth, and Sergeant Collins the fifth. "D" Company were unfortunate in losing their outside left, who dislocated his elbow and was compelled to quit the field. For the losers Privates Lord and Darley played best, and for the winners, perhaps, the most conspicuous were Lance-Corporal Davis, Private Ellen and Sergeant Collins.

The following played for "G" Company:—Private Wrench, Private Teague, Lance-Corporal Davis, Sergeant Collins, and Sergeant Walker (Forwards); Private Hyland, Private Ellen, and Private Darlow (Half-backs); Sergeant Harris and Private Gower (Backs); Private Fowler (Goal).

FINAL FOR REGIMENTAL FOOTBALL SHIELD, 1904-5.

This match took place on the Ghain Tuffieha Ground, on the 18th March, and for the second year in succession the same two teams met, viz., "G" and "F." "F" Company with a slight breeze behind them at once began to press, and several times came very near scoring, "G" Company, headed by Lance-Corporal Davis, made some very good dashes up the field, and managed to come very close to "F" Company's goalband, once especially they had hard luck in not scoring through a good shot by Lance-Corporal Davis.

At half-time there was no score, but on changing ends "G" Company at once started pressing, but try as they could they were unable to score. Within about five minutes of the call of time "G" Company were awarded a free kick from about half-way. Sergeant Harris took the kick and amidst great excitement placed the ball nicely to Lance-Corporal Davis, who had no difficulty in scoring. "F" Company then played up very hard, but were unable to save the game, which ended in a victory for "G" Company (1—0). For the winners Sergeant Harris, Private Ellen, Sergeant Walker and Private Earlow played well, and for the losers Private Cogger, Private Sparrow and Lance-Corporal Eastgate.

Sergt.-Major Ellis, of the Mounted Infantry, kindly acted as referee.

"G" Company put the same team in the field that beat "D" Company on the previous Sunday.

RIFLE COMPETITION.

A practice shoot took place on Pembroke Ranges on the afternoon of the 7th April. Two ranges were at the disposal of the Battalion, and it was decided to practice a team of sergeants for the Simonds Cup, and a team of rank and file for the Pembroke Challenge Cup, both of these being events in the forthcoming Malta Rifle Meeting.

The team to fire for the Simonds Cup is represented by eight members of the Sergeants' Mess, and the shooting is done at 200 and 500 yards, a sighting shot being allowed at each distance. Bisley targets and marking.

Eleven sergeants took part in the practice for the above, and the following are the eight best scores:—

	200 Yards.	500 Yards.	Grand Total.
Sergt. A. Brown ...	29	30	59
Colour-Sergt. G. Button ...	30	29	59
Colour-Sergt. Dark ...	31	26	57
Sergt. W. Osborne ...	27	28	55
Colour-Sergt. J. Saunders ...	29	26	55
Sergt. W. Page... ..	29	26	55
Sergt. H. Moore ...	26	26	52
Sergt. G. Nicholson ...	25	26	51

The team to fire for the Pembroke Challenge Cup is represented by eight rank and file of the Battalion, the conditions being practically the same as for the Simonds Cup, except that 600 yards is added to the competition. Twelve corporals and privates took part in the practice. The shooting at 200 yards was good, but at 500 yards was only fair, and as there was no shooting done at 600 yards the scores have not been attached.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

The sergeants opened their cricket season on the 12th inst., against the Army Service Corps, and thanks to some excellent batting by Colour-Sergt. Saunders and Sergt. Allen managed to win by four wickets and 82 runs. Sergts. Wood, Sonnenberg, and Reeves bowled well, the former taking four wickets for 24 runs and the latter two for none. Sergt. Wimbledon and Corpls. Coffey and Norman batted well for the A.S.C. The fielding on both sides was very good. The sergeants, with a little practice, should have a very good team this season, if they all keep fit.

A.S.C.—1st inn.

Staff-Sergt. Rowley, c Murphy, b Sonnenberg	...	14
Corpl. Hewitt, c Cover, b ditto	...	3
Corpl. Metcalf, c Saunders, b ditto	...	0
Driver James, b Wood	...	6
Corpl. Norman, b ditto	...	17
Corpl. Coffey, b Allen	...	18
Sergt. Wimbledon, not out	...	19
Private Tarrant, b Wood	...	4
Driver Miller, b ditto	...	7
Corpl. Hyesley, b Reeves	...	1
C.S.M. Chapman, b ditto	...	0
Byes, etc.	...	0
Total	...	89

SERGEANTS—1st inn.

Colour-Sergt. Saunders, run out	...	46
Sergt. Reeves, b Metcalf	...	0
Sergt. Allen, c Miller, b ditto	...	73
Colour-Sergt. McVicar, c Wimbledon, b Norman	...	11
Colour-Sergt. Murphy, c ditto, b Tarrant	...	17
Sergt. Brown, run out	...	0
Sergt. Wood, not out	...	7
Q.M. Sergt. Cover	} Did not bat	
Band-Sergt. Sonnenberg		
Sergt. Osborne		
Colour-Sergt. Mackintosh		
Byes, etc.	...	17
Total	...	171

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

There is a great scarcity of sporting news this month, as football is practically finished and cricket is at present only in its infancy.

I think our Company will be able to render a good account of itself this season, as we can place a fair all-round

team in the field. Lance-Sergt. Allen will, of course, be our mainstay, but we all intend to do our best to back him up. I am glad to see that he has started the season well, scoring 73 for the Sergeants of the Regiment v. the Sergeants A.S.C. I hope that there will not be the same difficulty this season, as there always has been, in getting a team to turn out. I am sure that if there was a shield or cup to be competed for by the Companies the interest taken in cricket would be a great deal keener than it is at present.

In the Regimental Sports held at Ghain Tuffieha, three of our Company managed to secure prizes, Private Dickson running fourth in the mile, and hopping, rather than running, second in the sack race, Lance-Corpl. Will winning the first prize; I hear he has since been practising for the Garrison Sports, which take place shortly, with a bed-slip. Private Brown won the second prize in the 300 yards Marching Order Race, finishing a few inches behind Private Hyams. Had the distance been greater the result, in the opinion of many, would have been reversed.

Seven of our Company went home on the H. T. Dilwara, Corpl. Keeble being posted to the Depot for a tour of duty, the remainder to the Army Reserve.

Lance-Sergt. Kipps and Private Blogg joined our Company on their arrival here.

"E" Company Correspondent.

Floriana, Valetta.

D. B. C.

A capital and enjoyable smoking concert was held by the above club, in the Corporals Room, on Saturday evening, April 1st.

Corporal Cockle made an excellent chairman, and carried out his arduous duties in a huge cloud of smoke, which made speech-making rather difficult.

During the interval an interesting presentation took place to each of the three members who left us for England on the 3rd inst. This took the form of an excellent razor in leather case, and was handed to each recipient by the chairman who wished them good luck in their new life, etc., etc. The three members leaving were Corpls. Herrington, McNamara and Ackland, who each gave a neat little speech in return. At the close everyone rose, and taking hold of each others hand, sang "Auld Lang Syne," thus ending one of the most enjoyable smokers ever held.

The programme was as follows:—

1. Selection....."The Orchid"...Lance-Corpl. R. Paget
2. Song....."Love or Gold".....Corpl. Collins
3. Song....."Liza Johnson".....Lance-Corpl. Will
4. Song...."I live in Trafalgar Square"...Corpl. Cockle
5. Song....."Whilst the dance rolls on"
Corpl. Herrington
6. Song....."Because I love you"...Lance-Corpl. Shields
7. Song...."Oh Mother, the Tom Cat"...Corpl. Hayley
8. Song...."We have all been having a go at it"
Corpl. Dunn
9. Piano and Violin.."Valse Blue"
Lance-Corpl. Paget and Mr. Borg

Interval.

1. Selection "San Toy"..... Lance-Corpl. Paget
 2. Song "Sarah Jones"..... Corpl. McNamara
 3. Song..... "The Coster's Dream"
Lance-Corpl. Ackland
 4. Song..... "Jack's the Boy for Work"...Corpl. Lamb
 5. Song and Dance "When I do begin"
Lance-Corpl. Baker
 6. Recitation "Young Williams" Corpl. Herrington
 7. Song..... "Come back to Mother"... Corpl. Dunn
 8. Song..... "Shall I be an Angel Daddy" Corpl. Hayley
 - Piano and Violin.. "The Irish Guards"
Lance-Corpl. Paget and Mr. Borg
- "Auld Lang Syne."
- "God Save the King."

Ghain Tuffieha Camp,

Tuesday, 25th March, 1905.

A grand variety open-air concert was held here on Tuesday evening and proved a most successful venture. An imposing stage was erected close to the "lines," covered in all round and draped with green curtains.

It was a beautiful still evening, with a full moon shining, and when all the candle lamps were lit on the stage, the scene was picturesque in the extreme.

A special word of thanks must be given to Sergt.-Major Rogers, who not only acted as chairman, but gave every assistance in his power to help the promoters. At 7.30, the time for commencing, the "House" was packed from floor to ceiling, with an intensely appreciative audience, including Lieut.-Colonel Maunsell, Lieut.-Colonel Fitton, D.S.O., Major Annesley, D.S.O., Major Lowe, and the whole of the officers in camp. The officers of the M.I. came in at half-time and managed to secure a spare "box."

The programme, a somewhat lengthy one, passed off without the slightest hitch, roars of laughter being heard on all sides. The comics were very much in evidence, and gave several good turns. "The Three Macks" kept the audience greatly amused by their antics, and proved themselves first-class comedians.

Everyone did their best, which caused the whole performance to be one of the best ever held. At the conclusion the whole of the performers had supper together, thus ending a very enjoyable evening.

Mention must be made of the kindness of Capt. Salmon, M.I., who very kindly lent the piano.

The following is the programme :—

Part I.

1. Comic Song... "I've bought the coal"...Private McCabe
2. Song "The Mother Tongue"
Private McCarthy
3. Comic Song "It wont last very very long"
Private Welsh
4. Stump Speech.....Private Klein
5. Song..... "Three is jolly fine company"
Private Fordham

6. Song, Sentimental.....Private McCarthy
7. Song..... "Oh don't stick it out like that"
Private Stribling
8. Comic Song... "I live in Trafalgar Square"
Private McCabe

Part II.

1. Comic Song "Honey, stay in your old back yard"
Private O'Shea
2. Song "Play that melody again"
Private McCarthy
3. Cake WalkPrivate Murphy
4. "The Three Macks"...Privates Francis, McCabe, & Welsh
5. Comic Song... "How did you get in"... Private Jones
6. Song... "McCarthy's Boarding House".Corpl. Cassidy
7. Comic Song..... "Mr. Dooley"..... Private Francis
8. Comic Song "Selected"..... Private Stribling

"God Save the King."

The following have been awarded second class certificates of education :—Corp. W. Cockle, Lance-Corpl. G. Harris, Pte. F. Johnson, and Boy W. Bellfield.

Third class certificates have been awarded to Lance-Corpls. S. Joles and J. Will, Privates A. Player, H. Power, T. Clayton, and A. Cordean, and Boy A. Cleghorn.

Privates W. Merroney, W. Ellen, and J. McCarthy have re-engaged to complete 21 years' service.

2nd BATT. CORRESPONDENCE.

Hong Kong,

March 20th, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor.

There is such a scarcity of news that I am forced back upon the weather as an opening subject. It is, however, a subject which forces itself considerably upon one, as the rains appear to have commenced and betray no desire to stop. The Britisher, however, is undefeated, and the Happy Valley, although well under water, is still the scene of fierce football flounders, productive of much enthusiasm amongst players and spectators alike.

During the past month we have succeeded in putting two more victories to our credit. The first, in the semi-final of the Soldiers' Club Cup (teams consisting of non-commissioned officers and men only), was a win of 7—1 against the Naval Yard. The game throughout was very fast and interesting. The Naval Yard were the first to score, but we soon settled down, and our forwards, getting well together and moving at a good pace, put on a couple of goals in quick succession and eventually won, "hands down," by 7—1. The Naval Yard frequently broke away, but our backs were very sound and the halves were altogether too strong for them. Watling in goal was also very safe. Our goals were scored by Clements (2), Burrows (3), Ogle (1), and Falshawe (1). The local papers, before the match, stated that the Naval Yard was "a sure

thing," but since then they are content to be wise after the event. In the final we play the R.E., who have the reputation of being a very good side; but in spite of this the game should be well worth watching, and we venture to live in hopes. Our team v. Naval Yard was:—(Goal), Private Watling; (backs), Privates Morris and Thompson; (halves), Sergt. Redmond, Private Edwards, and Lance-Corpl. Falshawe; (forwards), Privates Trevenna, Laurel, Ogle, Burrows, and Clements.

Our second victory was over the Hong Kong Club, whom, after having drawn with them once, we defeated by four goals to one. This was in the Hong Kong Shield Competition, and we are consequently left in the semi-final, our opponents being H.M.S. "Albion," who are a powerful side, but here again we venture to hope for a successful issue, but I do not propose to borrow the local Press's mantle of prophesy. Our team was much the same as that which defeated the Naval Yard, the only changes being Private Fry for Morris, at right-back, and Capt. Elgood for Private Trevenna, at outside-right. The feature of the game was the play of Edwards at centre-half, and Thompson, who in spite of an injured heel, played a splendid game.

To turn to another sphere, our sergeants continue on their triumphal way in the Soldiers' Club Billiard Tournament, having this month defeated the R.G.A. by 85 points, and being strong favourites. Coupling this with the old saying about "proficiency at billiards and a misspent youth," one can only be glad to realise that every rule is proved by its exception!

In the matter of shooting we have also been not unsuccessful. Colour-Sergt. Bullock, who is one of the Hong Kong Volunteer Instructors, has carried off the Instructors' Cup, with a score of 72 out of a possible 84, which, in view of the range, was good shooting. The regimental team also shot against a combined team from H.M.S. "Tamar" and H.M.S. "Albion," whom they defeated by 35 points.

Considerable excitement was caused in Hong Kong cricket circles by the arrival last week of Lord Hawke, who had expressed his wish to play cricket here on his way through. Hong Kong turned out *en masse*, but his Lordship having been once missed at the wicket retired for the somewhat inadequate total of two. Hong Kong's disillusionment was completed when Lord Hawke dropped a singularly easy catch and then retired to the deep field for the rest of the afternoon! Major Pedley has been taking advantage of the softer wickets, and on Saturday last took seven wickets for a little over 30 runs.

Lieut. Hibbert sailed on Wednesday last for England on nine months' leave, but our numbers will not be reduced for long as Capt. Beresford is due to arrive this week.

This brings me to an end of the South China news.

2nd Battalion Correspondent.

Teinstin, North China,

February.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Since my last letter there has not been very much on.

There have been a few cases of small pox in the detachment, which has interfered with the Football Cup men-

tioned in my last letter, as all leave has been stopped. However, as there have been no more cases for some time I hope that the matches may shortly be resumed. We are going out under canvas shortly so as the Barracks can undergo a complete fumigation, or rather, I should say, whitewashing.

The weather is very much warmer, but all the same it will not be too warm under canvas. However, the tents have got stoves in them. There have been several big fires in the town lately. They are a very fine sight, as the houses here get very dry and burn like note paper.

The sergeants of the detachment played donkey polo against the staff-sergeants N. China Command, beating them by two goals to nil. The donkeys were not very amenable to polo.

Teinstin Correspondent.

"A" Company,

2nd Royal West Kent Regt.,

Murray Barracks, Hong Kong,

21st March, 1905.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I fear my notes must be very short this time, owing to the fact that I have just been informed that someone else is sending you a budget of news, someone, who I am sure is more capable and mightier with the pen than your correspondent. So that I must confine myself to stray odds and ends picked up about the Barrack square.

In my last notes, I have a slight recollection of leaving off at the races. If the local papers are to be believed, they were a great success from every point of view, though my experience was somewhat expensive, judging by the "weight of shekels" your correspondent was relieved of. Though I must abstain from sporting matters, knowing perfectly well that others will keep you well posted on these affairs, I must mention that we (the detachment) have beaten the Hong Kong Football Club and the Naval Dockyards at football. The result of the game with the former was four to none, whilst with the latter it was seven goals to one. We also carried off the Governor's prize for a boat race at a recent regatta.

A party of recruits (the last, or Bill Bailey draft) and some casuals are undergoing a course of musketry at present at Kowloon, under Lieut. Belgrave and Sergt.-Major Mitchell. The shooting of some of the *bona fide* recruits is really, to say the least, excellent; and as the Commanding Officer told them, it is extremely creditable to their instructors.

Speaking about shooting, reminds me that Color-Sergt. Bullock won the Hong Kong Volunteers Instructors' Cup with a score of 72 out of a possible 80. It seems, it was a handicap, and Color-Sergt. Bullock had to concede 12 points. Besides giving away points, he had to shoot with the very much discussed, new pattern short rifle.

There was a very keen scouting competition held here a couple of weeks ago, for a prize of five pounds. The competitors were in teams of four men and one Lance-Corporal from each Company. The points of the competition were as follows:—March from Dockyard Pier (Kowloon) to City

Pier, read a semaphore message on the way, and report upon the fitness of the road for an advance. Thence, they had to go to a place called Taits Cairn, an elevation of about 1,860 feet above sea level, from there they had to move in a north-easterly direction over another hill (it was named) until they reached a spot about a thousand feet above sea level (this had to be judged) and about half-a-mile north of Customs Pass (this Pass leads to the interior). Near the last mentioned place they had to fire a certain number of rounds and knock down some small targets. All this had to be done in a given time, and there was an officer stationed at each point. Though "A" and "G" knocked down the most targets, the prize was won by "D" Company's team (they were the only team that got on the summit of Taits Cairn), under the leadership of No. 5,366 Lance-Corporal Baker. Besides the display of intelligence which the competition called for, as a test of physical fitness, it cannot be surpassed.

On St. Patrick's Day, the Battalion went to a place called Stanley, a small peninsula to the south of the Island, to do some field-firing. It was originally intended to get there by circum-navigating (nearly so) Hong Kong, but owing to the choppiness of the sea, it was decided that it would be best to get there by "circum-marching" on a donkey's pony.

It was intended, by a good many, to hold a concert on the night of St. Patrick's Day, but as there is hardly a spare board in Barracks, leave alone a spare room, the idea had to be abandoned. However, "G" Company up the peak (Mount Austin), the only place where a spare room is available, intend to give a concert on St. George's Day. We are beginning to despair of ever getting a glimpse of the sun. It seems the latter planet is invisible in Hong Kong, as all we have had up to now, is fogs and mists; and the mists still appear regularly, in spite of the fact that summer has set in, accompanied, very much to our disgust, by Jupiter Pluvius, assisted occasionally by his evil-minded companion, Jupiter Tonnas. Really, if this sort of weather we are having now continues, words will fail to express our feelings. I fear I voice the sentiments of all when I say we would rather be back in sunny Ceylon.

By the way we are as anxious for the termination of the struggle in the far east as an European Power, and for a jolly good reason. We have in our midst 90 Russian sailors and three officers, and we have to find a guard over them all the time the war goes on. These bluejackets are of the Russian cruiser "Burnei," and they themselves ran it aground and blew it up near Chefoo I believe.

Apropos the religious revival at home, it seems the contagion has reached us here in Hong Kong, judging by the number of men who leave Barracks on Sundays with big and thick books, Bible Classwards bound. The following two storyettes in connection therewith may not be out of place:—

No. 1.—It was at the Garrison School, on a Monday, when the Schoolmaster was explaining to the class the rule of three. To make it clearer to his class, instead of using the word "term," he used the word "article," then he went on to explain the two terms alike and the odd one. "Now then Murat," said the Schoolmaster to a quiet looking Lance-Corporal, "tell me how many articles have you got

altogether?" "Thirty-nine, sir," was the prompt, but unexpected reply, and then seeing the Schoolmaster's look of dismay, he added, "at least so I was told at the Bible Class yesterday."

No. 2.—A man jumped in a rickshaw, shouting "Boy, drive me to the Union Church Hall," this was followed by some more instructions in something which was supposed to be Chinese. The boy said "welly yessy" and went off, but the man's surprise may be better imagined than described, when he found that instead of the Union Church, the boy took him to the most disreputable quarter of the town, and he alighted at a most disreputable Japanese tea house.

THE LAST OF THE DANDIES.

Private W. Locks has been transferred from the 1st Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment.

Sergt. J. Hanlon has re-engaged to complete 21 years with the colours.

DEPOT NEWS.

GAMES COMPETITION.

The Sergeants of the Maidstone Companies of the 1st V.B. Royal West Kent Regiment met the members of the Sergeants Mess in Barracks at a games competition. A pleasant evening's amusement resulted in a win for the Volunteers by two points. This was principally owing to the superiority of the winners at Whist, but no doubt we shall be able to reverse the results next time when our opponents bring out their Twenty-fives and Euchre teams.

Depot.	BILLIARDS.		Result.	
	Volunteers.		Depot.	Vols.
Jarrold and Pye v. Col.-Sergt. E. Nichols and				
Sergt. F. Haswell	1	0
Outton v. Sergt. F. Haswell	1	0
Taylor v. Col.-Sergt. J. Upton	1	0

WHIST.

Bass and Hunt v. Sergt. W. Meades and Sergt.				
W. Day...	...	...	1	2
Outton and Martin v. Bandmaster Hunt and				
Sergt. C. Merralls	...	...	0	2
Wood and Ailwood v. Sergt. F. Meades and				
Sergt. H. Harden	...	...	0	2
Bass and Hunt v. Sergt. W. Meades and Sergt.				
W. Day...	...	...	1	2
Jarrold and Palmer v. Col.-Sergt. E. Nichols				
and Sergt. F. Haswell...	...	...	0	2
Grellier and Taylor v. Col.-Sergt. J. Upton and				
Sergt. H. A. Cogger	...	...	0	2
Palmer and Martin v. Bandmaster Hunt and				
Col.-Sergt. E. Nichols...	...	...	2	0
Wood and Ailwood v. Sergt. J. Meades and				
Sergt. H. Harden	...	...	1	2
Outton and Jarrold v. Sergt. H. A. Cogger and				
Sergt. F. Haswell	...	...	0	1
Hunt and Rigglesford v. Sergt. W. Meades and				
Sergt. W. Day...	...	...	2	1

CRIBBAGE.

Wood and Ailwood v. Sergt. F. Meades and
Sergt. H. Harden 2 0

SUMMARY.

				Depot.	Volunteers.
Billiards	...	...	...	3	0
Whist	...	...	...	2	8
Cribbage	...	...	...	1	0
				—	—
				6	8
				—	—

THE MACEDONIAN QUESTION.

ENGLISH OFFICERS PRAISED.

The following cutting is from the *Morning Post* of 20th April :—

“Vienna, April 19th.

The *Neue Freie Presse* publishes an interview of its Salonica correspondent with Herr von Mueller, the Austro-Hungarian Civil Agent in Macedonia. He declares himself quite satisfied with the success of the work of reform in British and French zones at Drama and Seres. The efforts of the civil agents have been essentially furthered by the English officers, who are ‘splendid, good-natured, well-educated fellows, who have identified themselves extraordinarily with their work,’ in spite of the difficulties of dealing with the foreign population and the Turkish officials. Herr von Mueller thinks that the Turkish scheme of financial reform is far better than none, because through the Ottoman Bank it realises the chief object of the Austro-Russian financial scheme, namely, the punctual payment of salaries. Turkish officials in Macedonia punctually received their salaries due on April 1st, an unheard of innovation. He believes that the work of the Civil Agents will be continued beyond the two years originally fixed by the Murzsteg programme, and declares that the rumours about his own resignation are unfounded.”

It is gratifying to know that Major A. Martyn is the officer commanding at Drama.

DEPOT.

Private R. White has been transferred from the Royal Dublin Fusiliers.

Colour-Sergt. G. Allen was discharged on termination of second period of limited engagement, April 8th, 1905.

Lance-Corpl. L. Crusford has extended his service to complete 8 years.

Colour-Sergt. A. E. Wood and Privates F. Simpson and R. Eves have joined from Provl. Battalion for duty.

Private J. Burton was transferred to the Royal Dublin Fusiliers on April 7th.

Musician H. Wilson joined the Provisional Battalion on April 1st.

Colour-Sergt. W. Naylor and Sergt. W. Murphy are attached to the Depot from the 1st Battalion, having been sent home to the School of Musketry, Hythe.

Private C. Long has been transferred to the Army Reserve. Lance-Sergt. A. Boakes and Privates T. Byatt and J. Cox have been posted to the Provisional Battalion.

Private F. Wilmshurst has joined for duty from the Provisional Battalion.

Dr. Evans has been re-posted to the Permanent Staff of the 3rd Battalion.

Private A. Glazebrook and Boy H. Fletcher have obtained second class certificates of education.

The undermentioned have obtained third class certificates of education :—Privates H. Adams, A. Braithwaite, H. Shrubsole, H. Wilson, and A. Moody, and Boy A. Coe.

DEPOT INTELLIGENCE.

A draft of recruits proceeded to join the details at Dover on 1st inst. The usual Morris Tube and Gymnastic Competitions taking place, Private Loftis won the gold challenge medal and first prize, Private Gentry being second and Private Upton third ; whilst for Gymnastics, Private Brotherwood secured first prize, being followed up by Privates J. Adams and Braithwaite, who took the second and third prizes respectively.

A draft consisting of Lance-Sergeant Humphreys and 48 non-com.'s and men arrived at the Depot from the 1st Battalion, on 15th ulto., and were taken on the strength accordingly.

Thirty-one non-com.'s of the 3rd Battalion have joined the Depot for the Course of Instruction qualifying them for further promotion.

On Wednesday, 19th ulto., the Sergeant's Football Team journeyed to the familiar Chatham Lines to contest the return match with the Sergeants of the 2nd Battalion Oxford Light Infantry. A fast and exciting game which again resulted in a draw (0—0) took place. Col.-Sergt. Bass and Sergt. McGregor quite upheld their reputations, while Sergt. Connor played a grand game at back, and the Goal-keeper (S.M. Outten), as seen by the score, made no mistakes.

After the conclusion of the match, a substantial meal was done justice to at the Oxford's Mess. Billiards, cards &c. occupied a most pleasant evening till 11 p.m. S.M. Outten thanked our hosts in a few well chosen words and hoped we should again meet at cricket at an early date. Sergt.-Major A. Smith, Oxford Light Infantry, responded.

While at Chatham we met many old friends and comrades, including ex-Q.M. Sergt. Jordan (Musketry Instructor), whom many of our senior non-com.'s will remember.

A pleasant ride home, during which the descent of the famous Blue Bell Hill was accomplished safely by our driver, brought the outing to a successful close.

Lieut. A. D. E. Knox passed in subject (C) for promotion at Hounslow, on 23rd and 25th March.

3rd BATTALION NOTES.

Lieuts. A. J. Bonsor, H. S. H. H. Hall, and J. S. Masterman were attached to the Oxfordshire Light Infantry, from the 1st to the 31st March, and obtained certificates on A.F.E. 535.

Colour-Sergts. Chiswell, Neighbour, Moon, Wilson, and Palmer, Permanent Staff, have obtained certificates at the Royal Small Arms Factory, Birmingham, in care of arms, etc.

Lieuts. S. E. L. Baddeley and A. D. Frazer, having completed a course of instruction at the Depot have been granted a satisfactory report on A F.E. 535.

VOLUNTEER INTELLIGENCE.

3RD V.B. ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT.

"G" Company of the Regiment carried out its annual march, on Saturday, April 8th, the rendezvous being the "Prince of Wales" Hotel, Mottingham, Kent. Combining business with pleasure, the Company, commanded by Capt. Dodd, Isle of Man, with Lieut. Matthews, marched part of the journey as an advanced guard, and reforming, headed by the drums of the Regiment reached their destination, where a substantial meat tea was awaiting them, to which all ranks did ample justice. After the toast of the "King" had been duly honoured, songs were rendered by members and friends. In proposing the "Company," Col.-Sergt. Radley gave a few interesting items connected therewith. The numerical strength was 81 and during the year 35 had joined, 17 had quitted, and (even had enlisted into the regular branch of the service. In responding to the toast of the "Visitor," the S.M. (Sergt.-Major Audsley) gave the Company some sound advice. After thanks had been tendered to Sergt. Kelly for presiding at the piano, Col.-Sergt. Aston for his help in the "commisariat department," and Host and Hostess Lerner for their excellent catering, the Company marched back to Headquarters, everyone agreeing it had been a red letter day in the annals of "G" Company.

VOLUNTEER NOTES.

Lance-Sergt. H. J. Durkin, 4th Vol. Batt., qualified at the School of Musketry, Hythe, on April 4th, 1905.

SOLUTION OF ANAGRAM LETTER.

I send you this letter in anagram knowing that the authoress of such learned books as yours will soon come to an understanding of my meaning. I can well imagine the consternation of your father the clergyman should this betrayal of my feelings for yourself fall into his hands. I will, therefore, place it on the fire-escape where you find it when you descend to your picturesque garden. I am sure the clergyman would consider any of his parishioners worthy of the severest punishment should he dare to approach him as the accepted sweetheart of his only daughter. To-night I am going to the oratorio. I wish you could be with me to hear the new rhapsody performed by the orchestra. When I return I shall look for your chandelier as no astronomer ever looked for the light of a newly discovered planet. If it is burning I shall come with what diplomacy I can command and present myself as a candidate for matrimony to your respected ancestor—so to call him. Please send one word by telegraph. I am much occupied in the penitentiary at present; the anarchists have been stirring up a spirit of revolution among the men, one of them was shot and I was his surgeon. With his last breath he told me he had the acquired wealth by the sale of sapolio, but had lost the greater part of it in trying to crush the potentates of foreign countries. He informed the evangelist that visited him that he belonged to the Presbyterian church, and that he thought the doctrine of transubstantiation was a misrepresentation. Some lawyers of my acquaintance tried to get possession of his wealth, but he had left it all to the apothecaries. I enclose an amethyst ring of elegant design and hope it will be accepted by my precious girl.

One reply has been received.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of the following subscription:—

To December, 1909, Capt. P. M. Robinson.

„ 1905, Sergt.-Maj. W. Light and Q.M.S. Baker.

MARRIAGE.

SQUIRES—GAGE.—On the 8th April, at Christ Church, North Brixton, Sergeant A. Squires (Army Reserve) to Eva Lucretia Gage.

WORK AND WAGES IN CANADA.

CONTINUED.

When the competitors had completed their courses at one range a cart came and collected our blackboards, chairs, &c., and we took our score boards and the section numbers which marked our positions on to the next butt, where the same thing was gone through. Firing continued without intermission all morning, and an hour was allowed for lunch at midday, the matches recommencing at one o'clock and being continued steadily right through the afternoon, up to about 5.30 or 6, when we were marched back to the stores tent, handed in our score boards, etc., and were free to go. Altogether I had enjoyed my day immensely, and congratulated myself upon having secured such congenial occupation. I still ached in every bone in my body from my work on the section gang, but did not mind that so much now that I was at lighter work again, and had not any tie pitching to do.

Wednesday morning we paraded for duty at 8.30, and there was no difference in the routine of the previous day save that we were firing from longer ranges, and we finished at about 5 o'clock and returned home. Thursday was the same again, although on this last day our active work was done about three o'clock, although we did not get away from the ranges until after the skirmishing firing had taken place and we had received our pay at the secretary's office. With the exception of a few showers on Thursday, the weather had been delightfully fine, and the rest and comparatively easy time I had of it had refreshed me ever so much after my railway experiences, and I was honestly sorry when the meeting was over and I was unemployed once more.

As I have said in the earlier portion of this article I had employment to go to on Monday if I wished, and so I did not trouble to look for work on Friday, as it would have been scarcely worth while to have worked half a day on Saturday.

THE FINANCIAL RESULTS.

I carefully reviewed my financial position and found that I was still some 21 dols. in hand, my receipts and expenditure having been as under:—

RECEIPTS.

	Dols.
August 2nd, to cash in hand	19.97
August 4th, 5th, 6th, three days' work on the railway at 1.25 dols.	3.75
August 9th, 10th, 11th, three days' work at the ranges, at 2.50 dols.	7.50
	31.32

EXPENDITURE.

August 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, board at 50 cents. a day	2.50
Washing	.65
Tobacco, etc.	.40
Stamps	.20
Fare to Montreal	1.80
On fares to ranges, etc., 3 days at 30 cents.	.90
Board, August 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th	2.75
Car fare Monday, August 8th	.35
	9.45

BALANCE SHEET.

To cash...	31.22
By expenses	9.40
Balance to cash	21.22

TWENTY DOLLARS SAVED.

Thus after about six weeks' work of five different kinds I had managed to save over 20dols., and this sum would, I knew, prove very handy at some time or other, so I determined to start work on the following Monday at the Canadian Rubber Company's Works should nothing better turn up for me to do in the meantime, but I resolved to spend Friday and Saturday in looking round, for honestly I did not relish going back to labouring work after my three days at the Ranges.

I spent these days then in searching round, but I could not find just what I wanted, although I received plenty of promises of employment later—and I received a letter from one of the railroad companies to which I had applied for work, offering me a clerk's job at 30dols. a month. However, I preferred to earn a dollar and a half a day as a labourer with no appearance to keep up in Montreal, where I should be on the spot in case any good opening offered to getting a dollar a day as a clerk in a small town in Ontario, where I was not likely to find half the chance I should in Montreal. I therefore did not worry, but determined to go back to labouring once more—to wait and hope, and search for something better during my leisure hours, and concerning my further experiences in this matter I will tell in my next article.

GEORGE ONWARD.

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

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

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS

OF

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

No. 360.

MAIDSTONE, JUNE, 1905.

[Vol. XXIV, No. 6.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

LINE BATTALIONS.

Corporal Mansell Halket Jackson, from the Royal Sussex Regiment, to be Second-Lieutenant, in succession to Lieut. G. F. H. Keenlyside, promoted 20th May, 1905.

1st BATTALION.

Appointed Lance-Corporals:—Privates J. Markham, W. Markham, 1st April, 1905; Dr. E. Harden, 8th April, 1905; Privates F. Bishop, J. Sheppard, 18th April, 1905. Appointed Bandsman:—Private E. Champion, 30th December, 1904; Boy H. Donaldson, 25th March, 1905.

2nd BATTALION.

Appointed Lance-Corporals:—Private E. Griffiths, 10th January, 1905; F. Biddlecombe, 17th January, 1905; G. Herbert, 28th January, 1905; G. Hatton, 9th January, 1905.

3rd VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Captain A. Harston resigns his commission, dated 10th May, 1905.

4th VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

Lance-Sergeant H. T. Hylands has qualified at the School of Musketry, Hythe, dated 28th April, 1905.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Floriana, Malta,
15th May, 1905.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Owing to the absence on leave of your usual 1st Battalion Correspondent, it is with the greatest diffidence that I attempt his task.

The boat race for which we have been training more or less (mostly less) for about six weeks, took place on the 18th April. There were five starters, and we managed to finish second. The winners, the Royal Engineers, were a very good crew and almost a stone a man heavier than ourselves, so we were not disgraced. The fact that we finished so near the winners as we did was entirely due to the coaching of the Rev. L. A. Hughes, who so kindly took us in hand. The race was rowed against a strong head-wind. It is a curious fact that when any kind of outdoor function is arranged in this "Jewel of the Mediterranean" a young hurricane immediately springs up.

The Polo Tournament, which took place during the latter part of April, and was won by the Rifle Brigade, was entirely spoilt, from the spectators point of view, by the clouds of dust which enveloped the players the whole time, and all the Race Meetings this year have suffered from the same reason.

Our numbers have been now somewhat reduced, Colonel Maunsell, Captains O'Dowda and Keenlyside, Lieutenants Parker and Fisher, having proceeded on leave on 4th May.

Her Majesty the Queen paid Malta a visit from the 11th to the 15th May. The Battalion supplied a Guard of Honour on the 11th on the Palace Square, having to turn out at very short notice. The Fleet was illuminated each night of Her Majesty's visit, and the Grand Harbour presented a most imposing and very pretty sight with all the ships lit up, the Royal Yacht being a perfect blaze of rose coloured lights.

A Novices' Boxing Competition was held in the Gymnasium on the 12th and 13th May, arranged by Lieut. Phillips. The entries were numerous, and the whole performance a great success.

On Friday, May 5th, the Battalion entered for a Garrison Bayonet Fighting Competition. Each Company put in a team from their best section, and the Companies fought over the ties, H Company's Team, who won, representing the Battalion. We were unfortunate in being drawn against the 1st Rifle Brigade, the ultimate winners. We made a very good fight, each team winning two fights, but on the Section Commanders fighting it off we were defeated.

H. W. S.,
1st Battalion Correspondent.

Floriana Barracks,
May 13th, 1905.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Once again I sit down to write you a few lines as to our doings for the past month. Really the time flies very quickly; it only seems to me a few days ago since I sent you my last jottings.

We have been very busy learning the new (?) drill, issued recently, and I think I can safely say, we are now well ground into the details.

The Rifle meeting takes place this month at Pembroke, at which several of our Company are taking part. Ample opportunity has been given for intending competitors in the way of practice, especially on Thursdays. The ranges can also be used on payment of a sum (intended for markers),

and as this is very small indeed, many have grasped this excellent opportunity of improving their shooting. I must let you know the results in my next.

A fine bayonet competition has taken place during the past few days amongst the battalion. In the first place, we had a draw with D Company, and consequently our section commander had to fight against D Company's section commander, but, unfortunately, the latter was sick and could not turn up, and therefore we got the verdict. We then had to tussle with F Company, but the skilful and deliberate movements of Lce.-Corpl. Sheppard proved too much for them, and we won easily. In the final against H Company, we were unlucky, and lost. Pte. Ayres had to fight Pte. West, H Company, three times, but everyone had the same opinion, the best team lost. Anyhow, we have plenty of time yet to look up faulty moves, and with the young blood our team possess we hope to do better in the future.

Cricket now is attracting everyone's attention, and I hope by next month's issue we shall take part in some really good matches. In the Company there are a few who take a great interest in this game, and if only they are backed up we ought to turn out a very creditable team. Two friendly games have taken place with C Company, in which our old friend Punch (perhaps the greatest enthusiast of the game in the Company) lacked nothing of his old style, letting drive at everything that came near him. I must find out from Sergt. Balcombe or Corpl. Cockle, two noted sportsmen, what they intend doing this season as regards cricket, and let you know in my next.

On Thursday, 11th, Her Majesty Queen Alexandra arrived here, and we were fortunate enough to form her Guard of Honour. Another regiment happened to be on Valetta Main Guard, but as it was only right that the "Queen's Own" should be there a Guard was warned at 2 p.m., and turned out as smartly as any General could wish in less than twenty minutes, a very creditable piece of military smartness, do you not think so, Mr. Editor? For instance, I was at the time in that noble capacity of Orderly Sergeant, and was detailed to warn a Sergeant of our Company for the great honour. Of course, I found him enjoying a well-earned siesta, but, hip presto, in marching order in less time than it takes to write it. No wonder he is styled "hot," or something to that effect, by his brother N.C.O.'s.

Our Company is nearly at its usual strength again, the M.I. men having returned from Ghain Tuffehia. For the first few days nothing could be heard but "Saddle your horses," "Mount," "Stables," etc., etc., but by now it has gradually died out. We were all delighted to see Ambert back again after his cavalry career. Corporals Newberry and Bristowe have joined our Company on promotion, in the place of Lce.-Sergt. Ely and Corpl. Dunn, reverted.

I must draw to a conclusion now, but I have a good deal for you next month, several interesting events taking place shortly.

A Company's Correspondent.

Notre Dame,
Malta.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

As you have not received any correspondence from D Co. of late, I am hoping to make another start, which, I trust, will be kept up in future.

I think by this time we have quite settled down in "Our Lady" (Notre Dame). The rooms are much more comfortable than those previously occupied in the main block, five men being the full complement of each. But, of course, like everything else, they have their disadvantages. For instance, when a strong fatigue party is to be furnished by the Company, the question generally arises as to who is left to clean the room up, and very often the lot falls to one man. The floors being laid with a soft kind of stone, require constant sweeping, thereby causing much more dust than we bargain for. Some seem to think it a fine idea, as it saves a lot of elbow grease, *viz*, with the hand-scrubber.

Our garden (as we call it) has been converted into something not much unlike a wilderness this week. The reason for this I understand is as a precaution against fever during the summer months.

We were all glad to see our Company Officer, Lieut. Brock, resume his duties last week, after being indisposed for close on a fortnight. I am sure he must have his hands full at the present time, as in addition to superintending two Companies, he is assistant Adjutant.

We get plenty of music, as the Band and Drums have their quarters on either side of our block, in fact, we get too much sometimes, especially when the Company Officer is delivering a lecture.

The team chosen for the recent Bayonet Fighting Competition had rather hard lines, as they managed to make a draw with A Company, but could not fight it out on account of the Section Commander going on the sick list. No doubt a far better result would have been obtained had not some of our best men been on the Mtd. Infantry.

Cricket is beginning to get into full swing now. A dozen or more may be seen practising every evening down the "Ditch." I trust we shall be able to win some good matches later on, with the aid of our notorious bowler, Sergt. Wood, who was successful in taking seven wickets for eight runs at the last Sergts.' Match, thus saving his side from defeat.

Sergt. Penney has been transferred to B Co., and has taken over the duties of Master Cook, in relief of Sergt. Denton, who is leaving the Battalion shortly for discharge.

Sergt. Saunders has taken over the duties of Pay Sergt. during the absence of Clr.-Sergt. Naylor, who is undergoing a course of instruction at the School of Musketry, Hythe. We all wish him the best of success, and hope he will return with a "distinguished."

We have entered two teams for a "Tile" Shooting Competition at the Malta Rifle Meeting, and hope to win something. All our best shots have entered for other Competitions, and have been down to Pembroke for practice.

Yours, etc,
D Company's Correspondent.

Dear Mr. Editor,

We actually challenged C Company for a game of cricket, and they, like forest-bred lions, took up the challenge. Their spirits dropped two degrees when they heard that their Col.-Sergeant could not play, as his flannels were right at the bottom of his box? and of course it would be awfully *infra-dig* for such a personage to play without such accessories to the noble art.

