



THE
DIE-HARDS

The Journal of

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

August 1922

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THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT
(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

VOL. I. No. 1.

AUGUST 1922.

PRICE 9D.

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

[57].

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

Agents—Messrs. Cox & Co.

Regular and Militia Battalions.

<i>Uniform</i> —Scarlet.	<i>Facings</i> —Lemon Yellow.
1st Bn. (57th Foot)	Rhine.
2nd Bn. (77th Foot)	Singapore.
3rd Bn. (to be disbanded)	Tidworth.
4th Bn. (to be disbanded)	Tidworth.
5th Bn. (R. Elthorne Mil)	Mill Hill.
6th Bn. (R. East Middlesex Mil)	Mill Hill.
Depot—Mill Hill.	Record Office—Hounslow.

Territorial Army Battalions.

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

Allied Regiments of Canadian Militia.

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

Allied Regiment of Dominion of New Zealand.

11th Regiment (Taranaki Rifles).

Colonel-in-Chief:

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

Colonel:

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

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS, &c.

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

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

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 3 - (Post Free).

EDITOR'S NOTES.

AT last we find ourselves in a position to resume our Regimental Journal, which has been in abeyance since July, 1914, and hope to receive the same measure of support as was accorded to its predecessor. Unfortunately we shall not have the help of the 3rd and 4th Battalions as units for much longer, but we feel certain that the present members thereof will not forget the existence of the Journal whether they are drafted into other units or drift into civil life, in fact, we trust that they will be lifelong subscribers.

It will be noticed that the issue is now a quarterly one, and it is felt that this will be found to be advantageous.

Owing to the want of space it is regretted that it has not been found possible to publish all the matter sent by battalions, *in extenso*, but we have done our best under the circumstances.

It is hoped that this will not discourage contributors, on whom, we entirely depend.

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The title of the Journal has been altered to "THE DIE-HARDS."

The cost per copy has been advanced to ninepence, but taking into consideration the increased cost of production, this cannot be considered as excessive. It may be found possible later to reduce the price, but this can only be done by a large increase in the number of subscribers.

We would greatly value the co-operation of all ranks, past and present, in the matter of literary contributions likely to be of Regimental interest.

One other matter to touch upon is the Regimental Calendar for 1923. We felt that we ought to depart from last year's design (excellent though it was). This will entail extra expense, and while we do not wish to charge more than one shilling per copy (post free), it has necessitated an order for 2,000 copies to enable us to sell without a loss. Therefore we ask every reader of the Journal to help us by taking at least one copy for themselves, and suggest that the Calendar would be a very useful present to subscribers' friends. Please take the hint.

Should any member of the Regiment, particularly those serving abroad, so desire we could despatch the Calendar to any address. Remittances should accompany such requests.



1st BATTALION NOTES.

THE New Year found the Battalion in Ireland, where it formed a unit of the 26th (Provisional) Brigade, in which were also the 2nd King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and the 2nd King's Royal Rifle Corps, under Colonel-Commandant W. H. L. Allgood, C.M.G., D.S.O. County Cavan was the Battalion area, with headquarters in the Workhouse at Coote Hill. "D" Company was with Headquarters, whilst "A" Company was on detachment at Virginia, "B" Company at Cavan, and "C" Company outside the area, at Belfast, where it had been ordered in November to help the 1st Norfolks in the finding of street patrols.

There are more comfortable places in the world than disused workhouses, and more interesting places than County Cavan, where,

to use an "Irishism," if there had been a flat acre of ground for games it would have been a bog—and it was, therefore, with few regrets that orders were received, late in January, to move to Gravesend on the 31st, *en route* for the Rhine. On that date the Battalion, 640 strong, concentrated at the North Wall, Dublin, where it embarked on the L. & N.W. Railway Company's boat *Rathmore*. The quay was left at 3 p.m., the band playing "Rule Britannia." This had the effect of turning the dock labourers into ardent British patriots—until the band finished, that is. Arrived at Holyhead, after an uncommonly smooth crossing, the Battalion had a late tea and settled down in the troop trains to contented sleep; the Rhine had come to be looked upon as a kind of earthly paradise, and now the horse's head was pointing in the right direction. The trains reached Gravesend during the morning of February 1st. The band, always ready for the occasion, supplied "Here, you are then," and the Battalion was once more in Milton Barracks, out of which it had marched a year before.

In due course the expected orders to move to the Rhine were received, followed, shortly afterwards, by the news that half the Battalion, at least, were to go straight on to Upper Silesia. Accordingly on April 2nd "A" and "D" Companies and part of Headquarters, under the Commanding Officer, entrained in the early morning. Ostend was reached that afternoon, and Cologne, the following morning. There, however, their stay was brief, as after one night spent at the Reception Camp, the Battalion entrained at Mulheim and commenced the journey to Silesia. The "London," an old hospital train, was used and the journey was a comfortable one. The Battalion detrained at Tarnowitz, on April 6th, where it occupied the Infantry Barracks. Soon after arrival the Battalion was inspected by the Brigade Commander, Colonel-Commandant A. J. Wauchope, C.M.G., C.I.E., D.S.O., who had commanded the B.U.S. Plebiscite Force when the Battalion had formed part of it a year before. Later an inspection was carried out by the G.O.C. B.U.S. Force, Major-General Sir W. C. G. Heneker, K.C.B., D.S.O. Meanwhile "B" and "C" Companies and the remainder of Headquarters, under the second-in-command, together with the married families, left Gravesend early on April 4th.

"C" Company and Headquarters and the families left Dover by the morning and afternoon boats. "B" Company spent a night at the Castle and crossed the next day.

After a night in the train, the half Battalion detrained at Cöln-Deutz, and having had breakfast at the Reception Camp, marched to the Kronprinz Barracks, at Kalk, where the 3rd Battalion had spent two years, and the 1st Battalion six weeks, in the early part of 1921. "B" Company arrived the next morning.

The detachment was posted to the Composite Rhine Brigade, under Colonel-Commandant C. J. Steavenson, C.M.G., and was to remain in Cologne, for the time being, anyhow. On April 10th the Detachment was inspected by Lieut.-General Sir A. Godley, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., the Commander-in-Chief B.A.O.R.

And so the Battalion remains, divided between Silesia and the Rhine. There is every hope that it will be together again shortly, though we are wise enough not to indulge in prophecy.

No. 6,188,826 Pte. E. Moore, of "B" Company, died of pneumonia at the 36th C.C.S. Cologne, on April 12th. Pte. Moore, who had served in the Regiment for 11 years, will long be remembered by his comrades of all ranks as an influence for good and an example of soldierly conduct.

Major W. I. Webb-Bowen, D.S.O., retired in February, to the general regret of the Battalion. Major Webb-Bowen joined the Regiment in 1901. He served for some nine years with the 3rd Battalion and then was seconded to the K.A.R. and subsequently to the W.A.F.F. At the end of the war he was commanding a brigade.

Captain L. Dawes also, we regret to say, retired during the Battalion's short stay at Gravesend, after 16 years in the Regiment and the Royal Flying Corps.

Bandmaster Clarke, C.S.M. Duncan, D.C.M., M.M., and C.O.M.S. Tully are to be congratulated on receiving the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. Major W. A. Stewart, O.B.E., in presenting the medals, explained to the Battalion the prolonged effort required to gain this distinction.

R.S.M. Anderson, M.C., and Sergt. Boddington have since also been awarded the Medal and we congratulate them accordingly.

FOOTBALL.

Very little football had been possible in Ireland owing to the difficulty of finding suitable ground. In addition, Companies were too far apart to make matches possible, except on rare occasions. Over at Gravesend however, both these difficulties disappeared.

The Platoon Knockout Competition was started on February 6th. In the final, played on February 17th, No. 18 (Drums) Platoon beat No. 17 (Band) Platoon by 2 goals to nil, after a closely contested game.

The Company Knockout Competition followed, commencing on February 20th. The final was played on March 2nd, when "C" Company won from "B" Company by 6 goals to 1.

The Company League was next started on March 13th. This was arranged on the half-league system, owing to the desirability of finishing it before the Battalion's short stay at Gravesend came to an end. Headquarters, "Q" Company, was the winner with 9 points out of 10. Headquarters, "G" Company, was second, with 8 points, and "D" Company third, with 5 points.

The Rhine Army Football Cup (Knockout) Competition was started very shortly after the Cologne Detachment's arrival at Kalk. A bye was drawn in the first round. In the second round the R.E. Signals (last year's winners of the cup) were encountered at Kalk on April 23rd, and were beaten 4-2. Three days later the Detachment team beat the 29th Battery, R.G.A., 2-0, in the third round. This put the Middlesex team into the semi-final in which round they played the Royal Artillery team, the favourites, at Klellenberg Park, on April 30th. The result was a draw, 1-1, but on the match being replayed the Detachment won, 5-1.

On May 3rd, at Merheim, the team lined out for the final as follows: Goal: L./Cpl. Norman; Backs: Bdsman. Fry and L./Cpl. Wallis; Half-backs: L./Cpl. Scales, Pte. Phelps and Pte. Baker; Forwards: Major Bucknall, M.C. (captain), Pte. Bolden, L./Sgt. Cullan, L./Cpl. Powell and Pte. Stevens.

At half-time the goals were 1—0 in the Detachment's favour, and after the hardest tussle they had had in the competition the game resulted in a win for the Detachment, 2—0.

The cup, which had been given by the Y.M.C.A., was presented to Major Bucknall, M.C., by Colonel-on-the-Staff Sir R. Hutchison, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., then Acting Commander-in-Chief. A silver medal was also given by Colonel Hutchison to each member of the team.