As this was really the first match of the season, the audience was great; and when C Company started batting against our professional bowlers, the excitement was tremendous. They went in, and went out, just the same as if they were up at the Orderly Room, and their faces wore just the very same expression.

It was worth going many miles to see young Smocky go in and come out, but no doubt he will be a Ranji soon. Corpl. Davis played a very good game, and managed to stick it, also Baker and O'Shea, who, no doubt, will improve as the season goes on. At last, after a brave struggle, they finished with the superb total of 35. Grand, was it not?

Now, we went in, and soon caused our opponents many fatiguing runs. Reilly played a magnificent game, in fact, I thought of sending him home to a gentleman who requires a private professional. Eves also shewed fine form, his saucy smile quite fascinated the bowler, compelling him to bowl wide. It would take too long to describe in detail everyone's performance, but I must not forget Sergt. Sweatman, who had a decided weakness for poultry, and took home a fine duck for his supper. We managed to get the fine total of 84, and then whatever do you think happened, our opponents actually ran away, not even consenting to a second innings. The afternoon was lovely, just the ideal weather for cricket, but the pitch needs a lot of improvement.

We shall always be delighted to play a game with any Company team, just to keep us in form you know. I must leave off now, Mr. Editor, as I am going out to see the illumination of the fleet in honour of Her Majesty the Queen. I shall always be delighted to send you an account of our matches.

I am, Sir,
Yours truly,
DOTS & DASHES.

Signallers' Court,
Floriana,
14th May, 1905.

ROYAL ARMY TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.

A Smoking Concert of the above Branch took place on Wednesday, the 3rd of May. Doors were opened at 7.30 p.m., and the room (which had been tastefully decorated during the afternoon by an able Committee) was soon filled. An Overture by the Members' String Band commenced the programme of a capital evening's entertainment at 8 p.m. Songs were rendered by our old favourites Pte. McCarthy, Dr. Gregg, and Lce.-Corpl. M. Harris (the latter wanting everyone to "Shift up a little farther)," after which an interesting address was delivered by our esteemed Chaplain, the Rev. L. A. Hughes, C.F. Next on the programme came the interval, after which the second part of the programme was commenced, and which proved even more enjoyable than the first part, thanks to the "Two Macs," (Ptes. Pat. O'Shea and Rags), Pte. Klein, of Stump Speech Fame, and our evergreen and popular Secretary, Lce.-Corpl. M. Harris. A most enjoyable evening's amusement was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem at 11 p.m.

Our worthy President (Pte. Stuart) proved a capable Chairman, and special thanks are due to the Committee, composed of Sergt. Nicholson, Corpl. Doe, and Ptes. Wood and Page for their hard work.

Yours, etc.,

A Member.

1st BATTALION INTELLIGENCE.

SIMONDS' CUP COMPETITION.

Practice for above competition took place on the afternoon of the 12th May. Nine Sergeants took part, and the following are the best eight scores.

Rank and Name.	200 yds.	500 yds.	Total.
Clr.-Sergt W. Murphy ...	30	30	60
Sergt. G. Nicholson.....	29	30	59
„ H. Moore	31	28	59
„ S. Reeves.....	32	26	58
Clr.-Sergt. R. Dark.....	27	30	57
„ S. Kill	27	28	55
Sergt. W. Brown.....	28	26	54
„ J. Saunders	26	26	52

Total..... 454

Average..... 56

There is very little time left now for more practice, as the Pembroke Ranges close for the same on the 20th May, but there is no doubt improvement must be made on the scores mentioned or the chances of seeing this particular Cup in the Sergeants' Mess of the Battalion are very small. Since writing the above I hear that Clr.-Sergts. Murphy and Kill are leaving the Battalion for England on the 20th of May, the former for a tour of duty in the Depot, the latter to join the 4th Volunteer Battalion at Chatham. Their willingness to take part in all shooting competitions has been most encouraging to the younger members of the Mess, and whilst wishing them every success, and the best of luck in their fresh duties, I must express my regret at their leaving us.

I should like to mention here that the Simonds' Cup was competed for and won by a team of Sergeants in the year 1891, when the Battalion was stationed in Fort Manoel. The following composed the team then:—Clr.-Sergt. Turner, Sergts. Pease, Libdin, Hayesmore, Murphy, and Lce.-Sergt. Callaghan. Their average was 58.60. The latter is the only one now serving, and he is an Instructor in the 1st Volunteer Battalion.

1st BATTALION.

Pte. E. Thornton has re-engaged to complete 21 years.

The following have extended to complete eight years service:—Lce.-Crpl. A. Baker, Ptes. C. Murphy, J. Sellens, W. Harris.

Sergt. W. Penny has been awarded a certificate from the School of Cookery, dated 27th March, 1905.

Lce.-Crpl. G. Goyder has been granted a good conduct badge.

Lce.-Sergt S. Ely and Dr. L. Newman revert to Privates at their own request.

Boy H. C. Bellfield, son of Crpl. Bellfield has been attested for the Regiment.

Pte. J. Sullivan has qualified as a cold shoer.

2nd BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

On account of being away from the Company I have not been able to send you anything of late, but now having returned, I shall be able to carry on as before.

We are leaving the lower regions for the Peak, so on account of the usual cloud bank that obscures the view up there, I don't suppose we shall be able to see the remainder of the half Battalion except on the usual weekly field days, or rather mountain days, there being very little field of any sort here except a couple of isolated football fields.

The recent competition for the scouts proved a very interesting event, causing much friendly rivalry between the Companies' scouts. Out of each Company four of the best scouts and the N.C.O. in charge competed for money prizes given by Major-General Leach, the various contests being as follows:—

Equipment, semaphore, shooting, finding and reporting on best road for an advance, and proceeding to a distant point. G Company's representatives had rather hard lines, being beaten by D by the small margin of six points, the result being:

D Company	...	...	122 points.
G	"	...	116 "
A	"	...	94½ "
E	"	...	91 "

I have not much to say on G Company about sport, excepting that, the Band beat us by the trifling score of 9 to love. We also played A and made a draw.

The Battalion played the Naval Dockyard in the semi-final for the "Soldier's Cup," and, after a rough and exciting game beat them 7—1. But here I must stop as I am encroaching on another's preserves, though, if it has not already been mentioned I may tell you that the Regimental Boat won the Garrison Race in the Hong-Kong Regatta. The course was one mile. Only three boats entered—the R.E.'s, A.O.D., and the R.W.K. Our team won easily by a quarter mile.

The R.E.'s were unlucky enough to break an oar just after the start, but the man relieved the boat of his weight by promptly jumping overboard.

Our team were L.-Corpl. Barnett (stroke), Ptes. King, Flinn, Peterson, Tucker (Bow), Bandsman R. Faulknor (cox).

The Corporals of the R.G.A held a smoker to which the Corporals of ours were cordially invited. The following was the programme:—Song, "Then we had another one," Bomdr. Waters; song, "Wedding Bells," Corpl. Reeves; song, "Warrior Bold," Mr. Caesar; song, "First I tickled her"; song, "So was your humble servant," Corpl. Clark, R.E.; piano duet, "Maritana," Staff-Sergt. Oliver and Mr. Caesar; song, "Queen of the Earth," Sergt. Spradburg; song, "You do see something," Corpl. Chew; song, "Dear hearts are waiting," P.O. Davis, Albion; song, "We've both been there before," Gnr. Brown; song, "Mow savee the story of Wang-chi-Loo," Sergt. Saunders, R.G.A.;

song, "Soldier's Toast," Bomdr. Wood; cornet solo, "Hosanna," encore, "Lost Chord," Sergt.-Trumpeter Walker; songs, "Brown's old, sweet song," "Whilst you're sleeping," Pte. James, R.W.K.; song, "Whisper and I shall hear," Mr. Joyce; song, "Rose of Tralee," Bomdr. Pierce; song, "The dear old Land," Sergt. Balmer; song, "Teaching McFadden to waltz," Bomdr. O'Niell; "God Save the King." The concert went off with a fine swing, everyone enjoying themselves immensely. The room was tastefully decorated with flowers and bunting, betraying the fact that no pains had been spared to make the whole thing a success. The concert was presided over by Reg.-Sergt.-Major Touhay, R.G.A. The Chairman proposed the toast of "The Visitors," which was responded to by Corpl. Childs on behalf of the West Kent present.

G Company's Correspondent.

Murray Barracks,
Hong Kong,
May 11th, 1905.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

In the matter of news, the lean months are about to be redeemed by one delightfully fat one, but whether Hong Kong life can continue at such high pressure of interest remains to be seen.

This last month has been one of great excitement for all of us. Our victory over the Naval Yard in the Soldiers' Club Competition put us in the final, and then on the 25th March we met and defeated H.M.S. Albion, after a very strenuous and exciting game in the Hong Kong Shield, so that we found ourselves in the final in both competitions. The first final to be played off was that for the Hong Kong Shield, in which we met H.M.S. Glory, the flagship on this station. As in most games, both sides had views of their own as to the probable outcome of the match, but after a game in every way admirable the Hong Kong Shield, as the Navy expresses it, "Came ashore on twelve months' leave." We hope, however, when next season comes round, to obtain for it a further extension of leave for another twelve months! I enclose accounts of our match culled from local papers, and much as I should have liked to have tried my hand, I feel that in view of the description which has flowed from the reporter's pen, discretion is the better part of valour. One only blot marred our success, and that was the accident to Captain Elgood. When all is said and done, a very large share of the credit is due to him, not only for the pitch of excellence to which he has brought the Regimental football, but also for the excellent spirit and go which he inspired into the game when things began to look bad for us. Early in the second half of the "Albion" match he cracked his collar bone, and finally broke it about ten minutes from the finish. It was a very bitter disappointment both to him and everyone else that after playing all through he should be prevented from playing in the final. The final against the Glory was a delightful game, but for pure, unadulterated excitement it would be hard to beat the final in the Soldiers' Club Cup against the R.E. A game which teemed with exciting incidents, looked up till within a quarter of an hour of time like a win for the R.E., inasmuch as, after scoring a goal soon after half-time, they seemed to have the measure of us and we never looked like

winners until, with only fifteen minutes more, Thompson, amidst the most frantic enthusiasm, shot a wonderful goal from the half-way line. After that the R.E. might as well have been off the field. We simply raced round them, and putting on two more goals within five minutes, ran out the winners, after one of the most sensational finishes it has ever been our good fortune to see. The team throughout has played splendidly, but I think everyone is agreed that the features of our play have been the performances of Watling in goal, Edwards at half-centre, and Thompson and Unions at back, Thompson in particular having put in some marvellous work. The strength of our defence is well shown by the fact that throughout the competitions only two goals have been scored against us. I enclose the newspaper reports of the matches. The R.E. match was crowded out owing to pressing accounts of the Baltic fleet and some large sports! Our team was, however, identical with that which defeated the Glory.

On Wednesday last we cemented the friendly relations which exist between ourselves and the Glory at the dinner table. The Ward Room and Gun Room members of the Glory team dined with us in the Mess, whilst the rest of their eleven dined with our team in the library. After the dinner a smoker was held, whilst on the Mess verandah Mr. McKelvey and the band made it morally impossible not to eat a cakewalk.

We have also had a tug-of-war team in training but, owing to three of the team being unable to pull on the day, we were pulled over by 88th Co., R.G.A., who subsequently carried off the championship of the station.

The Hong Kong Amateur Dramatic Club have lately been giving some most excellent performances of "One Summer's Day." Summer days and their inevitable picnics! A few months in Hong Kong makes one wonder whether such things are not merely existent in the imagination; doubtless the sun does still exist, but out here it is of a retiring disposition, and remains hidden behind a bank of cloud which nestles lovingly around the Peak, so that the luckless inhabitants of Mt. Austin Barracks live in a continual mist, which is abused with much vigour. G Company is at present stationed at Mt. Austin, and Capt. Beresford is now commanding the Company, having relieved Capt. Fiennes, who, on promotion, goes to the 1st Battalion. The air is full of the inevitable rumours concerning the Baltic Fleet, but in all probability you hear more of them at home than we do here.

Beyond this, there is, I fear, nothing of interest, wherefore I will end.

2nd Battalion Correspondent.
"South China."

Hong-Kong,
April 7th, 1905.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Life in Hong-Kong is not inspiring from a literary point of view, but perhaps a few remarks on the Colony, its society, manners, and customs, may be of interest to readers of the *Q.O.G.* who have never experienced the joy of living here.

The most impressive feature of Hong-Kong is undoubtedly the Harbour, in which an immense variety of the ships of all nations are to be seen. It is a fact not generally known

that, as regards the total tonnage of the ships entering the port during the year, Hong-Kong is the second largest port in the world, ranking in this respect next to London. The island itself, viewed from the sea, appears to be what it really is, namely hills, and nothing but hills; a conformation most distressing to the sea legs of the newly landed. Luckily for those whose avoirdupois has reached the abnormal, and whose wind is proportionately short, a cable tramway runs from Victoria City to the "Peak," 1,800 feet above sea level, where most of the community live. Failing the tram, use has to be made of a kind of Sedan chair, carried by two or four coolies, whose carrying capacity would make an English navy faint even to contemplate (*outward* carrying capacity I mean).

The climate for the last two months may fairly be described as atrocious. Frequently cold and invariably foggy, a glimpse of the sun is looked forward to as a rare and valued break in the atmospheric gloom which overhangs the place. A little later in the year frequent rain adds to the joy of life.

In addition to the Military and Civil community there is a strong Naval element, the China Fleet having, except for short periods of absence, been in harbour for the last three or four months. "Jack" ashore, whether in the football field or decorating the town, always adds life and interest to the scene.

As regards the native population there is little to be said, except that they swarm in untold numbers, and appear to imagine that Hong-Kong exists solely for their benefit; the latter, a natural if mistaken idea on their part.

During the winter months Hong-Kong is extremely gay, in a rather forced and painful manner. Dances, dinners, etc., follow each other with bewildering rapidity, to say nothing of walking and sea picnics. Both are a most futile form of entertainment, as in the case of the two latter one returns footsore, tired, and cross, or seasick, cross and cold. These combined with races and games of various descriptions, make up the winter gaieties of the Colony.

PASSIVE RESISTER.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

The winter being over we are preparing for our summer campaign in Musketry and Field Training; not that the latter will make much difference to our everyday life, as owing to the facilities afforded by the hills of Hong Kong for manœuvres, we have been field training more or less the whole time we have been here. As regards musketry, we labour under the disadvantage of having to shoot on a range a considerable distance away, on the mainland, and one furnished with antediluvian appliances. "D" Co., who are the first to commence, find it a long and arduous business to fire two practices in the day. However, despite these disadvantages we hope to equal the excellent figures of merit of the 1st Battalion for 1904. Fildes training will probably be done (in the later stages) with and against the three Indian Regiments stationed here, an advantage Ceylon did not afford. The men, being as hard physically as constant gymnastics and hill climbing can make them, ought to show to advantage in manœuvring over the high and steep hills of Hong Kong, hills which are a severe test of wind and limb to scale, even at a slow pace.

KLIPSPRINGFR.

FOOTBALL SHIELD.

SOLDIERS KNOCK OUT SAILORS.

WEST KENT v. H.M.S. ALBION.

The semi-final tie in the Football Challenge Shield competition drew a big crowd at Happy Valley, on March 25th, despite the threatening weather. The ground was in even a worse condition than on the previous Saturday, and the game was played under conditions that were more fitting for water polo than football. Nevertheless the game was remarkably spirited, the players never dropping into slack football; and, on the whole, the play was keen.

A customary start was made by the soldier team, for, immediately Ogle set the ball a-rolling, the forwards swung away and opened a dashing attack on the Albion goal. The pressure was maintained until Carrie cleared, and, in trying to break away, Conde Williams had a bath in one of the numerous puddles. The West Kents returned, and remarkably good play was put in by Carrie, whose daring and precise methods won all-round admiration. Pulling themselves together the Albion team, by dint of the best combination possible on such a ground, found themselves in the West Kent goal area and a shot from Hunter nearly found the net. The soldier team responded to the effort, and an excellent demonstration of good football, in which individualism was subordinated to unity, was the result. The forwards were quick as thought on the ball, and the halves and backs played, not as separate sections of the team, but as parts of a unanimous whole. After a while Albion had a look in, and Hunter took the initiative in an advance, eventually driving in a low spinning shot, the saving of which by Watling amply proved his skill as a custodian. Encouraged by the vociferous cheering of the navy boys the Albion men once more came along in promising style, and another couple of shots from Hunter and Amber gave Watling further opportunity of showing his brilliancy. Then Conde Williams gained possession, passing to Hunter, who, by a clever centre, nearly gave his side the lead. But Thompson, as good a back as any on the field and a tryer to the end, managed to drive the leather away and put his side once more on the aggressive. The West Kents had very, very hard lines in front of goal, but could not get the ball through. The remaining four minutes play, before half time, saw both teams come very near scoring.

Half time, no score.

The second half was expected to be the time for the naval team to do the needful by the usual policy of naval teams of playing more vigorously. But the army team played with even greater vigour and quite outclassed their opponents to the end. Just after play recommenced, Hunter struck the West Kent's upright, and Conde Williams also shot narrowly wide, but it did not take the West Kents long to relieve and Elgood was soon seen sprinting speedily down the wing, eventually getting in two excellent and very threatening centres, and causing the Albion goalkeeper an anxious couple of minutes. It was good to see how the West Kent's halves played the correct game, being ready at once to follow up their forwards and assist in attack or to fall back to the relief of the backs. In this respect mention should be made of the centre half,

Edwards, who worked like a Trojan. Clements, after a neat dribble through the Albion defence, drove in a well placed centre, and Elgood, pouncing on the ball, cleverly tipped it into the net, sixteen minutes after the restart. Immediately the game was again in progress the West Kents pressed, making by far the better play. Time after time were they seen in front of the Albion goal, Elgood playing an admirable game. Matters went on like this for a long time and Albion seemed some way from equalising. The forwards then led off and for a few minutes raised the hopes of Albion supporters by determined play in the soldiers' territory. Hunter drove in a hard, trying shot from the wing which caused Watling to fist a corner. Then Conde Williams gave Watling a difficult shot to save, the goal-keeper only just managing to hold and clear. Ogle pushed through and scored the West Kent's second goal with a high dropping shot that quite beat Pelham. After this, the West Kents played absolutely a winning game.

Final:

West Kents	2
H.M.S. Albion	0

FINAL TIE.

Shield honours have fallen to the West Kents, the latest addition to the ranks of local Association football teams. They came to Hong Kong from Colombo with an unbeaten record, but the honour was not theirs for long, their colours being lowered by the Navy the first week of their stay in Hong Kong. Since then, however, they have improved wonderfully, and on Saturday they paid back the Navy in full coin by wresting from them the plum of the local football world. The ground on Saturday was in first-class condition, and the weather being less threatening than has been its wont for some weeks past, the cult of football was fully propitiated by a bumper attendance of spectators, which strained the accommodation to the utmost. This being a match of Army v. Navy, the Service men were very much in evidence round the ropes, and, as showing the interest that was taken in the match by the Fleet, arrangements had been made to have the progress of the game communicated by means of signalmen, one being stationed on the ground, and who sent the news to another signalman on Bowen Road, who in turn signalled down to the Fleet. The stand was full of civilians, and extra accommodation was provided by chairs in front of the stand. The game had not been long in progress before H.E. the Governor arrived, evidently from the polo ground, as H.E. was in riding attire; and soon afterwards H.E. Vice-Admiral Sir Gerard Noel, K.C.B., accompanied by Lady Noel and Miss Noel, arrived, Lady Noel having kindly consented to present the shield and medals to the winning team.

The Glory Team, in their scarlet shirts, were accorded a hearty greeting as they entered the field of play. They certainly had a more spick and span appearance than the West Kents, upon whose entry the boys in red around the ropes made themselves heard. The latter team were without the services of Captain Elgood, who had sustained a severe injury to his arm. His dashing style of play was much missed during the afternoon, but his substitute gave a very good account of himself. Glory lost the toss, and the Army Team elected to defend the eastern goal. The teams lined up as under:—

Royal West Kent Regiment—Lce.-Corpl. Watling, goal; Pte. Morris and Pte. Thompson (Capt.), backs; Lce.-Sergt. Redmond, Pte. Edwards, and Lce.-Corpl. Falshaw, half-backs; Pte. Trevena, Pte. Laurel, Pte. Ogle, Pte. Clements, and Pte. Burrows, forwards.

H.M.S. Glory—G. B. Osborne, goal; Sub-Lieut. W. N. Lapage, and Engineer Sub-Lieut. G. W. Bodell, backs; Pte. Joyce and Wyness, half-backs; Drewry, Hersant, J. L. Bell, J. F. Woolley, and Lawrence, forwards.

What wind there was favoured the West Kents, and they were at once speeding in front of or towards the Glory goal. The Glory quintette could not make much progress, and the Army right wing was soon seen fleeting down the line—an effort which resulted in an exciting few minutes in front of the Glory goal, Lapage managing to clear brilliantly. Bell gained possession, but, when challenged, the West Kents' backs proved safe. The Glory supporters were growing impatient, and began to exhort the team to pull together. The Glory forwards, showing pretty football, formed a concerted attack, which increased in determination, and resulted in several pops at goal, Bell driving in. Bell was playing a splendid game, showing excellent command of the ball, and shooting dangerously whenever he saw opportunity. The pressure was eventually relieved by Edwards. Burrows skipped down, and there was a hum of excitement as he shook off his challengers and got within easy range ahead of all. A goal was expected, but Lapage came up smartly from behind, and, depriving his man of the ball, saved by conceding a corner kick. The Glory now were putting a deal of vigour into their play, and took a lot of driving away from the West Kents' goal area. After a couple of narrow escapes however, through the centres by Lawrence, the West Kents crossed the line again, and Falshaw essayed a long shot, the ball dropping on the crossbar, whilst a moment later the ball went flying over the bar, missing the goal very narrowly. This shooting on every possible occasion was a commendable habit of the West Kents' forwards. Still having the better of matters, especially in the way of holding all the Glory attacks, the West Kents continued to press, and drove in shots on every possible occasion. Half-time arrived, however, with no score, with honours fairly even, and the end still a speculation.

HALF TIME:—

West Kents.....	0
H.M.S. Glory.....	0

The West Kents restarted with a steady advance, and Osborne had to save from shots from Trevena, who filled Captain Elgood's position remarkably well, playing a dogged game throughout. The Glory men could not free themselves from the pressure, and were held completely on their own side of the centre line. Their men seemed to have lost their crisp methods of play, and were slower on the ball than their opponents. The latter, whilst never lagging in attack, played with remarkable unanimity. Each player was covered by another, and should one man get out of place his proper position was still under guard. These methods, essential to successful football, placed the West Kents mostly on the aggressive. Burrows swung the ball towards goal from the left wing, and a great cheer went up as Trevena met it and sent it easily past Osborne into the

net. The Glory team did not let their tails down at this, but restarted pluckily, and tenaciously stuck to their opponents. They nearly equalised as the result of a fine effort, but the West Kents' defence got the ball safely away again. Glory were then seen on the defensive for a long time, the goal being subjected to a hot bombardment, the crossbar being struck once, and corners being forced twice. Temporary relief was obtained by a clearance on the part of Lapage, but the West Kents, who were now playing a solid game, were down again soon afterwards, and the Glory defence was given some stiff work to do. The Army right wing managed to get favourably placed, and a well-judged centre resulted in a very exciting few seconds in the Glory goal-mouth, the end of it all being that another goal fell to the West Kents, scored by Ogle. The whistle sounded the final to a well-contested game, in which the better team won.

FINAL:—

West Kents.....	2
H.M.S. Glory.....	0

H.E. Vice-Admiral Sir Gerard Noel, K.C.B., said that on behalf of Lady Noel he wished to express what a splendid game they had seen. It had been a good fight between two of the fighting forces (hear, hear, and applause). They were however glad that if Glory did not win the West Kents did. He thought they were all satisfied with the day's work, and he was sure he could congratulate the winning team on their most splendid work. The Vice-Admiral then asked Lady Noel to present the Shield.

Captain Elgood (Captain of West Kents team) was then handed the Shield, and, after thanking Lady Noel he handed to her a pretty bouquet on behalf of the team, and called for three cheers for Lady Noel, which was lustily given. The Vice-Admiral then called for three cheers for the winning team. Three cheers for the losers were called for by the West Kents, after which Lady Noel handed to the men individually their gold medals.

From the South China Morning Post.

2nd BATTALION.

Clr.-Sergt. F. Grey, Lce.-Corpl. H. Kimber, and Pte. S. Egerton have been awarded First Class Certificates of Education. Sergt. J. Mills, Lce.-Sergt. G. Camplin, Lce.-Corpls. J. James, H. Stevens, F. Baker, Ptes. A. Brisley, G. Lewis, G. Marsh, and E. Webb, have passed in Group I. Clr.-Sergt. R. Silver has passed in Group II.

Clr.-Sergt. E. Bullock has passed in Military Engineering, Tactics, and Military Topography.

The following have been awarded Third Class Certificates of Education:—Lce.-Corpls. G. Herbert and W. Draper, Ptes. A. Cormack, W. Peterson, Boys G. Standen, H. Lythall, and G. Sutton.

Corpl. S. Weeks reverts to Private at own request.

Lce.-Corpl. W. Brown reverts to Musician at own request.

Sergt. H. Smith and Pte. J. Stinton have re-engaged to complete 21 years.

Pte. S. Week has extended to complete 8 years.

REGIMENTAL DINNER.

Captain Kennedy sends us a complete list of officers who have notified him that they hope to be present at the Regimental Dinner to be held at the Grand Hotel on Tuesday, 20th June. It will save much trouble if those officers who intend dining, and who have not already written Captain Kennedy, will do so to Whitwell Hall, near Norwich, without delay.

Names already notified:—Lt.-Col. Armstrong, Brig.-General Alderson, C.B., A.D.C., Capt. W. H. Annesley, Col. Brock, Capt. Beeching, Capt. Bonham-Carter, Capt. Buckle, D.S.O., Major Daniell, Lieut. Fisher, Lieut. Hewitt, Col. Harrison, Mr. Hudson, Capt. Heygate, Major Isacke, Col. King, Capt. Kennedy, Capt. Kitson, Capt. Keenlyside, Lieut. Knox, Major-General Leach, C.B., Capt. Lees, Capt. Lister, Col. Maunsell, Lieut. Parker, Capt. O'Dowda, Major Roche, Major Style, Capt. Simpson, Col. Wilson, Lieut. Waring, Col. F. F. Johnson, C.B., Capt. T. T. Burt, Lieut.-Col. Dalison, Col. Tweedie, D.S.O., Capt. Burbury, Major Vandermeulen, Mr. F. Forestier Walker, Mr. A. M. Streetfield-Moore.

DEPOT INTELLIGENCE.

Dr. T. Evans has been transferred to the P. S. 3rd Battalion.

Corps. Keeble and McNamara have joined for duty.

Ptes. Glazebrook and boy A. Fletcher have been awarded a Second Class Certificate of Education. Ptes. H. Adams, A. Braithwaite, H. Shrubsole, H. Wilson, A. Moody and Boy A. Coe, have been awarded Third Class Certificates of Education.

Corpl. W. Carpenter has been posted to P. Battalion.

Lance-Sergt. C. Lewis has re-engaged to complete 21 years.

PROVISIONAL BATTALION.

Lance-Corpl. Leigh, Privates H. Brown, J. Blogg, H. Cleveland, A. Graham, S. Barker, and G. Marshall have been awarded second class certificates of education.

Lance-Corpls. W. Carpenter, H. Goodchild, W. Routledge, W. Parker and W. Carr, Privates G. Fry, F. Vincent, S. Lane, W. Pope, T. Driver, W. Harvey, H. Lawrence and E. Phillips have been awarded third class certificates of education.

VOLUNTEER INTELLIGENCE.

3rd VOLUNTEER BATTALION.

The annual prize distribution and Bohemian concert took place on 20th May, at the Drill Hall in Beresford Street, Woolwich, which was tastefully decorated with flags, over the platform being suspended Nelson's signal, "England expects that every man will do his duty," and "Trafalgar, 1805-1905." Colonel E. J. Moore, V.D., commanding the Battalion presided, and Mr. H. F. Donaldson, M.I.C.E., Chief Superintendent of Ordnance Factories, distributed the prizes.

Before asking Mr. Donaldson to distribute the awards, Col. Moore said that he was proud to have commanded the Battalion for four years, because he knew what the men were made of. It was a good battalion, but there was one blot, and that was in collective firing. He could not understand how it was that while

a good average could be obtained in individual firing, when they came to collective firing it was not so good. He looked for an improvement in this respect. At camp last year 87 per cent. of the battalion were present, which was a long way better than recorded by any other Battalion in the West Kent Brigade. Last year Col. Brock drew their attention particularly to recruiting, and he (Col. Moore) wanted more recruits. Oliver Twist was "not in it" with him in the matter of "wanting more." The battalion numbered just under 600, and last year they had only three non-efficients (applause).

Mr. Donaldson, who was cordially received, said that they were in the position of being volunteers in the defence of their country, and that carried with it a very great and difficult duty. When he was a boy the volunteers were always met with the question, "Who shot the dog?"—but things were different now, because people appreciated the value of the citizen-soldier. In the days of which he had spoken everything was new, and they had to learn the use of the weapon so as to be safe to their friends and dangerous to their enemies. He knew there was some difficulty in attracting suitable recruits, but he was sure there was enough patriotism in Woolwich for young men to shut their eyes to the difficulty and accept the dose which Col. Moore offered them. In thanking Mr. Donaldson, Col. Moore said that they were very grateful to him for his words, which showed that he was with them, and so perhaps recruits would come in.

An excellent musical programme was sustained by Messrs. Edgar Edwards, Walter Sweetman, Gus Valmore, Philip Ritte, Fred Austin, E. J. Wood, Fred Hastings, C. H. Mackenzie, Pte. Catling, and Mr. Mausell Stevens, who was an efficient accompanist. The battalion band, under Bandmaster A. Barber, played several selections in excellent style, and "The Retreat," sounded by the drums and fifes, directed by Sergeant-Drummer J. Stubbings, evoked loud applause.

Amid enthusiastic cheers Col. Moore pinned on the breast of Sergt.-Instructor Lee the Army long service and good conduct medal.

Royal Military College of Canada,
Kingston, Ont., May 17th, 1905.

DEAR SIR,

The enclosed cutting may be of interest to our "time expired" men. Probably the information furnished is already known, but as the recruiting for the proposed increase of the Permanent Corps is practically *nil*, and the men must be found, there is a good opening for men.

Yours truly,

E. HEWETT, Major.

Considerable difficulty is being experienced in obtaining sufficient men to fill out the complement desired in order to provide garrisons at Halifax and Esquimalt consequent upon the withdrawal of the Imperial troops to make room for those to be supplied at the instance of the Dominion Government. A variety of reasons conspire to produce this result, but possibly the one which looms most largely is the fact that wages in civic life are very much in excess of those which are offered for service in the permanent force. But Col. Buchan, the new district officer commanding, is of the opinion that, considering all the circumstances very satisfactory progress has been made. The recruiting sergeants, he says, have been all over the country, and have enrolled several hundred men of the first quality for the work which they will be called upon to perform. Of course, as he pointed out, the withdrawal of the men of the permanent force from London, Ont., Toronto, St. Johns, Que., and Fredericton, has necessitated their replacement by a similar comple-

ment, and besides, the country is called upon to provide an extra battalion of infantry to garrison Halifax. At the present time, when wages in civic life are so good, it will be seen that this is no small drain upon the male population, and this circumstance, as has been indicated, must account for the difficulties with which the recruiting sergeants have thus far been confronted.

"The recruiting sergeants," said Col. Buchan, "have gone through the country and have picked up a number of very desirable recruits in order to fill up the complement required for the increase in the establishment of the permanent force, consequent upon the garrisoning of Halifax and Esquimalt by the Canadian Government. The only difficulty that has been experienced thus far is the fact that the pay offered is not quite commensurate with the scale of pay which obtains in civil life at the present time. Notwithstanding that handicap, several hundred recruits of the very best order physically have been obtained. And it must be remembered in this connection that the medical examination to which these men are subjected is a very severe one, which constitutes another reason why the recruiting of the regiments in question may not have progressed as satisfactorily as some of us could have wished. The standard of height, chest measurement and general fitness is very high. Aside from these considerations, also, is the fact that the men are required to have some technical knowledge of military affairs. When all these points are taken into consideration it must appear obvious that the required complement of men will not be forthcoming ere the first of July. In the meantime the Government will employ brave and time expired men who have already the qualifications that are necessary."

While upon this subject it is interesting to observe that the papers in Great Britain are devoting considerable space to the present departure by the Dominion Government, and not a few of them are urging upon the young men at home who are out of employment or desirous of making a start in life on their own account, the desirability of coming to Canada as members of the new permanent force. One instance of this class of exhortation will suffice.

"Now that the Canadian Government," says the *London Standard*, "has taken over the defence of Halifax and Esquimalt, an increase in its regular military forces has become necessary, and particularly so in the case of the Royal Canadian Garrison Regiment."

"The demand for recruits to a Colonial service offers an exceptional opportunity to healthy young Englishmen, with a piece of adventure in their patriotism, and some desire for the freedom of a Colonial life."

"Apart from anything else, and even if not looked upon at all in the light of a career, it affords a remarkably good chance of settling permanently in a magnificent Colony, with none of the usual risk of hard times or lack of suitable occupation for the new comer."

"And the chances for would-be settlers is as open to retired British soldiers as it is to civilians."

The following conditions of enlistment, says the *Standard*, will show that this is a tempting service:—

Those wishing to enlist must be British subjects, between the years 18 and 45. They must pass the doctor as being physically fit for service. They should write to the Adjutant, Royal Canadian Artillery, Citadel, Quebec. The enlistment is for a period of three years, and each recruit is supplied with three suits of uniform, shirts, underclothing, socks, boots, razor, brushes, etc., free, and a similar issue annually except regimental necessaries. The whole of his clothing should not cost him more than 12 dollars per year. The man who takes such care of his uniform as to make it last over the regulation time receives the full value of the articles in cash.

His pay commences at 15 dollars per month, with board and lodging, and increases to 23.25 a month, while a gunner, the only stoppage being two cents. per diem for washing. If he is fairly well educated, well conducted, and attentive to his duties, he may soon become a non-commissioned officer, when pay will run from 18 to 65 dollars per month, according to rank. The approaching increase in numerical strength of the force will necessarily facilitate rapid promotion.

There are also opportunities for other employment, such, for instance, as artificers, clerks, cooks, fatigue men, servants, grooms, waiters, and the like, which bring from 3 to 10 dollars a month extra, with various privileges. Musicians may join the band, which brings extra pay and privileges. They have free use of the library, reading-room and billiard room, gymnasium, and canteen. Connected with the corps are a fives court, cricket club, rifle association, football and hockey.

Two months each year are spent in camp for gun practice and training, during which the men receive extra pay. Any well-conducted man can obtain leave of absence for a month in the year. After 20 years' service a man may leave with a pension of from 32 cents. to 1 dollar per diem for life. If he leaves at the end of three years he gets 32 dollars, and at the end of six years 76 dollars cash, as deferred good-conduct pay.

COMPASSIONATE FUND.

Major R. C. Style, Commanding Depot, desires to acknowledge the receipt from Lieut.-Col. H. D. Armstrong of £2 for the Fund.

In Memoriam.

T.M. DIED MAY 23rd, 1905.

Comrades, a tear besides the new made grave
Here was a soldier, handsome, true and brave.
Fought his fight, his rest is nobly won,
Brother farewell! Thy day is early done.

Hushed is the voice 'twas ever good to hear
The last to blame, and aye the first to cheer
That kindly smile, that welcome presence fled
We mourn a life that's all untimely sped.

Sheathed is thy sword, good comrade and true friend
Straight was the way that thou didst love to wend
Noble thy bearing both in word and deed
Set in the paths—"where right and glory lead."

A.C.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of subscriptions from Messrs. H. Heath and J. Muddle, for 1905.

DEPOT CRICKET.

v. 1st BATT. THE WELSH REGIMENT.

On May 11th the Welsh came over from Gravesend, and beat us by 39 runs. Our opponents won the toss, and went in to the bowling of Ayres and Tapp, the former kept a good length, and came in a good deal from the off, and troubled all the batsmen, the score at lunch time being 61 for 6 wickets. On resuming Ayres captured 4 wickets for 12 runs, and the innings closed for 105, a very much smaller score than we had anticipated. We lost 3 wickets for 15 runs, before Captain Lister and Hewitt quickly added 25 runs, the latter was then hit in the face by a fast rising ball, and retired until the end of the innings, when he

was immediately bowled. Our innings closed for 67, Ayres marring his good bowling by foolishly running out two men. The return is on May 29th, at the Bat and Ball Ground, Gravesend, when we shall probably have some leather hunting. Score and Analysis :—

1st WELSH REGIMENT.

A. Hunter Jones, b Tapp	...	...	...	2
Corpl. Hewitt, b Ayres	...	...	...	0
Capt. F. A. Jones, c Hewitt b Tuff	...	...	...	22
Corpl. Ridwood, b Ayres	...	...	...	23
Pte. Church, b Lowe	...	...	...	0
Capt. C. Berkeley, lbw b Ayres	...	...	...	8
Sergt. Smith, b Ayres	...	...	...	0
Capt. L. Herbert, c Hewitt b Ayres	...	...	...	12
Pte. Moulding, c Gilburd b Ayres...	...	...	...	12
Pte. Bevis, not out	...	...	...	13
Pte. White, b Lowe...	...	...	...	3
Byes 8, Leg Byes 1, Wide 1	...	...	...	10

105

DEPOT.

Sergt. McGregor, b Hewitt	...	...	...	3
Clr.-Sergt. Bass, c Smith b Bevis	...	...	...	4
Lieut. A. S. Hewitt, b Church	...	...	...	20
Clr.-Sergt. Neighbour, c and b Hewitt	...	...	...	3
Capt. Lister, b Church	...	...	...	6
Pte. Bingley, run out	...	...	...	3
2nd-Lieut. Tuff, lbw b Hewitt	...	...	...	1
Q.M.S. Gilburd, run out	...	...	...	8
Clr.-Sergt. Tapp, c Herbert b Church	...	...	...	3
Pte. Ayres, not out...	...	...	...	8
Pte. Lowe, run out...	...	...	...	1
Byes	...	...	...	7

67

BOWLING

	Overs.	Runs.	Wickets.
Pte. Ayres	18	38	6
Clr.-Sergt. Tapp	12	30	1
2nd-Lieut. Tuff	12	25	1
Pte. Lowe	2	2	2

DEPOT v. SPRINGFIELD MILL.

Played at the Depot on May 20th. Result, Depot won by eight wickets. Scores : Springfield Mill, 1st innings, 31; 2nd innings, 32. Depot, 1st innings, 43; 2nd innings, 26 for two wickets.

DEPOT.

Clr.-Sergt. Bass, b Hider	...	0	b Martin	...	10
Pte. Bingley, c and b Aiston	...	1	b Hider	...	0
Clr.-Sergt. Neighbour, c and b Hider	...	2	not out	...	7
Sergt. McGregor, c Aiston b Hider	...	2	not out	...	4
Capt. Lister, b Hider	...	4			
C. T. Tuff, lbw b Hider	...	0			
Corpl. McNamara, b Hider	...	0			
Clr.-Sergt. Tapp, not out	...	21			
Sergt. Bellion, b Hider	...	0			
Pte. Ayres, b Aiston	...	0			
Pte. Lowe, b Hider	...	1			
Extras	...	9	Extras	...	5
		43			26

Pte. Ayres took 3 wickets for 13 runs.
Clr.-Sergt. Tapp took 6 wickets for 16 runs.
Pte. Bingley took 6 wickets for 9 runs.
Corpl. McNamara took 2 wickets for 8 runs.

Owing to pressure on space the remaining matches are held over, the results being to date : 6 played, won 1, lost 4, drawn 1. In only the two matches against the Welsh Regt. has the Depot been fully represented. The prospect is even darker now as half the regular team belong to the Militia Permanent Staff, and leave to-day (June 5th) for the training. The batting has been very feeble, the only averages of double figures being Lieut. Hewitt 20, and Clr.-Sergt. Bass 13. In bowling Ayres has taken 28 wickets for 266 runs, average 9.5; other averages being Clr.-Sergt. Tapp 14 wickets for 11.5 runs, Lieut. Tuff 11 wickets for 14.3 runs each.

SERGEANTS' SHOOTING CLUB.

The members of the Shooting Club have been hard at it, both in practice and competition. We have already given our readers an additional page at extra expense, and therefore hold over further details for want of space.

BIRTH.

At Maidstone, on 10th March, the wife of Col.-Sergt. A. Tapp, P.S., 3rd Battalion, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

At the Parish Church, East Malling, on 1st April, 1905, Drummer J. Driscoll, P.S., 3rd Battalion to Miss L. G. Roberts.

At St. Paul's, Maidstone, on 29th April, 1905, Sergeant C. Stringer to Ellen Haylett.

DEATHS.

At Malta, on 27th March, 1905, Private E. Gazzard, 1st Battalion.

At Malta, on 26th March, 1905, Private J. Boylett, 1st Battalion.

At Hong Kong, on 12th February, 1905, Private F. Hicks, 2nd Battalion.

At Malta, on 2nd March, 1905, Private J. Smith (No. 6,716), 1st Battalion.

At Malta, on 21st March, 1905, the wife of Drummer C. Jeffery, 1st Battalion.

At Malta, on 24th March, 1905, Bandsman W. Roffe, 1st Battalion.

At Blackheath, on 23rd May, Major T. Marchant, 2nd Vol. Battalion in his 37th year.

THE TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS :—

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

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

Copies will be sold at 1d. per Number to Non-Commissioned Officers and Men serving or who have served as such. If sent by post 1s. 6d. per year.

Extra Copies or back numbers can always be supplied.

The price of back numbers will be as follows : To N.C.O.'s and Men, 1d. ; to all other Subscribers, 2½d. (Postage ½d. extra).

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

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

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS

OF

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

No. 361.

MAIDSTONE, JULY, 1905.

[Vol. XXIV, No. 7.

SERGEANTS' ASSOCIATION (ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT).

Minutes of a committee meeting held at Maidstone on Saturday, June 3rd, 1905. Present: Sergt.-Major Outten, Sergt.-Major Grellier, Pensioners Mr. Locks, Mr. W. Brown, Mr. Ball, Clr.-Sergt. Upton (1st V.B.), Clr.-Sergt. Instructor Cooke (2nd V.B.), S. S. Prately (3rd V.B.), Qr.-Mr.-Sergt. F. Smith (4th V.B.), Qr.-Mr.-Sergt. Gilburd, Depot.

1.—The minutes of the last meeting having been read, it was proposed by Q.M.S. Smith (4th V.B.) and seconded by S. S. Prately, that the minutes of the last meeting as read be confirmed. Carried unanimously.

2.—The Auditors' report on the accounts having been read, it was proposed by Mr. W. Locks and seconded by Mr. Ball that the Auditors' report be accepted and that the accounts as read by the Hon. Sec. be passed, and balance sheet of same be sent to every member through the Q.O.G. Carried unanimously.

3.—Proposed by Sergt.-Major Outten and seconded by Q.M.S. Smith, that a vote of thanks be given to Sergt.-Major Audsley and his sub-committee and Mr. Paine for the able manner in which the arrangements of the annual dinner were carried out. Carried unanimously.

4.—Proposed by Mr. W. Brown and seconded by Mr. Locks that the sum of £1 be offered to the widows of deceased members of the Association, and in future, if funds permit, that the Secretary be empowered to forward this amount upon the notification of the death of a member. Carried unanimously.

5.—It was proposed by Q.M.S. Smith and seconded by Mr. Ball, that a hearty vote of thanks be granted to Sergt.-Major Grellier for his services as Hon. Sec. of the Association. Carried unanimously.

6.—It was proposed by Mr. W. Locks and seconded by Sergt.-Instructor Cooke, that the next annual dinner be held with the 1st Battalion, if they are home and stationed in the county, if not, that it be held at the Drill Hall of the 4th V.B. Royal West Kent Regiment at Chatham, about March, 1906. Carried unanimously.

B. H. GRELLIER, Sergt.-Major,
Hon. Sec. Sergeants' Association, R.W.K. Regt.

Maidstone,

13th May, 1905.

In presenting the statement of accounts and balance sheet for 1905, the Hon. Secretary wishes to thank in these columns, many old comrades for their kind wishes and remembrances, as he has been unable to answer all their letters personally. The number of members on the books amounts to 364. It is with regret that he has to mention the decease of Clr.-Sergt.-Instructor E. Pike (2nd V.B.) and Mr. W. Neighbour, ex-Clr.-Sergt. of the Royal West Kent Regiment.

THE ASSOCIATION OF SERGEANTS THE "QUEEN'S OWN"
(ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT).

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS UP TO 13th MAY, 1905.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Cash on hand, June, 1904	13 2 2	By grant to Band, 1904	
By Subscriptions, 1904	3 19 0	dinner	1 0 0
„ Ditto 1905	10 6 0	Postage	2 18 6½
„ Entrance Fees	3 12 0	„ Printing and "Queen's Own Gazettes"	3 8 6
„ Sale of Tickets for Dinner, 1905	19 5 0	„ Messrs. Fairbrothers for dinner, 1905	18 16 0
Donation from Major-Gen. Leach, C.B.	2 0 0	„ Pianist and Music	0 10 2
		„ Police and Waiters	1 2 6
		„ Guests and Band, Refreshments, etc.	1 7 0
		„ Decorations	0 11 9
		„ Hon. Sec.'s expenses—Stationery, etc., for year	0 15 0½
		„ Balance Credit	21 14 8
Total	£52 4 2	Total	£52 4 2

BALANCE SHEET, 1901-5,

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
By Cash in Bank	19 15 0	By Subscriptions paid in advance	0 16 0
Petty Cash in Treasurer's hands	1 19 8	Total Assets of Association (not including Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum, not due till September, 1905)	28 19 8½
Petty Cash in Secretary's hands	0 3 0½		
Due for Subscriptions for 1905	7 18 0		
Out-standing Subscriptions for 1904	nil		
Total	£29 15 8½	Total	£29 15 8½

B. H. GRELLIER, Sergt.-Major,
Hon. Sec. Sergeants' Association, R.W.K. Regt.

Maidstone,
13th May, 1905.

Certified that I have examined the accounts and vouchers, and find them correct.

1st June, 1905.

W. R. GILBURD, Q.M. Sergt.
Auditor.

The following extract from a recent issue of a London paper may prove of interest to the readers of "The Queen's Own Gazette."

C. MITCHELL, Sergt.-Major,
2nd Royal West Kent Regt.

Hong Kong,
14th April, 1905.

CURIOUS CRIMEAN SOUVENIR.

In an East End auction room there was sold yesterday a cloth draught "board," the squares consisting of pieces of the red British uniform and the Russian grey garment.

An attached parchment label stated that it was the work of a private soldier of the 97th Regiment, in Balaclava Camp, 1855.

REGIMENTAL DINNER.

The Regimental Dinner of the line Battalion took place at the Grand Hotel, London, on the 20th June, when there was a good gathering of old and present officers, numbering in all 42. Some six or seven officers were at the last moment unavoidably prevented from being present, and among them Maj.-Gen. Leach, C.B. Everyone connected with the Dinner and with the Regiment will unite in regretting the absence of our Colonel, caused as it was by the death of his brother in Wales.

Those who attended this year's dinner appeared to think that a wise step had been taken by the Committee in returning to the Grand Hotel.

The following officers attended the dinner:—

Br.-Gen. Alderson, C.B. A.D.C.	Capt. C. Bonham Carter
Col. W. H. Bayly	Capt. E. L. A. Heygate
Col. T. H. Brock	Capt. J. H. Kennedy
Col. E. A. Grove, C.B.	Capt. C. Kitson
Col. C. E. Harrison	Capt. G. F. H. Keenlyside
Col. F. F. Johnson, C.B.	Capt. J. Lees
Lt.-Col. H. D. Armstrong	Capt. G. D. Lister
Lt.-Col. J. P. Dalison	Capt. Nunn, D.S.O.
Lt.-Col. C. R. King	Capt. J. W. O'Dowda
Lt.-Col. G. W. Maunsell	Capt. O. B. Simpson
Lt.-Col. J. H. Vandermeulen	Lieut. F. Fisher
Major O. J. Daniell	Lieut. Herle
Major H. Isacke	Lieut. O. Y. Hibbert
Major R. J. Roche	Lieut. A. S. Hewitt
Major R. C. Style	Lieut. A. Knox
Major J. G. Smith	Lieut. J. C. Parker
Capt. W. H. Annesley	Lieut. H. A. Waring
Capt. T. T. Burt	Lieut. Lynch White
Capt. F. W. Burbury	Mr. E. J. Hudson
Capt. M. P. Buckle, D.S.O.	Mr. A. Streatfield Moore
Capt. A. Montgomery Campbell	Mr. J. P. Forestier Walker

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Floriana, Malta,
June 19th, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,

I am sending you a large budget this month from my different "reporters." The chief event during the last month has been the Army and Navy Rifle Meeting, in which the Battalion acquitted itself notably, winning one Cup outright, a handsome Challenge Cup, and several individual prizes.

Lieut. Lugard has gone home on sick leave, and Captain Grant passed through on his way from Hong Kong for leave in England up till 3rd August. We all offer our most hearty congratulations to Captain Annesley on his marriage.

Your 1st Battalion Correspondent.

Floriana, Valletta,
June 14th, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Up to the present news has been again very scarce, in fact I have had to hunt for it.

Now the hot weather has set in we do very little after breakfast, unless it is a "struck off" day. It is a sight to see the men round the notice board the night before we are struck off, and hear the remarks, especially if a Marsa movement is included. Last time we had a most enjoyable "struck off," under Capt. Molony. About 8.30 a.m., with B Company, we marched to the Marsa, and after a little rest we commenced operations, Captain Molony giving us a lecture on what we had done at the close.

These little movements are very useful and interesting, besides breaking the monotony of the barrack square every day.

We have been going rather strong at Cricket lately, as these few notes will show you. The hot weather is now in full force, which makes one feel awfully lazy, and not inclined to turn out to practice. What a boon it would be if we had only a nice green English field, with large spreading oaks and elms, instead of the terrible eye-aching square! Never mind, we make the best of what we have got, until we reach the good old shores once more. On the 16th we played B Company, and it proved a very enjoyable game, though we were unfortunate enough to lose by the small total of nine runs. In this match Pte. Dickenson played very well, and should be encouraged to take an interest in the game; his hits included five fours and two threes.

Pte. Wilkins is getting quite a professional at wicket keeping, in fact, if we could only get at the recreation money we would send him to Lords!! Sargeant and Wilding were "dead off" bowling in this match. Their excuse was that the spotted dog which they had had for dinner had caused them to bowl crooked (rather rough on the Cook, anyhow).

On the 1st June we played the Signallers, they assuming the *non de plume* of "The Australians." This game I hardly like to send you, having lost by just a century.

I think great praise should be given to Pte. Sargent, whose untiring energy, with regard to cricket, keeps our Company up to the mark. It is no easy matter going round the Company trying to get the men to turn out this weather, the afternoon siesta no doubt being a terrible magnet. Our Company ought to pay more attention to the fielding, several catches being missed when Colvin, of the Signallers, was batting. One individual who we rarely see on the field, and who should have been intently watching the ball, seemed to be practising the deportment in carrying the plate in Church for the following Sunday. The only man who made a stand was Parr, who played a steady game, making 30 not out.

Colvin and Holmes played well for the Signallers.

Our next match was against C Company Hants. Regt. I am glad to say we won by the good number of 76 runs. Hooper and Dufoy played very well, the former making 31, and Dufoy 13. Parr also played a good game, making 10 not out.

Swimming has started in full force, any evening one may take a walk down to the water's edge, and find a good number of men indulging in their favourite pastime.

Our Company's boat has been thoroughly overhauled, and looks worthy of the Company she belongs to; perhaps shortly I shall have a boat race to tell you about.

The annual Rifle Meeting has just taken place at Pembroke Camp, in which all Soldiers and Sailors on the Island took part. Several N.C.O.'s and Men of the Company entered in some of the events.

The recruits leave here on the 18th for Pembroke to fire their course. Corpl. Cockle is taking charge of the few men from our Company. By the way, I give them this little ditty to learn, and sing, whilst at the firing point:—

I shot some bullets into the air,
They went to ground, I know not where,
For only miss-flags met my sight,
Instead of discs of black and white.

I shot some bullets into the air,
Whether I bobbed I cannot swear;
Whether my aiming was too long
I know not, but they all went wrong.

But afterwards my Captain spoke:—
"I find your record still unbroke,
Table B, from beginning to end
You will shoot over again, my friend."

We have been very unfortunate as regards officers, Mr. Legard being still on the sick list, and going home to-day on sick leave. Mr. Fisher on leave, and Capt. Dunlop on sick leave, so you see we have been very badly off in that respect. We all hope that the sick officers will soon be on the road to convalescence, and soon be with us again. Capt. Moloney has taken charge of us pro tem, giving the N.C.O.'s now and again some very interesting lectures, in which several of the Japanese clever moves have been discussed.

The Company also have had a very pleasant diversion from the monotony of drill in practicable bridging. Any casual visitor to the barracks might wonder at the pile of scaffolding outside the guard room, but if he was only to see it carried away by the men, and in a short space of time transformed into a single lock bridge, he would be still further surprised.

I regret to report that Lee.-Corpl. Bishop and Pte. Clayton, who have been seriously ill with fever, are still in hospital. We all hope they will soon be on the road to recovery and good health again.

This morning I hear that the Clr.-Sergt. has become the father of a son and heir. We offer our hearty congratulations to Clr.-Sergt. Davis on this event.

Sergt. Walker has been transferred to the Company on promotion.

ENGLISH (?) IN THE ARMY.

Whilst waiting outside the Orderly Room the other morning, before going to work, I overheard the following, which rather amused me:—

Sick Corporal (coming up to the Orderly Room): "Will you please give me the Medical Mystery Sheet of No.— Private——."

Corporal K——: "Yes, certainly, what's the matter with him?"

Sick Corporal: "He's been admitted to the Hospital with Clerical Veins!"

A Company's Correspondent.

C COMPANY.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Having only just found out that I am the Company's correspondent, I suppose some account must be rendered of our doings during the last month.

The most important news worth recording is the victories gained in cricket, perhaps somewhat unusual, but nevertheless true. Our first match was with B Company, whom we defeated by 43 runs, Pte. Kirton with 48, Pryer 25, and Mathers 23, being mainly responsible for our score, and Pryer and O'Shea, who took six and three wickets respectively for B Company's wickets. Our next three matches with F and A Companies were also victories, the former being gained by the margin of one run. I have now to record the only two losses of the season up to the present time, being beaten twice by the Signallers, who, however, before challenging us, took great care in sending out scouts to make sure that most of our team were on duty. Still, it is of no use making excuses, as we mean to beat them before the end of the season. (I hear the Signallers have already sent you a glowing account of their triumphs). The Army Ordnance Corps were easy victims to us last Saturday, when they were beaten by 66 runs, mainly due to the good bowling of Mathers.

In concluding the notes on cricket, I must say our prospects for the season are very bright, as there seem to be many rising "Ranji's" in the Company. The fielding up to the present has been rather slack, and more attention must be paid to this important (though not always recognised as such) part of the game if we wish to follow up our successes.

At the Malta Rifle Meeting, held on Pembroke Ranges at the end of last month, we were glad to see Sergt. Reeves firing so well, his principal scores being 32 at 500 for Mediterranean Sweepstake, 32 at 600 for Sergeants and Petty Officers, 34 at 500 for Mediterranean Sweepstake, for each of which he took prizes, the last one being a first. Sergt. Brown also fired well in the team competition for Simmonds' Cup, making a possible at 500 yards.

C Company's Correspondent.

Later.

I have just heard of the Company's great victory in cricket over the Signallers, particulars of which you shall have for the next issue.

D COMPANY.

Dear Mr. Editor,

I have some news to send you this month as we have played several cricket matches with varying success, and have also had our Company Rifle Meeting.

To begin with the cricket. On May 25th we played B Company and lost by 81 runs. On May 29th we again lost,

as F Company gave us a bad knock, beating us by 118 runs, chiefly owing to a fine innings of 116 by Pte. Pinder. On June 6th we had an exciting match with G Company, the result being a tie, each side scoring 77; Sergt. Wood bowled well for us, taking 6 wickets for 13 runs. On June 12th we took our revenge on B Company, beating them by 33; Pte. Stacey 27, and Pte. Gladman 16, played well for us. I hope to be able to tell you of some more wins next month, as we are playing several matches against different Companies of other Regiments.

On June 8th the members of the Company Rifle Club had a meeting at Pembroke. The men were divided into three different classes according to the scores they made in their last annual course. Prizes were given in each class for the best scores at 200, 500 and 600 yards, also prizes in each class for the best aggregate at the three ranges. In Class 1 Sergt. Saunders, Sergt. Wood, Ptes. Robinson, Bartter, Lce.-Sergt. Martle and Lce.-Corpl. Driscoll were the chief prize-winners; in Class 2 Ptes. O'Brien, Ranger, Gladman and Barley were the most conspicuous, while in Class 3, who were somewhat unsympathetically called the "Crocks," or "Infants," Ptes. Bailey, Boniface and 7613 Stacey were the best. The highest aggregate in each class was made by the first mentioned in each case. There was also another competition in which you had to run 100 yards and fire 7 rounds independent, kneeling at 200 yards in 65 seconds. Pte. Cheeseman was top scorer with the good score of 25 out of 28 (I heard some murmurs about flukes), the next being Pte. Whiddett with 24. This was a most successful practice and much amusement was afforded, especially to the O.C. Company, by the sight of the most sedate N.C.O.'s and men running like hares over 100 yards of very rocky ground. When this practice was first proposed, four minutes was suggested as a reasonable time limit, but then some people haven't an idea how fast they can run! All credit is due to Qr.-Mr.-Sergt. Cover and Sergt. Saunders who worked very hard to make the meeting a success, especially to the former who organised a Pool Target with 1d. tickets at each range for which 150 tickets were taken. Thanks are also due to Corpl. Dixon, who volunteered his services in the butts. The total money distributed in prizes was £11, three-quarters of those who took part going away with something.

The bathing season has commenced and we soon hope to have a Water Polo team who will perform as well if not better than last year.

Yours,

D Company Correspondent.

E COMPANY.

Floriana,
June 15th, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,

My news this month consists mostly of cricket, which is now in full swing. I think at the beginning of the season I stated there was little or no interest taken in cricket; I am glad to find I was greatly in error, for nearly every day company matches may be seen taking place on the square, each striving hard to win, and our Company has done very well up to the present, as out of five games played we have won four and drawn one.

On May 19th we paid E, 2nd Hants. Regiment a visit at Verdala, and had a most enjoyable game, which, after very little scoring on either side, resulted in a draw in favour of the Hants. At the conclusion of the first innings we adjourned to partake of a most excellent tea, to which all did great justice. Great praise is due to Col.-Sergt. Peggell, Hants. Regiment, for the able way in which he carried out all arrangements for the match. The scores were: E Company, 2nd Hants. Regiment, 45 and 55; E Company, 39.

On 24th May we played F Company, R.W.K. Regt., and won by 105 runs, E Company 183, F Company 78. For F Company, Ptes. Colvin (24) and Davey (20) batted well, and for the winners Lce.-Corpl. Reeves (40), Ptes. Long (45), Goss (32 not out) and Dinwoody (25) did well with the bat and Corpl. Lambe bowled well, taking seven wickets for 39 runs.

On 1st June we met B Company, the game ending in a win for E by 23 runs, E Company 101, B Company 78. Lce.-Corpl. Lander (30) and Corpl. Lambe (31) were top scorers for E. Pte. Laurence (36) batted, and Pte. Hunter bowled well for B.

On the 8th June we played C Company, the game resulting in a win for us by 163 runs, E Company 239, C Company 70. Lce.-Corpls. Reeves (41) and Lander (76) batted exceptionally well for E, and Pte. Long bowled with great effect, taking six wickets for 32 runs. Pte. Pryer was most prominent among our opponents, taking six wickets for 32 runs.

Having an outstanding challenge against D Company, we turned out to meet them on the 13th June, when E Company won by eight wickets and 121 runs, E Company 187 (for two wickets), D Company 66. For E Company Corpl. Lambe (100 not out), Lce.-Corpl. Lander (39) and Pte. Long (33) batted in good style. Corpl. Lambe also bowled well for E, taking seven wickets for 33. Pte. Bodkin, with 20, was top scorer for D Company.

On Whit-Monday a few members of the Battalion were enabled, by the kindness of the Commanding Officer, to spend the day in a manner more usually seen in England than in Malta. We started in brakes at 8.30 a.m. from Floriana Police Station—but I do not want your readers to imagine for one instant that we finished our day at the same place—and drove to Musta, where we all alighted to inspect the dome and also for refreshments. After a rest of half-an-hour we re-entered the brakes and proceeded on our way, reaching St. Paul's Bay, our destination, about 12 mid-day. Whilst awaiting dinner one of the party commandeered a donkey for the purpose of equestrian exercise, when to our surprise a second member appeared, riding another ass. Of course, races were immediately organised. In the first heat for the "Malta Derby" Pte. Chalk beat Corpl. Gurr by a short head. In the second, Pte. Donovan v. Pte. McCarthy, the former won easily, for, as the spectators were loudly cheering, McCarthy's steed seemed to think the applause was for him, and suddenly stopped to bow his thanks, and McCarthy, well, we picked him up, no! not mangled or bleeding, but rather dusty. In the final Pte. Chalk beat Donovan, winning on a foul. Everybody responded with alacrity when dinner was announced and all did great justice to the good things provided. After dinner the room was cleared and we held a small sing-song, the particulars of

which I am afraid would take up rather too much space to be inserted. At six p.m. we again mounted the brakes for home, arriving again in barracks about eight p.m., after having spent one of the most enjoyable days it is possible to have in this beautiful (?) island. We all hope that this is only the first of many more pleasant outings of the same kind.

We are now going to start training in earnest for the boat races. What our prospects are, it is impossible to say for the present.

E Company's Correspondent.

SHOOTING MATCH.

THE 4th VOL. BATT. SHOOTING CLUB v. SERGEANTS' SHOOTING CLUB, DEPOT.

The above match took place at Boxley Range on Thursday, the 11th May, in fine weather, but with the usual contrary wind customary to this range. The match was a most pleasant one, not only for the shooting, but for the social intercourse of Volunteers with the territorial. Lce.-Sergt. Gibson, of the 4th V.B. team, made a most brilliant score, viz., at 200 yards, 32; 500 yards, 35; 600 yards 34; making a grand total of 101 out of a possible 105. This was made more remarkable in the fact that Lce.-Sergt. Gibson had only shot at this range on one other occasion. Both teams heartily applauded and congratulated him upon such a performance of marksmanship. The match was close and ended in a win for the 4th Vol. Batt. Shooting Club, the scores being as under. The teams consisted of ten a side, eight to count.

4th V.B. SHOOTING CLUB. SERGEANTS OF THE DEPOT.			
Lce.-Sergt. Gibson	101	Col.-Sergt. Osborne	86
Pte. Buddery	83	Sergt. Major Outten	84
Arm.-Sergt. Middlemiss	82	Cr.S.I. Evenden	84
Sergt.-Inst. Byrne	82	Sergt. Dugay	84
Corpl. Felmingham	81	Sergt.-Major Grellier	81
Col.-Sergt. Coombes	81	Sergt. Hyde	78
Sergt. W. Brown	77	Col.-Sergt. Wimhurst	77
Corpl. Street	74	Sergt. Branson	76
	661		650
Sergt. Boys	72	aSergt. Davis	73
Q.M.S. Smith	67	aSergt. Selves	69
Total	800		792

a Counted out.

a Counted out.

After the match the teams journeyed to the Running Horse, Sandling, where the home team had arranged a capital tea, which was very much appreciated by all. The captain of the home team (Sergt.-Major Outten) congratulated the captain of the visiting team (Q.M.S. Smith) upon the success of his team, and especially upon having such a man as Lce.-Sergt. Gibson, who had made such a remarkable shoot, and he was pleased his team had been able to have a match with the 4th Vol. Batt. Shooting Club, and would look forward to a return match with much pleasure.

Q.M.S. Smith thanked Sergt.-Major Outten and his team for their many kindnesses that afternoon, and said that he was proud to be captain of the 4th Vol. Batt. Shooting Club team, more especially as it was their first win in a match, and he hoped that he would be able to arrange a return match at Milton.

The following are the scores of teams which met at Boxley, on 25th May, when the Depot overcame their comrades of the 1st Vol. Battalion:

DEPOT.				Total.
Sergt. Dugay	29	31	22	82
Clr.-Sergt. Osborne	32	31	26	89
Clr.-Sergt. Evenden	32	30	22	84
Sergt.-Maj. Grellier	31	25	23	79
Sergt.-Maj. Outten	31	32	28	91
Clr.-Sergt. Bass	27	29	25	81
Clr.-Sergt. Wood	32	30	26	88
Sergt. Hyde	32	24	29	85
Clr.-Sergt. Wimhurst	31	29	29	89
Sergt. Selves	33	27	26	86
				854

Counted out—Clr.-Sergt. Ailwood 74; Sergt. Pond 72.

VOLUNTEERS.				Total.
Sergt. Lockyer, H.	29	30	20	79
Sergt. Upton	30	28	23	81
Sergt. Avery	27	28	21	76
Sergt. Hillier	25	31	24	80
Sergt. Meades, W.	26	26	18	70
Sergt. Quinton	24	32	17	73
Sergt. Welsh	32	33	25	90
Corpl. Lockyer, H.	32	33	30	95
Lce.-Cpl. Murrels	32	27	23	82
Lce.-Cpl. Murrels, C. ...	27	31	22	80
				806

Counted out—Sergt. F. Meades 67; Clr.-Sergt. Cogger 59.

MALTA RIFLE MEETING.

Dear Mr. Editor,

I have great pleasure in forwarding you an account of the doings of the Battalion in the Malta Naval and Military Rifle Meeting, which commenced on the 25th May, and concluded on Thursday, 1st June.

The entries for the Individual Competitions were good, and the Battalion was well represented in all the team competitions.

The following were the five principal individual competitions which the men of the battalion entered for:—

Number.	Competition.	Conditions.	No. of Entries.
1	Soldiers and Seamen	Open to all R & F except young soldiers firing in young soldiers competition.	66
2	Sergeants and Petty Officers.	Open to W.O's, S. Sergts., Sergts., Chief, and First Class P. Officers.	22
3	Young Soldiers and Seamen.	Those who had not fired more than one trained soldier's course.	65
4	All comers.	Limited to two post entries.	
5	Mediterranean Sweepstake.	Limited to one entry in the morning, & one in afternoon.	

In each of these competitions the shooting was done at 200, 500, and 600 yards; Bisley targets and marking; one sighting shot compulsory at each distance. The following were the prize winners at 200 yards:—

No. of Competition.	Rank and Name.	Company.	Score.	£	s.	d.
1	Pte. Dickson, E.	E	34	2	10	0
1	Pte. Stuart, J.	E	31	0	10	0
1	Pte. Canty, A.	H	31	0	10	0
1	Pte. Jones, A.	E	30	0	7	6
1	Lce.-Corpl. Press, G.	F	30	0	7	6
1	Corpl. Maslin, H.	G	29	0	5	0
1	Lce.-Corpl. Lander, F.	E	29	0	5	0
1	Pte. Chapman, A.	G	28	0	5	0
2	Clr.-Sgt. I. M. Dark, R.	E	31	0	5	0
3	Pte. Moore, W.	D	28	0	2	6
4	Nil					
5	Sergt. Reeves, S.	C	32	0	5	0

Prize winners at 500 yards:—

No. of Competition.	Rank and Name.	Company.	Score.	£	s.	d.
1	Pte. Stuart, J.	E	32	0	10	0
1	Pte. Chapman, A.	G	29	0	5	0
1	Pte. Jones, A.	E	29	0	5	0
1	Lce.-Corpl. Taylor, H.	B	29	0	5	0
1	Pte. Kerridge, J.	F	29	0	5	0
1	Lce.-Corpl. Press, G.	F	29	0	5	0
2	Clr.-Sgt. I. M. Dark, R.	E	33	0	10	0
2	Sergt. Firman, A.	F	32	0	5	0
3	Pte. Bloomfield, J.	G	32	1	10	0
3	Lce.-Corpl. Sheppard, J.	A	29	0	5	0
3	Pte. Rogers, W.	B	29	0	5	0
3	Pte. Mercer, C.	A	28	0	2	6
4	Corpl. Cockle, W.	A	34	1	10	0
4	Pte. Jones, A.	E	33	0	5	0
5	Sergt. Reeves, S.	C	34	1	10	0
5	Corpl. Cockle, W.	A	31	0	5	0
5	Pte. McCarthy, J.	F	33	0	10	0

Prize winners at 600 yards:—

No. of Competition.	Rank and Name.	Company.	Score.	£	s.	d.
1	Corpl. Cockle, W.	A	27	0	10	0
1	Pte. Stuart, J.	E	27	0	7	6
1	Pte. Canty, A.	H	25	0	5	0
1	Pte. Chapman, A.	G	24	0	5	0
1	Lce.-Corpl. Taylor, H.	B	23	0	5	0
1	Pte. Ranger, H.	D	22	0	5	0
2	Sergt. Reeves, S.	C	32	1	5	0
2	Sergt. Moore, H.	B	30	0	7	6
2	Sergt. Wood, W.	D	29	0	5	0
3	Pte. Welch, R.	F	21	0	5	0
3	Lce.-Corpl. Rogers, O.	G	20	0	2	6
3	Pte. Bloomfield, J.	G	20	0	2	6
4	Pte. Stuart, J.	E	32	0	10	0
4	Corpl. Cockle, W.	A	32	0	10	0

THE MALTA CHAMPIONSHIP.

This competition was decided by firing ten shots at 800 yards, the score made being added to the aggregate already made in matches 1 and 2.

The competitors were 32 in number, and consisted of those who had made the highest aggregate score in matches already alluded to. Only one man of the Battalion (Pte. Stuart of E Company), was eligible to fire, he having made

an aggregate of 90 in a match, 1 at 200, 500, and 600 yards. He managed a score of 41, which, added to his previous 90, made a grand total of 131, which entitled him to a prize of 10s.

The winner of the above competition, besides holding the championship of Malta, receives a splendid silver cup presented by H.E. the Governor, a bronze medal from the N.R. Association, and £2 in cash. The lucky winner was Lieut. and Qr.-Mr. J. Holloway, Royal Dublin Fusiliers, with the fine score of 143.

THE JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP.

This competition is on similar lines to the Malta championship, except that it is only open to the best sixteen aggregate scores made in Match 3 (i.e.), young soldiers and seamen.

Only two of the battalion were eligible to fire in this competition, Lance-Corpl. Rogers and Private Bloomfield, both of G Company. The latter young soldier has, I venture to say, a very promising shooting career in front of him, if he takes all advantage of practice. He made an aggregate of 74 in Match 3, which would have been 84 had he not been unfortunate enough to get 2 bull's-eyes on the wrong target. This, added to 29 at 800 yards, gave him a total of 103, he thereby winning the third prize of £1.

Lance-Corpl. Rogers made an aggregate in Match 3 of 65 and 14 at 800 yards, making a total of 79. This score did not stand in for a prize. The winner of this competition, besides holding the Junior Championship, also holds the Challenge Cup presented by Lord Charles Beresford, and receives a cash prize of £2. Acting Corpl. Costin of the Rifle Brigade was the winner with the score of 131.

COMPETITION RANK AND FILE. 200 YARDS.

Open to all Rank and File who are not marksmen. Prize winners:—

Rank and Name.	Company.	Score.	£	s.	d.	No. of Entries.
Lce.-Corpl. Lander, F.	E	31	0	7	6	19
Pte. Somerville, A.	G	30	0	5	0	

MAGAZINE INDEPENDENT.

Seven rounds at 200 yards. 3rd class target exposed for twenty seconds. Position, any. Limited to two post entries. Prize winners:—

Rank and Name.	Company.	Score.	£	s.	d.
Sergt. Reeves, S.	C	25	0	7	6
Pte. Knight, W.	C	25	0	7	6
Pte. McCarthy, J.	F	25	0	7	6
Lance-Corpl. Taylor, H.	B	24	0	5	0
Pte. Stuart, J.	E	23	0	5	0

The following are the team competitions for which the Battalion entered, in which they took a place of any note.

SIMOND'S CUP. (SERGEANTS' MESSES).

Presented by Messrs. H. & G. Simonds, Ltd. Open to one team of eight members of Sergeants' Messes. The entries for this competition were eight, and the shooting done at 200 and 500 yards, seven rounds at each distance with a sighting shot, compulsory. The Rifle Brigade were the winners with a score of 505, Royal Engineers second with 481, our own team third with 478. The following is the score of the Battalion team:—

Rank and Name.	Cy.	S.S.	200 Yards.							Tl.	S.S.	500 Yards.							Grd. Tl.
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
St. Brown, W.	C	4	4	4	5	3	4	4	4	28	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	35	63
Sgt. Saunders, J.	D	3	5	5	4	5	3	5	4	31	3	4	5	5	4	5	4	5	32
Sgt. Dark, R.	E	4	5	4	4	5	5	4	5	32	5	4	5	5	4	4	4	5	31
Sgt. Reeves, S.	C	5	5	4	4	4	5	5	5	32	3	4	5	4	5	4	4	5	31
Sgt. Moore, H.	B	2	4	3	4	5	5	4	4	29	4	5	2	5	4	5	5	5	31
Sgt. Osborne, W.	F	2	4	5	4	4	2	4	4	27	3	5	5	3	4	4	5	4	30
Sgt. Wren, J.	C	4	4	5	4	5	4	4	4	30	4	2	2	4	3	4	5	5	25
Sgt. Page, W.	D	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	5	29	0	5	2	3	5	2	4	4	25
Total 238											Totals 240 478								

VOLLEY COMPETITION CHALLENGE CUP.

Teams of ten commanded by a sergeant. Time allowed, 45 secs.; rounds, 7; distance 800 yards; target 16 by 6; position, any military; method of conducting the practice, team in single rank with magazines charged. On the target appearing one volley is fired, remaining six rounds rapid independent, target disappears at the end of 45 seconds.

The Battalion team managed to secure first place in this competition with a score of 47, thereby winning the Challenge Cup, and a cup presented by Lipton, Limited, also the sum of £4. The following composed the team:—Commander, Sergt. J. Saunders, D Company, team, Corpl. W. Cockle, A Co., Lance-Corpl. G. Press, F Co., Lance-Corpl. H. Taylor, B Co., Lance-Corpl. J. Sheppard, A Co., Pte. W. Knight, C Co., Pte. J. McCarthy, F Co., Pte. A. Jones, E Co., Pte. J. Stuart, E Co., Pte. W. Robinson, D Co., Pte. A. Canty, H. Co.

THE ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS' PRIZE.

This competition was open to a team of one N.C.O. and six men from each Battalion and was as follows: Position any. Distance about 500 yards. Targets: Ten heads and shoulders so coloured as to be as invisible as possible, placed among rocks, each hit counting two points. Method: The Commander of the team was taken to the firing point (the team being thirty yards in rear, out of sight of the position) he was allowed sixty seconds to inspect the position of the targets through field glasses; sixty seconds to call up and explain the position to his men; and sixty seconds to fire. The method of firing, *i.e.*, volleys or independent, was left to the team commander. No of rounds, unlimited.

In this competition the team as below secured second place, the prize of which amounted to £3. The first prize was won by a team of the Battalion by whom the competition was originated. Team:—Commander, Sergt. W. Brown, C Company, Corpl. W. Cockle, A, Lce.-Corpl. G. Press, F, Pte. J. McCarthy, F, Pte. A. Jones, E, Pte. A. Canty, H, Pte. J. Bloomfield, G.

TILE COMPETITION (ARMY).

The above competition took place on the last day of the meeting. There was no restrictions as to the number of teams entering. Ten was the number of entries from the Battalion, and a team composed of G Company managed to come in for the second prize, which amounted to £6. The following composed the team:—Commander, Sergt. G. Harris: team—Lce.-Corpl. J. Davis, Lce.-Corpl. O. Rogers, Pte. G. Klein, Pte. R. Wood.

On the afternoon of the last day of the meeting, Thursday, June 1st, the first and special prizes were distributed. Owing to indisposition H.E., the Governor was unable to be present, and Admiral Sir Compton Domville presided. The band of the 1st Royal Dublin Fusiliers was in attendance.

Shortly before 5 o'clock, General Sir W. Kelly made the opening speech, after which Lady Mansfield Clarke proceeded to distribute the prizes to the various winners, many of whom were heartily cheered.

At the conclusion of the presentation, hearty cheers were given for Lady Mansfield Clarke. The meeting this year was very successful, one of the most noticeable features being the excellent shooting of the Rifle Brigade; also the exceptionally good score of Lieutenant and Quarter-Master Holloway, Royal Dublin Fusiliers, for the Governor's Cup and the Malta Championship.

BOXING NEWS.

On the 12th and 13th May, 1905, the Regimental Boxing Club held a meeting open to novices, *i.e.*, men who have never won any competition previously in the Regiment. By kind permission of the Superintendent of Gymnasia we were allowed to use the Valetta Gymnasium. The following is a list of the fights:—

BANTAM WEIGHT (8 stone and under).

First Round.—Pte. Hopkins, H, beat Pte. Slack, A; Pte. Bowell, D, beat Pte. Methwall, B; Pte. Andrews, G, a bye.

Second Round.—Pte. Hopkins, a bye; Pte. Andrews beat Pte. Bowell.

Final.—Pte. Andrews beat Pte. Hopkins.

Prizes, 30s. and 10s. Pte. Andrews won easily.

FEATHER WEIGHT (9 stone and under).

First Round.—Pte. Darley, D, beat Pte. Hill, B; Pte. Wilkins, G, beat Pte. Adams, G; Pte. Roberts, H, beat Pte. Young, H; Pte. Sullivan, E, beat Pte. Baxter, D; Dr. Knight, C, a bye.

Second Round.—Pte. Darley, a bye; Pte. Wilkins beat Pte. Roberts; Dr. Knight beat Pte. Sullivan; Pte. Darley beat Dr. Knight; Pte. Wilkins, a bye.

Final.—Pte. Darley beat Pte. Wilkins.

Prizes, £3 and £1. There were some very good fights in this weight. Pte. Wilkins, although the favourite, being beaten by Pte. Darley, who showed great coolness and larger knowledge of ringcraft.

LIGHT WEIGHTS (10 stone and under).

First Round.—Corpl. Saward, E, beat Pte. Sullivan, E; Pte. Payne, B, beat Pte. Murphy, H; Pte. Wrench, G, beat Pte. Arvis, G; Pte. Ellis, H, beat Pte. Atkins, H; Pte. Arundel, H, beat Pte. Page, G.

Second Round.—Corpl. Saward beat Pte. Payne; Pte. Wrench beat Pte. Ellis; Pte. Arundel a bye.

Third Round.—Corpl. Saward beat Pte. Arundel; Pte. Wrench a bye.

Final.—Pte. Wrench beat Corpl. Saward.

Prizes £3 and £1. Pte. Wrench fought well throughout and should make a good boxer, as he is a powerful hitter and quick on his feet.

MIDDLE WEIGHTS, not exceeding 11 stone 4 lbs.

First Round.—Pte. Newman, D, beat Pte. Dowsett, E; Lce.-Corpl. Hill, E, beat Pte. Dean, A; Sergt. Wood, D, beat Pte. Adams, H; Sergt. Harris, G, beat Pte. Russell, C; Pte. Herbert, B, beat Pte. Pickering, E; Lce.-Corpl. Dark, G, beat Pte. Wheeler, Band.

Second Round.—Pte. Newman beat Lce.-Corpl. Hill ; Sergt. Hood beat Sergt. Harris (retired hurt); Pte. Herbert beat Lce.-Corpl. Dark.

Final.—Pte. Newman beat Pte. Herbert.

Prizes, £3 and £1.

Besides these competitions there was a special eight round contest between Pte. Dray, H Company, and Pte. Sheppard, Band, catch weights. This fight was naturally the chief item of the evening. Dray was the taller and had a longer reach of the two, but Sheppard was stronger built. In the first five rounds Dray distinctly had the advantage, but in the remaining rounds Sheppard scored rapidly, and just managed to gain the verdict. Both men fought hard throughout, and one would have had to have gone a long way to have seen a fairer and a better fight. Prizes £3 and £1.

Corpl. Richardson, 1st Rifle Brigade, kindly volunteered his services, and boxed a three rounds exhibition with Pte. Weller, A.

The contest seemed to have been a great success from beginning to end. In a few months we hope to have another, jointly with the Rifle Brigade, who have also just started a Regimental Boxing Club. Each Regiment will then put forward its best men of various weights to match those of the other Battalion.

SPORTS CORRESPONDENT.

2nd BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Most people, when they have not got much to say begin talking about the weather, and whilst we are on the subject of the weather I must mention the delightful samples we have had up here (Mount Austin) lately. When we came up here first the fine weather was only in samples, few and far between. We lived in an almost continual cloud bank up till Easter Monday, which, being holiday, got itself up in holiday mood for the occasion. The cloud cleared away and it has been fine ever since. The Hong Kong summer has now commenced, and it is beginning to get unpleasantly warm in the beginning of the day, but still, G Company, being topsides, gain a considerable advantage over the remainder down bottomsides, the temperature being about four degrees different.

Some thirty odd men of G Company have of late been instructed in gunnery at Pine Wood Battery, so I expect you will hear shortly of G Battery, R.W. Kent Regiment, establishing a new record for the 6-inch Q.F. gun, the only difficulty at present being that our gunlayers will have to stand on a chair to see the sights. We are expected to fire from the above mentioned guns on the approach of the cold weather, and we have great hopes of beating our instructors at their own work.

Talking about gunnery, a section commander whilst on musketry parade the other day was heard to shout to a squad of the last draft, "Lyddite Shell, Half Charge, Load," which, I suppose, is the after effects of the course of gunnery mentioned above.

The Baltic Fleet is now in close proximity to this island, and perhaps a strong Japanese fleet also. Consequently our nerves are on edge for news of the next great naval smash

up which must shortly take place. Guns are heard nightly in the distance by the Regimental chancers who are sentry go, and some of these keen-eyed men even assure they have seen the flashes. Guns were really heard this morning, but on turning out to see the fight we found it was only the saluting battery at Kowloon salaaming some body.

The inter-sectional six a side football league is now the centre of attraction for the regiment. Unfortunately, G Company was knocked out, so I will have to leave it for the victorious company to send you the news when the final match is played.

G Company's Correspondent.

A Company,
Hong Kong,

1st May, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,

I fear I hardly know what to write about this month. Were I to confine myself to Company doings I should be able to do it in about a dozen lines; however, I hope my "ramble" will not seem incongruous amongst your more important correspondence. In my last notes I said something about suffering from the constant attention from Jupiter Pluvius; however, the rainy season is now a thing of the past, and in its stead, the summer has made its appearance. At last, it seems that the sun is at times visible *even here*, and, what is more, makes itself felt, as the climatic conditions prevailing at present are dry, hot, and close, with an occasional east wind.

We have carried off a good many sporting trophies during our short stay on the island, but I suppose the Battalion correspondent will keep you *au fait* on all these affairs.

Thanks to the energy of Cap'tain Elgood and the games committee, an inter-section six-a-side football competition was inaugurated. These matches, which are being played fifteen minutes either way, cause a good deal of fun. The teams or sections left in the semi-final are A II., A IV., E II., and D IV.; and it is quite probable that the two first-named sections will meet in the final.