L./Sergt. Cullan and L./Cpl. Powell accompanied the Rhine Army team on their tour to Silesia, and were selected to play in all matches.

BOXING.

The Battalion Championships Boxing Tournament was held at Gravesend also, on March 6th and 7th. This was again ably managed by Mr. Pennycook assisted by Sergt. Darby. On the second evening Major Webb-Bowen's place as referee was taken by Capt. Walcott, R.N. The results were as follows:—

Light Heavy-weight: L./Cpl. Picket, "H.Q.-Q." Company.

Middle-weight: Pte. Stemp, "B" Company; Pte. Reader, "A" Company, runner-up.

Welter-weight: L./Cpl. Armstrong, "A" Company; Pte. Bolden, "C" Company, runner-up.

Light-weight: Pte. Bowyer, "A" Company; Pte. Addinal, "A" Company, runner-up.

Fly-weight: Pte. Pratt, "A" Company; Pte. Lipyeat, "C" Company, runner-up.

Bantam-weight: Dmr. Kruck, "H.Q.-G."; Boy Blackford, "H.Q.-G.", runner-up.

Good losers' prizes were given to L./Cpl. Milne, "B" Company; Pte. Newman, "B" Company; Pte. Hammett, "D" Company; Pte. Swindon, "D" Company; Pte. Carter, "C" Company; and Pte. Fowler, "C" Company.

The Eastern Command Boxing Championships Tournament took place at Chatham, on March 15th and 16th. The Battalion was represented by the following:—

Officers: Welter-weights—Mr. Worton; Feather-weight—Mr. Macdonald; Light-weight—Mr. Kempster.

Other ranks: Welter-weight—L./Cpl. Arm-

strong; Middle-weight—Pte. Stemp; Light-weight—Pte. Bowyer; Feather-weight—Pte. Lipyeat; Bantam-weight—Dmr. Kruck; Fly-weight—Dmr. Bodden. None of the Battalion team reached the finals.

An open tournament for Army, Navy, and R.A.F. was held at the Central Y.M.C.A., Cologne, on May 18th and 19th, and the following entered from the Battalion:—

Middle-weight—Pte. Stemp; *Welter-weight*—Pte. Smith, Pte. Chandler, and L./Cpl. Armstrong; *Light-weight*—Pte. Fowler; *Feather-weight*—Sergt. Pain and Bdsmn. Buckingham.

Sergt. Pain and Bdsmn. Buckingham received prizes for reaching the semi-final round. Pte. Smith and L./Cpl. Armstrong, both won their first fight; the former received a plucky loser's prize.

RUGBY.

A seven-a-side Rugby Knock-out Competition was started in Cologne but had, unfortunately, to be abandoned owing to the advance of hot weather, when the Detachment team was in the semi-finals. Lieut. Worton played for the Army throughout last season, including the matches against the Navy, R.A.F., and the French Army. He was also reserve for England in the last two international matches, and we hope next year that we shall be able to congratulate him on obtaining his international cap. Capt. Hayden, M.C., Mr. Pennycook and Mr. Worton played consistently for the Rhine Army, and Mr. Cubitt and L./Cpl. Batt for the Rhine Army second XV.

HOCKEY.

Three matches were played in Silesia, in all of which the Battalion team was successful; against the 3rd Battalion, 2—1; 1st Glosters, 2—0; R.E. Signals, Tarnowitz, 4—3.

GENERAL.

To date, neither Battalion Headquarters, at Tarnowitz, nor the details, at Cologne, have suffered a defeat in any game since their arrival in Germany.

ALBUHERA SPORTS.

100 Yards.—1st, Pte. Phelps; 2nd, Sergt. Darby; 3rd, L./Cpl. Claydon.

220 Yards.—1st, L./Cpl. Claydon; 2nd, Sergt. Darby; 3rd, Pte. Crago.

One Mile.—1st, Pte. Stevens; 2nd, Pte. Smith; 3rd, Pte. Chandler.

Putting the Weight.—1st, R.S.M. Anderson; 2nd, Bdsmn. Graber; 3rd, Sergt. Darby. Winner, 33 feet 6 inches.

High Jump.—1st, Pte. Phelps (5 ft.); 2nd, Sergt. Darby (4 ft. 11 ins.); 3rd, L./Cpl. Claydon (4 ft. 10 ins.).

One Mile (open).—1st, Pte. Peacy, 1st Gloster Regt.; 2nd, Cpl. Dane, Black Watch; 3rd, Sig. Simpson, Signal Coy.

Three Miles.—1st, Pte. Houghton; 2nd, Pte. Chandler; 3rd, Pte. Smith. Time, 15 mins. 33 secs.

440 Yards.—1st, L./Cpl. Claydon; 2nd, Pte. Stevens; 3rd, Pte. Goulding.

Long Jump.—1st, Pte. Phelps; 2nd, Pte. Bolden; 3rd, Bdsmn. Hart. Winner, 17 ft. 6 ins.

Company Relay.—1st, "H.Q." Company; 2nd, "C" Company.

Tug-of-War.—Officers v. Sergeants (8 aside); Sergeants won.

Half-Mile.—1st, Pte. Stevens; 2nd, Pte. Chandler; 3rd, Pte. Hatchet.

Corporals' Race (120 Yards).—1st, Cpl. Batt; Cpl. Holden and L./Cpl. Armstrong tied for second place. Time, 16 secs.

Sergeants' Race (120 Yards).—1st, Sergt. Champion; 2nd, Sergt. Darby; 3rd, C.Q.M.S. Cook.

Officers' Race (120 Yards).—1st, Capt. Parker and Lieut. Pennycook tied; 3rd, Major Bucknall, M.C. Time, 16 secs.

Obstacle Race.—1st, Pte. Bolden; 2nd, Pte. Stevens; 3rd, Pte. Harrison.

Consolation Race.—1st, Bdsmn. Fry; 2nd, Bdsmn. Peters; 3rd, Pte. Joiner; 4th, Pte. Baker.

Band Race.—1st, Bdsmn. Chesney; 2nd, Bdsmn. Andrews; 3rd, Bdsmn. Graber.

Veterans' Race.—1st, Sergt. Darby; 2nd, C.Q.M.S. Cook; 3rd, Bdsmn. Clark.

Tug-of-War.—Details, 3rd Battalion, beat Band.

Four-Legged Race.—1st, Ptes. Bolden, Houghton, and Joiner; 2nd, Ptes. Smith, Stevens, and Golding.

Ladies' Race.—1st, Mrs. Wilson; 2nd, Mrs. Rogers; 3rd, Mrs. Turner.

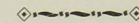
The officials were:—

Starter: Lieut.-Colonel J. Betts, D.S.O., A.P.T.S.

Assistant Starter: C.Q.M.S. F. Pelly.

Recorder: Corpl. Davis.

Judges: Capt. H. W. N. Paul, O.B.E., M.C.; Capt. C. W. Hayden, M.C.; R.S.M. H. Anderson, M.C.; R.Q.M.S. A. Clark; C.Q.M.S. J. Cook.



2nd BATTALION NOTES.

It is feared that there will not be time before going to press to get any news from the 2nd Battalion, so our Assistant Editor who returned from the 2nd Battalion, in Egypt, in January last, has supplied us with the following:—

The Battalion, under the command of Colonel H. N. Blakeney, C.M.G., D.S.O., arrived at Alexandria, Egypt, from Shorncliffe, on the 1st September, 1919, and proceeded at once to Cairo where it occupied the New Barracks, Abbassia, one of the most up-to-date barracks in existence. At first it was intended that we should have stayed at Alexandria for garrison duty, but troublous times with the natives necessitated our move to Cairo at once. On the whole we gained by this, as we remained as a Battalion intact (except for a short stay of "B" Company on the Suez Canal zone) during the whole period of our stay in Egypt, which was not the good fortune of any other battalion we wot of. Taking it altogether we did not have a bad time, and except for occasional "turn-outs," to quell disturbances caused by unruly schoolboys and street urchins, we had returned to a more or less pre-war routine, and did much in the way of tree planting and grass growing to turn the desert-looking appearance of the Barracks into a miniature botanical gardens. The troops who may occupy the Barracks a few years hence will have cause to be grateful to our Battalion in general and Lieut.-Col. Swainson in particular. Those who have been to Cairo will know the blessing of a few trees. It would take up too much space to describe in detail our prowess in the field of sport, suffice it to say that we held our own in every branch and left behind amongst British and Egyptians the impression that we were a real sporting unit.

The hour of our departure from the land of dates and bad smells drawing near, we had the usual farewell inspections, and had the good fortune to listen to speeches by Lieut.-General Sir W. N. Congreve, V.C., K.C.B., D.S.O., the Commander-in-Chief, and Lieut.-General Sir G. F. Goringe, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., in which the good qualities of the Battalion, both as a fighting and sporting unit were specially remarked upon. Both the General Officers wished it to be made known to all ranks that, the community, including foreign residents and Egyptians, had watched the regular troops arriving after the war as to their general bearing in comparison with those of pre-war times, and they (the Generals) could say, with pleasure, that the 2nd Battalion Middlesex Regiment had in every way more than upheld the traditional *esprit de corps* of British troops of any time, and was a source of much satisfaction to the Military authorities administering in that cosmopolitan country.

Our Colonel-in-Chief, H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., did not touch Cairo on his outward journey, but Lieut.-Colonel F. E. Swainson was honoured by an invitation to dine with him in the *Renown* while at Port Said. His Royal Highness said he would see the Battalion later at Singapore.

After several false starts due to numerous causes, including the usual riots, the Battalion entrained at Abbassia Siding, Cairo, on the 8th January, 1922, for Port Suez to embark on H.T. *Huntsend* for Singapore.

Although the hour of departure was 11.0 p.m. a large assembly, including Staff and other officers, and wives of officers, turned up to bid the Battalion farewell. The band of the 9th Lancers did the musical honours of the occasion.

We have since learned, with very deep regret, that Lieut. L. G. W. McArthur died on the voyage soon after leaving Suez and was buried at sea. The late Lieut. McArthur served in the Battalion in Belgium, and subsequently went with it to Egypt. He was an extremely popular officer with all ranks, and will be much missed.



THE 3rd BATTALION IN UPPER SILESIA.

THE Battalion had just returned to the Rhine from strike-duty at home, when, at the end of May, 1921, it was suddenly despatched with the British Upper Silesian Force to restore order in that distant border of Germany, where civil war between the Germans and the Poles was already in progress.

After a long and uneventful journey, we reached Oppeln during the first days of June, and were welcomed vociferously by the population as saviours. We were quartered in "Quartier Foch," a semi-derelict huddled camp, where rats and dirt abounded. To add to these discomforts, the weather was intensely hot and relaxing.

No one was sorry when, after only four days we received orders to move (by train fortunately) to Gleiwitz. There we were again welcomed by the inhabitants, although we remained only long enough to have dinners, after which we left in lorries for Schierakowitz, virtually in the midst of the opposing outpost lines.

The country through which we passed was typical of Upper Silesia, comprising successively three main features: first, the normal signs of a thickly populated industrial area—chimneys, mine shaft and pit-head machinery, and mineral furnaces; secondly, dense forests of Christmas trees, which supply the pit-props for the mines; and thirdly, cultivated agricultural districts, peopled by extremely dirty inhabitants, goats and geese, the last of which provide *paté de foie gras*.

After about a week in the neighbourhood of Schierakowitz, the Battalion marched to Gross Strehlitz, where all Companies were concentrated together with Headquarters for the last time for many months to come. About the first week in July the Battalion was moved up, independently by Companies towards the Polish frontier in the district of Beuthen, which was at that time one of the chief centres of disturbance in Upper Silesia. "D" Company, when marching into the barracks in Beuthen, then occupied by the 27th Battalion Chasseurs Alpins, witnessed the assassination of Commandant Montalègre, commanding that battalion, and was

mainly instrumental in preventing serious civil disturbance.

Although alarms of various sorts continued to be frequent, actual insurrection gradually died down from now onwards, as the pressure brought to bear upon the contending forces by the Allies began to be felt, and the opposing armies steadily withdrew or melted away. As the summer, which was exceptionally hot, wore on, Battalion Headquarters moved into Beuthen, where it was destined to remain until the final evacuation was actually begun, fully nine months after.

During the brief but fine autumn, companies, with the exception of "A," which remained at Myslowitz, some 20 miles to the south-east, concentrated in Foch Kaserne, Beuthen, where the 15th Battalion Chasseurs Alpins had now replaced the 24th and previously 27th Battalions. At the beginning of October a very large draft, comprising many of the best amongst the younger soldiers in the Battalion, was sent out to the 2nd Battalion, in Cairo, but under orders for Singapore. Thereafter we were never again filled up to strength, receiving only occasional small batches of a few N.C.Os. and men, barely sufficient to make good even the wastage due to men leaving for discharge from the service or to the reserve.

In spite of many difficulties, and especially shortage of men, which was henceforth increasingly felt, and in face of the approach of a severe winter, a programme of training was carried out, including the firing of Table "A," and Part I of Table "L." Throughout the winter the Battalion had to find a permanent crew for the armoured train which had been taken successively from the Germans and the Poles, and practice trips, complete with personnel, Lewis guns and Vickers guns, were frequent after Christmas. The winter, which was unusually severe, was probably the coldest that any of us had ever experienced, temperatures as low as 22 degrees Fahrenheit below zero being registered.

But in spite of the weather, a certain amount of sport was kept going, and especially hockey, at which we found formidable opponents in several of the Irish Battalions in the Brigade. February was marked by tragedy, which overtook us, in the form of the loss of R.S.M. Jebson, who had only recently succeeded to the appointment. He had not long returned from special leave to

the United Kingdom, due to severe illness at home, when he caught a chill, which, unfortunately, soon developed into septic pneumonia, from which, to the universal regret of everyone in the Battalion, he died at Oppeln on the 21st. He was buried there two days later, in the presence of every available officer, N.C.O. and man who could be spared for the day from duty.

With March the weather became much less severe, and opportunities for sport proportionately greater.

In April the Irish Regiments, which had formed the greater part of the British Upper Silesian Force, were withdrawn for disbandment, and relieved by British Battalions from Ireland, including our own 1st Battalion, who replaced the 1st Battalion Royal Irish Regiment in our Brigade (the 1st), at Tarnowitz, only seven or eight miles from us.

With the advent of summer in May, prospects of the withdrawal of the Allied Forces from Silesia became increasingly brighter, and, partly as a result of this, disturbances again broke out in our neighbourhood. This time, however, it was mainly companies of armed bandits who gave trouble, and incidentally spoil our celebration of Albuhera Day.

Only two days before our sports, when preparations were almost complete, and heats had already begun, we were suddenly ordered out of the district of Antonienhütte, where a British sergeant of the Secret Service had been murdered by bandits.

After several raids, almost all the bandits were captured, and within a fortnight we returned to our old quarters in Beuthen, but a certain amount of unrest continued in various districts.

At the time of writing we are actively preparing (this time in the full hopes of success) to hold our deferred sports on the 10th of June.

We have already sent back our heavy baggage to the Rhine, and we really expect to follow it by the end of the month. How far our expectations and hopes are fulfilled must remain to be told in a future number.

"ALBUHERA SPORTS."

Although almost up to the last moment there was uncertainty as to whether the Regimental Sports, which had been deferred

since the 16th May, would take place, owing to continued nocturnal disturbances in the neighbourhood, fortune favoured us, and a most successful day's sport was enjoyed by everyone present on the 10th June.

The results, a summary of which is given below, were a victory for "B" Company in the Inter-Company Championship, and for L./Cpl. Powell in the individual, Sergt. Rand being runner-up.

In the open events, the 2nd Battalion The Black Watch were successful in the relay, the 62nd Battery R.F.A. being second. Lieut. Catto, of the 2nd Battalion The Black Watch, won the open mile, and Lieut. Arderne, of the 1st Battalion Durham Light Infantry, was second.

The gathering was representative of almost every unit in the British Upper Silesian Force, and amongst the spectators were Major-General Sir W. C. G. Heneker, K.C.B., D.S.O., Colonel-Comdt. A. G. Wauchope, C.M.G., C.I.E., D.S.O., and Colonel-Commandant H. B. P. L. Kennedy, C.M.G., D.S.O.

The Band of the 2nd Battalion The Black Watch, by kind permission of Major S. A. Innes, D.S.O., played selections throughout the afternoon, and the Fanfaristes of the 15th Battalion Chasseurs Alpins, by kind permission of Commandant Mellier, played during the interval.

At the conclusion of the sports, Mrs. Wallace Wright very kindly distributed the prizes.

Results:—

One Mile.—1st, L./Cpl. Powell ("B"); 2nd, Bdsmn. Wilson ("B"); 3rd, Pte. Field ("B").

220 Yards.—1st, Cpl. Barker ("C"); 2nd, Sergt. Goodall ("A"); 3rd, Pte. Field ("A").

High Jump.—1st, Sergt. Rand ("B"); 2nd, Sergt. Goodall ("A"); 3rd, Pte. Wadham ("D").

Quarter-Mile.—1st, L. Cpl. Powell ("B"); 2nd, Cpl. Clements ("D"); 3rd, C.Q.M.S. Gilson ("C").

Putting the Weight.—1st, Sergt. Rand ("B"); 2nd, Cpl. Clements ("D"); 3rd, Pte. Taylor ("B").

Long Jump.—1st, Sergt. Rand ("B"); 2nd, Sergt. Cartwright ("B"); 3rd, Cpl. Barker ("C").

100 Yards.—1st, C.Q.M.S. Gilson ("C");

2nd, S./Sergt. Hayes ("A"); 3rd, Sergt. Cartwright ("B").

Boys' Race.—1st, Boy E. Amos ("C"); 2nd, Boy Coleman ("C"); 3rd, Boy Smith ("C").

Sergeants' Race.—1st, C.Q.M.S. Gilson ("C"); 2nd, Sergt. Cartwright ("B"); 3rd, S./Sergt. Hayes ("A").

Inter-Company Relay (220 yds., 220 yds., ¼ and ½-mile).—1st, "D" Company; 2nd, "B" Company; 3rd, "A" Company.

Winning team: Pte. Sargent, Pte. Mills, Cpl. Clements, Capt. Baddeley.

Chasseurs' Race (100 yds.—Open to 15th Bn. C.A.).—1st, Chas. Coquet; 2nd, Chas. Boidain; 3rd, Chas. Battet.

One Mile (Open to B.U.S.F.).—1st, Lieut. Catto, 2nd Bn. The Black Watch; 2nd, Lieut. Arderne, 1st Bn. D.L.I.; 3rd, Bdsmn. Ayton, 2nd Bn. K.R.R.C.

Inter-Company Tug-of-War.—1st, "B" Company; 2nd, "D" Company.

After a very even pull, lasting 11½ minutes, "B" Company gained the advantage and pulled their opponents over.