We (A Company) are now about to commence our annual course of musketry. I fear we shall all be glad when it is over, as going through Musketry here is rather an awkward and somewhat lengthy operation, as there is no range whatever on the Island, or, as we say here, on this side. The nearest available range is on the Peninsula of Kowloon. To get there a Company first has to cross Victoria Bay, one of the numerous commissary launches, and then must indulge in a march of about three miles, with the result that the best part of the day is wasted going to and fro.

The chief item of interest at present is the presence of the Baltic Fleet in the vicinity of Hong Kong. According to some strategists, another Trafalgar is imminent at any moment. However, that view does not in the least disturb our sleep. Now that the hot season has set in, all the English people betake themselves to the Peak, or hill districts. By the way, nearly every Englishman one meets here hails from north of the River Tweed.

A Co.'s CASUAL CORRESPONDENT.

Tientsin,
7th May, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,

I am sending you an account of the final football match in the North China Football League, which was played on Easter Monday afternoon on the German's Parade Ground which they

Hong Kong,
8th May, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,

The ending of the winter season here having deprived us of the opportunity of winning any further external renown, we have recently been turning our energies upon each other. The result has been a "Section Sixes" Football Tournament, and now that we have the use of the Parade Ground, close to Barracks, every afternoon has seen one or more games going on, causing much interest and enthusiasm, not only amongst our own people, but also amongst the populace in general, the Heathen Chinee being particularly amused by the proceedings.

In the first round the following were the games:—

D IV. beat A I., 3—2. In spite of the efforts of Pte. Ball, who still plays a sterling game, D IV., playing very strongly, won by three goals to two, Tuley, Smith, and Kelly scoring the goals. Kelly, despite his grey hairs was full of energy, and Tuley used his weight well. Teams: D IV.—Goal, Pte. Smith; backs, Kelly and Jones; forwards, Smith, Tuley, Burgess. A I.—Goal, Pte. Lee; backs, Ball and Lce.-Cpl. Jones; forwards, Sergt. Chasteneuf, Campbell, Tassell.

E II. beat E III., 4—2. This proved somewhat of a run-away match, the cleverness of E II. more than counterbalancing the dash of E III., Lce.-Corpl. Bass (2), Lce.-Corpl. Falshaw (1), and Laurel (1), being responsible for E II's goals, whilst E III's goals came from the foot of Porter. Teams: E II.—Goal, Lce.-Corpl. Watling; backs, Ptes. Edwards and Lang; forwards, Laurel, Lce.-Corpl. Falshaw, Lce.-Corpl. Bass. E III.—Goal, Pte. Ellis; backs, Ptes. Harris and Morrish; forwards, Corpl. Sley, Lce.-Corpl. Ibbotson, and Pte. Porter.

D III. beat G III. by 4—0. This game was not so uneven as the score would seem to show, as thanks chiefly to the dash of Pte. Lythall, D III. often found their goal in danger, and had to concede a number of corners. Brooker, however, was equal to the occasion, and the excellent combination of Byford and Burrows ended in Burrows scoring two goals and Byford and Taylor one each. Teams: D III.—Goal, Brooker; backs, Adams and White; forwards, Lce.-Corpl. Byford, Burrows, and Taylor. G III.—Goal, Woodham; backs, Brewster, Lce.-Cpl. Cooper; forwards, Corpl. Humphries, Dr. Earl, Pte. Lythall.

A II. beat E I., 2—0. This produced one of the best matches of the series, both teams being very strong on paper. E I. should have won, but by putting Clements, one of the most dashing forwards in the battalion, to play back, they gave the game away. The play, however, was fast and full of incident, Sergt. Redmond and Pte. Trevenna trying E's defence to the utmost before Trevenna, after good combination with Sergt. Redmond, dashed in and scored. Thereafter, the game waxed hotter, but A held the upper hand, and Trevenna scoring again they ran out winners by two goals to none. Teams: A II.—Goal, Pte. Fry; backs, Ptes. Anderson and Cooper; forwards, Pte. Trevenna, Sergts. Redmond and Reynolds. E I.—Pte. Wannell; backs, Thompson and Clements; forwards, Blannin, Ogle, and Ctr.-Sergt. Spooner.

G II. beat D II., 3—0. Chiefly owing to the excellent play of Gradwell, who played just the dashing game required in these games, G secured the verdict. Lce.-Corpl. Skeer also worked hard and succeeded in scoring a goal, the others coming from Gradwell. For D, who never got really going, Botting and Morgan worked well, but found the opposing backs too much for them. Teams: G II.—Goal, Pte. Turner; backs, Pte. Gradwell and Lce.-Corpl. Skeer; forwards, Morton, Gore, and Cozens. D II.—Goal, Bany; backs, Botting and Vincent; forwards, Morgan, Colley, and Denman.

A IV. beat G IV., 2—0. A close game had been expected here, but A IV. turned out to be one of the hottest sides in the competition, and had all the best of the game. Their forwards

kindly lent us, as the Tientsin Recreation Ground was being made ready for cricket and the teams that played were C Company v. D Company, F coming from Pekin for the occasion. The teams were as follows:—C Company—Goal, Dr. Condon; backs, Ptes. Reed and Wright; half-backs, Pte. Bexon, Lce.-Corpl. W. Newell, Pte. H. Reed; forwards, Ptes. Ridley, A. Reed, Sergt. Reynolds, Ptes. Sellings and Dr. Barker.

F Company—Goal, Pte. Scarborough; backs, Lce.-Corpl. Davis, Pte. Weeks; half-backs, Lce.-Corpl. Nicholson, Pte. Brewer, Pte. Hadaway; forwards, Pte. Baker, Lce.-Corpl. Freeman, Sergt. Mills, Ptes. Butler and Deedman. Referee, Mr. Greenland.

The game was undoubtedly one of the best played here. The visitors won the toss and kicked off with the wind blowing diagonally across the field in their favour. Dr. Condon, the home custodian, was soon called upon to save, which he did in fine style. The visitors kept up a hot attack, and came very near scoring once or twice. There was an unusually large crowd present, and many of the German soldiers evinced great interest in the game. The game was a very fast one. However, half-time arrived without any score. The game resumed, and F showed better combination against the wind, and after some sharp play scored a goal. C made several attempts but were unlucky. However, no further goals were scored, the game ended leaving F the winners of the cup by 1—0. For C Company the goal-keeper Ridly, the three half-backs, Bexon, Lce.-Corpl. Newell and Pte. Reed played well, but the forwards were very weak. For F Lce.-Corpl. Davis, Sergt. Mills, Lce.-Corpl. Freeman and Deedman were the pick. That has added another cup to our football record, and, I believe, our comrades at Hong Kong have added a couple more. I think we have made a record at football this year. Well, Mr. Editor, I will close,

A CORRESPONDENT.

Hong Kong,
29th April, 1905.

Dear Sir,

I will endeavour to give a short account of the doings of D Company for the month of April.

About the first of the month the members of D began asking each other, "Are you going on the tack?" or "Are you in training for musketry?"

The Company started firing on the 8th, we were fortunate in having good weather, and finished classification with the very creditable average of 194, which is a great improvement on last year. Several of the young soldiers of the last draft fired extremely well.

We fired on the Kowloon City Range, to get to which we had to march through Kowloon Old City, the sanitary arrangements of which are by no means perfect. I heard one man remark that the air of Kowloon was so unhealthy that the inhabitants had to live elsewhere. I suppose he was referring to those who dwell in chatties on the hillsides.

The six-a-side football tournament has started. We have only one team left in the semi-final, viz., The Hooligans or No. 4 Section.

I can think of no more at present, and thinking being hard work owing to my not being used to it, I will conclude with a promise of more next month.

SAMPAN.

played excellently together and used their heads, and as they also possessed dash they had the best of things throughout. G IV. played up pluckily, but were outclassed. Both A's goals were scored by Curtiss. Teams: A IV.—Goal, Pte. Dale; backs, Light and Irvine; forwards, Mussett, Saunders, and Curtiss. G IV.—Goal, Peterson; backs, Ship and Kent; forwards, Lce.-Corpl. Rouse, Bayman, and Lce.-Sergt. Sayer.

A III. scratched to E IV.

G I. beat D I., 2—1. This produced a very close game, and it was not until five minutes of time that the winning goal was scored. Lce.-Corpl. Glyn, who played hard throughout, opened the scoring for D with a shot which quite defeated Fowler, but D did not long retain the lead, as a few minutes after Elsie got through and scored. This left matters in an interesting state, and much excitement was produced when Elsie, a few moments before time put the ball into the corner of the net from a mush in front of goal. Teams: G I.—Goal, Pte. Fowler; backs, Corpl. Childs and Pte. Palmer; forwards, Kirby, Elsie, and Ellis. D I.—Goal, Pte. Simmonds; backs, Lce.-Corpl. Glyn and Hardy; forwards, Waghorn, Yale, and Simmonds.

SECOND ROUND.

A IV. beat G II., 2—1. An interesting game, as Gradwell and Skeer worked hard to break up the combination of A's forwards, but Curtiss, playing a steady game, and being well fed, time after time nearly scored, and twice did succeed in getting the ball past Turner. G played hard, but Skeer being the only one to beat Dale, A won as stated.

E II. beat D III., 3—1. This was the best game of the first two rounds, both teams having some good dashing men in them. Play, which was always hard, never became loose, but E playing the cleverer game won as stated. Adams and Burrows both played well, but found Edwards a thorn in their sides, whilst Laurel, well backed up by Falshaw, was going hard the whole time and put on two goals, Falshaw scoring the third. D's goal came from Burrows.

A II. beat E IV., 2—0. E's team totalled a good many years' service, and found A a trifle too young and agile. They played, however, one of the pluckiest games possible, and the game was never dull. A scored by Trevenna early in the first half, but from then until quite close to time E held their own and were often dangerous, but A then scored again and put the issue beyond doubt.

D IV. beat G I., 1—0. A good game, but not so close as might have been expected, since D pressed a great deal but shot badly. G attacked first, but Ellis twice shot wide, and then Tuley got possession, but ended a good run with a feeble shot. G subsequently made some strong attacks, but Kelly was always there, and shortly before half-time Smith broke away and scored for D with a good cross shot. The latter half of the game was all in D's favour, and they should have scored several times. Tuley played a sturdy game and kept his wings well supplied. For G Corpl. Childs played well, but the forwards lacked dash.

The Regimental team played a friendly against the juniors, which we won by two goals to none. The game was chiefly remarkable for a magnificent display of goalkeeping by Lance-Corpl. Watling. Watling has, throughout the season, played excellently, but in his last two games against the Navy and the R.A. he has quite surpassed himself, and he, with Thompson at back and Edwards at centre-half, has shown himself in quite a different class to any other player in the station. Altogether we can look back on this our first season in Hong Kong with considerable satisfaction. The most satisfactory point has been that in all our important matches we have won, not only through our good play, but thanks to our team having the last kick in them when their opponents were "done."

As regards our hockey, we certainly did not perform up to our standard, as has been proved by our recent performances, inasmuch as the R.A., who defeated us in the Hong Kong Cup Competition, have never since got within two goals of us. Company games have been fairly frequent of late, and so far A has proved top dog, but, as the villain says, "Time will show." The Company letter will give you further details.

The summer is upon us, and the populace of Hong Kong look upon our antics upon the hockey and football field as the outward and visible signs of an immense madness, since summer here is sacred to vermuth cocktails and mixed bathing, more especially the latter!

In addition to the summer, the Baltic Fleet is upon us, to the great detriment of those desirous of going upon leave. However, one imagines that there is a limit to even French hospitality, and that soon the unpronounceable Admiral and his fleet will once again be committed to the tender mercies of the Jappers and the deep.

Beyond this there is a dearth of news!

Yours sincerely,

SOUTH CHINA CORRESPONDENT.

Just before sending this off I hear that in N. China F Co. has succeeded in winning the Tientsin Football League Competition.

RESULT OF N. CHINA CHALLENGE CUP

B beat Tientsin Club, 2—1.

B drew H., 1—1.

B lost C, 4—1.

B lost F, 5—0.

C beat Tientsin Club, 5—0.

C lost H, 1—0.

C beat F, 1—0.

F v. Tientsin Club (scratch), 0—0.

F beat H, 3—0.

H beat Tientsin, 6—1.

Result—C, 6 points. F, 6 points. Final—F 1, C 0.

F Co.'s team—Scarborough, Weeks, Davies, Nicholson, Brewer, Hadaway, Dudman, Baker, Mills, Freeman, Butler.

MARRIAGE.

At St. John's, Stratford, E., on 23rd April, 1905,
Sergt. A. E. Pye to Miss A. E. Spink.

THE TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:—

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

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

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS

OF

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

No. 362.

MAIDSTONE, AUGUST, 1905.

[Vol. XXIV, No. 8.]

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Floriana,
Malta,
14th July, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,

I am sending you several articles, for which I hope you will be able to find room. You will find one on the subject of the Invicta Dramatic Club, which celebrated its institution by a most successful performance in the Regimental Theatre, which sounds very grand, but is usually a sort of case in the fortifications.

A great many changes are taking place just now. Col. Fitton and Major Lowe, whom we are all extremely sorry to lose, are leaving at once, the former to take over command of the 2nd Battalion at Hong Kong, and the latter to take over command of the Depot. Our best wishes go with them both. Major Style is expected shortly from the Depot, and on August 3rd Col. Maunsell, and those who went home on first leave, return.

The Battalion Cricket Team, under the Captaincy of Lieut. Philips, started the season fairly well, but suffered an unaccountable defeat at the hands of the R.E. in the first round of the Governor's Cup, which unfortunately puts them out of it. I am sending the scores.

I am afraid there is no news this month, Mr. Editor.

Your 1st Battalion Correspondent.

1st BATT. ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT.

RIFLE COMPETITION.

Officers and Sergeants *versus* Corporals and Privates.

200, 500 and 600 Yards, Bisley Targets and Marking.

Five Officers and thirteen Sergeants took part in this Competition, against ten Corporals and six Privates; the ten best scores in each case being selected. The result was a win for the Officers and Sergeants by 44 points. Sergt. Keen, for the Officers and Sergeants, made the top score of 90, with a "possible" at 500 yards. Corpl. Bond, for the Corporals and Privates, also made a score of 90.

The following are the scores of the two teams :—

Officers and Sergeants.					Corporals and Privates.				
Rank and Name	200	500	600	Total	Rank and Name	200	500	600	Total
	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.			Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	
Sergt A. Keen.....	31	35	24	90	Corpl. O. Bond.....	31	27	32	90
Clr.-Sergt. R. Dark.....	30	29	28	87	Pte. J. Stewart.....	29	29	28	86
Sergt. S. Reeves.....	31	28	25	84	Pte. A. Canty.....	28	30	23	81
Sergt. W. Osborne.....	22	31	28	81	Pte. A. Jones.....	27	22	31	80
Sergt. W. Saunders.....	25	28	25	78	Pte. W. Knight.....	27	24	25	76
Capt. C. Molony.....	25	23	29	77	Lce.-Corpl. G. Press.....	26	24	22	72
Sergt. H. Moore.....	23	31	23	77	Corpl. W. Cockle.....	23	27	21	71
Sergt. W. Wood.....	26	28	22	76	Corpl. P. Smith.....	23	19	27	69
2nd Lieut. B. Leir.....	21	26	27	74	Corpl. W. Bellfield.....	24	16	25	65
Lce.-Sergt. H. Kipps.....	22	29	21	72	Corpl. R. Brown.....	24	15	23	62
Total.....				796	Total.....				752

1st BATT. ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT.

RIFLE COMPETITION, 29th JUNE, 1905.

Competition :—Officers and Sergeants with twelve years service *versus* Officers and Sergeants with under twelve years service. Teams of fifteen aside, best ten scores to count. 200, 500 and 600 Yards, Bisley Targets and Marking. This competition resulted in a win for the old soldiers by nine points.

The following are the scores :—

Officers and Sergeants.					Corporals and Privates.				
Rank and Name	200	500	600	Total	Rank and Name	200	500	600	Total
	yds.	yds.	yds.			yds.	yds.	yds.	
Sergt. W. Brown.....	26	29	27	82	Col.-Sergt. R. Dark.....	31	25	23	84
Sergt. W. Osborne.....	29	26	22	77	Sergt. S. Reeves.....	30	28	22	80
Sergt. W. Wood.....	18	28	29	75	Lce.-Sergt. H. Kipps.....	23	30	25	78
Lieut.-Col. H. Fitton.....	25	22	24	71	Sergt. R. Rose.....	16	29	27	72
Sergt. H. Moore.....	27	26	18	71	Sergt. E. Ashton.....	20	29	22	71
Sergt. J. Wren.....	27	25	18	70	Sergt. W. Tranter.....	22	28	18	68
Capt. C. Molony.....	26	30	14	70	Lce.-Sergt. H. Doe.....	24	12	31	67
Sergt. A. Keen.....	23	27	18	68	Sergt. F. Rogers.....	19	16	27	62
Sergt.-Mjr. H. Rogers.....	18	33	13	64	Col.-Sergt. McVicar.....	22	22	17	61
Sergt. W. Page.....	27	24	13	64	Lce.-Sergt. C. Stan.....	16	16	28	60
Total.....				712	Total.....				703

Notre Dame,
Malta,
July 15th, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,

This month I am only sending you a short account of our doings.

On the 26th ult. D Company, 2nd Essex Regt., paid us a visit. The match was played on Floriana Square, and resulted as follows :—D Company 1st R.W. Kent 111, D Company 2nd Essex 54. Pte. Judge was in splendid form, taking 7 wickets for 22, and Pte. Jones proved himself to be an able wicket-keeper.

The last match took place on the 3rd inst., at Verdala Barracks, where we met C Co. 2nd Hants. Regt. Short notice was received, thereby preventing several of the usual team from putting in an appearance. We were not so successful as before, but managed to score 77 against the Hants 70. It seemed possible that the day would have been lost but for the fine batting and fielding display of Qr.-Mstr.-Sergt. Cover, and Pte. Kettley's bowling. I may add that Qr.-Mstr.-Sergt. Cover carried his bat out, and Pte. Kettley took 5 wickets for 14 runs.

Bayonet-fighting has been in full force lately on account of the Annual Competition taking place shortly. On Friday, the 14th inst., we met H Co. in the first round. Things looked well for D at first, but soon the tables were turned. It could be plainly seen that we could not possibly stand much of a chance, and finally H Co. were proclaimed the winners. But we must not give up hopes of coming to the front in some way or other just yet, as our boat team is gradually coming to a high state of efficiency, and with a little more practice will no doubt stand a good chance this year.

D Company's Correspondent.

Dear Mr. Editor,

At last we have been lucky enough to find one to let you have a few notes of doings of our up to the present unheard of 1st Battalion Band. Our first cricket match found us trying our luck against the Sergeants, and we came off second best. The Musicians batted first, but could not make much headway against Sergeant Balcombe's bowling, our venture realising only 87. The Sergeants then took command of the crease, and put the issue beyond doubt by placing 122 to their credit. For the winners Sergeant Balcombe was an easy first, taking six wickets and compiling 36. For the losers Pinder put in 33, a poor score for him.

Our return encounter found us in a real fighting mood, for going in first, after losing the toss too, we rattled up 200 for only five wickets, and perhaps much inspired by our big score, we fielded like pro's, and disposed of the same said Sergeants for 62. Perhaps we caught them on an off day? However, our big score was mainly due to Hooper and Lance-Corporal Stuart, the bowling honours being carried off by Whitmore and another of the Sergeants. Sergeant Allen played a fine game for 35 not out, and had the Sergeants held some of the sitters that came their way we should not have been so well off.

Our next match found us having a go at some foreign talent, viz., the Hampshire's Band, who came over from Verdala with a big reputation, but I am afraid it got a little upset, for once more we were on the winning side, for batting first the Hampshires put together 125, and a voice from the crowd said that was a few too many for the Kents. We went stronger, and put 211 on the score sheet, thus winning. Sergeant Sonnenberg played a fine game for 38.

Another match was played on the Marsa, our opponents being the Lancashire Fusiliers' Band, and right well did they give it to us, typical of the Lancastrians themselves. I don't know whether change of ground upset our chaps, but we could only manage 105, of which one little fellow

made 64 (by luck perhaps?). When the Lancashires went to the wicket they proved run-getting an easy thing by compiling 140 for only seven wickets.

INVICTA DRAMATIC CLUB.

On Tuesday evening, 4th July, the Invicta Amateur Dramatic Club gave an invitation entertainment to the District Staff, Floriania, the members of the Queen's Own Sergeants' and Corporals' Messes, and friends.

The Theatre itself was beautifully decorated, nothing evidently being left undone that good taste could suggest. Flags adorned the walls, the regimental badge and motto being conspicuous, while the stage scenery reflected great credit on the artistic ability of Lance-Corporal Harden and Private Ridgers, and the raising of the curtain found a goodly audience assembled. Programme:—

Part I.—Overture, Band: Tableaux, "London Street Scenes," (a) Shoeblack and Swell, (b) Flower Girls, (c) Newspaper Boys; Weary Willie and Tired Tim, Corps. Cassidy and Harris; Tableaux, "The Soldier's Return"; song, "The gold in the world can't buy," Corpl. Collins; Tableaux, "Homeless and Friendless"; Banjo solo, Corpl. Golding; Farce, "Paddy and the ghost," scene—Squire Nevill's Library; characters—Squire Nevill, Corpl. Harrison; Mr. O'Brian, Corpl. Russell; Biddy O'Brian, Mrs. Wood; Paddy Ragan, Corpl. Cassidy. Part II.—Selection, Band; Tableaux, "Where are you going my pretty maid?" song, "Shift up a little bit farther," Lce.-Corpl. Harris; Tableaux, "I want to see the wheels go round"; song, "Story of a tin tack," Corpl. Cassidy; Tableaux, "The Cheat," after this year's "Academy Picture," Humorous drama entitled "The enquiry office." Scene one—Mr. Dodge's office; scene two—Drawing-room in Cowslip Hall. Cast—Col. Wilful, Corpl. Collins; Arthur Wilful, Lce.-Corpl. Gutteridge; F. Fidgetts, Esq., Corpl. Bishop; Make-shift Dodge, Corpl. Burrows; Daniel Dryface, Corpl. Hake; Smart, Lce.-Corpl. Harris; Miss Honeycomb, Mrs. Saunders; Maud Honeycomb, Mrs. Mackintosh. "God save the King."

The Band of the Queen's Own, under the able conductorship of Band-Sergeant Sonnenburg, contributed various pleasing items during the evening, ably sustaining its reputation. In the tableaux, "London Street Scenes," Corpl. Burrows as the swell, and Lce.-Corpl. Bampton as shoe-black, acquitted themselves admirably, as did Bandsman Rogers and Drummer Strand as newsboys, while Mrs. Bellfield and Mrs. Mackintosh were deservedly applauded. Corpl. Golding gave an excellent banjo solo. Mrs. H. G. Rogers in "The soldier's return," gave an excellent interpretation, showing a subtle sympathy, an eloquent appreciation of a mother's welcome to her son, and Corpl. Bond as the soldier, was a decided success. Master and Miss Bellfield as homeless and friendless children, discovered by Lce.-Corpl. Tranter, a policeman, peacefully sleeping on a London doorstep, met with hearty applause.

Corpl. Harrison, in the farce, "Paddy and the Ghost," did justice to the Squire, who, having implicit trust in the honesty of his agent (Corpl. Russell), was betrayed, and Corpl. Cassidy, as the Irishman who discovered the ghost and peculative fraud of the agent, was seen at his best, his

quaint Hiberniaisms being much appreciated. Mrs. Wood made a charming milkmaid in the tableaux, "Where are you going to my pretty maid?" and Lce.-Corpl. Harris with the song "Shift up a little bit farther," proved that his popularity is not yet on the wane.

The vivid expression of childish interest displayed by Miss Oliph Bellfield in "I want to see the wheels go round," was particularly good, and thoroughly deserving of the bouquet thrown to her on the stage. Mrs. Brown as "The Cheat," and Mrs. Payne exposing the cheating, evinced the possession of more than ordinary artistic talent.

In the humorous drama, "The enquiry office," Corpl. Burrows is quite *au fait* with the intricate business of an enquiry and matrimonial agent. Lce.-Corpl. Gutteridge on matrimony bent, displayed talent of a high order, possessing in a marked degree the aplomb of the actor, that carried him successfully through several delicate situations. Mrs. Saunders assumes the part of a rich old maid of mincing gait and manner, irresistibly inclined towards matrimony, with marvellous truth, and ultimately finds her fate in Lce.-Corpl. Harris, the quadroom servant of the hero. The heroine was admirably portrayed by Mrs. Mackintosh, who gave a charmingly refreshing display of girlish naivete and sweetness. Corpl. Collins, who also presided at the piano, was quite at home as the father of the hero, and Corpl. Hake as major domo, and Corpl. Bishop, one of the heroine's guardians, were deserving of praise.

The Club, recently formed, is to be congratulated on the success of its initial invitation venture, and Sergeant Doe, who has performed the multifarious duties of Impresario, assisted by Corpl. Bellfield and Lce.-Corpl. Shields, is deserving of the highest praise; zealous and enthusiastic, he has at least a reward in the satisfaction begotten of success, in the knowledge of a cordial appreciation of his unremitting labour, and one may be permitted to express a hope that the Club will accept this tribute as an incentive to further effort.

Your Casual Correspondent.

SPORTS NEWS.

CRICKET.

1st Battalion v. 2nd Battalion Essex Regiment.

Played at Malta on 20th June, 1905. Scores:—

2nd Essex Regiment:—Major Walters, c Lander, b Pinder 2; Pte. Brundish, b Pinder 19; Sergt. Laurence, c and b Sergt. Allen 14; Pte. Chadwick, lbw, b Pinder 8; Pte. Linwood, b Sergt. Allen 0; Capt. Ryan, b Pte. Pinder 7; Lce.-Corpl. North, not out 12; Pte. Cumbers, b Pinder 0; Corpl. Tregent, b Sergt. Allen 0; Pte. Laurence, run out 3; Pte. Barker, s Dufay, b Pinder 9; Byes, etc., 8.—Total 82.

1st Battalion Royal West Kent Regt.:—Sergt. Allen, c Chadwick, b North 3; Pte. Ford, run out 0; Pte. Brown, b Corpl. North 2; Lce.-Corpl. Lander, b Linwood 29; Pte. Pinder, c Maj. Walters, b Capt. Ryan 74; Lieut. Phillips, not out 17; Corpl. Lamb, run out 6; Pte. Wood, Pte. Whitmore, Pte. Dufay, Pte. Jones, did not bat; byes, etc., 12.—Total 143.

1st Battalion v. 2nd Hants Regiment.

Played at Malta on 24th June, 1905. Scores:—

1st R. W. Kent Regt.:—Sergt. Allen, b Burton 0; Pte.

ord, c and b Bendry 5; Lce.-Corpl. Lander, run out 5; Pte. Hooper, run out 0; Pte. Pinder, c Major Richards, b Baldwin, 47; Lieut. Phillips, b Burton 55; Corpl. Lamb, c Bendry, b Baldwin 0; 2nd Lieut. Vicat, c Watmore, b Baldwin 12; Pte. Whitmore, b Baldwin 1; Pte. Wood, not out 2; Sergt. Edwards, b Burton 1; byes, etc., 13.—Total 141.

2nd Hants Regt.:—Lce.-Cpl. Baldwin, c Lamb, b Allen 8; Pte. Bendry, c Lamb, b Pinder 19; Pte. Burton, not out 27; Pte. May, not out 7; Pte. Lamb, Major Richards, Pte. Simmonds, Lieut. Lockhart, Pte. Bampton, Pte. Watmore, Pte. Willis, did not bat; byes, etc., 9.—Total 71.

1st R.W. Kent Regiment v. R.G.A. (Fast).

Played at Malta on June 29th, 1905.

R.G.A.—Major Perkins, c Vicat, b Pinder 58; Bdr. Heaton, b Pinder 5; Lieut. Cotter, b Allen 7; Gr. Lutman, c Allen, b Pinder 38; Sergt. Millar, b Lander 86; Capt. Smith, c Lander, b Pinder 7; Bdr. Ellis, b Pinder 20; Lieut. Cavendish, b Vicat 25; Gr. Heathcote, c sub, b Lamb 5; Lieut. Meade, b Vicat 3; Corpl. Dean, not out 1; extras 11.—Total 266.

R.W.K.—Pte. Ford, b Cavendish 1; Lce.-Corpl. Lander, b Cotter 21; Pte. Brown, b Miller 9; Lieut. Vicat, b Millar 0; Pte. Pinder, c Ellis, b Dean 41; Sergt. Allen, not out 65; Lieut. Phillips, b Dean 5; Corpl. Lamb, c and b Dean 0; Pte. Witman, c Lutman, b Cavendish 9; Pte. Wood, run out 9; Pte. Ryan, c and b Millar 3; extras 13.—Total 167.

1st R.W. Kent Regiment v. R.A.M.C.

Played at Malta on July 15th.

R.W.K.—Capt. Fiennes, b Whitmer 20; Capt. Keenlyside, b Darby 33; Pte. Hooper, c McCaig, b Darby 0; Lce.-Corpl. Lander, b Darby 3; Pte. Brown, b Whitmer 1; Corpl. Cockle, c Fish, b Darby 4; Pte. Credland, b Whitmer 1; Lce.-Corpl. Stewart, b Darby 0; Pte. Pryer, c McCaig, b Darby 6; Pte. Furniss, c Burns, b Darby 1; Pte. Bowell, not out 0; extras 3.—Total 72.

R.A.M.C.—McCaig, retired hurt 31; Hawes, b Hooper 0; Fish, b Lander 25; Capt. Kennedy, not out 59; Darby, not out 7; Whitmer, Burns, Sergt. McNeil, McCom, Coux, Bedale, did not bat; extras 12.—Total 134.

1st R. W. Kent Regiment v. R.E. (2nd Round Governor's Cup).

Played at Malta on July 10th and 11th.

R.E.—1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Lieut. Mainguy, b Allen	0	b Allen	9
Spr. Bowles, b do	3	b Pinder	16
" Bates, c Lander, b Pinder	29	st Hooper, b do	7
Lce.-Corpl. Aston, c Keenlyside b do	4	c Lamb b Allen	1
Spr. Dell, c Allen b do	7	run out	20
" Jones, b do	12	b Pinder	12
" Doughty, b do	14	b Allen	3
" Forward, lbw, b do	6	b Pinder	0
" Wincap, run out	9	not out	1
" Wall, c and b Allen	5	b Pinder	0
" Johnson, not out	0	b do	16
Extras	10	Extras	15
	99		101

R.W. Kent Regt.—1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Capt. Fiennes, b Bates.....	11	b Bates	7
Pte. Ford, b Aston.....	1	b do	6
Lce.-Crpl. Lander, c Doughty b do	13	b do	0
Pte. Pinder, c Dell b Bates	62	run out	26
Sergt. Allen, c Dell b Bates.....	0	c Jones b Aston	6
Capt. Keenlyside, c Wall b Aston	2	b do	3
Pte. Hooper, lbw b Bates.....	9	b Bates	7
Corpl. Lamb, c Johnson b do	0	b do	1
Lieut. Vicat, c Doughty b Jones...	7	c D'gty b Aston	9
Lce.-Corpl. Reeves, not out	3	not out	4
Pte. Cridland, b Jones	0	b Aston.....	0
Extras.....	6	Extras	0
	113		69

BOYS' CRICKET.

Match played at Floriana on the 1st of July, 1905, between 1st Battalion Boys and 2nd Battalion Essex Boys. The match resulted in a win for the Essex Boys by 44 runs.

The day was sweltering hot, in fact the hottest we have had this season, which probably accounted for the slackness of the bowling on both sides. Hill and Sudbury batted well, and Byrnes bowled well for the winners. Cleghorn batted well for us making 38 runs, and Todd did a good share of the bowling and catching. Altogether we had not much to grumble at as we had three men away including the captain.

Match played at Floriana on the 6th of July between the Boys of the 1st Battalion and the Boys 1st Dublin Fusiliers. The match was won by the Dublins by 7 runs. Scores of Dublin Boys 87, West Kent 80. The match finished up at almost even scores. The fielding was not very good on either side and there were several easy catches missed. Denning and Sullivan batted well and Morley bowled well for the winners. Knott, Cleghorn and Hancock batted well, Cleghorn bowled well, and Hardwicke did well at the wickets.

2nd BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Munsee Barracks,
Hong Kong,
May 28th, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,

As is usual in Hong Kong at present, if one excepts the vagaries of a certain unpronounceable Russian admiral, one is, in the search for news, forced back upon the games of the regiment. The fact that these games still continue, in spite of a very moderate temperature, is a source of constant wonder to the inhabitants of Hong Kong, who as they pass our ground in their chairs on their way to the delights of a bathing picnic, turn upon our football or our hockey, looks of pitying wonder, as if to say they saw no hope for a nation whose defence was entrusted to lunatics such as us. However, we survive, and this month the Section Sixes have been brought to a successful conclusion, accounts of the earlier games of which were forwarded you last month. The semi-finals both produced excellent games, E 2 actually beating A 4 by virtue of the rule that if an equal number of goals were scored the winner should be the side scoring most corners. D 4 put up an excellent fight against A 2, but the latter were too good. In spite of

some very exciting moments A 2 won by 2 goals to nil. E 2 beat A 4 by 1 goal and 1 corner to one goal.

A 4 made the mistake of turning themselves into a one man team, and on every possible occasion the ball was banged out to Curtis on the left. He was, however, in his best form, and in spite of being very well marked put in a lot of good work, and time and again made openings for his side. These, however, were not taken advantage of, and it was left to him to score the only goal for his side. This, however, only served to put fresh life into E 2 and at last Edwards, who had as usual been playing very strongly, made an opening for Laurel, who nipped in and scored. With the score at one all, the excitement was considerable, and it was not until a few minutes before time that E 2 forced a corner, and keeping the ball for the rest of the game in A 2's half, they qualified for the final as stated.

A 2 beat D 4, 2-0.

This was not so close a game as the other semi-final, but was still very exciting, A 2 being a very fast and nippy side, whilst D 4 made up for what they lacked in pace by their weight which they used excellently. A's first goal came from Trevena, who received the ball on the right, and as D, after appealing for off-side, waited for the whistle which never blew, Trevena got right away, and popped the ball into the corner of the net, giving Smith no chance. Nothing daunted, D took up the attack and Tulley and Burgess made several good efforts resulting at last in a fruitless corner against A. The necessary goal, however, was not forthcoming and Trevena and Sergt. Redmond after repeated breaks away defeated the energetic Kelly, and Trevena receiving near goal clinched the matter by scoring a second goal.

Final.—A 2 beat E 2, 3-0.

This game might reasonably have been expected to produce the best game of the series, but for some reason E 2 absolutely went to pieces and playing probably the worst football of their lives, were beaten very thoroughly. From start to finish A 2 played much the best football, and everyone, whatever their sympathies, could not but admire not only the excellence of their football but the sporting spirit they infused into their game. Throughout the competition Sergeant Redmond and Trevena had played well, but in this game they absolutely surpassed themselves, and the rapidity and accuracy of their passing proved altogether too much for the demoralised defence opposed to them. Sergeant Reynolds also rose to the occasion and with the backs playing very steadily, E 2 were lucky to get off as lightly as they did. It must however be said that E 2 had played extremely well throughout the competition, and it was unfortunate that they should have chosen their most important match for their worst display. A 2's goals were all the result of good runs by Redmond and Trevena, their first two goals coming respectively from Redmond and Trevena, the third being scored by Sergeant Reynolds after a muddle between Lang and Watling which was unfortunate, as this constitutes almost the only speck on Watling's excellent performances this season. Teams:—

A2:—Goal, Fry; backs, Anderson and Cooper; forwards, Sergs. Reynolds and Redmond, Pte. Trevena.

E2:—Goal, Lce.-Corpl. Watling; backs, Lang and Lce.-Corpl. Falkner; forwards, Edwards, Laurel and Lce.-Corpl. Bass.

The winning team received silver medals.

On the completion of the football fixtures, hockey has taken greater possession of us. We have on three occasions defeated the R.A., and have also defeated H.M.S. Hecla and the 119th Infantry, but catching us on an off day the 110th Mahrattas, detained here by the vagaries of the Baltic fleet, gave us a good beating by 5 goals to 1. Our best games, however, have been against H.M.S. Albion, who have, after real tough games, twice defeated us by 1-0 and 2-0 respectively. In Company hockey, A Company seem to be top dog at present, but they will have to fight hard to remain so. At football, E Company defeated H.M.S. Hecla by 5-0, and D Company beat G Company by 2-1. We hope shortly to start playing for the Company Football Shield.

Bathing is now in full swing, but is slightly spoiled by the ever present jelly fish, who in these waters assumes gigantic proportions, and is a somewhat fearsome wild beast.

Much anger has been roused against the Russki by the fact that his lack of desire to meet the Japanese fleet has caused all leave to be stopped in Hong Kong. However, as to-day the air is thick with rumours of an engagement in the Straits of Korea resulting detrimentally to the Russians, we live in hopes of sooner or later escaping for a while from the narrow limits of Hong Kong.

Col. Western and Capt. Joslin have recently been to N. China on inspection duty. Capt. Joslin has remained on leave, but Col. Western returned last week. Capt. Grant passed through recently on his way to join the 1st Batt. at Malta, and Capt. Fiennes probably leaves on a similar errand on the 3rd June. Lieut. Belgrave also on Saturday next starts for Bellary for a course of musketry.

Beyond this there is no news. One can only hope that your other correspondents in other climes are not cursed with such a lack of interesting items.

Yours sincerely,

South China Correspondent.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Although in my last letter I promised more, I am afraid I cannot redeem my promise.

The weather is getting uncomfortably warm, and as it is dangerous to lie under the Deodar, we have to be contented to lie under the punkahs. We had a night march the other night, during one of the halts somebody struck a match; a panic was narrowly averted as somebody who had been reading the papers shouted it was a searchlight from one of the vessels of the Baltic Fleet.

I am sorry to say the Hooligans, or Kelly's Youngsters, were beaten in the semi-final of the six aside tournament. Our football team were at home to G Company this evening. We managed to beat them by three goals to two. For the winners Lce.-Corpl. Byford played extremely well, scoring all three goals, but it was the sterling play of Pte. Adams at back that enabled us to leave the field victorious.

I hope to be able to send you a longer letter for June, that is if I don't happen to be in the hands of the enemy, that is the orderly in charge of the observation ward. I consulted that gentleman and he informed me that the throbbing sensation in my head is not palpitation of the brain, but only the water boiling. Gone are the hopes of Netley.

SAMPAN.

Hong-Kong,
30th May, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Fully realizing how great an authority you are on composition, I could not refrain from forwarding for your perusal, and perhaps the edification of your readers, the appended copy of a letter from my Company Dhoby, whom I had occasion to threaten with dismissal.

Trusting that it may be of some use to you,

I am, yours sincerely,

M. W. GRAHAM.

To Lieutenant _____

Commanding in Charge of — Company.

Sir,

I beg most respectfully to offer you to excuse me for this last chance. Since I was appointed by you to do the washing about six months past during my work is proper correctly done and returned without any fail. But sometimes ago it is raining all the month so that I can't help and that the work is not so good done and may mistaken in such time.

All those deficient articles I am very satisfied to pay up for a new piece and which I have been paid all up right, it is nearly socks and handkerchief. But we are now made all marks in the washing by stick patch a small clothe. Now I beg to settled with you Sir, in my work I can guaranteed the best, and give no troubleness for it in future as I selected the best washerman engaged to my Government Laundry House. In which I will pay attention to it and be carefully not make any deficient. I hope this will you permit me at last chance, I shall ever pray in duty bound.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

GEE HOP,

— Company Dhoby.

D Company,
Hong Kong,
30th June, 1905.

To the Editor The Queen's Own Gazette.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Fate has decreed that once again my letter must be short and dull. June has passed away—so has the Baltic Fleet.

The Company has not done much in the line of Sport this month, but I expect they were waiting for snips, as they won the three matches they played. The first match was football. Our opponents were a team from H.M.S. Hecla. Up till the last ten minutes the game was of an even nature, but in those fatal ten minutes the Company netted the ball four times, thus winning by five goals to one.

Our next match was also football, against G Company, whom we beat by one goal to nil.

A Company, who had beaten us rather badly at Hockey last month, turned out with rather a weak team to let us get our own back. D played some new hands, but showed some of their Ceylon form, taking ample revenge, beating their opponents by six goals to nil.

A and D moved to Mount Austin on the 14th inst. A couple of days after our arrival a typhoon was reported to

be hanging round. Doors and windows were locked and barred as quickly as possible. We all turned into the corridor and stood in file, each man holding on to the man in front of him by the head to hold his hair on. The last man was Gibbo, he has no hair to lose.

So we waited for the typhoon that came not.

Yours faithfully,

CHAMBUDDY RAM.

B Company,

Tientsin,

North China,

4th July, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,

In response to your appeal for copy, I venture to send you a little account concerning the doings of the Company during the past few weeks. Our annual musketry course, which was carried out at Pekin, terminated on the 29th April, the figure of merit being 1948, thus beating last year's record, when we were adjudged the best shooting company in the battalion. We have 14 marksmen and only two third class shots, so our consistency has been well maintained.

While on the range a couple of friendly matches were arranged, one with F Company and another with the Sergeants of the Austrian Legation Guard. On each occasion we were victorious, but against F Company by the narrowest possible margin, viz., 1 point. As I understand that F Company is sending in an account of the match, I will content myself by pointing out that B won the Company Shield last year by the same margin, the runners up being F Company, so this result furnished rather a remarkable coincidence.

In the match against the Austrians, each team fired with their respective service rifle, the British using the Lee-Enfield, and the Austrians the Mannlicher. The conditions were seven rounds each at 200, 500 and 600 yards, service marking. As the Mannlicher rifle is sighted in paces, this gave our team a slight advantage on paper, but the Austrians were allowed to have sighting shots at each distance, thus practically equalizing matters.

The following are the scores:—

B. COMPANY.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Totals.
Clr.-Sergt. Grey	25	22	22	69
Sergt. Hanlon	23	22	22	67
Sergt. Wood.....	25	22	22	69
Sergt. Ellis	24	19	23	66

Grand total 271

AUSTRIAN LEGATION GUARD.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Totals.
Sergt. Bronsteiner	24	22	16	62
Sergt. Posawatz	17	14	17	48
Sergt. Hasalburger	19	17	16	52
Sergt. Yanak	21	12	4	37

Grand total 199

B Company thus won by 72 points.

After the match, toasts were exchanged in the customary manner, the Austrians proving quite the equals of the British in their homage to Bacchus. This was a fitting climax to our acquaintance, for the utmost cordiality has prevailed between the two nationalities during our sojourn in Pekin.

On the 16th May H Co. began their march from Tientsin, in order to relieve B, arriving at their destination on the 21st May. The mules having been rested, B commenced the journey down. This was rather an interesting experience, as the ground is practically the same as that traversed by the Allies in 1900 in order to relieve the various Legations. The march, which occupied a period of six days, was performed as follows:—Pekin to Tungechow, 12 miles; Tungechow to Matau, 13 miles; Matau to How-hsi-wu, 14 miles; How-hsi-wu to Yangtsun, 18 miles; Yangtsun to Pietsang, 13 miles; Pietsang to Tientsin, 10 miles. The total distance thus marched being 80 miles. At Yangtsun the Sergeants were hospitably entertained at the Mess of the 1st Ost. Asiatishe Regiment of Infantry, these troops forming a portion of the German Garrison in North China. A severe dust storm was encountered near Matau, and considerable rain fell at How-hsi-wu, which necessitated the removal of one man to hospital on our arrival at Tientsin. These little incidents however, were borne with equanimity, and tended to relieve the monotony of the march, as the country here is not exactly a facsimile of the Lake or Peak Districts. On one occasion when the dinners were late, a voice was heard inquiring "the whereabouts of a Mac." This is not a gratuitous advertisement for Maconochie's rations, by no means! Bathing was indulged in near Pietsang, in the Pei-ho river, and eventually the Co. arrived in Tientsin in excellent condition, after an experience which has fallen to comparatively few of the defenders of our Empire.

Since our arrival in Tientsin we have been occupied in the completion of our annual training. After our experiences at Diyatalawa, this place offers a complete contrast for the execution of manœuvres, there being no elevations and very little vegetation in the way of bushes, trees, &c., to impede operations, so our work has not been so varied perhaps, as in the two previous years. We have, however, come out of the ordeal creditably, and will now rest on our laurels till next year!

Two Cricket Matches have been played between B and C Cos., the former proving the victors on each occasion. Assuming that it is not a transgression to monopolise a portion of your valuable paper, I forward the scores for insertion.

Played at Tientsin 15th June, C Company 80, B Company 90. Played at Tientson 22nd June, B Company 94, C Company 71.

Regarding the North China Football League, I presume your various correspondents from this wing will deal with that topic, so I will not attempt to make any remarks on this subject, except to offer my congratulations to the winners and to predict a better result for ourselves in the competition next year. As the mail is making an imperative call, I must bring this to a conclusion, and remain for the time being,

"BUSY BEE"

THE FLOWERS AND FAUNA OF HONG KONG.

Few of the dwellers in Victoria take the trouble to study nature in the Island. Why, it is hard to understand, as it abounds with life of all sorts, but for the benefit of those who are perhaps unacquainted with the country, and yet take an interest in it, I pen these few lines.

It was my privilege on Sunday last to be able to take a real holiday, and with the aid of my motor car I was soon some forty miles from civilization, and had left the smells and fetid atmosphere of Victoria in the far distance. I could still see the town. From its dizzy height on the crest of Mount Cameron it frowned down on the plains beneath, and I pitied from my soul the poor folk who, held by work or family ties, were doomed to spend this glorious Sabbath

in the city, while I, untrammelled with care, was face to face with nature. After a run of a couple of hours I drew rein at a charming wayside inn, where a smart little Chinese maiden instantly tripped down the steps and bid me welcome. Taking me by the hand, she led me into the best parlour, and introduced me to her mother. I have always been susceptible to the charms of the fair sex, but I do not think that I ever saw a prettier picture than this Chinese maid, her wavy flaxen hair fell in profusion on her shoulders, and her large blue eyes twinkled with merriment. Her mother was a typical high-born Chinese lady of about forty, who had at one time been one of the belles of Hong Kong, and had been the toast of all the young sparks of the Colony. With that easy grace for which the nation is famed, she motioned me to a chair, and poured me out a delicious cup of the most fragrant Pekoe. As we sipped our tea we chatted pleasantly on various topics, and discussed the matrimonial prospects of the girl, who her mother was anxious should marry into one of the ancient families of England. She had already been engaged to the younger son of an earl, but the engagement had been broken off owing to the discovery that there had been insanity in his family. After half an hour's conversation we adjourned to the summer house, charmingly situated in the garden by the side of a purling stream. What an angler's paradise! Under the Mulberry tree, on the far side of the brook, great fat trout were greedily devouring the luscious fruit as it dropped from the tree, occasionally varying their diet by picking at the worms which floated idly down the stream. On a rock in the midst of an eddy a solitary snipe was plaintively calling to its mate, who, high in the blue heavens above was busily engaged in catching the purple butterflies which have made Hong-Kong so noted in the world of science. The indescribable smell of toasted cheese now greeted my nostrils, and I instinctively knew that a mouse was close at hand. I soon discovered the little fellow. His black beady eyes were shining from amidst a mass of primrose blossom, which was growing in extravagant profusion over the door of the summer house. I—

* * * * *

The writer of the above article is an old and valued contributor to the *Q.O.G.* We regret that he was unable to finish his letter, but when in the midst of it he was removed struggling violently, to the Hong-Kong Lunatic Asylum, where he is now playing shove half-penny with the younger son of a belted earl. [Editor, *Q.O.G.*]

DEPOT CRICKET.

v. Mr. FOSTER CLARK'S XI.

Played at Boughton Mount on Saturday, May 27th, resulting in a defeat for the Depot by 41 runs.

Depot:—Clr.-Sergt. Bass, c Francis, b Patey 0, Sergt. Humphreys, b Patey 2; Clr.-Sergt. Neighbour, b Patey 19; Pte. Bingley, c Ford, b Patey 11; Capt. Lister, b Patey 5; Clr.-Sergt. Tapp, c Wright, b Patey 0; Sergeant McGregor run out 5; Lieut. Tuff, lbw, b Patey 3; Pte. Ayres, c Ford, b White 4; Sergt. Bellion, c Woodfield, b Patey 6; Pte. Lowe not out 13; extras 11.—Total 79.

Mr. Foster Clark's XI.—A. Tanner, b Tapp 13; W. Ford, b Tuff, 24; Fenwick, b Tapp 0; A. M. Woodfield, b Tapp 5; G. Foster Clark, b Humphreys 19; T. Patey, c Bass, b Ayres 0; G. White, b Ayres 28; H. Kitchenham, lbw, b Tuff 0; T. Francis, not out 14; E. A. Boozer, c Lowe, b Ayres 0; A. Wright, b Tapp 2; Extras 15.—Total 120.

Pte. Ayres took 3 wickets for 50 runs. Clr.-Sergt. Tapp took 4 wickets for 22 runs. Lieut. Tuff took 2 wickets for 26 runs. Clr.-Sergt. Humphreys took 1 wicket for 7 runs.

v. 1st Batt. THE WELSH REGIMENT.

Played on the County Ground, Gravesend, on Monday, May 29th, and resulted in a draw. We confidently expected some leather hunting and were not disappointed, though our opponents were mainly indebted to Capt. Jones for their total. He gave a possible chance early on but after that played a splendid innings and towards the end hit with great vigour. The wicket was perfect but absolutely plumb; both Ayres and Tuff always kept a good length and bowled well for the greater part of a very hot day. Our fielding as usual was indifferent, and several catches were dropped, but Capt. Lister and Clr.-Sergt. Bass were always quick and safe on the boundary. In the hour and a half before lunch our opponents made 62 for 3 wickets, and were all out at 4.15 for 259. We were only left with an hour and a half for play, and on the easy wicket there seemed little chance of anything but a draw. Bingley went with 3 only on the board, but Hewitt and Bass took the score to 105 in 45 minutes when the former having made a big drive out of the ground for 6 was finely taken off a leg snick. Sergt. Bass was out immediately afterwards for 57, chiefly made from fine drives; he hit very hard and with great confidence and got 12 fours in his score. With 20 minutes still remaining for play seven men were out, but Col.-Sergt. Tapp played well and was out last ball of the day. Corpl. McNamara stayed in for 30 minutes and played the right game. We have thoroughly enjoyed our two matches with the Welsh Regiment, especially the one at Gravesend. It is a great treat after match after match on a bad wicket when any double figure score is the exception to get a game on a first-class ground, and we hope that next year some more matches of this class will be arranged. Scores:—

Depot:—A. S. Hewitt, c Capt. Jones, b Hunter Jones 28; Pte. Bingley, b Pugh 0; Clr.-Sergt. Bass, b Bevis 57; Clr.-Sergt. Neighbour, c White, b Pugh 3; Capt. Lister, b Bevis 3; C. T. Tuff, b Pugh 2; Sergt. McGregor, c Hunter Jones, b Bevis 3; Corpl. McNamara not out 4; Clr.-Sergt. Tapp, b Bevis 21; Ptes. Lowe and Ayres did not bat; extras 22. Total for 8 Wickets 143.

1st Welsh Regiment:—F. Hunter Jones, c Hewitt, b Tapp 22; Sergt. Smith, c Tapp, b Ayres 1; Capt. F. A. Jones, not out 155; Pte. Church, b Ayres 4; Capt. C. R. Berkeley, b Ayres 30; Pte. White, c Lister, b Tuff 1; Pte. Moulding, b Tuff 0; Pte. Bevis, b Tuff 8; W. Partridge, c Bingley, b Tuff 2; Clr.-Sergt. Pugh, b Lowe 19; Corpl. Skelton, b Tapp 1; extras 16.—Total 259.

Pte. Ayres took 3 wickets for 88; Clr.-Sergt. Tapp took 2 wickets for 52; Lieut. Tuff took 4 wickets for 72; Lieut. Hewitt took 0 wickets for 10; Pte. Lowe 1 wicket for 20.

v. BARMING HEATH C.C.

Played at the Depot on June 3rd. Depot lost by 24 runs. Scores:—

Barming Heath :—E. Startup, c Bass, b Hewitt 16; F. Wynn, b Ayres 4; W. Moorhouse, c Neighbour, b Ayres 7; F. Parker, c McNamara, b Ayres 5; W. Alder, c Hewitt, b Bass 0; D. Hall, c Ayres, b Hewitt 9; F. Curtis, b Ayres 2; F. Williams, c Tapp, b Hewitt 0; O. Keene, not out 14; W. Keene, b Hewitt 1; A. Hayward, b Hewitt 0; extras 10.—Total 68.

Depot :—A. S. Hewitt, b Startup 12; Clr.-Sergt. Bass, b Startup 5; Clr.-Sergt. Neighbour, s Alder, b Startup 0; Q.M.S. Gilburd, c Alder, b Wynn 1; Capt. Lister, c Parker, b Startup 5; Clr.-Sergt. Tapp, run out 2; Corpl. McNamara, not out 5; Pte. Wright, c Hayward, b Wynn 5; Pte. Eves, s Alder, b Startup 0; Pte. Ayres, b Startup 0; Pte. Drage, b Startup 3; extras 6.—Total 44.

Pte. Ayres took 4 wickets for 28 runs; Clr.-Sergt. Tapp, took 0 wickets for 12 runs; Clr.-Sergt. Bass took 1 wicket for 10 runs; Lt. Hewitt took 5 wickets for 6 runs.

v. BRUNSWICK HOUSE.

Played at the Depot on June 14th. Depot lost by 10 runs. The hot sun after the recent rains made the pitch very queer, and the bowling on both sides was very good. We got our opponents out for 39, Ayres taking four wickets for twelve, Lieut. Hewitt one for ten, and Murphy four for eight. We then lightheartedly set about making the runs. The result was a dismal failure! Pte. Wright was top scorer with nine, and the whole side made 29! Our opponents took 2½ hours in compiling their 39 runs, eighteen consecutive overs being maidens.

v. SPRINGFIELD MILL.

Played at the Depot on June 24th. Depot won by five runs. Again a difficult wicket and low scoring. Springfield batted first and made 39. The Depot lost three men for 35, but the next seven wickets only realized 9 runs!

Depot Score :—Corpl. McNamara, run out 7; Lt. Hewitt, b Hider 16; Clr.-Sergt. Murphy, b Wright 10; Q.M.S. Gilburd, b Hider 1; Pte. Wright, s Mason, b Wright 0; Sergt. Bellion, b Hider 1; Clr.-Sergt. Humphrey, c Hider, b Wright 1; Pte. Ayres, b Hider 0; Pte. Martin, c Wright, b Hider 3; Corpl. Martin, c and b Wright 0; Pte. Drage, not out 0; Extras 5.—Total 44.

Pte. Ayres took 3 wickets for 24 runs; Lieut. Hewitt took 6 wickets for 9 runs.

3rd BATTALION INTELLIGENCE.

The recruits for Musketry and the Advance Party assembled at the Barracks, Maidstone, on the 5th June, and proceeded to St. Martin's Plain, Shorncliffe, by special train. This party arrived at Shorncliffe to find a gale in progress, and on arrival at the camping ground (wet through) found that havoc had been wrought with our canvas, the large dining tent having been smashed by the force of the wind. The bad weather continuing for some days made progress difficult, but by dodging the rain and taking advantage of all cover, useful work was done, and the recruits were quite fit when firing commenced on the Friday.

The shooting was good, and a marked improvement on that of the previous year; the weather still keeping wet,

but again we dodged the worst of it, and were lucky enough to complete the course in our allotted time.

The old hands assembled at Maidstone on the 19th inst. in a most orderly manner, and marched off well up to time. On arrival at camp the men quickly shook down to the work, and training was commenced in earnest, one half Battalion at Musketry, and the other at Infantry Training under the Company Officers. Only just sufficient drill being done to steady the men in the ranks, then, when the manœuvre maps had been carefully studied, many were the hard-fought actions that took place on the plains, golf links, and top of the hills, east and west, with the result that our Brigadier, when he held his inspection of the Batt., expressed his satisfaction of the way in which the men were manœuvred, especially mentioning the way cover was made use of, the careful adjustment of sights, and the selection of objects by the individual soldiers when acting independently.

As with the recruits, the firing of Table B by the trained men showed an improvement, but the young soldiers more than held their own, and generally secured the bulk of the prizes. The Officers of the Regiment also presented prizes to be competed for by the Militia Sergts., and another series for the rank and file.

After the Annual Inspection, with the kind permission of Col. Bailey, sports took place. The events were well contested, the number of entries showing the appreciation of the men, and substantial prizes were presented.

During the Training the Restaurant System of Messing was a great success, and gave satisfaction to everyone concerned, the twelve Companies having their meals in dining tents, the right-half Batt. dining in one large tent capable of seating 500 men, the left-half having three store tents, all meals being carved by appointed carvers, and laid ready for the men, who are then marched to their places. These arrangements were conducive not only to comfort, but also made a marked difference in the cleanliness of the camp and clothing of the men.

On Saturday, the 15th July, the Batt. entrained at Shorncliffe in two special trains, and on arrival at Maidstone equipment, clothing, &c., was handed in, the men being settled with and dismissed to their homes, looking all the better for the hard work and healthy exercise entailed during a Militia Training.

The strength of the Batt. at training was as follows :—Officers 32, Warrant Officer 1, N.C.O.'s and Men 822. It will be seen that though the Batt. has nearly its full complement of Officers, there is a shortage in the rank and file. This is in a great measure due to the large number of recruits passed on to the regulars by us.

3rd BATTALION NOTES.

SPORTS NEWS.

The following are the results of the Races, &c., at the Annual Sports :—

Kicking the football (47 entries), 1st Sergt. Powell, 2nd Pte. Townsend, 3rd Pte. Scollard.

100 Yards Flat Race (62 entries), 1st Pte. Johnson, 2nd Pte. Lucas, 3rd Pte. Patrick

Old Soldiers' Race (11 entries), 1st Lce.-Corpl. Hodson, 2nd Sergt. Ventham, 3rd Pte. Emery.

Band Race, 1st Drs. Verrall and Fordham (dead heat), 2nd Dr. Hall.

Affinity Race (96 entries), 1st Roberts and Thacker, 2nd Bovis and Pretty, 3rd Willoughby and McDonald.

Permanent Staff Race (7 entries), 1st Col.-Sergt. Tapp, 2nd Sergt. Connor, 3rd Col.-Sergt. Neighbour.

Quarter-Mile Race (29 entries), 1st Sergt. Johnson, 2nd Pte. Roberts, 3rd Pte. Patrick.

Bucket of Water Race (35 entries), 1st Pte. Allen, 2nd Pte. Pingelly, 3rd Lce.-Corpl. Deene.

Half-Mile Race (38 entries), 1st Pte. Bigginton, 2nd Pte. Bird, 3rd Pte. Chambers.

Sack Race (54 entries), 1st Pte. Sellick, 2nd Pte. Lucas, 3rd Pte. Duncan.

Mile Race (40 entries), 1st Pte. Scollard, 2nd Pte. Bigginton, 3rd Pte. Bird.

Wrestling on Horseback (32 entries), 1st Pullen and Arnold, 2nd Kemp and Lewis, 3rd Bussey and Lewis.

ROYAL WEST KENT VOLUNTEER BRIGADE

The West Kent Volunteer Brigade, composed of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Battalions, have just completed a most instructive and enjoyable camp at Arundel, on the grounds of His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, whose own regiment, the 2nd Sussex, was encamped in the immediate vicinity. Every officer and man was practically made a guest of the Duke. On arrival the Officers of the regiments were invited to the Castle and met by the Duke, and spent the afternoon enjoying the sights of his magnificent seat.

On Thursday afternoon the grounds and Castle were thrown open to the Non-Commissioned Officers, and on Saturday the Brigade Sports were held in the grounds, when His Grace gave permission for the men to wander anywhere.

On Monday work began in earnest with reveille at 5 a.m., and although the rain was coming down steadily it did not prevent work. The week was taken up with field manœuvres, and there was keen competition between the Battalions on such occasions to wipe one another out.

Colonel Satterthwaite earned, as before, the admiration of all ranks for his skill and ability as Brigadier, and expressed his satisfaction at the work done by the men in the field.

The health of the troops was excellent, and a well-known General was very favourably impressed with the work in the field, and expressed his astonishment at the high standard of physical development attained by the men. A medical inspection was carried out on the last day of camp, and it was found that practically every man was up to standard, and fit to defend his country when called upon to do so.

The week's work culminated in the Brigade Sports, held on the Duke's Cricket Ground, where the Battalions vied with one another for the Prizes, which were given away by the Mayoress of Arundel.

Not the least interesting event of the day was a visit from the French Fleet, when about two hundred Warrant Officers of the French and British Fleets arrived on the grounds, the Band struck up the "Marsellaise," and our friends were cheered again and again, the compliment was returned with vigour by the Frenchmen, and for sometime the enthusiasm was so great that the sports had to wait. The most interesting event was a three-legged race, when a Frenchman bound closely to a British Warrant Officer leaped lightly along the course to the starting point, the race was keen and well contested, and roars of laughter greeted the downfall of Frenchman and Britisher when they collapsed together, only to rise again and struggle on.

The visitors cheered us again and again, sang "For he's a jolly good fellow," clapped hands in a weird and wondrous way, we cheered them, and the cheering and counter cheering lasted until the time for their departure.

The sports as a whole were a great success, thanks to the energetic Committee composed of Captain Lawrie, Captain Dodd, Surgeon-Captain Stilwell, Surgeon-Lieutenant Jefferiss, and Lieutenant C. W. Lacey (Hon. Secretary). The Battalion tug-of-war was a keenly contested event pulled off by the "Babies" of the Brigade, the 4th Battalion. The Officers' tug-of-war ended in a win for the 3rd Battalion, the winning team, coached by Colour-Sergeant-Instructor Cook, being composed of Major Lovibond, Captain Matthews, Captain and Adjutant Simpson, Surgeon-Captain Fegan, Surgeon-Captain Stilwell, Lieutenant Russel, and Second-Lieutenant Watson.

The results of the events were as follows:—

Bicycle race—1 Lance-Corporal Wells, 2 Private S. Wells, 3 Private J. Cook, all of the 1st Battalion.

100 yards race—1 Ventham, 2 Hoath, 3 Parris.

Buglers' race—1 Norris, 2 Busmer, 3 Lane.

Quarter Mile—1 Private Gentry, 2 Colour-Sergeant Turner, 3 Private Hoath.

Blind-fold Obstacle race—1 Chatten, 2 Cousins, 3 Hart.

Three-legged race—1 Parris, 2 Mannerings, 3 Power.

Veterans' race—1 Lance-Corporal Gardner, 2 Private Jordan, 3 Sergeant Johnston.

Sergeants' race—1 Sergeant Brotherwood, 2 Sergeant Little (4th Battalion), 3 Sergeant Doughty.

Band race—1 Beecher, 2 Fassett.

Sack race—1 Stark, 2 Cousins, 3 Dixon.

Tug-of-war—4th Battalion (coach, Sergeant-Instructor Byrne).

Event for visitors of the Fleet—A three-legged race.

The Officer commanding the Depot desires to acknowledge the receipt of the following sums for the Regimental Compassionate Fund:—

	£	s.	d.
Major W. E. Rowe	1 0 0
Capt. R. G. T. Hildyard	1 0 0
Capt. H. L. C. Moody	1 0 0
Capt. R. M. G. Tulloch	0 10 0
Capt. G. Elgood	0 10 0
Capt. A. K. Grant	0 10 0
Lieut. E. H. Norman	0 10 0
Lieut. A. H. Pullman	0 10 0
Lieut. A. S. Hewitt	0 5 0
Lieut. C. W. Case-Morris	0 5 0
Licut. G. E. St. C. Stevenson	0 5 0

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of the following subscription:—

To December, 1905, Mrs. Bridge Nunn.

We have been asked to further the interests of the Sailors' and Soldiers' Club, 26 and 28, Moreton Street, Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W., which is carried on under the superintendence of Miss Lloyd.

The establishment can comfortably house and sleep forty, and these forty beds, it seems, are at times not nearly enough to meet the demand. The price for beds is only 9d. per night, with a liberal reduction if taken for the week. But it is a noteworthy fact that since 1900, when the Club was first started, until the present day, every Regiment in the Service and over 100 Ships in the Navy have been represented there, a fact which tells its own satisfactory story. Many invalids and wounded soldiers coming home from South Africa have found a kind welcome at the Club, and been helped in many ways, their money and valuables were looked after for them, friends communicated with, and the sick nursed, while others again, who have joined the Reserve, have been helped to find employment. Band and drummer boys would appear to be Miss Lloyd's particular care. To those soldiers who do not know the place, our best advice is—know it as soon as you can.

SHOOTING NEWS.

On the 29th July the Depot Shooting Team journeyed to Benenden on the invitation of Major Neve to try conclusions with their old friends the Benenden Rifle Club (holders of the Astor Cup).

After a pleasant drive through the Weald of Kent, we, on arrival, at once commenced shooting, and our opponents secured a substantial lead which we were unable to pull up, Benenden eventually winning by 55 points.

After the match we adjourned to the residence of Major Neve and were splendidly entertained at dinner on the lawn.

After the usual loyal toasts, the health of winners of the Astor Cup was drunk, which was followed by music, etc, and after a most enjoyable time we started for Maidstone, arriving home in the small hours of the morning with lasting recollections of one of those days that are few and far between.

The scores of the teams were as under:

BENENDEN RIFLE CLUB.		DEPOT.	
Mr. Craven	89	Sergt.-Maj. Grellier ...	87
„ Springett	84	Sergt. Dugay	85
„ Miles	83	Sergt.-Maj. Outten ...	82
„ Ticehurst	83	Sergt. Pond	82
„ Lansdale	83	Clr.-Sergt. A. E. Wood	80
„ Hyland	81	Clr.-Sergt. Murphy ...	73
„ Weston	80	Clr.-Sergt. Bass	73
„ Rolfe	80	Clr.-Sergt. Wimhurst...	71
„ Mannington	79	Clr.-Sergt. Osborne ...	67
Major Neve	72	Sergt. Davis	59
Grand total 814		Grand total 759	

At Boarley Range, Boxley, on the 4th August we encountered our old opponents, the School of Musketry, Hythe, 3rd team, and were on this occasion successful, winning the match by 37 points. The weather was very tricky and puzzled our visitors, who were coached by Q.M. Sergt. Robinson, of Army championship fame. The teams, after the match, adjourned to the Sergeants' mess, where a substantial repast was indulged in, and after a pleasant day returned to Hythe, darkly hinting of a rod in pickle for us on the next occasion we meet. Scores.

S. OF M. 3rd TEAM.		DEPOT.	
C.S.I. Henderson.....	79	C.S. Osborne.....	88
„ Turner	79	Sergt. Dugay.....	86
„ Smith.....	79	C.S. Murphy.....	85
Ar.-Sgt. Tucker	78	„ Wood	83
S.I. Ward	77	S.M. Outten	82
Q.M.S. Cockayne	75	„ Grellier.....	77
S.I. McKay	70	C.S. Wimhurst	73
Q.M.S. Maddocks	66	C.S.I. Evenden	66
603		640	

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

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

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS

OF

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

No. 363.

MAIDSTONE, SEPTEMBER, 1905.

[Vol. XXIV, No. 9.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

1st BATTALION.

Promoted Colour-Sergeant :—Sergeant W. Osborne, 19th May.

Promoted Sergeants :—Lance-Sergeants C. Stace, 2nd June; H. Doe, 25th August.

Appointed Lance-Sergeants :—Corporals W. Cockle, 2nd June; R. Harrison, 10th August; T. Cassidy, 25th August.

Promoted Corporals :—Lance-Corporal F. Piper, 2nd June; A. Catt, 10th August.

Appointed Lance-Corporals :—Privates W. Ellen, 7th August; J. Kirton, 9th August; E. Rixon and W. Faulkner, 22nd August; W. Bellingham and F. Craddock, 25th August.

Appointed Sergeant-Cook :—Sergeant W. Penny, 18th July.

Barrack Square, which doubtless the Company Correspondents have told you about. There has been a certain amount of boating. The Regiment entered a boat in the (name omitted), but owing chiefly to the fact of the Regimental boat used being a very heavy one, we only managed to take third place. The only other form of recreation to be had is bathing.

Lieutenants Fisher and Vicat with a large party of casuals are out at Pembroke doing musketry, and though they are some distance from the attractions (?) of Valetta, they have the advantage of a cool breeze, which is a great advantage. I am afraid there is no more news for you this month, but let us hope for better times.

Your 1st Battalion Correspondent.

CRICKET.

We have only played three matches during the last month, several matches having been cancelled owing to our opponents being engaged in the Governor's Cup.

Royal West Kent Regiment v. 1st Rifle Brigade. Played at St. Andrew's ground, July 27th. Scores :

1st RIFLE BRIGADE.

Lieutenant Hubbard, b Fiennes...	...	29
Sergeant Taylor, c and b Lawrence	...	12
" Ede, b Hooper...	...	24
Captain Pitt Taylor, b Fiennes...	...	77
Lieutenant Nugent, c and b Lawrence	...	16
" Brand, b do	...	38
Rifleman Partridge, b Fiennes	...	15
Corporal Laidlaw, c Lambe, b Lawrence	...	4
Lieutenant Cookson, not out	...	7
Colour-Sergeant Oldfield, not out	...	6
Extras	...	9

Total for 8 wickets ... 237

Corporal Potesta did not bat.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Floriana Barracks,

Malta,

15th August, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,

I am afraid there is not much of interest to swell your columns this mail. We are now going through the worst part of the year in the way of climate, and everyone who has been able to get away is on leave, 2nd-Lt. Cooke being the last departure on Wednesday. Major R. C. Style has joined the Battalion from the Depot. I enclose the scores of Regimental cricket matches played against the Rifle Brigade, the R.A.M.C., and the Eastern Telegraph Company. There have been many Company matches on the

1st ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT.

Captain Fiennes, st Nugent, b Hubbard	7
Lce.-Corpl Reeves, c Hubbard, b Oldfield	16
Private Ford, not out	51
„ Lawrence, not out	54
Extras	20
Total for 2 wickets	148

Private Hooper, Corporal Lambe, Private Colvin, Captain Keenlyside, Privates Pryer, Brown, and Cridland did not bat.

Royal West Kent Regiment v. R.A.M.C. Played at Malta on August 5th, 1905. Scores :

R.A.M.C.

Private Fish, c Fiennes, b Allen	3
„ Blundell, b Lawrence	31
Captain Kennedy, c Vicat, b Allen	0
Private McCraig, b Allen	0
„ Bedale, b do	2
Sergeant O'Neil, c Fisher, b Lawrence	11
Private Burns, c and b Allen	4
„ Whitaker, c Lawrence, b do	0
„ Altoft, not out	17
„ Thwart, b Lawrence	1
„ Pike, b Allen	0
Extras	8
Total for 8 wickets	77

ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT.

Captain Fiennes, b O'Neil	22
Private Lawrence, c Kennedy, b do	3
Lieutenant Fisher, b do	21
Sergeant Allen, c Altoft, b do	0
Lieutenant Vicat, b Kennedy, b Blundell	1
Captain Keenlyside, not out	32
Lance-Corporal Lander, b O'Neil	1
Private Hooper, c Kennedy, b do	1
Corporal Lambe, c Whitaker, b Kennedy	26
Extras	6
Total for 8 wickets	113

Lance-Corporal Reeves and Private Brown did not bat.

Royal West Kent Regiment v. Eastern Telegraph Company. Played at Malta on August 12th, 1905. Scores :

E.T.C.

A. S. Gardner, c Colvin, b Allen	30
H. A. Bellairs, b do	25
E. White, b Fiennes	9
A. E. Frost, b do	15
W. G. Marchant, c Colvin b Allen	10
A. Gardner, c Knight, b Hooper	18
W. Prosser, c Knight, b Whitmore	14
H. L. Organ, not out	19
H. G. Snell, b Allen	11
C. F. Green, b Fiennes	1
A. C. Adair, run out	2
Extras	19
Total	173

ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT.

Captain Fiennes, b S. Gardner	38
Sergeant Allen, b do	26
Private Hooper, st Organ, b do	11
Sergeant Reeves, lbw, b White	3
Private Colvin, b do	6
„ Cridland, b S. Gardner	5
Sergeant Edwards, st Organ, b White	2
Private Whitmore, b S. Gardner	13
„ Ryan, b do	8
„ Pryer, b do	1
„ Knight, not out	3
Extras	2
Total	118

H COMPANY.

H Company figured up well in the Bayonet Fighting Competition recently held, trained by Corporal Hayley, the team defeated F Company by two points in the final. They have hopes of securing the Drill Shield.

H Company Correspondent.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of subscriptions from Capt. L. H. Hickson, Capt. C. M. Allfrey, Mr. P. W. Helan and Mr. W. J. Burn.

The Corporals of the Battalion invited the Corporals of the Hampshire Regiment to a friendly match at Floriana Barracks. The match resulted in a win for the visitors, who batted first. Several of their batsmen were in good form, and on reaching 175 for 7 wickets, the Hants. Captain declared. The Kents then went in and batted for about half-an-hour, Reeves running up a good score before stumps were drawn, and we adjourned for tea, which was prepared in the comfortable coffee bar of the West Kents, where, amidst much pleasant raillery, full justice was done to the preparations made for us. Play was resumed after tea, but the home team did not appear very comfortable in the wickets, for Watmore being well on, the whole team came out for 93 at 6.30, when stumps were drawn, Reeves and Lander having played a good game for their side.

Immediately after the match the Hants Corporals were invited to spend the evening in the Corporals' Mess. The invite was accepted with alacrity (we have met before), and the unanimous opinion of the Hants. is that they never spent a more pleasant evening. It would be difficult to spend a more pleasant evening, and practically impossible to spend it among jollier comrades.

Corporal Gurr, West Kent (Chairman), with the assistance of Corporal Houghton (Hants.), arranged an impromptu programme. It would take too much space to mention all the items deserving notice, as it would entail the detail of almost all of them. Private Hyland, R.W. Kent's, ably presided at the piano.

SIX MONTHS' IMPRESSION OF HONG-KONG, CHINA.

Approaching Hong-kong in the month of December, and viewing the slopes of the Colony from the deck of the steamer, especially on that side approaching the Island by Aberdeen and through Sulphur Channel, one's first impression is—"What a barren looking place?" But very few buildings are to be seen, and the heights appear to be covered with nothing else but rocks and a reddish brown earth, with here and there patches of evergreen scrub and fir trees. However, on closer inspection, what appears to be earth is nothing more or less than dried bracken, left all brown and sere by the autumn sun, and which, in places is very dense.

The appearance of these heights as I write has now a very different aspect, the slopes being covered with a bright green mantle of grass and bracken, and even the dull hue of the evergreens is brightened by the young and lighter shoots which have made their appearance with the approach of the hot weather. Another thing that catches the eye too, is the large number of Chinese graves with which the western slopes of Hong-Kong are studded, each of which is marked by a small piece of granite, whereon are inscribed various Chinese characters. I was informed that most of these graves were made, and I presume filled, during an epidemic of plague which raged here some years ago, and which carried off large numbers of Asiatics, many of whom were "dumped" in the streets or harbour to save their friends burial expenses, and the attendant inconvenience of being isolated, and having their homes cleaned and disinfected, to which the Chinaman appears to have the greatest objection. This practice of "dumping" dead bodies in the streets and elsewhere is carried on even now, and I myself saw the body of a Chinese child, apparently between two and three years of age, and fully dressed, lying near the married quarters in Queen's Road, the main thoroughfare of Victoria. The dead body was pointed out to an Indian policeman, and was removed about an hour afterwards by the Sanitary authorities.

Of course, one cannot fail to notice the Signalling Station on Victoria Peak, which is some 1,800 feet high, and from which nearly all shipping approaching from the South and West are signalled to Victoria, in fact, the signals are visible, and with the aid of a good glass can be made out from considerable distances, both in Hong-Kong and Kowloon, on the mainland. From here too, a gun is fired on the arrival of the Mails, and a signal made showing whether the Mail is English, Canadian, Australian, French or German. On passing through Sulphur Channel, with Green Island on the port side, and on which stands the lighthouse, marking the western limits of the harbour, the anchorage is found to be thickly studded with shipping of all descriptions. Here, from time to time, may be found vessels representing the navies of the world. Here, too, are to be found the splendid vessels of the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., P. & O, B.I., and other lines, not to mention other smaller vessels, steam launches, junks, and sampans. What is most surprising is the number of large steamers always to be found in harbour here, in fact, recently I saw it quoted in a local paper, that the tonnage of vessels calling at Hong-kong is greater than any other port in the world.

By the way, apparently the name of the Colony should be written *Hongkong*, and not *Hong Kong*, as we have been used to seeing it printed in our School geography.

The Chinese junks and sampans have a very ramshackle appearance, especially the former, with their sails made of grass matting, and their long "sweeps," with which they are propelled from the stern when there is no wind. Each junk and sampan has its Chinese family, or families, and some of the residents on the larger junks appear to add to their income by taking in lodgers at night, when the junks are moored, and, as many of the lodgers have probably been coaling ship during the day, the dirt and filth is indescribable.

There is no doubt that the harbour is a magnificent anchorage for vessels of any size, tonnage, or capacity. There are dry Docks at Aberdeen, on the S.W. of Hong-kong, also at Kowloon, on the mainland, and the Admiralty are constructing dry docks at the Naval Dockyard in Victoria, and at Sha-ki-wan, some five miles to the east of the City.

Victoria, the capital of Hong-kong, is built on the N.W. slopes of the Island, facing the mainland. With the exception of Queen's Road, the main thoroughfare, the streets are narrow, and rise in terraces, one above the other on the hillside. They are clean and well-kept. The houses, built of stone, or brick faced with cement, are painted various colours, and give the City quite a gay appearance. Each has a verandah, from the portico of which many plants peep forth, and add to the beauty of the scene. Many of the hotels, shipping offices, and other places of business are magnificent buildings, and tower to a considerable height above the streets. When you consider that nearly all the material with which this great city has been built; not to speak of the large buildings on the higher slopes of the mountain side, has been dragged or carried to its present position on the shoulders of Chinese Coolies, with the aid of the inevitable bamboo pole, one can hardly realise what a prodigious task has been carried out, and which has been that of the English since the occupation of the Island but little more than half-a-century ago.

In the poorer districts the houses are not so well built, and are much overcrowded, which perhaps accounts for the plague carrying off so many Asiatics, especially Chinese, and not a week goes by without several deaths from this terrible scourge. Some of the bodies, as I have before stated, being "dumped" in the streets, and this in spite of

the exertions of the police and sanitary authorities, who appear to be hard worked, and have, apparently, a most unpleasant and thankless task to perform.

One is struck by the absence of horse-flesh in the streets, except on occasions, when an Indian syce or Chinese coolie may be seen leading some ponies to the polo ground, or a diminutive pony may be seen drawing a small carriage into which some half-dozen Chinese ladies have compressed themselves, altogether oblivious of any discomfort or inconvenience. The principle means of conveyance are the electric trams, "chairs," and jinrickshaws. There is also the cable tramway, which conveys the traveller from Victoria to Victoria Gap, some fourteen hundred feet high, and at parts of the journey the line reaches such a startling angle, that the buildings on the hillside appear to be toppling over, and one wonders what would happen should anything break. During the journey glimpses of the harbour may be obtained, and the view is superb. The electric tramway extends from Kenedy Town in the west, through the main thoroughfares, and along the quays to Sha-Ki-Wan in the east, a distance of some nine miles, and the journey, which is very pleasant and enjoyable, especially in the hot weather, can be made for 15 cents (about 4d.)—not a very exorbitant sum. The "rickshaws" are drawn by Chinese coolies, and it is surprising what considerable distances these coolies will travel, between four and five miles an hour with some ten to fourteen stone behind them, and without showing any signs of distress or inconvenience. The "chair" is mostly used in the hilly districts, and in it the passenger is carried on the shoulders of two or more coolies, and is rather a pleasant form of locomotion.

From personal observation, I should imagine that in the streets of Hong-Kong one can meet representatives from almost every country in the world, and as there are some 300,000 Chinese in the colony, the streets present a very busy aspect all day, and at times the noise and clatter is quite deafening. There being no horses, nearly everything is carried on the shoulders of Chinese coolies at the ends of a bamboo or other pole, and it is a common occurrence to see a Chinese woman carrying a heavy load of coal, wood, or other material, with her baby child suspended on her back, a little bare foot projecting each side of her, very often fast asleep, and its little head wobbling too and fro in a surprising manner, and apparently not in the least affected by the jolting gait of its parent. The clothing of the coolie is very scanty, and men and women alike wear loose trousers. The men have the front and sides of their

heads partly shaved, and the remainder of their hair they wear "en queue." The women wear their hair in a "bun," sometimes at the side, but mostly at the back of the head, and of this the "amahs" (nurses) appear to make a very convenient pin cushion, when at needlework. Here also can be seen many Japs with their quaint dress, and these always have a very clean appearance. Some of the better class Chinese women have their feet squeezed or compressed into tiny shoes that would not fit a baby six months old, and their progress through the streets is painful to watch, that the feelings are of the women in question, it is impossible to imagine, but they appear to be quite reconciled to this senseless custom.

The Police here are of three classes, English, Indian, and Chinese, and at night, whilst the English and Indian Police are armed with revolvers, the Chinese Policemen are entrusted with swords only. I imagine that it is too risky to trust them with firearms as they appear to be very excitable, especially when there is a row on.

The principal barracks in Hong-Kong are Murray, Victoria, and Wellington Barracks, the two former being occupied by Infantry and Artillery respectively, and the latter by R.E.'s and R.A.M.C. The Station Hospital is also part of Wellington Barracks. There are also numerous outlying forts, etc., mostly peopled by the R.G.A., and there is also Mount Austin Barracks, some 1300 or 1400 feet above the sea, and where at present we have a detachment of two Companies (A and D). I have been told that at one time this Barracks was a large American hotel, and it is said that the Government paid £35,000 for the same. Some of the rooms, apparently former bedrooms, are only large enough to hold six men, and can be made very cosy in the winter, when it is very cold at this altitude. A portion of the building, which has a very commanding appearance, and overlooks Victoria, is in the hands of the contractor, whose men are substituting the wooden beams and plaster ceilings for iron girders and concrete floors, and as a result the interior is rather dirty and untidy. However, with its cool breezes, free from the far-reaching odours of the Chinese, it is much to be preferred than Murray Barracks, which, lying at no elevation from the sea to speak of, are very close and stuffy. Inside Murray Barracks, especially at night, one appears to be stumbling over nothing else but steps and gullies, and as the granite is worn very smooth, in places, many a man has had a very nasty fall. There are no barrack rooms on the ground floor, the troops occupying the

two floors above, the lower rooms being utilised for the usual offices and regimental institutions.

The two blocks occupied by the troops, with a connecting covered way, form the letter H, with cookhouse and latrines in the intervening spaces. The Officers' block is situated close to and overlooks Queen's Road, the main thoroughfare, and like the rest of the Barracks, has not a very prepossessing appearance.

Places of amusement in Hong-kong are practically nil, but occasionally a travelling theatrical company will give a show for a few nights, and then the building is generally crowded to an uncomfortable degree. There is the Soldiers' Club, with its bar, billiard, supper and reading rooms, and where sundry drinks or eatables may be obtained at reasonable cost, and there is also the Sailors' and Soldiers' Home, with similar accommodation, and where eatables and lighter refreshments can also be obtained.

Bathing is mostly carried out at Stonecutter's Island, about two miles away, the troops being conveyed there by steam launch, the trip and cool "blow" obtained whilst crossing the harbour being much appreciated.