Corporals' Race.—1st, Cpl. Barker ("C"); 2nd, Cpl. Clements ("D"); 3rd, Cpl. Cobbett ("C").

Inter-Company Relay (All ranks).—1st, "B" Company; 2nd, "A" Company; 3rd, "D" Company.

Veterans' Race.—1st, Sergt. Green ("A"); 2nd, C.S.M. Butters ("C"); 3rd, S./Dmr. Holmes ("C").

Relay Race (Open to B.U.S.F.—220 yds., 220 yds., ¼ and ½-mile).—1st, 2nd Bn. The Black Watch; 2nd, 62nd Battery, R.F.A.

Officers' Race.—1st, Col. W. D. Wright, V.C.; 2nd, Capt. Warneford; 3rd, Capt. Baddeley.

Half-Mile.—1st, L./Cpl. Powell ("B"); Bdsmn. Wilson ("B") and L./Cpl. Lawrence ("D") dead heated for 2nd place.

Officers v. Sergeants—Tug-of-War.—1st, Sergeants. The Sergeants won after a pull lasting nearly 6 minutes.

V.C. Race.—1st, R.A.S.C.

Individual Championship.—Winner, L./Cpl. Powell ("B"), 12 points; runner-up, Sergt. Rand ("B"), 9 points.

Company Championship.—Winner, "B" Company, 40 points; runner-up, "D" Company, 12 points.

Events decided before Albuhera Day:—

Inter-Company Cross-Country Run (3 miles)—Individual result.—1st, L./Cpl. Powell

("B"); 2nd, Pte. Chawkley ("B"); 3rd, Bdsmn. Shreeve ("B").

Team result.—1st, "B" Company, 25 points; 2nd, "D" Company, 77 points; 3rd, "A" Company, 101 points.

L./Cpl. Powell led all the way, and "B" Company won easily.

Inter-Company Six-a-Side Football.—Winners, "B" Company; runners-up, "A" Company.

Inter-Company Hockey Competition.—Winners, "A" Company; runners-up, "D" Company.

Inter-Company Basket-Ball Competition.—Winners, "C" Company; runners-up, "A" Company.

4th BATTALION NOTES.

GIBRALTAR as the "kicking-off" station for troops on a tour of service abroad is, to quote from the vernacular, "somewhat off." Where men live and have their being in large numbers, it is very apparent that the greater and more varied the field for their sporting and social activities, the better for them and their ultimate well-being. That is why the writer of this article would vote Gibraltar a finishing station for the hardened soldier, rather than the commencing one for young troops. After the *worst* of English stations, Gibraltar, once the novelty of its rocky self has worn off, becomes an irksome and uneventful round of "answering your name."

As a brother N.C.O. remarked, in answer to my query "What's it all like?" (I was late, of course.) "Bang! goes early morning gunfire, and the day begins. Bang! goes first evening gunfire and back you have to be in the Fortress, and between the two bangs, like the proverbial stools, if you have not fallen then you have not been anywhere; and if you *have* been anywhere you have had to return in a hurry (and a gharry) and ten to one, miss the best part of a Spanish day. Bang! goes last evening gunfire, and you come to the end of a Gibraltarian day. Perfect!!!"

With the Gibraltarians themselves we "chummed in" well enough, one or two of the Battalion even took unto themselves wives. Possibly they took trouble as well, but

we gave them our sympathy with the wedding presents. Later, as the clubs (Dockyard, Ancient Orders of, etc.) opened up to us, and the Garrison Recreation Rooms received us (and our money) into their walls, we began to settle down to Gibraltar's rocky ways, and if farewell remarks, presentations (not to mention "last-nights"), are any criterion, I think we left Gib. with the hope that it was not the last time we should see it, or even know it as a home for lonely soldiers.

The Battalion was split up into detachments of two companies. H.Q. half Battalion at Buena Vista Barracks (lonely barracks at the top of a mile and half rise) and two companies at North Front, on the Spanish border. Companies changed about so that there was always one company training at North Front, where the rifle ranges offered scope for field work as well as musketry. We had two or three interesting if somewhat arduous "rock stunts"; imagination and muscle being the chief factors required. The writer has never been quite sure whether the "rock savages" or the "imaginative light infantry" won those wars, but if one could take "the rough with the smooth," as one of the chaps remarked when he slid gently down about 50 feet of the Rock's side (he's out of hospital now and full of hope), one could always find manœuvres very instructive in the art of mountain warfare, and also bad language, for that matter. One also began to understand why Julius C. missed Gibraltar when he set out for conquests. Incidentally, I think North Front was by far the best of the two camps, being adjacent to the sports ground, race course, etc., and a level road led to the town. This latter being greatly appreciated by all who went out, and dined not wisely, but too well, and came home with the stars (not those that shine twice nightly).

An item of interest on the "Rock" which one might mention, is the Mediterranean Cave, not a bad sight as seen from the mouth thereof, and if you ever care to listen to its alleged mysterious history and have lobster for supper, you should enjoy yourself.

The Galleries tunnelled through the "Rock" are also something worth travelling to see, as, in fact, is the "Rock" itself, for at any angle it has an attraction peculiarly its own.

Of events outside of sport, soldiering, etc., the visit of The Crown Prince of Japan and

of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, provided us with something out of the common to write home about, and the visits of the Fleet gave us something to re-call and, maybe, rub our heads over. Altogether our stay proved to be good, and though this appears paradoxical to my opening statements, it nevertheless is a fact, that if Gibraltar would only grow to ten times its present size (not in height, heaven forbid!) it would, from the point of health and beauty, be one of the ideal stations for the Middlesex Regiment.

SPORT IN THE 4TH BATTALION SINCE THE WAR.

From September, 1919, when the 4th Battalion arrived in Gibraltar, till the end of May, 1922, when it left Egypt to be disbanded, the 4th Battalion took part in every possible form of sport in both stations. General Sir H. E. Smith Dorrien, the Governor of Gibraltar, publicly congratulated the Battalion in his farewell speech on the Alameda Parade Ground, just prior to the Battalion leaving for Egypt, on the enthusiasm for sport and the sporting spirit always shown by the Regiment, and on the successes which attended the Regiment's efforts. This spirit was carried on till the last in Egypt, in spite of the fact that facilities for sport in the sand of Ismailia were not great.

The various forms of sport, and the record of results of each, are set forth underneath. Sports up to the end of 1921 took place in Gibraltar, whilst those of 1922 were held in Egypt.

FOOTBALL.

In Gibraltar there were four football cups to be played for: The Governor's Cup, Inter-Regiment (knock-out); "A" League Shield—Inter-Regiment (league system); "B" League Cup—Inter-Company, all units (league system); Inter-Company Challenge Cup—Inter-Company, all units (knock-out).

SEASON 1920-1921.

This season, the Regiment was successful in the other three cups, but lost the final of the Governor's Cup, by 2-0, to the Royal Engineers.

The "A" League Shield was won by the Regimental team, the "B" League Cup by "D" Company, and the Inter-Company Cup by "B" Company. "D" Company played consistently well in the "B" League,

whilst "B" Company played a magnificent game in beating the 45th Company, R.E., in the final of the Inter-Company Cup.

Before leaving Gibraltar, two matches were played against the incoming regiment, the 4th Battalion Rifle Brigade, and each match attracted a crowd which must have represented a very large percentage of the inhabitants of Gibraltar. The first match resulted in a win for the Regiment; the only goal of the match being scored by Pte. Bird in the last few minutes of the game. The second match resulted in a draw, 1-1.

A match between the officers of the Middlesex Regiment and officers of the Rifle Brigade resulted in a win for the Middlesex, 3-1.

The last match in Gibraltar contained a certain amount of sentimental interest. The "Prince of Wales" Club, who were the "crack" Gibraltar civilian team, asked the Regiment to play them a match, and after the match presented the Regiment with a cup, as a mark of admiration for the Battalion's sporting spirit and of the gratitude for the help and encouragement given to the Club by the Regiment. The Regiment won this match by 3-1.

"A" Company won the Inter-Company Cup for the season in the Regiment.

The Battalion football team varied during the season, but the usual team was: Pte. Pennell; Pte. Heard, Pte. Cook; Cpl. Wilson, Pte. Caves, L./Sergt. Farrow; Pte. Cassen, Pte. Wills, Pte. Haylock, Pte. Clifford and Cpl. Youell. Second-Lieut. Hudson, C.Q.M.S. Farrow, Ptes. Spence, Kelly, French, Coleman, and L./Cpl. Swindles at times represented the Battalion.

SEASON 1921-1922.

On the arrival of the Regiment in Egypt, the Regimental team, fresh from the sea-voyage, went up to Cairo to play the 2nd Battalion. The 2nd Battalion won, 3-1. Lack of training and the unaccustomed softness of the grass ground were against the 4th Battalion in this game, but the 2nd Battalion had the better team. Pennell, in goal, played magnificently for the 4th. He was consistently good all the season.

When the 2nd Battalion left Egypt, a large draft of their short service men were transferred to the 4th Battalion and some fine footballers were amongst them.

Two cups were entered for, the Robert Hughes Cup, in which the Battalion were unfortunately beaten by the 17th Brigade, R.F.A., at Ismailia, and the Sultan Cup, in which the Battalion reached the 4th round.

The Sultan Cup matches were played in Cairo.

Results.—1st round, 4th Middlesex a bye; 2nd round, 4th Middlesex beat Egyptian State Railways, 3-0; 3rd round, 4th Middlesex obtained a walk-over, the Zeitoun Sporting Club scratching; 4th round, 4th Middlesex were beaten by the 2nd Battalion Sherwood Foresters, 6-4, after extra time.