For the partisans of sport generally there is Happy Valley, reclaimed from a dismal swamp some years ago, and situated about two miles east of Victoria. Here there is a splendid race course, where an occasional Gymkhana takes place, and where the annual race meeting is largely attended by all classes, and it is somewhat amusing to see the better class Chinese, as eager as anybody, backing his fancy with a five or ten dollar note, according to his means. The race meeting lasts about five days, and some of the side shows are well worth a visit. Here one can purchase roast duck, pig, or dog, stewed frogs and "shamshu" (drink), sugar cane and tea, but it would require a very strong stomach indeed to tackle Chinese "chow" (food). At Happy Valley, and at all times, are to be seen games of all sorts. Football, cricket, hockey, golf, bowls or tennis, and occasionally some American Sailors take a turn at baseball. It is a magnificent place for games, and there is ample room, there being three full sized football grounds, a hockey ground, and numerous cricket pitches, leaving plenty of room for bowls, golf, and tennis. By the way, there appears to be no "close season" here, as football and hockey may be seen in full swing at the same time as cricket, golf, tennis, &c. As may be imagined, Tommy and Jack take full advantage of the provision made for their games, and in the cool season, when football is in full

swing, it is a sight worth seeing to watch the long procession of "rickshaws" wending their way to Happy Valley, their occupants fully intent upon urging their own respective Corps, Ship, or Club to victory.

With Mount Nicholson towering above it on the eastern side, and Mounts Caroline and Cameron on the western side, Happy Valley is prettily situated, and is well-named, but as is generally the case with the beautiful things of this world, there is an occasional shadow thrown over the place, and which is easily understood, as a silent and sad procession of mourners may be seen wending their way up the hillside to the last resting place of some unfortunate comrade or a Jack Tar, for it is here that the cemetery for all creeds is situated, and as the report of the last volley rings out across the beautiful scene, and echoes again and again upon the mountain sides, one cannot help reflecting whether, after all, the place is thoroughly deserving of its name, and how full of meaning are the words:—

"Our life is but a fading dawn,
Its glorious noon how quickly past;
Lead us, O Christ, when all is gone,
Safe home at last."

Of course with such a splendid harbour at hand there are plenty of opportunities for boating, and at the recent regatta the officers' and the rank and file crews more than held their own against the garrison, each crew respectively winning by a good margin. Polo is played at Causeway Bay, and at times is productive of some very exciting games. The Governor, Sir Mathew Nathan, appears to be much interested in the game, and several officers of the Battalion have their own ponies.

Quite recently the Officers and N.C.O.'s circumnavigated the Island by steam launch, with a view to testing their abilities in map reading, and also to give them an opportunity of identifying the various points on the coast line, most likely to form a landing place for an enemy. Combining as it did, much pleasure with some very useful instruction, the trip was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Considering Hong-kong as a whole, and from the barrack room point of view, the place is very disappointing, although no doubt, there are far worse stations throughout the British Empire. Everything and everybody seems to be connected with nothing else but the traffic of business. Trade, with its scurry and bustle. Early in the morning, at noon, and late at night you get it, and on *every* day in the

week, and on Sunday it seems worse, but perhaps that is because we notice it more, having nothing much to do ourselves.

Clothing and the ordinary necessities of life are very dear, and the only things that appear to be at all cheap are vegetables, of which there appears to be a plentiful supply, and which are mostly brought here by steamers from Canton, Shanghai, Manilla, &c. Owing to its mountainous nature there is but little cultivation on the island, and that mostly in the neighbourhood of Little Hong Kong and Aberdeen, and I might also add that, owing to the same reason, many of the "tactical exercises" carried out by the half Battalion since its arrival here have been very arduous, and there are many, no doubt, who would much prefer a country where there are fewer and less abrupt heights to climb than those in this small Colony. However, it is only fair to add that there are few, if any, men fall out, and the keen and intelligent manner in which these exercises have been carried out have brought with it much appreciation from those in authority.

The climate is very trying as the temperature varies in a wonderful manner. During the winter months it is bitterly cold at times and warm clothing is required, and then, all in the same day, it will become quite warm and pleasant, as in the late days of spring at home, but since the arrival of the hot weather it is very humid and oppressive, and from the reports issued by the Hong Kong Observatory, it is observed that the humidity of the atmosphere averages between 70 and 80 degrees. One day it is excessively hot, whilst the next, the temperature, as on the day I am writing this, will fall below 80 degrees.

The authorities, realizing the trying conditions of life for Tommy, do all in their power to add to the comfort of the troops, and with this end in view, not only are "punkahs" provided, but each man has his mosquito net, and he is issued with two extra cholera belts, and extra flannel shirt and two sleeping suits or pyjamas. To say that these, especially the latter, are very much appreciated is to say the least. Speaking of mosquitos, we have all heard the yarn of those who perform their antics, "wearing four and five badges," but I think the story of some of these said mosquitos having been overheard discussing how hard the times were now, to those when the Great Wall of China was building, and when there were no mosquito nets, is a little beyond endurance. There is no doubt, however, that they are a mischevous pest and nuisance, and are the means of introducing malarial fever into the system if not careful.

Apparently during the months of May, June, and July, very heavy rain storms are experienced, of which, I may add, we have already had a few samples, and as the locality is noted for its typhoons and cyclones at this time of the year, we are continually on the alert for the same, but although the typhoon signal has been hoisted on several occasions, and we have taken all sorts of precautions, we have not yet had a visit from one of these. Report says that things are very lively in Hong-Kong during a typhoon, so I cannot say we are eager to experience one during our stay here.

These four Companies (A, D, E, and G) have now been in Hong-Kong six months, and as we are to be stationed here yet another eighteen months, there are no doubt many curious things that the careful observer could write of, but I trust that the above notes will be of interest not only to those in the colony, but also to those who have friends or relations serving their King and country in the far East.

H.J.B.

Hong-Kong, China,
21st June, 1905.

DEPOT NOTES.

Major N. S. H. Lowe arrived from 1st Battalion and took over duties of O.C., Depot, 28th July, 1905, from Major R. C. Style, who embarked for Malta 29th July.

Lance-Sergeant J. Ventham transferred to the Army Reserve August 25th, 1905; Pte. R. Ever, August 6th, 1905.

6252 Pte. W. Cripps, and 5755 Pte. G. Capsey rejoined to complete eight years with the colours from A.R., July, 1905; 6549 Pte. J. Weston, August 5th, 1905; 6284 Pte. H. Harvey, August 14th, 1905.

4348 Pte. H. Halls and 4172 Dr. G. Hurst have joined the Provisional Battalion at Dover.

Certificates of Education were awarded, on the recommendation, of the Inspector of Army Schools, Eastern Command, on the occasion of his annual inspection of the Depot School on 19th August, 1905:—Lce.-Corpls. Wellard, Second Class; 8072 Pte. J. Mephram, 8091 Pte. R. Airey, 8092 Pte. J. Harris, 8071 Pte. H. Manning, 8090 Pte. T. Wren, 8068 Pte. B. Smith, 8059 Pte. F. C. Smith, 8058 Pte. H. Claridge, 5811 Pte. W. Callaby, 3rd Batt. Third Class.

DEPOT CRICKET.

v. Dobney Institute: Played at Depot, July 29th. Scores, Depot 55, Dobney 30. Depot, Corpl. McNamara 14; Pte. Wright 22, Pte. Ayres 7. Pte. Ayres took 8 wickets for 10 runs; Pte. Martin 1 for 3.

v. Tovil, at Tovil, on Aug. 5th. Scores, Depot 58, Tovil 83. For Depot, Clr.-Sergt. Murphy made 10, Pte. Ayres 18; Pte. Ayres took 5 wickets for 24 runs, Clr.-Sergt. Murphy 3 for 22.

v. St. Peter's, at Depot, on 19th August. Scores, Depot 101, St. Peter's 22. Depot, Clr.-Sergt. Murphy 16, Sergt. McGregor 0, Clr.-Sergt. Neighbour 10, Clr.-Sergt. Bass 8, Lieut. Hewitt 30, Corpl. McNamara 4, Clr.-Sergt. Tapp 14, Pte. Ayres not out 7, Pte. Manning 0, Lce.-Corpl. Mockford 1, Pte. Munro 4; extras 7; total 101.

A remarkable collapse occurred when St. Peter's went to the wickets, out of a total of 22, only 5 runs came from the bat, the remaining 17 being byes from Col.-Sergt. Tapp's express deliveries. Nine men failed to score at all. Pte. Ayres did the "hat trick," getting in all five wickets for three runs, while Col.-Sergt. Tapp took four wickets for two runs.

v. St. Philips on August 12th. Scores: St. Philip's 73, Depot 74. When our last man went in we needed four runs to win, Pte. Manning hit the necessary four and got out next ball. The only double figure score on our side was a hard hit 28 by Col.-Sergt. Bass. Ayres took six wickets for 20, Col.-Sergt. Tapp three for 30, and Col.-Sergt. Murphy one for six.

v. Chatham Tradesmen at Chatham on August 16th. Scores: Depot 70, Chatham 174. The Depot were without Ayres and Col.-Sergt. Tapp, which greatly weakened their bowling. Lieut. Hewitt and Sergt. McGregor were also absent. Col.-Sergt. Bass again played well for 30, and Pte. Wright for 15. Col.-Sergt. Neighbour took six wickets for 41 runs.

v. East Farleigh, at East Farleigh, on August 26th. Capt. Walter got a very strong side together against us for the last match of the season, and after a good match defeated us by five runs, a result largely helped by the extras, which amounted to 17, six of which were no-balls. The Depot batted first on a wicket which had been over-watered, and were out for 92, of which Col.-Sergt. Neighbour made 12; Sergt. McGregor, 16; Lieut. Baddeley, 10; Col.-Sergt. Tapp, 13; Sergt. Stringer, 12. With East Farleigh in, an easy chance of running out the last man with the scores a tie was badly fumbled; two or three catches were missed also, though against this there was a brilliant one-handed catch at point by Col.-Sergt. Murphy. Pte. Ayres took three wickets for 34 runs, Col.-Sergt. Tapp two for 18, Col.-Sergt. Murphy one for 12, and Col.-Sergt. Neighbour three for 17.

The record for the season is: Matches played, 24; won, 9; lost, 14; drawn, 1. Most of the matches lost were during June and July, when the team was greatly weakened owing to the absence of the Militia Permanent Staff at Shorncliffe.

REGIMENTAL COMPASSIONATE FUND.

The Officer Commanding Depot desires to acknowledge the receipt of the following sums:—

Colonel J. L. Tweedie	...	...	0	10	0
Captain G. D. Lister	...	...	0	10	0
„ J. Kennedy	...	...	1	1	0

A DAY AT MACAO.

Macao is a small Portuguese settlement on the western side of the estuary of the Canton river. It was once a most important trading centre, but owing to the short-sighted policy of the Portuguese and Chinese in keeping it a closed port, it lost much of its trade, and gave place to its more enlightened rivals, Hong-Kong, Shanghai, etc. It became an open port in 1846, and since then has had a fair measure of prosperity. Its yearly revenue is £1,500,000, chiefly made from various forms of enterprise which borders very closely on smuggling. The foregoing facts were culled from the pages of the Encyclopædia Britannica, 15, 153c, and are therefore well worthy of your consideration. (Advt.)

We, the denizens of Hong-Kong, regard Macao from other points of view. We know indeed that it is Portuguese, for does not a gallant officer of the army of our hereditary ally, from time to time purchase picked steeds in the place for the cavalry there (?) and we know that it has a good trade with Hong-Kong. But we know it better as a island where the tired man can for a day or so forget his cares, and "bathe" in the sunshine of "the Monte Carlo of the East" (vide advertisements).

Excellent steamers run daily to and from Macao; they take three hours each way, and cater fairly well and cheaply for the inner man.

Let us then go abroad. It is nine o'clock and a fine morning, and we have had our breakfast. We choose the s.s. "Ho-Nan," which looked the biggest, and pay our dollars to a Chinaman at the gang-way. The company is a mixed one, of all nations and classes, all are in their best clothes, and all are bent on enjoyment. There is a pleasant head breeze and the sea has not a ripple, so, if you wish, we can sit on deck and watch the junks and islands pass. Even junks and islands cease to amuse after a time, and there is some excellent lager beer and biscuits down below. We reach Macao about twelve o'clock.

The harbour is not a deep one, and large ships have to lie well outside, where they are exposed to any stray typhoon. The entrance is guarded by an ancient fort with muzzle-loading guns and piles of cannon balls; the modern defences are less obvious.

On the quay we were at once attacked by a crowd of 'ricksha coolies, all anxious for the honour of our patronage. The 'rickshas are smarter and more brightly painted than those at Hong-Kong, but would that the Macaonese had our system of road making. Their roads are excellent of the sort, but are paved with cobbles, and cobbles beneath the wheels of a 'ricksha are undoubtedly matter in the wrong place. We patronised each his particular fancy, and were taken—yes, the truth will out—we were taken straight to the principal gambling h— establishment in Macao. There are upwards of forty of these places in the colony, and a good slice of the revenue is derived from them. The one to which we went is a type of all the others, *primæ inter pares*. It is a well run business, no noise or disturbance. The Chinese players sit round a table which is placed underneath a square hole in the ceiling; this hole has a balustrade and seats round it. The European players sit on them and play from above, lowering their stakes in a

basket. The game is of the simplest description. A handful of "cash" (Chinese brass coin with a hole in the middle) is taken from a heap and placed on the table under a brass cover, the players stake their money, the cover is lifted off, and a Chinaman draws the coins from the heap with a long stick and removes them four at a time. At the end there are thus one, two, three, or four left, and the players who have backed the winning number get three to one for their money. The chances can be varied by backing corners, or by combining corners and numbers. It is a tedious game as only five or so turns take place in an hour, but the counting of the cash has a certain small fascination, and the players are amusing.

We went away to lunch after a hour and a quarter to the Boa Vista Hotel. The lunch was—well, we had pretty fair appetites after our voyage, and we ate it. Then after a decent interval for digestion, Chance once more drew us as suppliants to her shrine, and even granted us a fair measure of success, for at five o'clock we again left the Fan-Tan table with an excellent per centage on our investments. Then some tea and a 'ricksha ride to the public gardens on the "Beach," which are "well worth a visit" as the guide book has it. They are laid out with trees and seats and the Portuguese soldier is much *en evidence*. He is not a bad looking fellow, especially if he belongs to the cavalry, and seems well and contented with his lot.

We got back to our ship in excellent time. And now we leave Macao slightly richer; we have known others who were not, and with a feeling of rest and content which a change, however short, always gives. The sun is setting, the light is fading, the stars appear, the day is done, and it seems to me there is rather an excellent odour of curry wafted from the saloon. Wonderful how hungry the smell of good food makes one, and how it can overcome sentiment.

DEATHS.

At Malta, on 3rd August, Edward, the son of Private F. Edmonds.

1st BATTALION.

At Malta, on 25th August, No. 6317 Corporal F. Russell, of enteric.

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"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS

OF

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

No. 364.

MAIDSTONE, OCTOBER, 1905.

[Vol. XXIV, No. 10.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

1st BATTALION.

Promoted Corporal, Lance-Corporal G. Reeves, 6th September.

Appointed Lance-Corporals, Privates L. Newman, 16th September; P. Spencer, 26th September; M. Pattenden, 26th September.

DEPOT.

Appointed Lance-Sergeant, Corporal M. McNamara, 16th August.

COMPASSIONATE FUND.

The Officer Commanding Depot desires to acknowledge with many thanks a donation from Colonel E. T. Luck of 55.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Floriana Barracks,
Malta.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I enclose the scores of the only two regimental cricket matches played this month, in both of which we were unsuccessful. Inter-company cricket has entirely stopped. Goal posts were put up on the parade ground one day, and though it is still summer, football started at once. I enclose contribution from our shooting correspondent at Pembroke telling you of the rifle meeting. There have been several aquatic sports of different regiments this month, and ours comes off next week, which I hope will provide some copy for you next month. This month interesting news is very short. We had a fairly good view of the eclipse here, though it did not become so dark as was expected. Several people also said they felt a slight shock at the same time as the big earthquake took place in Italy. F and D Companies' contributions are enclosed.

1st Battalion Correspondent.

Floriana Barracks,
Malta.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

As you have not received any correspondence from "F" of late, I am going to make a start, and I hope that it will be kept up in the future, but news being very short in the Company I am unable to let you have a very long letter, but I trust to remedy that next month. On the 29th July we played a cricket match with the 24th Company, Royal Engineers, at the Horn Works, R.E.'s ground, which resulted in a win for the Royal Engineers, owing chiefly to the fine batting of Sapper Jones. Of course they were used to the ground, and being Saturday we were unable to be at full strength. On August 8th, Major R. C. Style took over command of the company vice Major Lowe, who has left for the Depot. On August 8th we played a cricket match with "E" Company, who, winning the toss, elected to bat, and a very good start was made by Armourer-Sergeant Shaw and Lance-Corporal Reeves, who put on 40 runs for the first wicket. Eventually their innings closed for a total of 117 runs. Private Pinder was the most successful with the ball, taking 5 wickets for 44 runs. "F" Company started batting with Private Wyatt and Private Brown, and we had the misfortune to lose Private Brown's wicket for 3 runs. Then Private Pinder came in and gave us a very fine display of batting, punishing Sergeant Allen's bowling most severely, until he was out to a splendid catch in the slips by Sergeant Allen after making 54 runs. Privates Kerridge and Cogger gave us some very useful help, and for four wickets down we had passed "E" Company's total. Eventually the match came to a close, resulting in a win for us by 80 runs. We were in the final of the Bayonet Fighting Competition and we fought it off with "H" Company, but we had very bad luck, as it seemed to be in our favour at first; then luck turned and "H" Company carried off the prize.

"F" Company's Correspondent.

Floriana Barracks,
Malta,

15th September, 1905.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Please accept my humble apology for not sending you any copy last month. To tell the truth, apart from scarcity of news—which is a real trouble—being at Pembroke,

struggling through Table B (new course) with the Casuals, I quite forgot my responsibility as "D" Company's correspondent until too late for publication in your August number.

The competition for the best shot of Corporals and Privates, and that for the Regimental Bowl, took place at Pembroke on the 8th inst., both coming to "D" Company, Private Bampton winning the former and Private Smith (4684) the Regimental Bowl. This is the second year in succession that the bowl has received a welcome in No. 4 Company, Private Penn securing the coveted prize last year.

I may mention that we are once more quartered in Old Floriana Barracks, having exchanged with "C" Company on the 12th inst. The rooms seem rather spacious after the cosy little rooms of Notre Dame.

The strength of the Company has dwindled so low, owing to so many short service men being transferred to the Army Reserve, that we are all accommodated in two rooms, the spare room being utilised as Company's storeroom, bunk, etc.

Next month I hope to send you a more interesting article, the Regimental Aquatic Sports taking place during the current month, when I hope to see "D" Company take a prominent part.

"D" Company's Correspondent.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I am afraid there is not very much musketry news this month. The final detachment of recruits have just finished at Pembroke, and we are waiting for the next musketry year to commence. In the Army Inter-Company Competition, "G" Company scored 125 points, finishing top in the battalion. Colour-Sergeant Seager, "C" Company, and Private Bampton, "D" Company, are the best shots respectively of the Sergeants and Privates, and Private Smith, "D" Company, won the Regimental bowl.

The Queen Victoria Cup Team amassed 861 points in the Competition, Lance-Corporal Stuart and C.S.I.M. Dark being the highest scorers with 93 and 91 respectively. The team, though not making a big score, averaged 5 points better than last year.

CRICKET.

Royal West Kent Regiment v. 1st Lancashire Fusiliers.
Played at Malta on August 24th. Lost. Scores—

1st LANCASHIRE FUSILIERS.

Captain Woodcock, b Pinder	...	4
Lieutenant Blencowe, b Pinder	...	23
" Yates, b Pinder	...	51
" Spafford, c Fiennes b Allen	...	49
Sergeant Simpson, lbw, b O'Dowda	...	5
Captain O'Reilly, b Pinder	...	0
Private White, not out	...	12
" Rumens, c Fisher, b Allen	...	1
Lieutenant Wigley, c Fisher, b Fiennes	...	23
Captain Hewlett, not out	...	15
Extras	...	10

Total for *8 wickets ... 193

Sergeant Cummins did not bat. * Innings declared.

1st ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT.

Captain Fiennes, b Simpson	...	9
Pte. Lawrence, st. Cummins, b Wigley	...	16
Lieutenant Fisher, b Simpson	...	13
Private Hooper, b Simpson	...	0
" Pinder, b Simpson	...	0
Capt. Keenlyside, st. Cummins, b Wigley	...	32
Sergeant Allen, b Wigley	...	6
Lieutenant Vicat, c Cummins, b Yates	...	0
Captain O'Dowda, not out	...	9
Private Cridland, c Cummins, b Wigley	...	0
" Whitmore, c and b Wigley	...	0
Extras	...	6

Total ... 91

v. 1st Rifle Brigade for Soldiers' Cup. Played at Malta on August 18th and 19th. Lost by 4 wickets. Scores—

1st ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT.

Pte. Laurence, lbw, b Crowder	...	7 lbw, b Potesta	21
" Hooper, lbw, b Crowder	...	1 b Laidler	42
" Ford, b Laidler	...	1 c Richardson b Laidler	15
" Pinder, c Lambourne, b Laidler	...	4 c Ede, b Crowder	8
Sergt. Allen, c Oldfield, b Laidler	...	0 c Lambourne, b Laidler	14
Corpl. Lambe, b Crowder	...	13 b Laidler	0
Fte. Whitmore, c Lambourne, b Laidler	...	5 b Laidler	0
Sergt. Reeves, c Crowder, b Laidler	...	3 b Laidler	0
Pte. Cridland, st. Bates, b Laidler	...	2 c and b Laidler	7
Chr.-Sergt. McVicar, c Bates, b Laidler	...	3 not out	0
Pte. Brown, not out	...	2 b Laidler	0
Extras	...	5 Extras	6

Total ... 46 Total ... 114

1st RIFLE BRIGADE.

Taylor, c Ford, b Allen	...	3 not out	...
Ede, b Allen	...	21 b Pinder	...
Partridge, c McVicar, b Lawrence	...	24 b Allen	...
Oldfield, b Pinder	...	1 b Allen	...
Laidler, not out	...	7 lbw, b Allen	...
Crowder, c Lambe, b Allen	...	2 c Lambe, b Allen	...
Bates, b Allen	...	3	...
Scrase, c Cridland, b Allen	...	0 b Pinder	...
Potesta, c Lawrence, b Pinder	...	5 not out	...
Hunt, b Allen	...	1	...
Lambourne, b Allen	...	0	...
Extras	...	15 Extras	...

Total ... 82 Total ... 79

The following is taken from the "Daily Graphic" of September 20th:—

A correspondent at Nairobi, East Africa, writes:—During the latter part of August the little town of Nairobi was aglow with excitement at the marvellous escape of a British officer from a lion.

Captain C. S. Stigand, of the West Kent Regiment, and now seconded under the Foreign Office to the 1st Battalion of the King's African Rifles, had previously won fame as a "Chichari" in British Central Africa, where he shot many varieties of game.

On the transference of his native regiment to East Africa, he decided to essay his skill at Simba, a lonely station on the Uganda railway, and long famous for the vicinity of lions. In fact the name is the Swahili translation for these animals. Some two hundred yards from the station a water tank marks the spot where the lions drink very frequently by night, and on this tank Captain Stigand took up his post a few minutes after dusk, in the brilliant light of an African moon.

A long wait ensued, and it was not till many hours had elapsed that a lioness made her appearance. Creeping stealthily in rear of the tank, the brute made its way to a close by, and at this moment Captain Stigand fired his first shot. The effort proved a successful one, for, with a bound and a groan, the beast dashed forward and fell shot through the heart, stretched at full length across the railway line. A short interval only had elapsed when a couple of lions emerged from the grass, evidently intent on their evening drink; but their progress was checked by seeing the lioness a few yards from them, and they at once proceeded to examine the body. One of them, evidently the mate, commenced scratching at the carcase, hoping the lioness was only asleep, and, meeting with no response, set up a dismal howl, which was quickly followed by a roar from the other.

For two hours Simba Station rang with the moaning and howling of these two fierce beasts, and during that time Captain Stigand lay ready at the "present." At length they quitted the dead lioness and came slowly towards the tank. The leading lion had approached within fifteen yards when a well-directed shot caused him to bound in the midnight air. This was at once followed by a second ball, and spinning round in his agony he reached the long grass, where he lay a huddled brown mass. The other lion watched the scene without movement. In a trice the second lion was directed against him, and he was sent bounding into the cover, to be found lifeless in the early morning.

Seeing the beasts apparently dead, Captain Stigand descended from the tank and walked towards the huddled brown mass. He was only a few feet off when the worst happened. The beast rose from the grass and sprang. With a mighty roar he leapt into the air, and the whole surroundings seemed hidden by his massive frame. The sight was truly a terrific one. Every hair in its body stood out, and every vein swelled with fierce anger. A shot was quickly fired, but this only increased the ferocity of the attack, and then came a scene, the like of which has rarely been enacted. The lion seized the left arm of the hunter,

and man and beast rolled over together. With his right arm free the gallant soldier caught his assailant by the throat, and, fighting for his life, he struck the brute several times. Once again they rolled over, the lion, for the moment, on top, and then the man, and the fierce fight went on. At last there was an unexpected lull, for the lion, sick and wounded unto death, savagely shook his victim, and then, to Captain Stigand's amazement, slunk off.

This encounter was not the first of Captain Stigand's with wild beasts. Only a few months previously, while stationed in British Central Africa, he was fiercely attacked by a rhinoceros, which tossed him several feet into the air, having pierced his chest some inches. Leaving him for dead the "rhino" made off, fully satisfied with the damage he had done. This attack, curiously enough, was made without provocation.

At the moment of writing Captain Stigand lies in the Nairobi Hospital, where he is receiving unremitting attention, and where it is sincerely hoped he will duly recover from his terrible experience. It is interesting to know that all the three beasts were found dead at the break of dawn on the following day.

We wish Captain Stigand a speedy recovery.

1st BATTALION INTELLIGENCE.

Results of Rifle Competition held at Pembroke on the 8th September, 1905, were:—Colour-Sergeant W. Seager proved the best shot of Sergeants and Lance-Sergeants.

Private H. Bampton the best shot among the Corporals and Privates of the Battalion.

Pte. P. Smith, D Company, proved the winner of the Regimental Bowl.

In the Inter-Company Match, Army Rifle Association, G were first with 125 hits, followed by E with 118; D 115; A 104; H 96; C 87; B 81; F 67.

Lance-Corporal A. Baker obtained a 2nd Class Gymnastic Certificate at Aldershot, dated 31st August.

Certificates of Education have been awarded as under:—2nd Class—Corporals G. Golding and H. Gurr; Lance-Corporals H. Wood, W. Burrows, W. Bellingham; Bandsman J. Todd; Drummers A. Knott and M. Stroud; Boy G. Johnson; Privates R. Gould, J. White, W. Fermor, T. Moody, F. Coomber, W. Pink, J. Fitzgerald.

3rd Class—Lance-Corporals J. Glover and J. Kirton; Boys S. Sunnett, S. Wickham, H. Bellfield, J. Clark; Privates A. Eves, A. Bodkin, R. Gutteridge, E. Fitzgerald.

2nd BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Hong Kong,

September 23rd, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,

The past month has, *mirabile dictu*, produced several items of interest, all of which, with one exception, have only concerned the Regiment, and have therefore not disturbed the peaceful Hong Kongite from his replete slumbers in his long chair. First and foremost came the departure of Colonel Western. A more affecting scene than his farewell to the Battalion I hope never to witness, but this matter is in the hands of one whose privilege it was to have served under Colonel Western longer than myself. Following hard upon this came the arrival of Colonel Fitton, only one more proof of the good fortune which pursues this Battalion.

On the same day as Colonel Fitton arrived Prince and Princess Arisugawa passed through, and it was our privilege to provide the Guard of Honour. The Prince created a very favourable impression, but his dignity was strained almost to breaking point by the fact that he (height 4ft. 9in. in his boots) had to go round conversing with the O.C. troops, who stands 6ft. 3in., and looks more. The Band, of course, played the Japanese Anthem, followed by the Regimental Slow March, which the Hong Kong Press, with their invariable preception, glorified the following morning by calling it "a weird Japanese Naval Air." This is indeed cementing the alliance. The civilian element being busily occupied with the mid-day cocktail, was represented by a large number of ricksha coolies, who (the Press with a delicious humour said) made a fine display!

Since then Guards of Honour have been as plentiful as mosquitoes. The next one was turned out for an American General who passed through at the same time as Secretary Toeft, Miss Alice Roosevelt, and sundry senators of the United States, who are trotting round for the benefit of the world at large, and themselves in particular. The Powers that be willed that they should be entertained, and so they were entertained very nearly to death. They arrived on a Sunday, and were immediately much entertained by being dragged up the summit of our topmost peak. On Monday, however, they had ideas of their own, and despite the fact that large tiffin parties had been arranged for them, they wended their way to Pantan. On Tuesday, however, we had our revenge, and the luckless Americans were entertained from early morn till dawn ever and after. Tiffin parties (you don't know all this means till you have been to a Hong Kong Tiffin Party), Gymkhana, dash back and dress for a State Banquet at Government House, a Military Tattoo, which they only kept waiting for one hour and ten minutes, followed by a Dance and Supper at the Club. Next morning their ship carried off some worn and weary wrecks, that unusual thing, defeated Americans!

Regimentally, we have been cheered and refreshed by some Aquatic Sports, ably organised and carried out by Major Pedley and Captain Beresford. Two very exciting

races were provided, namely:—the hundred yards, won on the post, or rather boat, by Private Brooker, of D Company, and the team race was also won by D Company, their sixth man just getting home, amidst immense enthusiasm by about six inches. The half mile also fell to Brooker, who won by about 150 feet, and stamped himself as a swimmer well above the average. Bonham was unfortunate in making several slips in the diving, as usually he is a fine performer. Follows a list of events and their winners:—

100 yards.—1, Private Brooker, D Company; 2, Corporal Cooper, G Company; 3, Private Murphy, D Company; 4, Private Bonham, A Company.

Diving.—1, Lance-Corporal Cousins, G Company; 2, Private Connor, E Company; 3, Private Hazelwood, G Company.

Half-mile.—1, Private Brooker, D Company; 2, Lance-Corporal Halton, G Company; 3, Private Hazelwood, G Company; 4, Private Chivers, A Company.

Team Race.—1, D Company. Team, Privates Brooker, Gabriel, Murphy, McGarry, Kirby, Orchard.

2, A Company.

To round off the meeting the Officers had a Team Race with the Sergeants, won by the Officers by about 50 yards. Teams. Officers.—Major Pedley, Captain Beresford, Lieutenant Case Morris, 2nd Lieutenant Graham.

Sergeants.—Band Sergeant Moss, Sergeant Smith, Colour-Sergeant Croucher, Sergeant Andrews.

Next to occupy attention came the Shooting Meeting, arranged between the various units in the Garrison. Our Team won handsomely by 142 points. The following were the scores:—S.M. Mitchell, 96; C.S. Bullock, 91; A.S.S. Simons, 90; C.S. Spooner, 87; Sergeant Moir, 86; C.S. Croucher, 85; Sergeant Kevan, 82; Q.M.S. Wood, 82. Total 699.

R.E., 575; A.S.C. and A.O.C., 486; R.G.A., 455. The R.G.A. received five points per man allowance for carbines.

Since then regular practice for the Queen Victoria Cup has been in swing. Colour-Sergeant Spooner finds himself unable to get below 90, and heads the list. The remainder of the eight are gradually finding their places, and it is probable they will be largely the same as last year. More detailed accounts will be forthcoming next month. So far the best average has been 91.8.

Football is now looming large before us. We have recently defeated the R.A., who are chief opponents during the off months. We should have practically the same team as last year. Our hockey prospects are also more rosy, as the 93rd Burmahs, last year's winners, have left the station.

Captain Beresford has just left us for Woolwich, and he will be much missed, his Hibernian cheerfulness and energy being entirely proof against the depressing effects of Hong Kong. He will, I am sure, be much missed and remembered out of the regiment as well as in it. Captain Tulloch and Lieutenant Graham returned from Japan full of health, and enthusiasm for the Japanese. Lieutenant Belgrave has returned from a successful

musketry course at Bellaz, and Lieutenant Humphreys has returned from a refreshing month at Macao. Captain Elgood is expected any day from Borneo, with many trophies. The Quartermaster is also still wandering through Japan.

Musketry is soon to re-commence, and E Company go under canvas on 15th October. At present A Company bayonet fighting competition is going on. So far D Company beat A Company by 8 fights to 4, and G beat E after getting to 6 all, when the N.C.O.'s in charge fought a deciding bout, which G won by 3 points to 2. Beyond this there is no news whatever.

South China Correspondent.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Again we have descended to the lower regions, i.e., Victoria, from the Peak, and, to guess from my last letter to you, you would think that we were glad to shift. We were. No more wet blankets, no more mouldy equipment, etc., and so forth. But after a few days down below in the glorious sunshine we wanted to get back again. Such is Tommy's inconsistency. Tommy, down below, thinks he is having a perpetual Turkish bath, and envies his brother Tommies up north, though I believe they are having it pretty warm up there now.

No doubt, Mr. Editor, you wonder at the awful regularity with which the theme steers round to the weather, but really there is nothing else much to talk about, so therefore we make the most of our pet grievance.

Sport is in abeyance during the summer here, but we have a football match or a hockey match as a livener now and then. An effort has been made to introduce water polo, but it has not found much favour, though we have got a lot of good swimmers, and should with practice excel at the game.

In our morning gymnastics we have introduced boxing. Yes, Mr. Editor, boxing. Of course it is not popular enough yet as we have only had it for a few days, but it is gradually creeping into favour and soon you will be able to see G Company's "Herods of Asian Renown," to borrow another correspondent's terms, mounting guard with sundry magnificent pairs of black spectacles, undetachable. It is also rumoured that we learn Jiu-Jitsu.

Boating is another favourite exercise, and nearly every morning a boat with R.W.K. on the side may be seen straddling over the water like a gigantic spider, especially when we get a scratch crew out, and then perhaps we have a little excitement. It is surprising how quick a little collision with another boat will alter one's position from a sitting to a vertical, with one's head in the water. If my statement is doubted I must refer you to Corpl. —, of G. On the morning of writing this effusion we had a bathing parade, and Capt. Pack Beresford got up a swimming race with prizes. Ptes. Gower, Haslewood, and Lee-Corpl. Cousins being the winners. The course was about 250 yards, a very trying distance, but it was a close finish for everybody who competed.

The Corporals had a very enjoyable picnic on August Bank Holiday, Monday 23rd. They went as far as Castle Peak Bay, some 16 miles from Hong Kong. The Government tug "Hercules" was chartered, which provided ample accommodation for them and the impedimenta they carried with them in the way of liquid and solid refreshments were not limited.

On arriving at the destination after an eventful voyage, a shady spot was selected and the event of the day was discussed, dinner I mean, after which the remainder of the afternoon was spent in exploring, aquatics, etc., combined with much refreshment of the inner man. At about 5 o'clock we returned home under the rather erratic guidance of our own amateur coxswain.

G Company's Correspondent.

Mount Austin, Hong Kong,
South China,

7th August, 1905

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I now forward you a few items of (?) well we will say interest, or whatever name you like to give them. We will now start off with a football match between A and E Companies. E Company kicked off at 5.30 p.m. against the wind. The play could have been better in the first half, but everybody seemed to be in one another's way. The half backs and backs played a good game throughout, but of the forward line I cannot say so much, but in the second half I cannot praise them too much. Private King stopped some good shots in goal, and, being a novice at the game, played very well. In the first half the pressing was done by A, and at the finish of the first half A was leading by one goal. E Company put on a spurt, but it was of no use, and after five minutes' play we scored again, and then there was some fine scrimmages around E Company's goal, but no further scoring occurred, and the game ended in a win for us by two goals to nil.

We are still having awful weather here, making it very nigh impossible for any kind of sport. Captain Tulloch has arrived back from Japan, and we expect some interesting lectures about that place and the people. We are having some varieties out here in the shape of Eugene Sandow and the Bandman Opera Company. Everybody seems to be going in for physical development. We get a lot of his exercises on parade. I do not think that I should relish the idea of him being our gymnastic instructor.

I have yet another two "soccer" matches to let you know about, both games between A and G Companies. The first game was very fast, mostly combination on our side. Sergeant Redmond played a good game as centre forward, and the remainder of the team I cannot tell you enough about them. I do not think they could have played any better. Thus ended in a glorious "tin hat" for G by four goals to nil.

The second match was about the same as the first, but the centre forward could not get any lace on the ball, but we must not grumble. G Company got the "tin hat" by three goals to nil.

D COMPANY.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I sent no letter for July or August, because I had nothing to write about. King Sport has had rather a severe attack of sleeping sickness; but thanks to the efforts of a few of the regimental sportsmen I am able to report that he is now well on the road to recovery. On the 2nd inst. we played A Company football, and what is more, we beat them. Score: D, 2; A, 1. For these two points we have to thank Burrows, who played his usual dashing game, and Jock, our goalkeeper, who seemed to absolutely fill the space between the uprights. On the 8th we met G Company at football, and once more we were victorious. This time we beat our opponents by three to nil. Once more Burrows played a brilliant game, and D will suffer a great loss when this player leaves for England in December.

We have been busy lately calculating as to how long Hong Kong will last. Already this month we have had two earthquakes (which is the next door to an earthquake, I believe). Should this come to the worst and the island topple over, I am sure that with a few exceptions all of the regiment would swim to Kowloon. This was proved at an aquatic meeting held on the 4th and 11th inst. Prizes were given for 100 yards, half-mile, company relay race, and graceful diving. D Company annexed the first prize in the first three events, Brooker winning both the 100 yards and the half-mile. Long and loud were the cheers for José and Swami when he touched the winning post 50 yards ahead of his nearest opponent in the half-mile. D Company's team in the relay race was composed of the following: Privates Brooker (José), Captain; McGarry, Murphy, Orchard, Gabriel (band) and Kirby. If it is not too much trouble, would you kindly send the Channel, with tides, currents, etc., here, as there are many aspirants to that honour out here.

I hear that Sergeant Bristow is about to surrender himself a willing sacrifice on the altar of Hymen. The Company's good wishes to the happy couple on their wedding day are offered.

The Anglo-Japanese Alliance is all right, at least Hxxxx says so, and providing both parties agree to terms I shall be able to send you an account of the blushing bride, orange blossoms, shouts of banzi, etc.

The Taft party visited the colony a few days ago, but nothing much can be said of the visit unless one comments on the torch-

light tattoo arranged to celebrate the occasion. The tattoo was billed to commence at 9.15 p.m., and by that time the largest crowd ever seen in Hong Kong were patiently waiting for the start. Promptly at 10.30 p.m. the Taft party came on the scene. The man in charge of the electrical part of the business, in lighting up the big "Welcome" that had been erected, left the letter L dark, making it read "WE COME." Whether this was accidental or not I cannot say, but I expect it was.

IRRESPONSIBLE.

Mount Austin,
September 9th, 1905.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I now send you a few items referring to "A" Company, which I think may prove interesting to you for the month of "August."

The weather is still changeable, and our old friend the "typhoon" has once more visited us, keeping us in barracks for three days. We have played two football matches this month; the first, A v. E., which ended in a win for us by two goals to nil; the second between A and D, which ended in a win for the latter by two goals to nil.

This month we are going to have a swimming and bayonet fighting tournament. Of them I shall let you know later. There's a team practising to fire for the "Queen Victoria" Cup, to be shot for in September, and I think they will want some beating, as we have got some very foggy snake eyes, and they should put up a very good score between them. Of course, the Battalion having already several cups, shields, etc., it must get greedy and wants to get this one. You know its only natural.

A Company's Correspondent.

DEPOT NOTES.

No. 6718 Private T. J. Lloyd, 6612 Private R. Hill, and 6561 Private J. Larkins have rejoined from the Army Reserve.

Corporal B. Fish, late 1st Battalion, has joined the Depot for duty; also Lance-Corporals W. Barrett and A. Harris.

Private W. Botten has been permitted to re-engage to complete 21 years.

Roll of Non-Commissioned Officers and men composing the draft which proceeded to join the Details, Royal West Kent Regiment, at Dover, on 22nd September, 1905:—
No. 4629 Sergeant C. Stringer, 6395 Corporals W. White and 6566 F. Cripps, 6489 Lance-Corporal E. Turner, 8056 Privates H. Claridge, 8059 F. Smith, 8060 H. Bishopp, 8061 W. Shrobbree, 8066 A. Richards, 8067 J. Ralph, 8068 B. Smith, 3069 H. Clark, 8070 C. Watson, 8071 H. Manning, 8072 W. Mephram, 8073 W. Ovenden, 8074 M. H. Levy, 8075 F. S. Munro.

The undernamed have arrived from the 1st Battalion, and have joined the Provisional Battalion at Dover:—6735 Privates W. Baldwin, 6791 R. Bayliss, 6730 E. Brummett, 6782 R. Cooper, 4056 F. Davey, 6778 G. Dyke, 6775 F. Ferguson, 6748 W. Golding, 7143 S. Hamson, 6781 A. Barker, 7144 P. Bray, 6793 J. Canty, 6812 R. Crawley, 806 J. Donovan, 6767 M. Edwards, 6732 H. Gane, 6799 J. Haigh, 7131 C. Hendra, 6796 W. Igglesden, 4079 C. McDonald, 6749 P. Miller, 6757 T. Murphy, 6788 P. Newman, 5604 A. Robins, 6743 J. Scully, 6777 A. Smith, 6750 J. Smith, 6731 T. Burns, 6807 W. Stanford, 7128 J. Staples, 6802 A. Steele, 6803 F. Thomas, 7149 C. Watts, 7146 H. Wood, 7139 C. Lovell, 7135 L. Johnson, 3959 J. McCarthy, 7141 T. Moody, 6765 H. Newland, 6769 E. Phillpott, 6752 J. Robinson, 7142 E. Sherrad, 6742 J. Smith, 6795 Lance-Corporal T. Stacey, 7130 Privates A. Stanley, 6772 H. Stedman, 7129 W. Swain, 6738 W. Tume, 6783 A. Williams, 6771 W. Whimshurst. No. 7134 Lance-Corporal S. Joles, 7144 Privates P. Bray and 7634 Killick arrived at Netley with the above draft.

The Depot Football Team have started the season well by winning all their four matches to date, scoring 36 goals to their opponents' 2, who, so far, proved not nearly strong enough to hold their own against the eleven the Depot can at present put in the field.

All much regret that Sergeant McGregor, who has for 21 years been one of the Regiment's most regular and consistent players, is about to leave us. Sergeant McGregor was one of the eleven of the 2nd Battalion which won the Army Football Cup in 1893, and has besides that taken part in nearly every match of importance since he first joined the Army. We wish him success in civil life.

The reduction in the Depot Companies from four to two has limited the number of games to be played for Colonel

Brock's Shield, but the match between A and B Companies was one of the best games seen on the Depot ground for many years. A Company, to the delight of their many supporters, defeated B Company by three goals to two, notwithstanding the fact that in B Company's ranks were included all the players of the old D Company, who had won the competition since it was first inaugurated.

DEPOT SHOOTING NEWS.

At Boxley, on the 17th August, the Sergeant's Shooting Club contested for the Colyer Challenge Cup, Sergeant-Major Outten winning with the score of 88 points.

On the 11th September the final shoot for the Silver Cup, presented by Major R. Style, took place. Sergeant Dugay was the successful competitor and has his name inscribed on the cup for the current year. The conditions were as follows: Six shoots (Bisley conditions) at 500 and 600 yards, the five best shoots of competitors to count towards the aggregate. Results of best three:—

	Yards.					Aggre- gate.
Sergt. Dugay.....	500	31	30	20	25	33
	600	29	24	30	29	25
Sergt.-Major Outten	500	26	27	30	28	26
	600	27	34	25	29	26
Sergt. Pond.....	500	28	28	32	30	30
	600	27	27	26	21	29

N.B.—Sergeant Dugay counted out a 48, Sergeant-Major Outten a 52, and Sergeant Pond only competed 5 times. Twenty others also competed.

Another competition was decided on the same day for the Silver Challenge Cup presented by Captain and Adjutant W. H. Annesley. This was won by Sergeant Pond with a score of 22 points. Conditions—Ten shots at a 3rd Class Figure Target at unknown distances between 600 and 200 yards, two rounds each halt. Teams of four doubling up the range (separate targets for each man) under a commander (service conditions). Time 5 minutes.

Notwithstanding the fact that some of the teams averaged 19 years' service (although all under 21 years) the ground was rapidly covered in a manner that would have done credit to much younger soldiers, and shows that the mile which is negotiated by all N.C.O.'s every morning before breakfast has not been without effect. The time limit was not exceeded by any competitor. Colour-Sergeant Osborne

was second with 18 points, Sergeant Selves 17, Colour-Sergeant Wood 15, Sergeant Dugay 15, Sergeant Branson 14. Twelve also fired.

Certificates of Education have been awarded as under :—
Second Class—Lance-Corporal W. Barrett. Third Class—
Privates W. Gregory, J. Mitchell, J. Cumberland, F. Bateup, W. Drinkwater, and H. Clark.

3rd BATTALION NOTES.

Drummer H. Askew, permanent staff 3rd Battalion, has been discharged to pension on completing 21 years' service.

Drummer Evans, permanent staff 3rd Battalion, has been permitted to take his discharge free after 12 years' service, and has since joined Band of the Royal Marine, Chatham Division.

The 3rd Battalion Band has been augmented by the enlistment of Pensioners C. Cahill and G. F. Leahy.

Drummer H. Hall has extended his service to complete eight years with the colours.

Sergeant-Drummer C. Gee has re-engaged to complete 21 years' service.

VOLUNTEER NOTES.

Colour-Sergeant Instructor G. Church, 2nd Battalion, has been discharged, having claimed his discharge to pension. He has, we understand, obtained employment as Sergeants' Mess Caterer, at Holly Hedge House.

Many former officers of the 50th, with which his father served as Medical Officer many years, will be sorry to hear that Second-Lieutenant O. Owen, seconded from West Riding Regiment for service with Indian Army and attached to 76th Punjabis, Secunderabad, was stricken with partial paralysis on 24th August. By last accounts he was better and had some little motion in his legs. He probably will come home in the Scilian, Bombay, 21st October.

OBITUARY.

The funeral took place at Carrickfergus on the 6th Oct., of Mr. J. F. Traylen, formerly Sergeant-Major, 97th Regiment.

Mr. Traylen joined the 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade in 1850, was promoted Sergeant in 1854, and Colour-Sergeant in 1858. He was transferred to the 97th Regiment in 1867, and appointed Sergeant-Major. He served throughout the Kaffir War, 1851-3, for which he received the medal; the Crimean War, medal and four clasps, and the Turkish medal; and the Fenian Raid, 1866, for which he also received medal and clasp. He also received the long service and good conduct medal, and was in possession of the Meritorious service medal and gratuity of £15 per annum.

In 1871 Mr. Traylen was transferred to the Antrim Artillery Militia, in which he served as Sergeant-Major till 1875, when he was invalided out of the service, since which he has resided in Carrickfergus with his wife and two daughters. The funeral was largely attended, many of the Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers of the garrison being present.

FITZHARDINGE.—Died, at East London, on the 19th inst., Flo, wife of A. F. Fitzhardinge, and daughter of Captain W. J. Goss, Wynberg. Deeply regretted.

BIRTHS.

At Guildford, on 19th August, the wife of Colour-Sergeant G. Rigglesford, of a son.

At Maidstone, on 22nd September, the wife of Drummer Pullen, P.S. 3rd Batt., of a son.

At Maidstone, on 29th August, the wife of Lance-Corporal Mockford, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

At Malta, on 2nd September, 1905, Colour-Sergeant W. Seager, 1st Battalion, to Miss Lily Lambert.

At Southall, on 2nd September, 1905, Sergeant J. Suffield, 1st Battalion, to Miss Alice Brown.

THE TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:—

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

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

Copies will be sold at 1d. per Number to Non-Commissioned Officers and Men serving or who have served as such. If sent by post 1s. 6d. per year.

Extra Copies or back numbers can always be supplied.

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

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

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS

OF

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

No. 365.

MAIDSTONE, NOVEMBER, 1905.

[Vol. XXIV, No. 11.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

1st BATTALION.

Promoted Corporals--Lance-Corporals G. Fittall, 26th August; J. Davis, 6th September; G. Press, 5th October.

Appointed Lance-Corporals--Privates B. Miller, 21st October; O. Oldfield, 27th October; J. Fitzgerald, 27th October; A. Curtis, 27th October; G. Reed, 27th October.

2nd BATTALION.

Appointed Lance-Corporals--Privates J. Burns, 24th June; A. Cousins, 2nd August; C. Trevana, 2nd August; W. Wells, 18th August.

DEPOT.

1496 Lce.-Corpl. J. Wall, promoted Corporal, November 4th, 1905; 6319 Pte. J. Fedarb, appointed Lance-Corporal, October 17th, 1905.

3rd BATTALION.

Sergeant B. Pond promoted Colour-Sergeant, 1st November, 1905.

EDITORIAL.

We beg to call attention to the late arrival of news from our valued correspondents, and to point out that the publication of the "Gazette" has been much delayed by having to wait for copy. We have to rely on individual effort for our news, and as there appears a certain amount of natural modesty in those efforts the paper suffers. Nothing more disheartening than to find the time for publication past, and only enough news to hand to fill a third of the paper.

Naturally the number of medals given for long service and good conduct affords an idea as to how far these virtues prevail in our Army. It is, therefore, very gratifying to note that no fewer than 688 have just been awarded by the powers that be. The award includes 623 with a gratuity of £5 payable on discharge, and 65 without. The medals are distributed as follows:—1st Life Guards, 4; 2nd Life Guards, 11; Royal Horse Guards, 1; Cavalry of the line (16th and 17th Lancers being highest, 5 each), 35; Royal

Regiment of Artillery, 159; Royal Engineers, 83; Grenadier Guards, 8; Coldstream and Scots Guards, 5 each; Infantry of the line, 244, the ten best regiments (two battalions each) being 50-97th, 10; 7th Fusiliers, 9; 43rd-52nd, 9; 11th, 7; 15th, 26-90th, 42nd-73rd, 44th-56th, 75th-92nd, 102nd-103rd, 6 each; West Indian Regiment, 3; Royal Malta Artillery, 3; Royal Garrison Regiment, 4; Army Service Corps, 34; Royal Army Medical Corps, 31; Ordnance Corps, 20; Army Pay Corps, 16; Military Police, 5; Prison Staff, 1; School of Musketry, 2; Garrison Staff, 2; Gymnasiums, 4; Royal Military College, 1; Army Staff, 1; Veterinary Staff, 1; and Army Schoolmasters, 5. In order to obtain this decoration a soldier must during 18 years' service have held a stainless character as regards serious military offences, and in every other respect be not only a good soldier but a good man.—*Lloyds News*.

It is an honour to find the Queen's Own heading the list this half-year, and we congratulate the recipients, who are Sergt.-Major J. H. Outten, Q.M.-Sergt. J. R. Wood, Col.-Sergts. H. J. Palmer, A. Wood, W. E. Bass, R. W. Silver, Col.-Sergt. Instructor of Musketry W. T. Evenden, Sergt. J. R. Blount, Lance-Corpl. J. Wall, and Pvt. J. Butler.

27, Thurloe Square, S.W.

12th November, 1905.

To the Editor "Queen's Own Gazette."

Dear Sir,—

I should feel much obliged if you would kindly have a copy of the enclosed letter inserted in the "Gazette."

Yours faithfully,

E. LEACH, M.G.

"New Plymouth,

"New Zealand,

"September 25th, 1905.

"Dear Sir,

"It has been suggested to erect a Monument in this town in memory of the Imperial and Colonial Soldiers who fell in this district during the Maori War. I am requested by Captain F. J. Mace, N.Z.C., the prime mover, to bring the matter under the notice of Officers of H.M. Regiments that served here. Should this meet with your approval and support, and the movement is taken up, as there is every reason to believe it will be, will you kindly inform me if you

will assist with a donation in furtherance of this object, and the amount you might feel disposed to contribute. I do not desire any contribution sent till the matter is taken up, when I will inform you.

"I have the honour to be,

"Yours faithfully,

"WILLIAM FRANCIS GORDON,

"Survey Office."

NAPIER.

Dear Mr. Editor,

The other day two most interesting and valuable mementoes were presented to the Officers' Mess by Mrs. William Napier, viz., the sword belt and scabbard, and also a Water Gourd, used by General Sir Charles Napier, who served with the 50th Regiment during the Peninsular War.

We know that Mrs. Napier valued these mementoes of her brother very highly, and we are deeply grateful to her for entrusting them to our care.

Major Charles Napier was appointed to the 50th Regiment on 6th November, 1806, and I mention the following short summary of events chiefly taken from "Butler's life of Sir Charles Napier," with a view of giving the younger soldiers of the Battalion who read this (and who now have the honour of serving in the regiment he once commanded) some idea of this splendid soldier.

First of all he commanded the 50th Regiment at Corunna, where he received five wounds, and was taken prisoner when leading a company of the Regiment in a gallant assault on the powerful French Battery opposite Elvina village.

Secondly, he was severely wounded when on Lord Wellington's staff at the battle of Busaco, and in India, in later years (1843), it was he who was known as "the conqueror of Scinde," who, in the year 1849, was Commander-in-Chief in India, and at whose funeral at Portsmouth 60,000 people assembled (most of them old soldiers to do honour to their dead comrade).

And finally, on whose monument in Trafalgar Square one reads to-day the following inscription:—

Erected by Public Subscription, the most numerous contributors being private soldiers.

So, Mr. Editor, the Officers of the 1st Battalion the Queen's Own, naturally prize very highly, and are proud to possess these mementoes of this distinguished 50th soldier.

The clasp on the sword belt is most interesting. It is of silver, with the Regimental Motto, "Quo Fata Vocant," on a scroll, and so with the Sphinx over it; also the honours "Vimiera" and "Corunna" in raised silver letters across it in two parallel lines. On the gourd is written in ink in Major Napier's handwriting:—

"MAJOR NAPIER,

50th Regt.,

1810.

"AN OFFICER 1ST BATT., THE QUEEN'S OWN."

We much regret to announce the death on 24th Oct., of Captain O. B. Simpson, who held the appointment of Adjutant of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion. The immediate cause of death was failure of the heart's action whilst undergoing an operation for an internal complaint. His loss will be greatly felt by both Officers and Men of the Regiment.

The funeral took place on Friday, 27th Oct., at Willington, Bedfordshire. The deceased's father-in-law (the Rev. A. W. Orlebar), assisted by the Rev. J. F. Kendall, of St. German's, Blackheath (chaplain to the 2nd Volunteer Battalion of the Queen's Own), officiated. The first portion of the service was gone through in the parish church (which dates from the year 1209), and the remains, which were encased in a polished oak coffin with brass furniture, were interred in the burial ground adjoining. The chief mourners included the widow and immediate relatives of the deceased officer, others present being Colonel T. H. Brock (late commanding the 50th Regimental District, and formerly adjutant of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion The Queen's Own), Colonel E. Satterthwaite (commanding the West Kent Volunteer Brigade), Major Isacke, Captain C. Druce, Lieuts. Brock, Knox, Hewitt and Waring (R.W.K. Regiment), Captains C. S. Marchant, W. F. Marchant, and A. Pownall, Capt. and Q.-M. A. Marten, Sergt.-Major Lalley, and Sergt.-Instructor Cooke (2nd Volunteer Battalion), Colour-Sergeants Palmer and Outred (Maidstone). Wreaths were sent from the officers' and the sergeants' mess at Holly Hedge House, the Bromley and Blackheath Cadets, and the Dartford Detachment of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion, Captain Schlesinger (adjutant of the 2nd Kent Royal Garrison Artillery Volunteers), officers of the Depot at Maidstone, Mrs. Fegan, etc.—A march out of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion had been arranged for Saturday evening, but in consequence of the death of Captain Simpson this was cancelled. A large number of the men paraded, however, and Colonel E. J. Howard, V.D., commanding the battalion who was unavoidably prevented from attending the funeral, addressed them in sympathetic language on the death of their adjutant, and expressed keen sympathy with the widow and her two young children. Other officers present were Major Mophew, Captain and Quartermaster Marten, Lieuts. Sawyer, Ross, and Cardwell.

Captain O. B. Simpson, who joined the Regiment on 23rd March, 1889, had seen much service in the N.W. Frontier of India, chiefly as Commissariat and Transport Officer, having served with Sir William Lockhart in the Tochi Valley, 1897-98, with the Malakhand Field Force, the operations in the Swat and Mamund Valley, the Buner Field Force, and the Tirah Expeditions.

He was promoted Captain on the 16th July, 1898, and held the appointment of Adjutant of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion since 1st December, 1900.

Mrs. Oswald Simpson desires to convey her heartfelt thanks to all her husband's kind friends in the Regiment, who have shown her so much true sympathy in her great loss.

1st BATTALION CORRESPONDENCE.

Floriania Barracks,
Malta,

19th October, 1905.

Dear Mr. Editor,

The past month has been full of events both of local and Regimental interest. Of the former, although we can't compete with "Calabria," we can boast of a tramway accident, in which four were killed and many injured. Before sampling the local trams it is advisable to study the driver. I am told that two journeys as supernumerary is considered sufficient training for these men. Talking of "Calabria," it may be of interest to residents in Malta and anxious mothers at home to hear that Malta is not connected with the Italian Peninsula as regards earthquakes, but with Greece. This I believe is an established fact, although there can be no doubt that the first great shock in Calabria was felt in Malta by many who were awake about 2 a.m. that morning. There has been heavy rain during the past fortnight, one storm in particular being unrivalled since 1898. It was quite interesting, during this storm, to watch the articles swept down the road, by the rain, past the barrack-gate, among these being a basket containing "dead" fish, a plate, a perambulator, and some tins of "bully mutton."

The return for the winter of the Fleet took place on the 9th of October; this is an event of local importance in many ways, besides that of the rise in the price of eggs.

The motor 'bus has made its appearance here, and is a great source of interest to the islanders.

We are shortly to be able to be raised by a lift from near the Custom House, at the Grand Harbour, to the "Barracca."

The events of Regimental interest have been a capital concert for the benefit of the widow and children of the late Corpl. F. Russell. This was an entertainment arranged by the newly-formed Invicta Amateur Dramatic Club. A substantial sum, nearly £13, was taken. The programme was full of talent, items worthy of special mention being those of Boy Hancock and Seaman Steele.

Aquatic sports were held at the Haywharf Picta, kindly lent by the Royal Engineers, on the 28th September. The Officers and Sergeants were "at home," a great number of the fashion and beauty of Malta availing themselves of their hospitality. An interesting programme was got through, the principal event, the Inter-Company boat race, being a well-fought contest, in which G Company triumphed, after a vigorous challenge by H Company, who made a gallant but late spurt, and were only beaten by a few feet. The water polo was won easily by the Band, H Company again being the runners-up. The mop-fighting and greasy pole competitions caused much amusement. The prizes were presented by Mrs. Nunn, in the unavoidable absence of Lady Kelly.

A draft, under Captain Buchanan-Dunlop and 2nd-Lieut. Wilberforce, arrived in the Dunera on the 6th October. There were four cases of diphtheria during the voyage amongst the children on board, and as a result of this, the draft have had to undergo a fortnight's isolation.

Lieut. Phillips and 2nd-Lieuts. Ricketts and Prescott-Roberts arrived by the French boat on the 5th October. Lieut. Ingram and 2nd-Lieut. Legard have been granted extensions of leave, on the recommendation of a Medical Board, until a late date in December.

Our best congratulations are due to Capt. O'Dowda, who has passed for the Staff College; a success not easily gained in these days when there are so many competitors.

The following paragraph, which I read in a Washington paper, may amuse you:—An actress has brought an action against the New York Tramway Company for £1,000 damages. She alleges that a blow on the cheek, which she received from the conductor, injured a dimple, which was of "stage value." It is believed that as a result of this, conductors of New York tramcars may be ordered by the management not to strike lady passengers. Another rather humorous paragraph read:—Getting on the stage is easy enough, says a famous comedian just interviewed, "getting off again gracefully is the real problem." A young aspirant tells us this is precisely the opposite of his experience. It took him years of work to get on, whereas he left it again within a week without the slightest difficulty.

Enough of this frivolity, Mr. Editor, for further matter I refer you to my colleagues, the "Rifleman" and "Sportsman," and to some Company Correspondents.

1st Battalion Correspondent.

RIFLE COMPETITION.

CORPLS. RIGHT HALF BATT. versus CORPLS. LEFT HALF BATT.

The above Competition took place at Pembroke on the afternoon of the 27th September, 1905, and resulted in a win for the Corpls. of the Left Half Batt. by 14 points.

The shooting on both sides was only fair, principally owing to a strong wind blowing from the left, also from the intense heat that prevailed; the day being a very sirrocy one.

The following are the scores:—

CORPLS. LEFT HALF.

Co.	Rank and Name	200 Yds.	500 Yds.	600 Yds.	Total
G	Corpl. H. Maslin	26	28	27	81
E	Lance-Corpl. J. Stuart ...	32	20	25	77
F	Corpl. E. Collins	20	23	30	73
F	Lance-Corpl. J. Markham	21	28	23	72
E	Corpl. R. Brown	21	26	23	70
E	Lance-Corpl. F. Lander ...	22	22	26	70
G	Lance-Corpl. O. Rogers ...	20	20	28	68
G	Corpl. F. Piper	27	22	17	66

Grand Total 577

CORPLS. RIGHT HALF.

B	Corpl. E. Lawrence	25	29	29	83
B	Lance-Corpl. H. Taylor ...	22	33	24	79
C	Corpl. H. Bishop	26	28	22	76
A	Corpl. G. Golding	22	22	24	68
D	Lance-Corpl. G. Carpenter	26	23	18	67
A	Lance-Corpl. W. Burrows	22	27	17	66

D Corpl. T. Dixon	25	13	25	63
C Lance-Corpl. C. Bellingham	14	20	27	61
Grand Total				563

OFFICERS AND SERGTS. versus CORPLS. AND LANCE-CORPLS.

200, 500, 600 yards.

Bisley Targets and Marking.

Twelve on each side took part in above Competition, the two lowest scores of both teams being dropped out.

The day was not at all conducive to tall scoring, as there was a very strong wind blowing from the left, which necessitated (those competitors who were using the regulation sight) aiming a good way to the left of the target.

The Officers and Sergts. only won by the narrow margin of nine points, which points to the fact that the Corporals have improved in their shooting abilities since they commenced their Rifle Club, and have had more opportunities of practising. The thanks of the Corpls. are due to Corpls. Maslin, Brown, and Stuart, for the interest they show in making better shots of their brother Corporals.

The following are the scores of the team :—

OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS.

Rank and Name	200 Yds.	500 Yds.	600 Yds.	Total
Sergt. S. Reeves	30	28	24	82
Clr-Sergt. R. Dark	29	29	23	81
Sergt. A. Keen	30	25	22	77
Sergt. W. Saunders	29	25	19	73
Sergt. R. Rose	29	23	19	71
Capt. A. Grant	23	28	18	69
Clr.-Sergt. W. Seager	24	27	18	69
Capt. J. Fiennes	28	24	15	67
2nd-Lieut.- Vicat	28	25	13	66
2nd-Lieut. B. Lees	23	18	23	64
Totals	273	252	194	719

CORPLS. AND LANCE-CORPLS.

Lance-Corpl. J. Stuart	29	23	31	83
Corpl. R. Brown	28	26	26	80
Corpl. H. Maslin	34	24	22	80
Lance-Corpl. G. Press	24	28	27	79
Lance-Corpl. H. Taylor	30	21	24	75
Lance-Corpl. O. Rogers	20	22	30	72
Corpl. H. Bishop	23	28	12	63
Corpl. G. Golding	27	16	19	62
Corpl. O. Bond	21	22	18	61
Lance-Corpl. W. Raines	20	27	8	55
Totals	256	237	217	710

COMPETITION FOR COLONEL HARRISON'S AND MAJOR ROWE'S CUP.

The competitions for the above-mentioned cups were fired simultaneously on the Pembroke Range on the 11st inst.

Fortune favoured the competitors in the matter of weather, the day being fine, with very little wind. Shooting commenced at 10 a.m., and continued until late in the evening, some of the competitors being unlucky in having to fire in a bad light in the latter stages. Twelve Officers and 49 Sergeants entered, making a total of 61 entries.

For Colonel Harrison's cup, which is open to Officers and Sergeants, Sergt. Brown was successful with a score of 78, Lance-Sergt. Cassidy being second, with 75 points.

Major Rowe's cup was won by Captain Keenlyside with a score of 73, 2nd-Lieut. Leir being second with a score of 64.

The conditions under which the competition was fired were as follows :—

PRACTICE.	NO. OF ROUNDS.	DISTANCE, YARDS.	TARGETS.	POSITION.	MARKING.
1	5	200	3rd Class Figure.	Any	Regulation.
2	7	200	Tiles in groups of three	Any	One point for every round left after the Competitor has knocked down his group of tiles.
3	8 2 at each run	150	Running deer	Standing	Shoulder, 3 points (white disc); head and neck, 2 points (black disc); hind quarters 1 point (the twisted round).
4	7 Rapid	400	2nd Class Figure.	Any	Regulation.
5	10	600	2nd Class Figure.	Any	Regulation.

There is very little sports news this month, the Cricket season being over, and the Football season scarcely begun. The cricket season wound up with a match between the Artillery and Infantry Brigades. The Infantry Brigade team contained five representatives from the Battalion, but with the exception of Pte. Pinder, they failed to do much good, and the Artillery won somewhat easily by an innings. The Battalion started the football season with a match against the Lancashire Fusiliers on October 7th. We could only get together a weak team, and were beaten 1-0, after a good game. The Battalion is entered in the Garrison Football League, which starts next month. The Governor's cup is played for later in the season. Since the first match the football grounds have been unfit, owing to rain, and no more matches have been played.

Most successful Aquatic Sports were held at the Haywharf on September 8th.

The principal events were :—

- Boat Race—1st, G Company; 2nd, H Company.
- Water Polo—1st, Band.
- Relay Race—1st, F Company.
- Mop Fighting—1st, C Company.
- Tug of War—1st, Band.

Floriana Barracks,
Malta.

Dear Mr. Editor,

I send you an account of the Company's doings for the

past month, but I am unable to let you have a very long account, as news has been very scarce of late. We have shifted from the new bungalows back to the fort, which I think most of the Company were pleased to do, on account of the numerous sand flies, with which the new bungalows are infested, and which used to deprive us of our night's rest, but in the winter months the new bungalows are the best, when the sand flies disappear.

As the opening football match of the season, we played the Lancashire Fusiliers Band on the 21st Sept. It was a very good game, but owing to the bad condition of the ground the combination was broken up. We won the toss, and decided to play with sun behind us. The game started with a rush by the Lancashire Fusiliers Band to our goal, but our backs proved too strong in defence, and we soon got a run to the other goal, from which Eastgate forced a corner; Eastgate took the corner, which was passed to Pte. Sparrow, who headed the ball in fine style, but it just cleared the bar, resulting in a goal kick. After this the game was even until the interval, after which we put more life into our game. We had very hard luck, as our men made several attempts to score, but the Lancashire Fusiliers goal-keeper proved too good for our shots, which he cleared in clever fashion. About ten minutes before the finish the Lancashires were awarded a free kick, which our goal-keeper saved by knocking it over the bar. By this the Lancashires secured a corner, from which they scored, our left just failing to clear. This seemed to put more life in our men, who played with more vigour, and just about two minutes before time we scored the equalising goal from a good rush by the forwards.

We also played another match on this day, with the Band and Drums of the Battalion, in which we were fortunate enough to be the winners. The Band won the toss, and of course decided to play with the wind in their favour. We kicked off, and before the game was five minutes old we secured a goal from the good passing by the left wing. After this the game was more even, until about ten minutes before the interval, when the Band managed to score the equalising goal. After the interval the Band seemed to be getting the better of us, but our half-backs and backs were too good for them, and soon transferred the ball to their half, and from a long pass from left to right, the ball was put through the goal by a fine shot from our centre. The ball was soon on the move again, and about three minutes later we secured a corner, from which the goal-keeper of the Band was called upon to save, which he did, but did not clear far enough away from the goal, and our centre sent the ball through with a lightning shot. After this the game became less vigorous. The Band had the game to themselves for a short time, and scored their second goal. After the ball was restarted, our men secured the ball, and were pressing upon the Band's goal when the whistle blew for time. This is all the news I am able to let you have this time, but I think I shall be able to send you more next month.

F Company's Correspondent.

Floriana Barracks,
Malta.

Dear Mr. Editor,

The football season having commenced, no doubt a little news of our doings since the 1st September, 1905, may be of interest to your readers.

On the 2nd September the Company Football Team (Shield Holders for 1904-5) played their first match of the season, in which a great amount of interest was taken, playing a picked team of the Regiment, known as the "Fresh Air" Club, we having lost the services of Pte. Gower at back, turning him over to this newly-formed club. After 90 minutes play we were beaten by two goals to one.

On the 26th the various heats in the Aquatic Sports were held, our Company losing to H Company in the semi-final at water polo (the score of the winning team I could not count); anyhow, the Company was not to be beaten at their old game, boat racing, and in the heat against E, F, and H Companies, we beat H Company for the first place by about one and half lengths.

On the 28th, in the final, we only just managed to beat them again by half a length, after a most exciting race. Many who saw the race (the event of the sports) would dispute this, and say we only won by inches, still it was a win. Thanks to Sergt. Harris, who managed the crew, also the crew who stuck to him so well, the Company retain the Championship for 1905.

Crew—Bow, Pte. Arms; No. 2, Pte. French; No. 3, Pte. Page; No. 4, Lance-Corpl. Morgan; No. 5, Sergt. Harris; Stroke, Lance-Corpl. Ellen.

Again our Company greatly distinguished themselves on F Range, Pembroke Camp, for the Inter-Company Challenge Shield for the Army, being the best in the Battalion, with a splendid score of 125 points, thus upholding our reputation as the best shooting Company for two years, 1903 and 1904 (Shield Holders), and the highest figure of merit in the Battalion for 1905.

Team—Clr.-Sergt. Saunders (Commander), Lance-Sergt. Collins, Corpl. Maslin, Corpl. Ransome, Pte. R. Wood, Pte. Carmody, Pte. Chapman, Pte. Bloomfield, Pte. O. Packman.

G Company Correspondent.

Dear Editor,

Hoping you may find room for a few of our doings, I am forwarding a few on.

Cricket is over, and very much over, but our last two matches are worthy of mention, being special invites with the Essex Bandsmen, and on the first occasion we invited them to our special ground, viz., "Floriana Oval," but I must not get too verbose, but I may say the game was a good one, perhaps that was because we won, as we generally forget all the bad points on such occasions. However, our score was a huge 250, and as we all retired to do justice to our little Mary's with the niceties that made the table groan under its weight, we stood a much better chance of getting our second wind. After one and all doing himself a good turn, we made for the field of play, and the Essex men meant business, but they found their big dinner was playing a prominent part, and made them a little lazy naturally, but they managed 126 with no luck. Our team all batted well, Sergts. Allen, Wood, Hooper, Somerville, and Pinder being amongst the foremost; the latter made his sixth hundred of the season, but he hardly makes them at the right time. However, cricket was only a second thought, for after an impromptu concert, lasting till 9.30, the Essex musicians returned to Imtarfa after a good day's outing from all points.

Our return was played at Imtarfa. After reaching the ground by special conveyance, viz., by the Malta Railway route, which they seem to say knocks the slow, easy, and cushy railway of Kent, for it seemed to knock our chaps off their game. Any excuse is better than none, and the weather was very bad too, bad, oh, our cricketers they were badder! Taking first knock, we only managed 24. I think we must have been beaten before we started to go in some of us. The Essex men soon passed our total, by placing 119 to their credit. But while their team was strengthened by two officers, our's was weakened by the absence of one of our bowlers and one or two more. But we lost hands down, but retired to make merry at the table and forget our bad score, but I believe some remember it still. However, after a fine concert, and many more things too numerous to mention, "we" retired to rest after our good day's outing, well beaten, and hoping for many more days like these to follow.

Our next turn found us trying our hands at the polo tournament; of course this is water polo, as we can't afford to play the other game, and the tournament got up by the Regiment was eventually won by the Band, for the second year in succession, beating B four to nil in the second round, as D scratched in the first round, as some of their men could not get there, being on duty. We then met G Company in the semi-final, and G Company's goal-keeper was a cute'un, being specially on the look out for offsideers. But as it did not come under the rules of the game, they managed to put five onside goals past him, and won accordingly, five to nil. We then were in the final, and a good game was anticipated, but hopes were not realized, for, after rather a tame game, the Band won six to nil. We have also beaten the winners of the Lancashire Fusiliers tournament, and the Lanc's Band twice, scoring 34 goals against four, so we were quite to the front at the wet wicket game. It's time we got in the final for something. The team—G. K. Brown, goal; Sheppard and Whitmore (backs); E. Ransome, Corpl. C. H. Press (capt.), Dorel, and Gladman (forwards).

2nd BATTALION INTELLIGENCE.

No. 7598 Private H. Bassett has been appointed Pioneer.

No. 5350 Ptes. H. Fry, 5367 T. Bowers, 5695 H. Gadsdon, 5703 A. Judd, 5867 G. Birkett and 5907 A. Parker have extended their services to complete eight years' service.

The undernamed have been awarded Swimming Certificates:—5969 Sergeant H. Iliffe, 6674 Privates A. Jones, 5817 J. Irvine, 4701 F. Elliott, 5653 E. Orchard, 5079 F. Emmerson, 5153 F. Reilly, 6426 G. Varnham, 5557 G. Crole, 6615 G. Carr, 6203 Dr. H. Maynard and 6451 Dr. W. Patston.

5186 Lance-Corporal W. Carrington and 5309 Corporal H. Kimber have extended their service to complete twelve years.

4747 Colour-Sergeant J. Alderman has re-engaged for the Royal West Kent Regiment to complete twenty-one years.

5209 Private H. Earl has been transferred to Army Reserve in North China.

DEPOT NOTES.

We publish below a list of men, late of the Regiment, requiring work, and would be glad if any of our readers could assist in the matter. Communications to be addressed to the Secretary, Employment Association, Barracks, Maidstone.

No.	Rank and Name.	Character.	Work required.
4888	Lce.-Sergt. G. Sanger	Exemplary	Any light work
	Pte. W. E. Cowlard...	Very Good	Labourer
3961	Pte. F. Merrony.....	"	Any light work
7451	Pte. W. H. Fryer.....	Good	"
2856	Pte. J. Tompsett.....	Very Good	Anything
6665	Pte. P. Wakeman.....	"	"
6779	Pte. W. Newnham....	"	"
2165	Corpl. J. Tompson....	Good	"
1091	Sergt. J. Denton.....	"	Caretaker
6553	Corpl. F. Mears.....	Very Good	Clerk or Labourer
2764	Pte. H. Valder.....	"	Anything
2054	Col.-Sergt. H. Moon	"	Any light work
	Pte. W. Nelson.....	"	Any work (Silverman in Mess)
5025	Pte. C. H. Cramp.....	"	Game Keeper or Under Gardener

During the past month the members of the Sergeant's mess journeyed to Chatham to meet the Sergeants of our youngest battalion, viz., the 4th V.B. R.W. Kent Regiment. After being shown over the spacious Drill Hall, M.T. Range, and other offices of these fine headquarters, we adjourned to the Sergeants' Mess, where billiards, whist, cribbage, euchre, and other games were keenly contested, the Volunteers eventually winning by 12 points to 8.

On Friday, the 10th inst., we paid a similar visit to the Sergeants of the Maidstone Companies of the 1st V.B., and on this occasion succeeded in winning the competition by nine points to three, thus reversing the result of our last effort with them.

A billiard handicap has been in progress in the Depot Sergeants' Mess, some very interesting contests being the result. I may say that our prophets were completely at fault in spotting the winner, one dead certainty after another failing to come off, much to the delight of the Handicap Committee (who of course, on the points being announced, suffered the usual penalty of greatness). Eventually Barrack Warden Rowling (who received 20 start) won the cue and 1st prize, Colour-Sergeant Chiswell taking 2nd prize, and Sergeant Dugay and Colour-Sergeant Tapp 3rd and 4th prizes respectively. Twenty-seven competed. The heats were 250 up, Sergeant-Major Grellier and Sergeant-Drummer Gee being the top weights with owe 80 each.

FOOTBALL.

DEPOT v. MALLING.

The result of an interesting meeting between the above teams was a victory for the military men by 3 goals to 1.

The opening half was rather in favour of the Depot, who early on forced a couple of corners, one being very cleverly

got away by Humphreys. Malling taking up the running, Marten was responsible for a good shot, whilst shortly after, the same player was nicely placed when given off-side. Sweeney opened the scoring for the Depot from a corner. Previous to this, however, there had been an exciting scrimmage in front of the Depot's goal, the ball being somewhat luckily got away. The interval arrived with the Depot leading by one goal to nil.

In the second half Malling equalised through Spicer, and up till within a quarter of an hour of the finish it seemed as though a draw would be the result. The Depot, however, succeeded in scoring through Keeble and Barrett, and the end came with the score :—Depot three goals, Malling one.

DEPOT, THE BUFFS v. DEPOT, R.W.K. Regt.

On the Depot team journeying to Canterbury to try conclusions with the Depot team of their sister Regiment the Buffs, the Royals won a hard game with the score four goals to two.

M.C.I. v. DEPOT.

This match, in the Maidstone and District League, was played off at Postley Fields, an interesting game resulting in a win for the Institute by two goals to nil. Both goals were scored in the first half, Weedon and Way being successful. The second moiety was an exciting one, and the soldiers experienced hard luck in not scoring.

DEPOT INTELLIGENCE.

No. 6537 Pte. A. Hopper has been permitted to rejoin from the Army Reserve, to complete eight years with the colours.

The following draft of recruits and dutymen proceeded to join the Details attached to the Provisional Battalion, Dover, on 13th inst. :—

Dutymen—3177 Pte. C. Lea, 6087, Pte. J. Wellard, 5955 Pte. J. Capsey, 6284 Pte. J. Harvey, 6602 Pte. R. Hill, 6561 Pte. J. Larkin, 6661 Pte. H. Powers, 6614 Pte. C. Chatfield, 6726 Pte. H. G. Tapp, 6537 Pte. A. Hopper.

Recruits—8090 Pte. T. Wren, 8091 Pte. R. W. Airey, 8092 Pte. J. J. Harris, 8094 Pte. F. Bateup, 8096 Pte. W. Croucher, 8099 Pte. W. Gregory, 8101 Pte. J. H. Mitchell, 8103 Pte. H. Hickmott, 8104 Pte. T. Inkersole, 8105 Pte. A. Mitchell, 8107 Pte. Sheppard.

Pte. E. Croucher has been transferred from the 2nd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers to serve with an elder brother.

Certificates of Education have been granted to the undermentioned :—

Second-Class—Lce.-Corpl. H. Mockford.

Third-Class—6319 Lce.-Corpl. J. Fedarb, 8101 Pte. J. Mitchell, 8127 Boy A. Robson, 8139 Pte. H. Pearce, 8104 Pte. T. Inkersole, 8119 Pte. J. Burrows, 8132, Pte. A. Dade, 8129 Pte. S. Cronk, 8128 Boy A. Warmingtton, 8065 Boy E. Gallacher, 8108 Pte. W. Page.

No. 2334 Sergt. G. Nicholson has arrived from 1st Battalion, Malta, and is attached to the Depot pending posting to the Permanent Staff, 3rd Battalion.

The undermentioned warrant officer, non-commissioned officers and men have been awarded the Medal for Long Service and Good Conduct :—

Without gratuity—1905 Sergt.-Major J. H. Outten.

With gratuity—1989 Sergt. J. Blount, 1971 Col.-Sergt. A. Wood, 1496 Corpl. J. Wall, 876 Pte. J. Butler.

Corpl. B. Fish has extended his service to complete 12 years with the colours.

The following old Royal West Kent men have, on the disbandment of the Royal Garrison Regiments, elected transfer to complete 14 years' colour service with a view to pension on discharge, and resume their old West Kent numbers :—1607 Sergt. F. Williams, 1682 Lce.-Sergeant H. Mansell, 1223 Pte. C. E. Wood, 2654 Pte. A. Paine, 1314 Pte. J. Stacey, 680 Pte. A. A. Ware, 1367 Pte. E. Doyle, 1846 Pte. C. Beer, 8163 Pte. F. Page ; the latter formerly served in the Royal Sussex Regiment.

No. 1610 Sergt. C. Coppin has been transferred from the Depot, Manchester Regiment, in order to complete his 14 years' colour service with his old regiment.

3rd BATTALION INTELLIGENCE.

Second-Lieutenant S. E. L. Baddeley, at present doing duty at the Depot, has been gazetted an Indian cadetship, and joins Sandhurst next February.

Second-Lieutenants W. T. M. Buller and T. P. Mills joined the Depot for class of instruction, 1st November, 1905.

Colour-Sergeant H. Moon discharged (invalided), 31st October, 1905.

Sergeant G. Nicholson, from 1st Battalion, posted to P.S., 3rd Battalion.

Dear Mr. Editor,

I should be obliged if you could find room to insert the enclosed extracts from Gratton's adventures with the Connaught Rangers, in "The Queen's Own Gazette." They will prove of interest to those who, like myself, believe that to establish the superiority over our possible opponents, which will lead to success in difficult and hotly contested operations, it is necessary to watch, cultivate, and even stimulate to their utmost the personal characteristics, feelings, and prejudices of our soldiers and sailors. We should be prepared, in the majority of cases, to concede to our opponents' equality in bravery and training.—Yours truly,

W.W.

THE ASSAULT ON CINDAD RODRIGO.

It was now 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and darkness was approaching fast, yet no order had arrived intimating that we were to take a part in the contest about to be decided. We were in this state of suspense when our attention was attracted by the sound of music; we all stood up, and pressed forward to a ridge, a little in our front, and which separated us from the cause of our movement; but it would be impossible to convey an adequate idea of our feelings when we beheld the 43rd Regiment, preceded by their band, going to storm the left breach; they were in the highest spirits, but without the slightest appearance of levity in their demeanour—on the contrary, there was a cast of determined severity thrown over

their countenances that expressed in legible characters that they knew the sort of service they were about to perform, and had made up their minds to the issue. They had no knapsacks—their firelocks were slung over their shoulders—their shirt-collars were open, and there was an indescribable something about them that at one and the same moment impressed the lookers on with admiration and awe. In passing us, each officer and soldier stepped out of the ranks for an instant, as he recognised a friend, to press his hands—many for the last time; yet, notwithstanding this animating scene, there was no shouting or huzzaing, no boisterous bravadoing, no unbecoming language; in short, everyone seemed to be impressed with the seriousness of the affair entrusted to his charge, and any interchange of words was to this effect: "Well lads, mind what you are about to-night"; or, "We'll meet in the town bye and bye"; and other little familiar phrases, all expressive of confidence. The Regiment at length passed us, and we stood gazing after it as long as the rear platoon continued in sight; the music grew fainter every moment, until at last it died away altogether; they had no drums, and there was a melting sweetness in the sounds that touched the heart.