The match against the Sherwoods was very good, the Middlesex leading by 4-2 up to very near "time," when the Sherwoods drew level, by means of two penalty goals. They won in the extra time by 6-4. It must be remembered that the Sherwoods were the "crack" team in Egypt.

Two matches were played at Suez.

Results.—Suez, 0, 4th Middlesex, 1. Eastern Telegraph Company, 2, 4th Middlesex Band, 6.

A match was played at Ismailia against the 1st Battalion K.O.S.Bs., which was won by the 4th Middlesex by 3-0.

The team which usually represented the Regiment in Egypt was: Pte. Pennell; Pte. Cook, L./Cpl. Weatherby; L./Sergt. Farrow, Pte. Caves, Pte. Sangster; Cpl. Youell, Pte. Bird, L./Cpl. Wills, Pte. Dearman, and Lieut. Hudson. Reserves: Pte. Harrison and L./Cpl. Upson.

The Company Cup was won by "B" Company, in the Regimental League. The Canal Brigade League, for units equivalent to companies, was won by "A" Company, 4th Middlesex Regiment.

CRICKET.

1920. There were two cups in Gibraltar: (1) Garrison Cup, for Regiments and equivalent units; (2) Nicholson Cup, same units, but only one officer allowed in the team.

This season the Regiment won the Garrison Cup, beating the R.E., R.G.A. (North), and R.G.A. (South).

In the Nicholson Cup, the Regiment was beaten by the ultimate winners, the R.G.A. (North), in a match in which Sergt. Leach, of the R.G.A., made 307 not out. After fielding all day to a score of over 500, the

4th Middlesex team scored 240—a good effort in an up-hill fight.

In this season the Regiment played 20 matches, winning 17 and losing 3.

1921. In this season the Regiment won both cups easily. Results of Garrison Cup: beating R.A.M.C., R.N. Depot, and Combined R.G.A.

Result of Nicholson Cup: Final—4th Middlesex, 286 (2/Lieut. Hudson, 119), R.E., 66 and 147.

1922. Very little cricket was possible in Egypt, as the sand ground at Ismailia was almost unfit to play on. The Regiment defeated the 1st K.O.S.Bs. by 200 runs in a single day's cricket, and defeated Suez, at Suez, by 9 wickets. The victory over Suez was very creditable, as they possessed several cricketers with reputations in Egypt. The scores in the Suez match were: Suez, 128 and 147; 4th Middlesex, 263 and 13 for 1 wicket.

BOXING, 1920-1921.

During the stay at Gibraltar there were seven Boxing Tournaments held, in all of which the Battalion entered.

"D" Company won the Company Cup both years, very easily in 1920, and comfortably in 1921.

Throughout two years the outstanding boxers were: Sergt. Mills, heavy-weight; Cpl. Pratt, light-weight; and Dmr. Stubbings, feather-weight—all of whom were undefeated in Gibraltar. Pte. Dunn and Cpl. Dunne, bantam-weights, and Pte. Anderson, middle-weight, were the next best.

1922. On arrival in Egypt, the Battalion entered for the E.E.F. Championships, and beat the 17th Bde., R.F.A., in the Canal Group, by six matches to two, thus qualifying for the final in Cairo. Unfortunately the final was brought off after the Regiment left Egypt.

The winners against the 17th Bde., R.F.A., were: Pte. Umney, fly-weight (walk-over); Dmr. Stubbings, feather-weight; Cpl. Pratt, light-weight; Pte. Rodgers, welter-weight; Pte. Anderson, middle-weight; L./Cpl. McCormick, light heavy-weight.

Cpl. Dunne lost on points in the bantams, and the R.F.A. secured a walk-over in the heavies.

A Boxing Tournament was held in Cairo on 12th and 13th of April, in which six men of the Regiment entered. Of these Cpl. Pratt won a contest, and Dmr. Stubbings was just beaten in a contest. Ptes. Thrift and Rodgers were runners-up in the Novices' Competition, whilst L./Cpl. Edgar and L./Cpl. McCormick boxed well but were beaten.

ATHLETIC SPORTS. 1921.

Certain events were divided into two parts—one for competitors over 21 years of age, and one for those under 21. Results:—

Over 21.

100 Yards.—Capt. Lindsell, 10 4-5 secs.
440 Yards.—Pte. Coker, "A", 61 2-5 secs.
880 Yards.—Pte. Crockford, "B," 2 mins.

13 secs.

Mile.—Pte. Crockford, "B," 5 mins. 16 secs.

100 Yards Hurdles.—Pte. Knight, "A," 16 3-5 secs.

High Jump.—Major Wollocombe, 5 ft. 1½ ins.; 2/Lieut. Hudson, 5 ft. ½ in.

Long Jump.—Major Wollocombe, 17 ft. 10 ins.; C.S.M. Bailey, 17 ft. 1 in.

Putting the Weight.—Sergt. Crowne, 28 ft. 10 ins.; 2/Lieut. Colam, 28 ft. 1 in.

Throwing the Cricket Ball.—2/Lieut. Hudson, 109 yds.; Pte. Harrison, 93 yds.

Under 21.

100 Yards.—2/Lieut. Hudson, 10 3-5 secs.
440 Yards.—2/Lieut. Hudson, 60 1-5 secs.

2/Lieut. Musselwhite a close second in each.
880 Yards.—Pte. Simmonds.

"A" and "B" Companies shared the Cup for the year.

1922.

A sports meeting was held in Ismailia, which was intended to decide on the best two performances at each event, to be sent up to Cairo to represent the Battalion in the E.E.F. Championships. Results:—

100 Yards.—Cpl. Griffen, Pte. Simpson, Lieut. Hudson (all "D"); 11 secs.

220 Yards.—Cpl. Griffen, Pte. Simpson, Lieut. Hudson (all "D"); 26 2-5 secs.

440 Yards.—Cpl. Griffen, "D," 59 secs.
880 Yards.—Pte. Crockford, "B"; L./Cpl. Coker, "A"; 2 mins. 12 secs.

Mile.—Dmr. Quedsted, "A," 5 mins. 13 secs.

Putting the Weight.—L./Cpl. Baldwin, 29 ft.; Sergt. Crowne, 28 ft. 6 ins.

Long Jump.—2/Lieut. Burns, 17 ft. 1 in.; Pte. Boorer, 16 ft. 10 ins.

High Jump.—L./Cpl. Baldwin, "D," 4 ft. 9 ins.; Pte. Parrott, "B," 4 ft. 8 ins.; 2nd-Lieut. Burns, 4 ft. 7 ins.

Relay Race.—"D" Company.

In the Cairo Sports, E.E.F. Finals, 2/Lieut. Burns was 3rd in the Long Jump, with a jump of 18 ft. 1 in.

In the Cairo Marathon Race, 15 miles, the Regiment obtained three good places—Cpl. Plamplin, "D," 2nd; Pte. Sansom, "C," 4th; Pte. Thrift, "A," 6th.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING.

1922.

On arrival in Egypt, the Battalion entered for the E.E.F. Championships. They beat the Corps of Signals, Kantara, in a 5-mile race at Ismailia very easily. The team consisted of 15 men, of which the rules ordered that 12 men must finish. The first four men home were: Pte. Sansom, "C," Pte. Crockford and Cpl. Stevens, "B," and Cpl. Plamplin "D." By winning this the team qualified for the final of the Command Championships, for which they went up to Alexandria, and won 2nd place. The results were: 1st, Royal Munster Fusiliers; 2nd, 4th Middlesex Regt.; 3rd, 1st East Surrey Regt.; 4th, 2nd Sherwood Foresters.

The following ran best for the Regiment: Pte. Crockford, "B," 6th; Pte. Sansom, "C," 12th; Cpl. Stevens, "B," 13th; Cpl. Plamplin, "D," 14th; L./Cpl. Coker, "A," 19th.

BAYONET FIGHTING.

Bayonet Fighting Competitions were held each year between the Companies, each Company fighting the other three with a team of 16 men, the Company winning the largest number of fights in all being winners.

In 1920 "B" Company won the Shield.

In 1921 "A" Company won the Shield.

TUG-OF-WAR.

In 1921, this event was included in the Inter-Company Championship. "B" Company, who had a very heavy team, captained

by 2/Lieut. Colam and trained by Sergt. Swatton, were the winners.

In 1922, the Regimental team won the open tug-of-war in a sports meeting at Suez, defeating the 103rd Mahrattas, Indian Army.

IN CONCLUSION.

Before judging the standard of sport in the 4th Battalion, one factor must be taken into account of "experts" or "athletic" authorities who would try to compare the doings of this Battalion with those of any other. That factor is the facilities for practice. In Gibraltar, grounds were hard, and large open spaces were unobtainable for practising athletic sports. Added to this, the grounds were few and far away, and the men of the Battalion were scattered on so many different employments that they were often difficult to secure for all games. In Egypt, it was practically impossible to practise for any kind of sport, owing to the fact that all the ground at Ismailia was soft sand.

The battle between the Companies in all sports has at all times been hotly contested, and the sporting spirit in which all games should be played has always been the spirit of the men of the 4th Battalion since it was reformed after the war.

[The Sports' Sub-Editor sent us much more to publish of the prowess of the 4th Battalion in sport, but we had to requisition the blue pencil.—Editor.]

DEPOT NOTES.