The first syllable uttered after this scene was, "And are we to be left behind!" The interrogatory was scarcely put, when the words: "Stand to your arms!" answered it. The order was promptly obeyed, and a breathless silence prevailed when our commanding officer, in a few words, announced to us that Lord Wellington had directed our division to carry the great breach. The soldiers listened to the communication with silent earnestness, and immediately began to disencumber themselves of their knapsacks, which were placed in order by companies, and a guard set over them. Each man then began to arrange himself for the combat in such manner as his fancy or the moment would admit of—some by lowering their cartridge boxes, others by turning theirs to the front in order that they might the more conveniently make use of them, and others oiling their bayonets (a tip to remember when work at close quarters is expected—W.W.); and more taking leave of their wives and children. This last was an affecting sight, but not so much as might have been expected, because the women, from long habit, were accustomed to scenes of danger, and the order for their husbands to march against the enemy was in their eyes tantamount to a victory; and as the soldier seldom returned without plunder of some sort, the painful suspense which his absence caused was made up by the gaiety which his return was certain to be productive of; or if, unfortunately, he happened to fall, his place was sure to be supplied by some one of the company to which he belonged, so that the women of our army had little cause of alarm on this head. The worse that could happen to them was the chance of being in a state of widowhood for a week.

Long harangues are not necessary to British soldiers, and on this occasion but few words were made use of. Picton's address to the 88th was so characteristic of the General, and so applicable to the men he spoke to, that I shall give it word for word; it was this: "Rangers of Connaught! it is not my intention to expend any powder this evening. We'll do this business with the cauld iron."

I said before the soldiers were silent—so they were, but the man who could be silent after such an address, had better have stayed at home. It may be asked what did they do? Why, what would they do, or would anyone do, but give the loudest hurrah he was able.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE ASSAULT OF BADAJOZ.

On this day, the 5th of April, the batteries of the enemy were nearly crippled, and their replies to our fire scarcely audible; the spirits of the soldiers, which no fatigue could damp, rose to a frightful height—I say frightful, because it was not of that sort which alone denoted exultation at the prospect of their achieving an exploit which was about to hold them up to the admiration of the world; there was a certain something in their bearing that told plainly that they had suffered fatigues, which they did not complain of, and had seen their comrades and officers slain while fighting beside them without repining; but that they smarted under the one, and felt acutely for the other. They consequently hailed the present prospect as the mariner does the disappearance of a heavy cloud after a storm, which discovers to his view the clear horizon. In a word the capture of Badajoz had long been their idol. Many causes led to this wish on their part; the two previous unsuccessful sieges, and the failure of the attack against San Christoval in the latter; but, above all, the well-known hostility of its inhabitants to the British Army.

The demeanour of the soldiers on this evening faithfully exemplified what I have just written: a quiet but desperate calm had taken the place of that gayness and buoyancy of spirits which they possessed so short a time before, and nothing now was observable in their manner but a tiger-like expression of anxiety to seize upon their prey, which they considered as already within their grasp.

BIRTHS.

At Malta, on the 14th September, the wife of No. 3953 Private E. West, of a son (Joseph).

At Malta, on the 25th September, the wife of No. 1208, Sergeant Dr. W. Lush, of a daughter (Dorothy).

At Malta, on the 25th September, the wife of No. 4260, Lance-Corporal E. Harden, of a daughter (Florence).

At Malta, on the 1st October, the wife of No. 2168, Private A. Cork, of a son (Walter).

At Malta, on the 9th October, the wife of No. 3460, Sergeant J. Wren, of a son (James).

At Maidstone, on 22nd October, the wife of Drummer Pullen of a son.

At Maidstone, on 17th November, the wife of Sergeant J. Hyde, of a daughter.

DEATH.

At Hounslow, on 12th November, the wife of Col.-Sergt G. Rigglesford.

THE TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:—

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

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

Copies will be sold at 1d. per Number to Non-Commissioned Officers and Men serving or who have served as such. If sent by post 1s. 6d. per year.

Extra Copies or back numbers can always be supplied.

The price of back numbers will be as follows: To N.C.O's and Men, 1d.; to all other Subscribers, 2½d. (Postage ½d. extra).

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

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

"The Queen's Own Gazette."

A MONTHLY RECORD OF REGIMENTAL DOINGS

OF

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

No. 366.

MAIDSTONE, DECEMBER, 1905.

[Vol. XXIV, No. 12.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Promoted Color-Sergeant:—Sergeant S. Reeves, 3rd June.

Promoted Sergeants:—Lance-Sergeants R. Harrison, 25th August; T. Martle, 10th November.

Promoted Corporals:—Lance-Corporals F. Lauder, 15th September; W. Raines, 5th October; H. Taylor, 1st November; A. Goss, 10th November.

Appointed Lance-Sergeants:—Corporals J. Hayley, 25th August; H. Maslin, 10th November.

Appointed Lance-Corporals:—Privates W. Lord, 4th November; R. Darley and J. Hayhurst, 20th November; T. Dale, 22nd November.

TO OUR READERS.

Once again the time approaches when man greets man with Yuletide wishes, and the Editor, not a whit behind, offers to the readers of his periodical:—

A MOST HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

and anticipates their reciprocal greeting with visions of prosperity for the paper during the coming year.

He hopes that the paper will reach perfection in literary matter and promptness of publication, failings which have in the near past been noticeable.

REGIMENTAL COMPASSIONATE FUND.

The following is a list of officers, past and present, who are donors and subscribers to the Regimental Compassionate Fund. The O.C. Depot would be pleased to receive further subscriptions or donations:—Major-General E. Leach, C.B.; Brigadier-Generals E. A. Alderson, C.B., A.D.C., and E. A. W. S. Grove, C.B.; Colonels J. L. Tweedie, D.S.O., W. H. Bayly, T. H. Brock, F. F. Johnson, C.B., C. E. C. B. Harrison, W. G. B. Western, C.B., E. T. Luck; Lieutenant-Colonels W. H. Wilson, H. D. Armstrong, C. R. Crosse, C. R. Churchill, H. G. Fitton, D.S.O., G. W. Maunsell, C. E. Hallett; Majors O. J. Daniell, L. Brock-Hollinshead, W. E. Rowe, E. V. O. Hewitt, R. J. Roche, A. W. Martyn, W. R. N. Annesley,

D.S.O., N. H. S. Lowe, F. H. Hotham, S. H. Pedley, J. W. Jones, A. Martyn, R. C. Style, H. Isacke, E. F. Venables; Captains P. Hastings, H. W. Beeching, T. H. C. Nunn, D.S.O., L. H. James, T. P. C. Smith, J. Couch, C. F. Hitchins, P. M. Robinson, R. M. G. Tulloch, A. K. Grant, H. S. Bush, E. L. A. Heygate, J. H. Kennedy, G. D. Lister, E. W. Brown, T. T. Burt, C. V. Maloney, J. W. O'Dowda, W. H. Annesley, H. D. Buchanan-Dunlop, H. W. Snow, G. F. H. Keenlyside, F. W. Burbury, P. Umfreville, C. G. Pack-Beresford, L. H. Hickson, M. P. Buckle, D.S.O., H. L. C. Moody, G. Elgood, C. Druce, C. E. Kitson, J. Lees, R. J. Hildyard, R. J. Woulfe-Flanagan; Lieutenants T. Y. Dobson, G. B. Legard, H. J. Vicat, J. C. Parker, E. H. Norman, A. S. Hewitt, C. W. Case-Morris, G. E. St. C. Stevenson, C. R. Ingram, A. D' E. Knox, W. C. Phillips, H. A. Waring, R. G. C. Brock, W. F. Helmore, F. B. Humphreys, F. Fisher, F. J. Hearle, R. Lynch-White, H. D. Belgrave, A. H. Pullman; E. J. Elgood, Esq., E. J. Hudson, Esq. A. Streatfield-Moore, Esq., and R. L. Hoare, Esq.

Grateful thanks have been expressed by those who have been assisted in the hour of need.

The following subscriptions to the Regimental Compassionate Fund for 1905 have been received, but have not previously been acknowledged in the "Q.O. Gazette":—

	£	s.	d.
Lieut-Col. G. W. Maunsell	2	0	0
Major R. C. Style	10	0	
Major A. Martyn	10	0	
Capt. C. G. Pack-Beresford.....	10	0	
Capt. L. H. Hickson	1	0	0
Lieut. H. D. Belgrave		5	0
Capt. M. P. Buckle, D.S.O. ..	1	0	0
Major E. F. Venables	10	0	
Lieut.-Col. C. M. Churchill	1	1	0
Lieut. J. C. Parker	10	0	
Capt. J. Couch	10	0	
E. J. Elgood, Esq.....	1	1	0
Lieut.-Col H. G. Fitton, D.S.O.	2	0	0

The O.C. Depot acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following donations and subscriptions:—

	£	s.	d.
Lieut. D. Y. Hibbert.....	1	1	0
Col. W. G. B. Western, C.B.	1	0	0
Major O. J. Daniell		5	0
Brigadier-General E. A. Alderson, C.B., A.D.C.	1	1	0
Captain E. L. A. Heygate	1	0	0

THE LATE MRS. WHATMAN.

Amid many evidences of regret and respect the body of Mrs. Whatman, of Vinters, Maidstone, who died at an advanced age, was laid to rest in the family vault at Boxley, on November 11th. The Whatmans had long worshipped at Boxley Church and in the porch are the family coat of arms and a memorial tablet to the deceased lady's nephew, Captain Chas. Cornwallis Ross, who was killed in the Crimean campaign. In spite of the almost continuous rain of November 11th, the funeral was attended by a large and representative gathering of residents of both town and country, almost every seat in the sacred edifice being occupied. Among those present were Captain and Mrs. Beeching, Major Lowe, Captain Lister and Major O. J. Daniell.

The principal mourners were:—Miss Whatman and Miss Louisa Whatman, Major and Mrs. Dugdale, and Mr. and Mrs. Trousdell (daughters and sons-in-law), Miss Ross (sister), the Rev. A. G. Gordon Ross (nephew), Miss Trousdell, Mr. A. Trousdell, and the Misses E. and C. Trousdell (grandchildren).

Before the arrival of the cortege, Mr. Duckett, the organist, played "O rest in the Lord," and Mendelssohn's "Funeral March."

The Ven. Archdeacon Maxwell Spooner, the Rev. W. Snape Cadman (Vicar), the Revs. C. E. W. Dalison and R. Jeffcoat (curates), the Rev. Dr. Spear, with the choir, met the coffin at the entrance to the churchyard, and the service commenced with the singing of Psalm 90. The lesson, from 1st Corinthians xv., was read by the Rev. Dalison. Then followed the hymn, "Now the labourer's task is o'er," and, as the body was being borne from the church, the choir sang, unaccompanied, the Nunc Dimittis, to Adlam's setting. The scene at the graveside was an impressive one, and was witnessed by several hundred spectators.

The inscription on the polished oak coffin was: "Louisa Isabelle Whatman, born January 25th, 1826, died November 7th, 1905." The sides of the grave were lined with lovely white chrysanthemums and delicate foliage by Mr. Thomas, head gardener at Vinters. A large number of magnificent wreaths and other floral emblems were received, among which were to be found one from the Officers of Depot, Royal West Kent Regiment; Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Men, Royal West Kent Regiment; Women and Children of the Royal West Kent Regiment; Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Men of the Maidstone Detachment, 1st Vol. Batt. Royal West Kent Regiment; Colonel and Mrs. Brock.

Her loss will be keenly felt. Her interest in the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, from which so many of our soldiers' wives and children were assisted during the late South African War, was great, and her efforts will be long remembered.

The Misses Whatman have written expressing their thanks for the wreaths sent by the Royal West Kent Regiment.

1st BATTALION INTELLIGENCE.

Floriana Barracks,

Malta,

20th November, 1905.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

The past month, like its predecessor, has been full of incidents. On the 28th of October, about 1.30 p.m., a fire broke out in one of the wooden sheds in Notre Dame Ravelin. The shed, which is used as an A.T.A. room, was completely burnt. Directly the fire alarm sounded it was responded to by the company detailed as Fire Picquet.

Most of the officers were at the time in various stages of preparation for a hockey match; however, they were, as the local paper states, almost immediately on the scene, but not attired in hockey kit as it also states.

The fire pump was got to bear on the burning hut, but twenty-five pumps would have been useless, so fiercely did the hut burn, with the assistance of some cans of oil which were in it when the fire broke out.

A complete cordon of fire screens secured the safety of the adjoining hutments, at one time endangered by the sparks which were carried about in all directions.

After about an hour's burning the hut was demolished and the fire burnt itself out. With the exception of a piano and a few chairs, everything else was destroyed, including a billiard table.

A canary and a dog were recovered in time, but the day's takings, about nine pounds, vanished.

The overheating of a petroleum stove was apparently the cause of the fire. Corporal Stewart, who was in charge of the hut, made gallant efforts to save the property, even to the extent of trying, with several others, to charge the billiard table through one of the walls. Private Harding was run over by a fire screen, but was not seriously hurt.

On the 2nd November, Captains Maloney and Snow and Lieutenants Brock, Searight, and Cooke arrived back from leave.

On the 9th Captain O'Dowda left for England, having obtained leave of absence until he has to join at Camberley.

Captain Fiennes, Colour-Sergeant Seager, and Sergeant Sweatman are leaving us shortly on being posted to the Auxiliary Forces.

The social season may now be said to have commenced. The Fleet has settled down for the winter, consequently all the naval ladies have arrived, and of course they make a considerable part of Malta Society. I hear that Admiralty House is to be a centre of gaiety this winter. The Union Club has sent out its annual request for subscriptions to its dances, and promises to give four dances if they can get 100 subscribers. The opera commenced its performances with "L'Africana," on the 30th ult., and since then has rendered "La Boheme" and "Carmen."

"Trafalgar Day" was celebrated by an imposing procession of Marines from all the ships in harbour. They filed past the Admiral Commander-in-Chief, who took up his position on the Palace Square.

On the 9th the Garrison paraded on the Marsa to fire a *feu-de-joie*, and having fired it in the usual manner, they marched past H.E. the Governor, who expressed satisfaction with some and dissatisfaction with others. We, I am glad to say, were among the former. I forgot to mention that three most hearty cheers were given after the *feu-de-joie*, and that the parade was in honour of the King's birthday.

The report of the Public Health Department of Malta on Mediterranean fever is rather interesting. This report is apparently of the period April, 1904, to April, 1905. It states that 1,110 cases were reported, as against 752 in the preceding year. It states that the fever was at its height from July to October during the exceptional heat of the summer of 1904.

There appears to be some relation between temperature and the incidence of Mediterranean fever, as shown by the following table:—

Cases of Mediterranean fever reported—July to October, 1904.

	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Cases of Mediterranean fever	148	141	138	129
Mean temperature	77.3	78.9	74.5	67.1

The cases among the Army and Navy were 179 in 1903-4 and 447 in 1904-5.

The Department accounts for this large increase by stating that in previous years many cases have not been reported.

Since my last letter we have received the sad news of the death of Captain Simpson, whom we were hoping might soon rejoin us. It was a great shock to all ranks who have served with him in this Battalion, the Battalion in which most of his service was spent, to hear that we should never again see our well-beloved comrade.

I enclose correspondence from my fellow correspondents.

1st Battalion Correspondent.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

The fourth Annual Smoking Concert and Distribution of Prizes in connection with the Officers' and Sergeants' Rifle Club took place in the Sergeants' Mess, Floriana, on Wednesday evening, the 18th October, all available members and a goodly number of friends being present when proceedings commenced, while a good number of officers put in an appearance later, and helped to enliven the meeting.

The chair was taken at 8.30 p.m. by Sergeant-Major Rogers, while Qr.-Master-Sergeant Cover occupied the vice-chair.

Lieut.-Colonel Maunsell presented the prizes, each member of the Sergeants' Mess who had taken part in the competition being the recipient of a useful present of his own selection, according to order of merit.

Sergeant Brown was a very popular winner of Colonel Harrison's handsome Challenge Cup, which was won for the fourth time in succession by the Sergeants' Mess, although the shooting was at times so open that it was feared the trophy would go to the Officers' Mess, Captain Grant being most fancied as a likely winner.

Sergeant Brown selected a silver lever watch, valued at £5, manufactured by the well-known firm of Benson, as his prize, which bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Sergeant A. G. Brown, 1st Battalion Royal West Kent Regiment, on the occasion of his winning Colonel Harrison's Challenge Cup for the year 1905."

Sergeant Walker, the unenviable winner of the Wooden (Challenge) Spoon, was accorded a great ovation as he received his "prize" at the hands of the Commanding Officer. The spoon is a decided work of art, decorated with all the latest improvements in musketry, including a miniature representation of the new figure target above the cheering inscription "Nil Desperandum."

The concert was a decided success, each item being received with great applause, and where all was so good it would be difficult to particularise, but special mention might be made of Sergeant Seaton, who gained a well-deserved encore for his splendid rendering of "The Admiral's Broom"; Armourer-Staff-Sergeant Edwards in his thrilling recitation, "The Last Shot"; and Staff-Qr.-Master-Sergeant Saul, A.S. Corps, who kept the audience in roars of laughter with his budget of latest comic songs. A topical verse was added to the song "I've Brought the Coals," in which he demonstrated the laxity of a certain member of the Quartermaster's department in the quantities of fuel and light distributed.

The following toasts were drunk with customary honours:—"The King," proposed by Sergeant-Major Rogers; "Our Officers," proposed by Sergeant-Major Rogers; "Our Visitors," proposed by Qr.-Master-Sergeant Cover.

Lieut.-Colonel Maunsell responded on behalf of the officers, and especially emphasised the value of musketry and the keenness aroused in this most important branch of soldiering by such institutions as the Officers' and Sergeants' Rifle Club.

Staff-Sergeant-Major Coffey responded for the visitors with some well chosen words.

PROGRAMME.

Selection on the piano, "In Tancrede," Mr. Moore; toast, "The King," Sergeant-Major Rogers; song, "Maisie," Sergeant Allen; song, "The Cosy Corner Girl," Sergeant Crowder, 1st R.B.; song, "If I do," Colour-Sergeant Osborne; euphonium solo, "Alice, Where art Thou," Band-Sergeant Sonnenberg; song, "Token of Love," Sergeant Ball; songs, "Irish Jubilee" and (encore) "McCarthy's Boarding House," Sergeant Cassidy; songs, "The Admiral's Broom" and (encore) "The Deathless Army," Sergeant Seaton; toast, "Our Officers," Sergeant Major Rogers; recitation, "The Last Shot," Armourer-Staff-Sergeant Edwards; songs, "Queer Questions" and (encore) "I've Brought the Coals," Staff-Qr.-Master-Sergeant Saul, A.S.C.; song, "Maid of Athens," Staff-Sergeant Anthony, A.S.C.; selection on piano, "Charity," Mr. Moore; cornet solo, "Genevieve," Sergeant Allen; song, "Our Threepenny Hop," Sergeant Walker; song, "The Anchor's Weighed," Staff-Sergeant Anthony, A.S.C.; toast, "Our Visitors," Qr.-Master-Sergeant Cover; duet, "Larboard Watch," Band-Sergeant Sonnenberg and Sergeant Ball; selections for mandolines and banjo, Band-

Sergeant Sonnenberg, Sergeant Kingham, and Sergeant Kipps; song "The Plumber," Mr. Moore; song, "Whistling Rufus," Sergeant Page; song, "Down by the Old Bull and Bush," Sergeant Cockle; duet, "Life's Dream is O'er," Sergeant Seaton and Mr. Moore; songs, "Oh you do keep popping in and out" and (encore) "There goes my Soldier Boy," Staff-Qt.-Master-Sergeant Saul; A.S.C. "God Save the King."

Mr. Moore filled the difficult part of accompanist in a very able manner, and a most pleasant time was brought to a conclusion shortly after midnight.

Sergeants' Mess Correspondent.

MUSKETRY MEDITATIONS.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

The Musketry season has now commenced and once more we face the elusive "Bull," or rather figure, breathing silent prayers that we may be among the favoured of fortune, who are entitled to the magic M. after their names in the Musketry Returns "C, F, G and H" Companies have already faced the ordeal on Pembroke Ranges and return to Floriana on the 20th proximo. It is difficult to form any opinion yet as to the merit or otherwise of the result, as the course is a new one, and in many respects far more difficult than the old. It is, however, generally admitted that the new figure target, divided into three bands, is a snare, and responsible for most of the "Blow-backs" who now sorrowfully ruminate on "those upper bands" which only count one. These unfortunates, to whom I tender my sincerest sympathy, are not the only ones who have suffered from "Newcoursities"; instances having been noted of musketeers of repute wanting one hit for marksman who have failed to perforate the "Running Rat" or disturb the sub-cutaneous tissue of "Bobbing Jinny" even after the careful expenditure of ten or fifteen rounds of ammunition and a wholly disproportionate allowance of expletives.

The half battalion mentioned above have been favoured with exceptionally good weather, though at times strong winds prevailed. It is to be hoped that the other half battalion, which goes out to Pembroke on the 28th, will be equally favoured in the all important matter of atmospheric conditions.

A new feature of the present course is the judging distance test, upon the successfully passing of which depends the retention or otherwise of the classification gained in the actual shooting. This J.D.T., carried out by the second in command, did not prove as formidable as anticipated, nearly everyone making the necessary number of points. In one instance, however, a distinguished marksman nearly "Died in the Ditch" for the necessary score, only just making the "indispensible" after a prolonged mental effort of 29.99 seconds duration.

Malta does not afford the best of facilities for musketry training, except to those regiments quartered on the spot. The course is hurried in order to make way for others, and there does not appear to be any ground available for field

firing except the Miniature Range in the Floriana Ditch, a spot perhaps salubrious but hardly commodious. However, its no use "grousing," all we can do is to try and better the Israelitish record and make what they were unable to successfully construct.

Yours, etc.,

"BRICKS WITHOUT STRAW."

HOCKEY.

OFFICERS v. H.M.S. LEVIATHAN.

First match of the season, played on Marsa, 20th October, 1905. During the first half play was of a more or less even nature, both sides having bad luck in not scoring.

On changing ends the battalion forwards began to buck up, Captain O'Dowda sending a nice pass into the ring from which Lieutenant Phillips scored.

This seemed to wake our opponents up and after pressing hard managed to equalize. Our team then replied by another goal from a good shot by Second-Lieutenant Wilberforce. After give and take play, time was called, leaving us victors (2-1).

For the battalion Second-Lieutenant Vicat, Lieutenant Parker were the most conspicuous performers.

The battalion was represented by Captain Dunlop (goal), Lieutenant Parker and Second-Lieutenant Vicat (backs), Captain Grant, Second-Lieutenant Roberts, and Second-Lieutenant Ricketts (half-backs), Captain O'Dowda, Second-Lieutenant Wilberforce, Lieutenant Phillips, Second-Lieutenant Fisher and Captain Nunn (forwards).

v. 2nd HANTS. REGIMENT.

Second match, played at Verdala on 25th October, 1905. This proved to be a very fast game and although we were apparently the better team had hard task in winning.

Our opponents scored early in the first half, but Lieutenant Fisher soon equalized with a good shot. Directly after the bally the Hants. rushed down the ground and scored again.

On changing ends we managed to equalize fairly soon from a hard shot by Captain Fiennes and within a few minutes Lieutenant Fisher shot a brilliant goal, thereby giving us the lead. From this point until the end the game was fast and furious, but no further point could be scored.

Our team was as follows:—Captain Dunlop (goal), Second-Lieutenant Leir and Second-Lieutenant Vicat (backs), Second-Lieutenant Ricketts, Captain Grant and Second-Lieutenant Roberts (half-backs), Captain O'Dowda, Captain Fiennes, Lieutenant Phillips, Second-Lieutenant Fisher and Second-Lieutenant Wilberforce (forwards).

v. 2nd BATTALION ESSEX REGIMENT.

Third match, played at Imtafa, on 30th October. In this match we had to play a team which has practically been doing nothing else but play hockey right through the hot weather.

Although we were beaten 4—1, I think the score hardly shows the comparative strength of the two teams.

Our opponents played better together and were much fitter, but taking the teams man for man I think there was little to choose between them.

Our team was as follows:—Captain Dunlop (goal), Lieutenant Parker and Second-Lieutenant Leir (backs), Captain Grant, Second-Lieutenant Vicat and Sergeant Walker (half-backs), Captain O'Dowda, Lieutenant Phillips, Second-Lieutenant Fisher, Second-Lieutenant Roberts and Sergeant Doe (forwards).

FOOTBALL.

THE QUEEN'S OWN v. RIFLE BRIGADE TEAM.

RESULT, DRAW—(0—0).

This match was played at the Marsa, on Monday, 30th October, and resulted in a good game. The Queen's Own had not quite their strongest team out, being without Ellen at centre-half and Davies right inside, while the R.B.'s had their full team, which by the way is exactly the same as that of last year.

From the start the R.B.'s forwards took the ball and gave considerable trouble to our backs, who, however, although kicking against the wind, cleared in fine style.

With some difficulty, owing to the wind and high kicking of the halves, the ball reached our forwards; these, however, did not seem to be able to get the ball rolling owing to their inability to get it over to the left, where Sparrow and Hayhurst, the really strong wing, were waiting anxiously. There was a strong cross wind which kept the ball over to the right, and made passing very hard.

These were dangerous moments for both sides, but when the whistle blew at half-time neither side had scored. Changing over we pressed continually, not, however, without the opposing forwards getting away once or twice and giving Butcher in goal a little exercise.

Towards the end Sparrow made a good individual effort which was, however, stopped just in time. Wilberforce also went near the posts once, but failed to score. We continued to press until the whistle finished an enjoyable game, the score being love all.

The backs and two wing halves played their usual steady game. Sparrow played well. The centre and right wing were not seen at their best. Butcher acquitted himself well when called on. The match was admirably refereed by Sergeant Harris.

v. R.G.A. 96th COMPANY TEAM.

RESULT, WON—(4—0).

Played on Marsa, resulting in a win for the Q.O. by four goals to nil.

A fair game with any amount of appealing from the Gunners, who perhaps are not used to being beaten yet (it being so early in the season). It gave our forwards a chance to show that against anything like slow backs they would be dangerous. Davies was the first to hurt the net with a good low shot, rendered impossible to stop by cannoning off an opponent. The game went all in favour

of us, the gunners pressing very rarely. Sparrow scored twice, the last goal of the second half being a very neat piece of headwork.

Wilberforce shot a goal from a nice pass of Davies, who worked his way to the left of Wilberforce, drawing the defence with him. A rather neat piece of work.

A.S.C. v. THE QUEEN'S OWN TEAM.

RESULT, WON—(1—0).

Played on Marsa in the usual wind, blowing from goal to goal. This match was the first in which the regiment was fully represented. Our forwards got the ball from the first and did all the pressing, perhaps owing partly to the fact that a strong wind was behind them. Again and again Wilberforce and Davies failed to score, the latter having perhaps bad luck in one or two cases.

The A.S.C. left wing worked hard against the wind and got near our goal once, but Lord sent the ball into our half again; Sparrow went straight ahead and with a very nice cross shot found the net.

On changing ends things once or twice looked uncomfortable, but even against the wind we managed to keep the ball a good deal in the A.S.C. half. The shooting on both sides was weak and both should have scored again. The Q.O. more often than their opponents perhaps. Everyone played up well.

v. 1st LANCASHIRE FUSILIERS.

RESULT, WON—(2—1).

First league match, played on Marsa, 13th November. Our team was perhaps for the first time this season at its full strength, but owing to the fact that the two half battalions are split up, the combination at the beginning of this match was decidedly bad.

During the first quarter hour the Lancs. simply walked round us and managed to score an offside goal. Then the battalion team woke up and from this point until the end of the game had much more of the play than their opponents, except for about two minutes in which the Lancashire's inside right managed to rush through our defence and score. This shot should have been saved, but at the same time it is only fair to say that it was the solitary fault that marred an otherwise good display of goal keeping. On changing ends we started play against the wind and at once made tracks for our opponents goal. About this time the referee had to send one of the Lancashire Fusilier's team off the field for continual foul play, an action that was not fully appreciated by the Lancashire's supporters.

Within a few minutes of this Private Hunter shot a really brilliant goal, which was absolutely impossible to save. This point gave our men more heart and they went at it harder than ever and several times came near scoring. About ten minutes before time Private Taylor managed to get through and would have had the goal at his mercy had not one of the opponents tripped him up. For this foul a penalty was awarded and Private Hunter managed to score from it, thus giving us the lead.

From this point we had our opponents fairly beaten and the game ended more or less dully.

So ended our first league match this season, our next match being against the Rifle Brigade.

For our team Private Hunter played a magnificent game. Private Lord and Corporal Lamb at back played a very sound game and Corporal Davies was the best of the forwards. Our team was as follows:—Private Hayhurst (E Company), Private Sparrow (F Company), Private Taylor (G Company), Corporal Davis (C Company), Private Eastgate (F Company), Private Green (F Company), Private Hunter (B Company), Private Hyland (G Company), Private Lord (D Company), Corporal Lamb (E Company), Private Butcher (H Company).

FOOTBALL GARRISON LEAGUE.

Second Match, 1st Rifle Brigade (Cup Holders and League), 2 goals; 1st Royal West Kent, 2 goals.

Flushed with success over their friends, the enemy from Lancashire, and proud in the possession of a capital team, the West Kents were a happy family.

The Rifle Brigade, have a very powerful combination and were entitled to the honours of the day.

The game was contested in the most gallant spirit and interest was maintained at fever heat from start to finish.

Both goals were visited in turn, the play being exceptionally fast and exciting.

There was more mutual reliance about the R.B., who at once bore down on the Kents' goal; and Midland made a lovely centre which travelled just wide of the far goal post, from where he shot.

Hunter, who was untiring in his efforts, got possession and passed the ball forward where Taylor tapping the ball weaved his way past the halves, dashing between the backs and eluding a foot cunningly outstretched, he crowned his magnificent dribble with a neat shot well out of Blake's way. It was indeed a grand goal and deserved the applause it called forth.

Back came the Kents eager for a second point, but the sturdy defence they met carried towards the other goal where Horricks neatly headed in a well placed kick from the back, getting on level terms with the Kents. The R.B. played with great dash and kept in dangerous proximity to their enemy's goal. Fate was kind to them, however, for Horricks was tripped in the act of shooting, but he avenged his fall by giving his side the lead with the consequent penalty kick.

At half-time the Brigade still enjoyed their lead. Resuming in the second half, the Brigade kept up a severe pressure for some time, but the Kents eventually shook them off and came to the attack and gave Blake some anxious moments, but the backs kept their heads and the situation was saved.

The Kents made gallant efforts to draw level. Taylor made a splendid individual run down the field and just missed from an awkward position. This sort of thing did not appeal to the Rifle Brigade who cleverly worked their way down towards their goal and two shots in succession hit the bar, but they rebounded safely out of harm's way. But just when the Greens seemed full of rally and were buzzing round the Kents' goal, Hunter got possession and swung the ball out to the left, where the winger was away to the other extreme like a flash. He made a lovely centre and Taylor ever watchful

for such golden opportunities pounced upon the ball and in a thrice it was reposing in the far corner of the net. A beautiful goal and well obtained.

The Kents were delighted with this point and Taylor came in for some handshaking.

During the last few minutes some exciting play followed, both goals being visited in turn, but when time was called the well contested game ended in a draw.

The West Kent team was as follows:—Butcher (goal), Lord and Lambe (backs), Hyland, Hunter and Ellen (half-backs), Eastgate, Davis, Taylor, Sparrow and Hayhurst (forwards).

Third Match, R.G.A. West, 1 goal; Royal West Kent, 1 goal.

The game between the R.G.A. West and the R.W.K. Regiment did not produce a particularly interesting exhibition of football, but there was no doubt about the Kents being the better side. The Gunners were at full strength, but the Kents had to deplore the absence of Hunter, who was on the injured list.

The Artillery won the toss but played against the wind and sun.

No sooner had the game started when the Kents left wing got going, and Eastgate, with a capital centre, caused the goalie to fist away to save his charge.

Back came the Kents, and this time Eastgate's centre was smartly converted by Sparrow. Thirsting for more the Kents came to the attack with renewed vigour, but Jones, falling back from centre forward, was the means of keeping them out.

The Gunners' right wing got going and Oliver sent across a capital centre. The ball was cleared, however, but returned high in the air, and from the mêlée which followed the R.A. equalised.

From this point to the finish of the game the Gunners played on the defensive, so hot was the Kents' attack. Nothing further was scored at half-time, however.

In the second half, the wind having dropped, the R.W. Kents had matters all their own way, and apart from a few breaks-away by the Gunners, the ball was for the most part in R.A. territory.

The West Kent team was as follows:—Butcher (goal), Lord, Lambe (backs), Hyland, Ellen and Harris (half-backs), Eastgate, Davis, Taylor, Sparrow, and Hayhurst (forwards).

DEPOT NOTES.

Colour-Sergeant-Instructor Callagan, 1st Vol. Battalion, has been permitted to continue in the service beyond 21 years.

The undermentioned men of the 5th Battalion Royal Garrison Regiment having arrived from Nova Scotia are attached to the Depot pending discharge (on the disbanding of the Royal Garrison Regiment) and re-enlistment into the Royal West Kent Regiment:—Privates E. Sharman, W. Olliver, W. Townsend, H. Harris, W. Hodgkinson, and W. Potter.

No 6657 Private F. Simpson and 6494 Private G. Cork have been permitted to rejoin the Colours to complete 9 years.

No. 1006 Private H. Jones was granted 5 good conduct badges on the 8th October, 1905.

6746 Private E. J. Wright transferred to the A Reserve on the 23rd November, 1905.

Sergeant J. T. Blount has been transferred to the Permanent Staff of the Provisional Battalion, Dover.

DEPOT CRICKET AVERAGES.

These have been crowded out of the last two issues, but we give the best performances in batting and bowling, as many will be interested in them.

The state of the depot wicket was all against the batting, and in consequence the averages were very low. Only two totals of 100 runs were made on the ground, once by ourselves and once by the 1st Welsh Regiment.

Colour-Sergeant Bass and Lieut. Hewitt were the only two who obtained double figure averages, and they both batted consistently throughout the season without making any large scores.

In bowling the figures are as usual flattering, the ground in this case materially helping the averages. Private Ayres, as for years past, has a splendid average; it is all the better too when it is taken into consideration that he has nearly always had to hit "the sticks," catches off his bowling being nearly always dropped.

The leading averages are:—

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	Ave.
Lieut. A. S. Hewitt...	51.1	15	78	16	4.58
Private Ayres	252	56	551	85	6.48
Col-Sergt. Murphy...	71.1	12	197	26	7.57
Col-Sergt. Tapp	75.4	10	201	23	8.73

DEPOT FOOTBALL NOTES.

The Depot still maintains its early good form, and have now (December 3rd) won 11 matches, lost 2, and drawn 3, scoring 60 goals to their opponents 11.

In the Maidstone League matches the team has lost one match against the Church Institute, but were unfortunate in just losing after having a very large share of the game. The other four matches in the League have all been won easily with the following scores:—

v. Malling, home, won by 3 goals to 1.

v. Burham, home, won by 4 goals to 1.

v. Burham, away, won by 4 goals to 0.

v. Tovil, away, won by 4 goals to 0.

At the present moment we are at the head of the League, though Eccles have a better record, as they have won all their matches but have played one less.

A feature of the season at the present moment has been the 2nd XI matches, which are of the greatest value in discovering talent amongst the recruits, and in giving men who are keen on the game, but who are not quite up to the standard of the first team, a chance of sometimes playing. This is especially necessary now that the inter-Company games are so reduced in number. We hope that many more 2nd XI matches will be arranged, and that next year it will still

remain a feature of the card. So far the 2nd XI have played 5 matches, won 4, and drawn 1, scoring 20 goals against 1 goal.

In the League we met Burham away from home on November 11th, and after a good game beat them by 4 goals to 0. The forwards showed capital form in this match, while Wright at half and Sergeant Connor at back also showed up well.

On November 18th, Sevenoaks, with a strong side, played us at Maidstone, but nothing being scored by either side the game was left drawn. It was not a particularly good game, the forwards frequently failing after getting the ball down, but Wright and Verrall at half were very good.

On November 25th, with practically a second team, we drove over to Loose, but could only draw after a very good game.

On December 2nd Tovil were met in the League on their ground, and the Depot gave probably their best display of the season: every member of the team worked hard, and some of the forwards passing runs were brilliant. The halves were good both in defence and attack, while the full backs defended better than they have yet done. We won by 4 goals to 0, but the game was very much more even than would appear from the score.

At the Sergeants' Mess at the Depot, on December 2nd, a farewell smoking concert was held, at which Sergeant McGregor, who has rendered yeoman service in connection with football for many years, was made the recipient of handsome presents on the occasion of his leaving Maidstone on retirement from the Regiment after 21 years' service. Sergeant-Major Outten presided, and among those present were:—Messrs. J. Weeks, Okill, W. F. Smith, together with Messrs. Adams (Chairman of the Maidstone League), A. Lewis and Sutton (representing the Church Institute Football Club), D. McCaskie, G. W. Lafbery, and W. H. Coltman (Maidstone United), J. Nicholls and J. Bailey (Tovil), Greenfield (Eccles), and others. The proceedings were of an enthusiastic and enjoyable character throughout. During an interval in the musical programme, the Chairman proposed the health of Sergeant McGregor, which was received with loud cheers. Sergeant-Major Outten said their old friend was leaving them after having that day completed his 21 years' service. During the greater part of that time he had been a member of the Sergeants' Mess. It was almost needless to say how much they would miss him, but especially would they notice his absence from the football field. As far back as December, 1884, he played for the Depot against the Church Institute, and his great endeavour was always to "play the game." It was really Sergeant McGregor who introduced football into the Regiment, and he had never failed to set the players an example as to the sportsmanlike manner in which they should act on the field. On behalf of the members of the Sergeants' Mess of the Regimental Depot, the Chairman then presented a handsome marble timepiece to Sergeant McGregor as a token of true comradeship that had prevailed during the many years they had been associated. Mr. A. Lewis then asked Sergeant McGregor to accept a table and book case from a few of the football clubs which he had so kindly helped during his career, in-

cluding Maidstone, Folkestone, Church Institute, Armstrong's, &c. The clubs of the district would all agree that some of their finest games were with the Depot. They always found the soldiers good sportsmen. The toast having been accorded musical honours, Sergeant McGregor responded. He said although he had done his best to promote sport he never anticipated receiving such valuable gifts. The 21 years he had been in the army had been years of pleasure. He urged them to play a fair game, because it was a conspicuous fact that good players of teams very rarely injured each other. He also wished the clubs every success. Songs were given during the proceedings by Sergeants Chiswell, Pond, Wood, Connor, Pye, Williams, Hunt, Urquhart, and Harper, Messrs. L. Binskin, Lafbery, and Allen. Sergt. Harper contributed a flute solo, and Mr. Okill was the accompanist.

Sergeant McGregor was also the recipient of his photograph enlarged and handsomely framed from the rank and file, Lance-Corporal H. Mockford, on their behalf, making the presentation.

A correspondent writes thus to a local paper, and we concur in the remarks he makes:—

I do not think there are many men with a more interesting football career than he has, and when one but thinks of the many years he has been playing, this is hardly to be wondered at. It was even before he joined the Army, 21 years ago, that he first started, and up till last Monday he has ever since figured in prominent football, not so prominent, certainly, of late years. Born in 1866 on the border of South Wales, he, when some 17 years of age, on the advice of his brother, who was in the Army, enlisted at Woolwich, and was at once sent to Maidstone.

He can honestly claim for himself the distinction of being one of a small band of fellows who were instrumental in starting the West Kent Second Battalion's team in 1886, and when this same team succeeded in winning the Army Cup in 1892-3, it was he who scored the winning goal.

"Mac" also played for the old Chatham Club, and was with them in that great year of theirs—1888—when they were one of the last eight clubs left in the English Cup. In fact, at this time he used to travel up from Portsmouth every Saturday to play for them. He has represented Kent against Essex, that was, I think, in 1887, and if I remember rightly was mentioned in the despatches, and also against Sussex. He came back to the Depot in 1895, and has been a familiar figure in their ranks from that time. Since then I have known him to go to Ireland to play for the Battalion, who, by the way, were in the final of the Army Cup in 1896. He has also played for Maidstone, Chatham, Folkestone, Northfleet and Dartford.

I know that in years to come, we youngsters, then advanced in years, will with pleasure recall to mind that wonderful old player, who will leave behind him football records excelled by no man in our regiment. That "Mac" will live to enjoy—or, if he lives he will enjoy himself, never fear—his private life, is the sincere wish of

"A COMRADE."

The first half of the football season is rapidly approaching and most of our team will be going on furlough about the 18th of this month.

The successful season anticipated in a previous number has been fully realized and our heartiest congratulations are due to the team and the energetic secretary, Sergeant-Major Outten. Altogether the first team have played 17 matches, winning 12 and only losing two, scoring altogether 61 goals against 11. In the Maidstone League, six matches have been played, all being wins, except the one against the Church Institute, who unfortunately for us, were considerably strengthened by the inclusion of several of their Kent League team.

There was a big gathering of local footballers at the Sergeants' Mess, on the 2nd December, to bid farewell to Sergeant McGregor, who was the recipient of several handsome presents. We print below the Maidstone and District League table up to date:—

DIVISION I.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals.		P.
					F.	A.	
Eccles	5	5	0	0	12	3	10
Depot R.W.K. Regt. ...	6	5	1	0	17	4	10
Snodland	6	4	2	0	18	6	8
Tovil Institute	6	3	2	1	11	8	7
Aylesford	6	2	2	2	10	9	6
Maidstone C.I.	6	2	4	0	8	14	4
Maidstone Albion	7	2	5	0	7	20	4
Malling	5	1	3	1	9	7	3
Burham Invicta	7	0	5	2	3	24	2

UNION JACK CLUB.

Towards the endowment of a "West Kent Bed" at the above institution the sum of £10 has been contributed by the Depot and £20 by the 3rd (Militia) Battalion.

BIRTHS.

At Malta, on 31st October, 1905, the wife of Private H. Rawden, of a son.

At Maidstone, on 6th Nov., 1905, the wife of Sergeant R. Daykin, Per. Staff, 3rd Batt., of a son.

At Maidstone, on 25th Nov., 1905, the wife of Colour-Sergeant W. E. Bass, Per. Staff, 3rd Batt., of a daughter.

DEATHS.

At Malta, on 12th November, Walter, the infant son of Private H. Rawden, aged two weeks.

At Tooting, S.W., on 20th Nov., 1905, Sergeant Feuillade, late Royal West Kent Regiment, of consumption.