NEWS has been received that the Depot is to be reduced to a two Battalion basis with one Militia Battalion, consequently we have now one permanent company, "J," under Capt. and Brevet Major L. L. Pargiter, D.S.O., whilst "K" Company is retained as a temporary measure to take care of those in excess of the Depot establishment until such time as the 3rd Battalion returns to the United Kingdom, when they will be sent to that unit.

Capt. M. D. Fitz-Gibbon, Lieuts. W. Stanley-Jones, S. McL. Colvin, and H. S. Whitlock have left us on retirement.

On the 20th June the G.O.C.-in-C. Eastern

Command, Lord Horne, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., A.D.C., paid an official visit to the Depot, and expressed his pleasure at the bearing and smartness of the recruits, and of the arrangements made for their welfare. He was particularly struck with the site of the barracks, and the view of surrounding country to be seen from it.

Major-General Sir S. W. Hare, K.C.M.G., C.B., G.O.C. Shires Area, makes his annual inspection of the Depot on the 25th July.

Cricket is now in full swing, and up to now the team has acquitted itself very well. In the first round of the Command Competition, we accounted for the Artillery College, Woolwich, at home, by 68 runs, and in the second round played the Eastern Command Headquarters team, on the ground of the Depot, Royal Fusiliers, at Hounslow. This game we won by 83 runs, thanks to a forceful innings of 107 by Sergt.-Dmr. W. Siddons, and the wily bowling of Sergt.-Dmr. Sharpe. We play the Shoeburyness Garrison in the next round.

Albuhera Day was celebrated by a cricket match, Past v. Present. Unfortunately, the "Past" could not muster anything like a full team, places were, consequently, filled by officers of the Depot. The day was perfect, and a large number of past members of the Regiment and their families were present, and were duly entertained.

6th BATTALION NOTES.

IT is with deep regret that we have to record the death of Lieut.-Colonel G. E. Barker.

The sad event took place at London, on the 3rd July, 1922.

Lieut.-Colonel Barker joined the 6th Battalion from Eton, in 1885, and served with it continuously until the completion of his tenure of command in March, 1918.

The funeral was held at Golder's Green Crematorium and afterwards at the Paddington Cemetery on the 6th July.

The Depot was represented at the funeral by a bearer-party of warrant and non-commissioned officers, under the command of Major A. C. Dundas, O.B.E.

Others present at the funeral were: Sir E. Pollock, K.C., M.P. (Attorney-General); Majors N. E. G. Willoughby and Earls; Capts. L. H. O. Josephs and E. H. Davies, 6th Battalion.



7th BATTALION NOTES.

AT the time of the Armistice the Battalion found themselves at Quevy-le-Grand where they remained over Christmas, 1918, later moving into Mons. Early in the new year Lieut.-Colonel C. H. Pank the present commanding officer, who had recently been in command of the 8th Battalion, took over command and the Battalion shortly afterwards moved into Germany to form part of the Army of the Rhine; they were stationed east of Cologne and spent a long period in the outpost line. At the beginning of November, 1919, the Battalion was reduced to cadre which returned to England about the middle of that month.

During its service with the Army of the Rhine the Battalion earned several athletic distinctions, gaining among other successes the second place both for cross-country running and boxing in the Championship of the Army of the Rhine.

Recruiting for the new Territorial Army started early in 1920, a good nucleus for the reconstituted Battalion being formed from several officers and N.C.Os. who had served with the Battalion before and during the war.

In May, 1920, a very successful reunion of all ranks who had served with the Battalion during the war was held at the Battalion Headquarters, at Hornsey.

For various reasons it was decided that no training in camp for the usual fortnight should take place in 1920, and instead the Battalion attended two week-end camps, near Worthing, where very useful training of the newly-joined recruits was put in.

Early in 1921 when the Defence Force was formed a large number of officers and men of this Battalion joined the 7th Battalion Middlesex Regiment (D.F.) in which they met and served with a number of their comrades of the 9th Battalion. Most of the three months was spent in camp on Hounslow Heath, and the time was chiefly notable for

the number of heath fires with which the Battalion was called on to deal.

A very instructive and enjoyable annual training in 1921 was spent near Hastings, and both during this training and during the winters of 1921 and 1922 the Battalion gained several athletic successes, but although the present Battalion cannot yet claim the distinction gained by their predecessors on the Rhine, all ranks are hoping that these successes will multiply as time goes on until the highest honours are gained.

It is hoped that during the present year the Battalion War Memorial, which takes the form of an oak screen in the Memorial Chapel in Hornsey Parish Church, will be unveiled.

At the moment all the energies of the Battalion are being put into preparation for the annual training which commences at the end of July, when they go into camp near Folkestone.



8th BATTALION NOTES.

THE 8th Battalion is now up to full strength. The numbers on 1st June being 21 officers and 632 other ranks.

The Battalion has been holding week-end camps at Bisley for the purpose of firing the Annual Musketry Course. Such camps have been held on 20th and 21st May, June 3rd, 4th and 5th (Whitsun), and June 17th and 18th, and have been well attended; the shooting was good. A team from the Battalion has been entered for the 44th Home Counties Division Shooting Cup.

Church parades held at several places in the Battalion area on Ypres Day, 23rd April, last, were attended by detachments from the Battalion. "B" and "D" Companies combined to attend such a parade at Ealing; and "A" and "C" Companies and Headquarters Wing, at Feltham, while the Headquarters Wing and the Regimental Band assisted in a parade organized by the Ypres League, at Hounslow, on the same afternoon.

A parade service is to be held on June 25th, when the Battalion, together with the Band and Drums, will march from the Battalion Headquarters, at Hounslow, to Brentford Church, where the old Colours of the Battalion will be deposited.

The Regimental Band, under Lieut. A. E. Cartwright as Bandmaster and with Sergt. Coleman as Band-Sergt., is doing well. A large number of engagements have already been booked up for the summer, including one or two Thames Regattas. The Band again hope to be in camp with the Battalion for the full period this year, as they were last.

The Battalion will perform their Annual Training in Camp this year, at Shorncliffe, from July 30th to August 13th.

Cricket is in full swing, and matches are being played at Headquarters every week. An interesting fixture is one against the Royal Dragoons, at Hounslow Barracks, on July 15th, and a return match on July 29th.



9th BATTALION NOTES.

WE all most heartily welcome the rejuvenation of the Regimental Journal, as we assuredly would do any feature which augments the interests of the Regiment both socially and actively.

We feel sure that all ranks of the Battalion will be unanimous in joining us in wishing the Journal the very best of luck.

We would add that contributions from the respective Company Headquarters will at all times be most welcome, and thus enable us to record the various Battalion events and matters of interest.

OBITUARY.

It is with very deep regret that we announce the death of Capt. C. W. Fisher, which took place on June 3rd last.

Capt. Fisher, who was educated at St. Paul's School, went out to India with the Battalion, in October, 1914, and served with distinction in Mesopotamia. At the time of his death he was officer commanding "B" Company.

A military funeral was furnished by the Battalion, on Thursday, June 8th. The service was held in Willesden Old Parish Church, and was conducted by the Rev. Dixon, and the interment was in Willesden New Cemetery.

Colonel J. L. Blumfeld, T.D., Lieut.-

Colonel W. P. Hewett, T.D., and a large gathering of officers and N.C.Os. were present. A captain and three subalterns acted as pallbearers. Buglers sounded the "Last Post" and "Réveillé" at the graveside.

THE RIFLE CLUB.

The Battalion Rifle Club is enjoying considerable popularity, and is setting out upon a decidedly active year. It is pleasing to see that a good percentage of members are comparatively recent recruits, and to encourage these younger members a separate class is held at the prize meetings for all competitors who have enlisted into the Battalion since June 1920, and who have not previously served with any other unit. Ex-members of the Battalion are also eligible to join the Club, and we have been very pleased to see that several of these have recently been down with us to the Club shoots at Bisley.

The subscription is only 6d. per month, with the nominal entrance fee of 2s. 6d. Prize meetings are arranged periodically at Bisley, and targets, rifles, and general regulations are in accordance with the current T.A.R.A. rules.

A Club Prize Meeting was held at Bisley on Saturday, June 3rd, the winners of the silver medals being:—

Class "A."—Sergt. Turner.

Class "B."—Pte. Bell.

The Battalion will send four representatives to compete for the King's Prize and Queen Mary's Prize at the 59th Annual Bisley Meeting, to be held on July 8th—22nd, at Bisley Camp. The respective competitions take place on July 19th to 22nd, and July 10th and 11th.

An attractive programme is arranged for the Club during the summer months, and we would strongly emphasize the fact that there seems no reason why every member of the Battalion should not become a member of the Rifle Club. It is needless to reiterate that rifle shooting is a splendid sport—and at the same time a useful one; it teaches men those characteristics so essential both in soldiering and in ordinary daily life, namely—coolness, steadiness, and concentration. The stronger the membership, the better the prizes, and by the arrangement of separate classes, the recruit has as good a chance to win a prize as the trained soldier.

Full particulars may be obtained from Headquarters, The Drill Hall, Pound Lane, Willesden, N.W., or from the Hon. Secretary, 98 Grove Vale, Dulwich. (Phone: New Cross, 1875.)

THE ANNUAL TRAINING.

The Annual Summer Camp will be held at Shorncliffe this year. Those of us who are fortunate enough to be going can conjure up delightful anticipations, based on the splendid fortnight which we enjoyed last summer in the vicinity of Hastings; plenty of work, but at the same time plenty of sport (not to mention 6 a.m. football matches)! Those few of us who, through urgent business, are kept in town, can only indulge in envious dreams of what we are missing.

And, if the weather clerk will really hang on to his persistent anti-cyclones, and detail them to hover over south-eastern England till camp terminates, as he holds out hopes of doing, there will be nothing left to be desired!

THINGS WE WANT TO KNOW.

Why Runnemeade Rifle Range is to be turned into a golf course?

Whether the Continental anti-cyclone is going to extend its influence over the Summer Camp?

Whether men appreciate the advantage of a good summer holiday—not only free, but with payment for having it?

And whether they realize that the Annual Summer Camp is just that?

How many of them, once they get to the seaside, think it only *wright* to remain for *heffer* and *heffer* on the beach?

If it is true that the P.M.C. keeps a chart showing the relation between heat waves and the rise and fall of drink bills?

Who was the private who thought a "spoon" shoot was connected with the fair sex?

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOTES.

REUNION DINNER.

THE Annual Dinner of the members of the Regiment, past and present, took place on the 27th May last, at the Abercorn Rooms, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, London, E.C. The chair was taken by the Colonel of the Regiment, Lieut.-General Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O., supported by Brig.-General F. D. Lumley, C.B., C.B.E., Colonel-Commandant F. W. Ramsay, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Brig.-General R. J. Ross, C.B., C.M.G., Colonels J. H. Hall, C.M.G., D.S.O., J. Ward, C.B., C.M.G., M.P., W. D. Ingle, R. J. Bridgman, L. G. Oliver, D.S.O. About 240 attended, amongst whom we noticed very many old friends, including Lieut.-Colonel H. A. Bethune, Major E. E. F. Baker, D.S.O., M.C., who was the last commanding officer of the 2nd Battalion in the war, Lieut. Shawcross, Suffolk Regt., Brevet Major F. G. E. Rapson, D.S.O., Capt. Mann, M.C., Divisional Inspector J. Eastland, Metropolitan Police, R. E. Evans (late R.Q.M.S., 2nd Battalion), and many others whom we should like to mention by name, but space forbids. Major-General C. R. Simpson, C.B., Colonel J. Gore White, C.M.G., and Colonel G. B. Lempriere sent letters regretting their inability to be present.

The toasts were: The King, by Lieut.-General Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O.; The Queen, by Lieut.-General Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O.; The Prince of Wales, by Lieut.-General Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O.; and The Officers of the Regiment, by R.S.M. J. Morgan.

Yeoman of the Guard T. Adkins (late Colour-Sergt., 4th Bn.) very ably performed the duties of Toast Master. His ample voice (and frame) could not be equalled at the Mansion House.

The Dinner Committee, under Capt. H. E. Foster, worked as indefatigably as ever, and success crowned its efforts.

The Chairman, in the course of his remarks, referred to himself as a young soldier, meaning, of course, his very short connection with the Regiment. He paid a graceful compliment to General Sir Charles Mansfield Clarke, G.C.B., who, he said, but for the

regulations as to age now in force, should be filling his (the Chairman's) place that evening. Sir Ivor, continuing, expressed his great pleasure in being the Colonel of such a distinguished Regiment, and incidentally remarked of one Battalion which had fought most valiantly while under his command in the Great War. He eventually told us that the unit he referred to was the 13th Battalion. Everyone of the assembly secretly wished that he belonged to the unit the General had such great praise for. However, we all "did our bit," didn't we?

A very pleasing feature of the occasion was the presence of three real veterans from the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, and the ever-green Sergt.-Dmr. Deacon, who looked younger than ever.

After the usual toasts we gave ourselves over to talking, and how we talked! We seemed to be in all parts of the world at one moment. This reminds us of a remark made by one hoary old veteran to another: "Oh, yes, I remember drilling you as a recruit, and I did give you a devil of a time, didn't I." Well, the time passed all too quickly, and the meeting of old friends caused some of us to miss our last train. But what did that matter, perhaps we shall not meet again for another year, and a year is a long time.

It was noticed that several members of the Territorial units were present at the dinner. We hope to see many more next year.

The band of the Depot played an excellent programme during the evening.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of the Association took place immediately prior to the Dinner, the following being present:—

Lieut.-General Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O., *President*; Brig.-General R. J. Ross, C.B., C.M.G., *Chairman*; Brig.-General F. D. Lumley, C.B., C.B.E.; Colonel J. H. Hall, C.M.G., D.S.O.; Colonel L. G. Oliver, D.S.O.; Colonel G. A. Bridgman; Colonel W. D. Ingle; Major G. Beach, T.D.; Major F. S. Steed, *Secretary and Hon. Treasurer*; Major E. H. Amor; Major H. A. Wiemers; Lieut. W. G. Taylor; Lieut. W. G. Stanley-Jones; R.Q.M.S. Duffield; R.Q.M.S. Bowles; Mr. J. G. Peacock; Mr. M. J. O'Connell; Mr. W. Hall; and twenty others.

The Chairman introduced the new President, Lieut.-General Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O. (Colonel of the Regiment), who, in his remarks, stated how pleased and honoured he was to become connected with the Regiment and the Regimental Association, and that, with the happy combination of a new young Colonel-in-Chief (H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., K.T., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., M.C.) and a new old "Colonel of the Regiment" he hoped that progress would be made in the interest of the Regiment and mark a new era in its history.

The War Memorial is rapidly approaching completion, and on its commanding site, can be seen from some distance.

Further particulars regarding the arrangements made for its unveiling will be communicated to all Units and subscribers generally and through the Press.

A photograph of the Memorial will subsequently appear in the Journal.

Our Secretary is still very busy helping all and sundry so far as our limited income allows, but he would be very pleased to be still more busy in acknowledging receipts for the funds, as the demands from the same are almost inexhaustible.

A number of men have obtained good situations through the Association, and every possible means are used to induce large employers of labour to take our men, and for whose credentials we invariably vouch.

Past members of the Regiment could give us most valuable assistance in notifying the Secretary of any employment for those on our rolls still requiring jobs, and there are many such.

Lieut.-General Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O., Colonel of the Regiment, has very kindly sent us copies of the following telegrams passed between him and our Colonel-in-Chief on the 23rd June, 1922:—

No. 1.

Prince of Wales,
York House,
St. James,
London.

"All Battalions the Middlesex Regiment and Depot congratulate their Colonel-in-

Chief on his birthday and on his safe return from India."

GENERAL MAXSE,
Headquarters,
York.

No. 2.

General Maxse,
Headquarters,
York.

"Hearty thanks to all ranks of The Middlesex Regiment for kind message of welcome and birthday congratulations."

EDWARD, P.
Colonel-in-Chief.

REGIMENTAL CRICKET WEEK.

OUR "Cricket Week," at Mill Hill, was an unqualified success, in spite of the vagaries of the weather which could only be classed as vile. Matches were played on June 28th, 29th and 30th, and on 1st July against the M.C.C., Cryptics, Highgate School, and Hampstead in that order. We won the first match by 4 wickets, the second was lost by 13 runs, the third was won by us by 6 wickets, and the last, 98 runs in our favour. Throughout the week cricket was quite good, at least the bowlers said so, having taken full advantage of the wet wicket.

Mention must be made of the very fine sporting spirit of our M.C.C. opponents who, to give us a chance of winning the match, played during the last half hour in a veritable downpour.

The boys from Highgate turned out a team at a moment's notice, owing to the "Robins" not being able to turn out a side. As ever with school cricket the fielding was extraordinarily keen, and well up to the standard we are accustomed to witness.

The following played for our side during the week:—Lieut.-Colonel Miller, Major Pargiter, Capt. Phillips, Lieut. Hudson (4th Bn.), Capt. Garrow, Capt. L. T. Lightfoot, R.S.M. Pigott, Sergt.-Dmr. Siddons, Sergt.-Dmr. Sharpe, Sergt. Campbell, Cpl. Youell, L./Cpl. Northcott, Pte. Pearce.

The officers of the Regiment were "at

Home" to a large number of officers and friends, many of whom came a very great distance to cheer us on. We noticed amongst the many old friends present, Colonel Bellers, Mrs. Ash, Brig.-General and Mrs. Ross, Major Woolright, Colonel Hamilton Hall, Capt. and Mrs. Foster, Capt. Hodding, Mrs. Knowles, Major Fulcher, Major and Mrs. Amor, Mrs. Abell, and Mrs. Hooper.

The Band of the Depot played a selection of music each day which was thoroughly enjoyed. Sergt.-Dmr. Sheridan did not have occasion to apologize for the indifferent playing of any of his musicians. His only "grouse" was against the weather, and in which we all were forced to agree.

NOTICE.

THE COMRADES BADGE. Laurel wreath and plume; Enamelled regimental colours—"Comrades, Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.). 'Albuhera,' 'The Die Hards.'" Brooch or stud, price 1s. 6d. each, plus postage. Obtainable from E. Morris, "The Rent Day," Cambridge Street, Edgware Road, W. 2; and E. Warren, 28, Langdon Park Road, Archway Road, Highgate, N. 6.

SHORT HISTORY OF THE 2/10th BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGT.

(T.F.)

BY MAJOR C. JARRETT, D.S.O., T.D.

FORMATION.

WHEN the Great War broke out at the beginning of August, 1914, and this country was bound to uphold its pledged word, and join with Belgium and France against the treaty-breakers, the Territorial Force was mobilized at once. The 10th Middlesex, like most other battalions of that force, was undergoing

its annual training. At mobilization, about half the strength was embodied and training near Salisbury Plain, the other half being distributed all over the Kingdom.

Contrary to all previously arranged standing orders for mobilization, and instead of the four days laid down for this, the 10th was ordered on the first day to Sheerness, and the task of collecting all the men who had not been at the training, and of recruiting the three hundred odd extra men to bring the Battalion up to its establishment, was delegated to an officer who was left in charge of the Headquarters at Stamford Brook—now to be known as the Depot.

Those who joined up during that first week of the war will have vivid recollections of the discomfort and bustle at Headquarters, and the difficulties which had to be overcome.

Such a wave of patriotic feeling swept over the country that recruits came in faster than they could be dealt with; and in a very few days the three hundred required to complete the Battalion were obtained and, in due course, clothed, equipped and armed, and sent off to join the Battalion, which had meantime moved to Sittingbourne.

The next problem was what to do with the hundreds of men who wanted to enlist after the establishment was complete. The War Office wanted the men to join the Regular Army, or the New Army units which had been organized; but many of the men wanted to join a Territorial unit, and would not join anything else. For several weeks the authorities would not give permission to expand the Territorial Force. After a time, however, it became obvious that some sort of reserve would have to be organized for the Force, because many units were already going overseas, or preparing to do so, and they would require reinforcements almost at once. So permission was given, and on the 12th September the order came to raise what was called then the 10th (Reserve) Battalion Middlesex Regiment.

A nucleus was formed of officers and men from the 10th Battalion. Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. Johnson, T.D., and Major

C. Jarrett then set to work to organize the new unit. Gentlemen (who had had some previous service mostly) were collected to officer the Battalion; and one of the staff-Tomkins, was appointed Sergeant-Major, sergeants from the 10th, Col.-Sergt. F. The important post of Quartermaster was an anxiety at first, as so much depended on an experienced man, in our case, where everything had to be done from the very beginning. However, the County Association found the right man, and Mr. F. W. Wallis, an ex-Fusilier quartermaster-sergeant, was duly installed. An officer with O.T.C. training was also found to assume the duties of Adjutant. These two appointments were a great relief to the organizers, as the work of these two onerous posts had fallen on Major Jarrett for the first month.

By the end of October the unit was practically complete, and it was now decided that the title should be the 2/10th Battalion Middlesex Regiment. It was becoming clear that there would have to be other units yet, and the title "Reserve" was inappropriate, especially in our case, as the greater part of the men, and practically all the officers, had volunteered for service overseas, and, naturally, they wanted to go as a unit, and not as reinforcements.

TRAINING.

So the 2/10th became a fully-fledged Battalion, and, in early November, it was ordered to Ashford, in Middlesex, to take its place in the second line Middlesex Brigade. All the first line units of the Brigade were abroad. The 1/10th was on its way to India. We were quartered in billets at Ashford, and we shall all remember the very cordial and friendly manner in which the inhabitants received us, and cared for our comfort during the trying winter of 1914-1915.

About Christmas Colonel Johnson was obliged, for medical reasons, to relinquish the command, and for several weeks Major Jarrett was in charge, until Major Pank, of the 7th Middlesex, who was to succeed Colonel Johnson, could be brought back from Gibraltar. During the interregnum a parade of the Home Counties Division was ordered at Cooper's Hill, to demonstrate to M. Millerand, the

French Minister, who was visiting this country, that efforts were being made by England to do her share. The day was singularly unfortunate. Heavy snow had fallen the night before, and by 10 o'clock was thawing. The Battalion marched through the slush to the assembly ground, which it reached at 12.30, and stood in a quagmire of mixed snow and mud till dark, waiting for the arrival of M. Millerand, who did not arrive until after 4 o'clock, by which time the rain and sleet, which had fallen steadily all day, had turned the meadow into a lake, and the men were standing in water. The river began to overflow, and in parts the road was under water. However, the men kept up their spirits wonderfully under this trying ordeal, and marched back to their billets at Ashford, which they reached at about 7 o'clock. The men having only one set of clothing, it was necessary to give the next day to rest and drying of kits.

During the winter several opportunities were given to the men to transfer to other units in France, and although they were keen enough to go on active service, their *esprit de corps* was stronger. They wanted to stick to their Battalion and their own officers.

At last, in April, 1915, came the welcome news that we were to go abroad, and the 2/10th was selected to join a new brigade being formed out of the 2nd Line Home Counties Division. This Brigade (the 160th) was to join the Welsh Division, which had lost one of its Brigades—the Monmouths. The 2/10th was hardly strong enough in men of the full age to go abroad, and so a company was drafted in from the 2/9th Middlesex to fill the vacancies. The Battalion left Ashford at the end of April, and joined its new Brigade at Cambridge. The rest of the 160th Brigade was made up as follows:—

- 2/4th Royal West Surrey Regiment (The Queen's),
- 2/4th Royal West Kent Regiment (The Queen's Own), and
- 1/4th Royal Sussex Regiment.

As soon as the newly-constituted 53rd (Welsh) Division was complete we moved to Bedford, and training was kept up for nearly two months.

SERVICE OVERSEAS.

1. Gallipoli.

In early July, orders came for the Division to be equipped for tropical service, and conjecture was rife as to where we were going. The secret was well kept for obvious reasons, and even commanding officers were not aware of our destination till we were nearly there.

On the night of the 17th-18th July—a soaking wet night it was—we marched out of Bedford, amid great enthusiasm of the residents, and entrained for Devonport. On the morning of the 18th the Battalion embarked on the *Huntsgreen*, an ex-German liner, previously named the *Derfflinger*. The 5th Welsh Regiment shared the same transport, and the two battalions filled the ship to congestion. Much discomfort, unfortunately, was caused to the troops, both by reason of the overcrowding and also on account of the inadequate arrangements for messing.

The voyage was uneventful. Gibraltar was passed during the night. That disposed of one rumour—that we were going to relieve the garrison there. Malta was reached in a few days, and the ship stayed there for two days. Shore leave had to be very restricted for many reasons. On the 1st August we reached Alexandria, and a welcome change for the men was the march through the city. Here we had to leave about 250 of our men, with several officers. There was much heart-burning in the selection of those who had to be left. This detachment was to act as the first reinforcement to the Battalion, and we now began to suspect what we were in for.

A brief delay at Alexandria was necessary to correct the ballasting of the *Huntsgreen*, which had developed a dangerous list to starboard during the voyage. Then, on the 3rd August, we reached Port Said. A conference on the Divisional Commander's ship then confirmed our suspicions. We were to take part in a new landing on the Gallipoli Peninsula, at a place called Suvla Bay. Other divisions were already on the way. On the 7th we arrived at the Island of Lemnos, and on the 8th at Imbros. We could hear the thunder of the naval guns

all round, and about midnight we steamed into Suvla Bay. Motor lighters drew up alongside, and the men were packed into them, about 500 in each, and on a perfectly calm sea, in brilliant moonlight, the lighters carried us to the beach. "C" Beach our particular part was named. The Turks had already been driven back from the immediate vicinity of the beaches, and we landed without mishap, and waited for dawn. The Battalion was detailed for work at the unloading of stores and ammunition, also water, which had to be pumped out of barge tanks into canvas troughs on the beach. This all had to be done under heavy shell fire, for we were in full view of the Turks. It was a trying experience for raw troops, and, although the casualties were not heavy, the mere fact of having to be shot at whilst working was far more disturbing than a fight would have been.

This went on all day, and we heard word brought back that the firing line was hung up a few thousand yards away. That night we had orders to join the 158th Brigade of our Division, for the attempt next morning to drive home the attack on Yilghin Burnu, or Chocolate Hill, as we had named it.

Accordingly, at dawn on the 10th August, we advanced across the intervening plain. This was named on the map "Salt Lake," but at this time of the year it was a dry plain with marshy edges. We ploughed through the stinking mud on to the hard bed of the lake, and for the next 1,000 yards of the advance there was no scrap of cover. The shelling was terrific, and towards the far side of the plain the Battalion came into the zone of machine-gun and rifle fire. Once among the foot-hills there was more chance of cover in the scrub, but the advance was much hampered by the volume of fire. Advancing up the slopes of Chocolate Hill, the various companies got out of touch, and near the top they became merged into a firing line made up of many units. Thenceforward anything like control by battalion commanders was out of the question. The hill was already a shambles, and, to add to the distress of the troops, the want of water became a very serious

matter. The heat was awful, and the men had used the water they carried in their bottles, and no more was to be had yet.

The firing line was quite unable to push on. Isolated attempts were bravely made by officers to lead on parties of their men, but all were doomed to failure, and night came down without any progress being possible.

Perhaps the most terrible incident that evening was the fire which started in the dry bush. Many wounded men were unable to get away from the flames, and their screams were heart-rending. Super-human efforts were made to rescue some of them, and foremost in this work was our Medical Officer, Major Pauli, and his orderlies.

Meanwhile the Turks were doing their utmost to drive us off the position, but they, too, were beaten to a standstill, and so the two forces were in a state of stalemate. The order came up from the Corps Commander that we were to dig in on the line held, and prepare for trench warfare. It was a bitter disappointment to us all, but it seemed to be the only alternative to being driven off the Peninsula.

The Battalion was so dispersed in the line that it was impossible to ascertain the casualties that night, but we knew that Captains Britten and Foley and Lieutenants Pope and Hollingsworth had been killed; also that Lieutenants Snowden and Reid Todd had been badly wounded.

(To be continued.)

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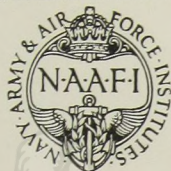
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REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

of

THE MIDDLESEX REGT.

(DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN)

President : LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR IVOR MAXSE, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O.

Office : THE BARRACKS, MILL HILL, N.W. 7

Telephone : FINCHLEY 1553 & 2068

Secretary : MAJOR F. S. STEED, D.C.M.

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