

OUR

REGIMENTS

No. VI.—THE TENTH ROYAL HUSSARS.—PART II.
“PENINSULA,” “WATERLOO,” “SEVASTOPOL,” “ALI-MUSJID,” “AFGHANISTAN, 1878-79,” “EGYPT, 1894.”
FROM PHOTOGRAPHS BY MR. ARGENT ARCHER, HIGH-STREET, KENSINGTON.



“BOB” THE DRUM HORSE. AND BAND DOG.

In our last article we dealt with the history of the Tenth Hussars up to the close of the Waterloo campaign, the victorious termination of which was so largely due to the timely and irresistible onslaught of the Hussar Brigade upon the flank of Napoleon's Old Guard. The result of this victory, than which there has never been any other in the history of the world more important in its consequences, was that the peace of Europe was not again disturbed for many years.

It is true that in 1826 the Spaniards, being no longer menaced by France, waxed oppressive and threatened to annex Portugal, but a force of 5,000 men, which included the Tenth Hussars, being sent out from this country to protect the weaker state, and landing at Lisbon on January 11th, 1827, they quickly retired, protesting that their actions had been inspired simply by love and friendship for Portugal. On March 11th in the following year the Tenth once more returned to their old quarters at Brighton.

In 1837 King William IV. died, and a day to be especially noted in the history of the Tenth Hussars, and the British army generally, was the 21st of June in that year, the day on which her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, whose health is the first toast of the evening wherever her army is stationed, all the world over, was proclaimed Sovereign of this country. It was many years afterwards that the Prince of Wales's Own Hussars were paraded seven thousand miles away at the Imperial assemblage in the heart of her Eastern Empire to hear her proclaimed Empress of India as well. The following year (1838), witnessed the retirement on half-pay of Colonel Lord Thomas Cecil, son of the first Marquis of Exeter, who married Lady Sophie Lennox, daughter of the fourth Duke of Richmond and Charlotte his Duchess, who gave the celebrated ball at Brussels on the eve of Quatre Bras. He was a celebrated sportsman, and a remarkably fine horseman, and it is worthy of note that when the Tenth, who have always been as well to the front in matters of sport as in the sterner joys of war, were credited with the first "Grand Military" on record, which was run near



H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES IN 1863.
(Published by permission of His Royal Highness.)

Dublin in 1832, and won by the Hon. H. Saville's Modesty, Lord Thomas Cecil, then a Major in the regiment, was on the back of the winner. This victory was repeated eight years later when the regiment was quartered in Northamptonshire, where the soldiers' "Blue Riband" was run for that year, and won by Captain Sir James Baird, on Carlow. Representatives of the Tenth have often won this coveted prize since then, including Colonel Fisher, the present Commanding Officer, who won it on Dalesman in 1887. Major Hughes Onslow has ridden two Gold Cup winners to victory in this country, and won the first Grand Military at Punchestown as well.

The year 1846 marks a new and most important epoch in the history of the Tenth Hussars. It was in that year that, for the first time in their career, they embarked for India, where they landed at Bombay, and marched to Kirkee, near Poona, formerly the capital of the powerful and warlike Mahrattas, and then the principal cavalry station of the Bombay army. General Sir Wilmoughby Cotton, brother of the Peninsular hero Sir Stapleton Cotton, afterwards created Viscount Combermere, was at that time Commander-in-Chief at Bombay, and he not only took a keen interest in the Tenth, but also attended their race-meetings, and was a staunch supporter of all their sports. What with racing, shooting, and pig-sticking, the regiment no doubt managed to put in a very good time during its stay at Kirkee, though it was neither sport nor any other detail of its Indian career which rendered this such a bright and memorable period of its history. In 1853 there arose murmurs of a coming war with Russia; in February, 1854, an ultimatum was sent to the Czar to withdraw his armies from Turkish territory, and when no notice was taken of this, England and France declared war in defence of the Sultan. This happened on March 24th, but the news did not reach India until May 8th, when the Tenth had the supreme satisfaction of receiving orders to hold themselves in readiness to proceed to the seat of war. The Allied army landed in the Crimea on September 14th, and then followed in



SOME MOUNTED OFFICERS.

quick succession the Battle of the Alma, the flank march round Sevastopol, the occupation of Balaclava by the British, and the investiture of the great Russian fortress. The next act in the drama was the Russian attack on our army at Balaclava, made memorable by the successful charge of Scarlett's "Heavies," and the practical destruction of the British Light Brigade in that reckless ride which will ever be best remembered by what our Allies said of it, "C'est magnifique, mais ce n'est pas la guerre." On December 11th, 1854, the Tenth at last received the welcome order to embark as soon as ships could be got ready, and early in the following year they set sail for Suez. During this voyage the transports met with very severe weather, and the regiment had anything but a pleasant time.

It was mounted entirely on Arab stallions, most of which had been sent to it at the last moment in an almost unbroken state, and these naturally gave no end of trouble, especially in the heavy seas which were encountered during the greater part of the voyage. At length they reached Suez, from which they marched to Cairo, where they were kept for six weeks, there being nothing to feed the horses with in the Crimea. During this period they were entertained with true Oriental hospitality by the Viceroy of Egypt, Said Pasha, and on March 26th they started on their march to Alexandria. It was during this march that an Arab sheik, belonging to the district through which they were passing, and who was the owner of a celebrated Arab horse which had beaten everything else in the country that had ever been run against him, challenged the Tenth to produce any horse in the regiment to beat him. A match was soon arranged, and Lieutenant Hudson's charger, a very high-caste Arab, having

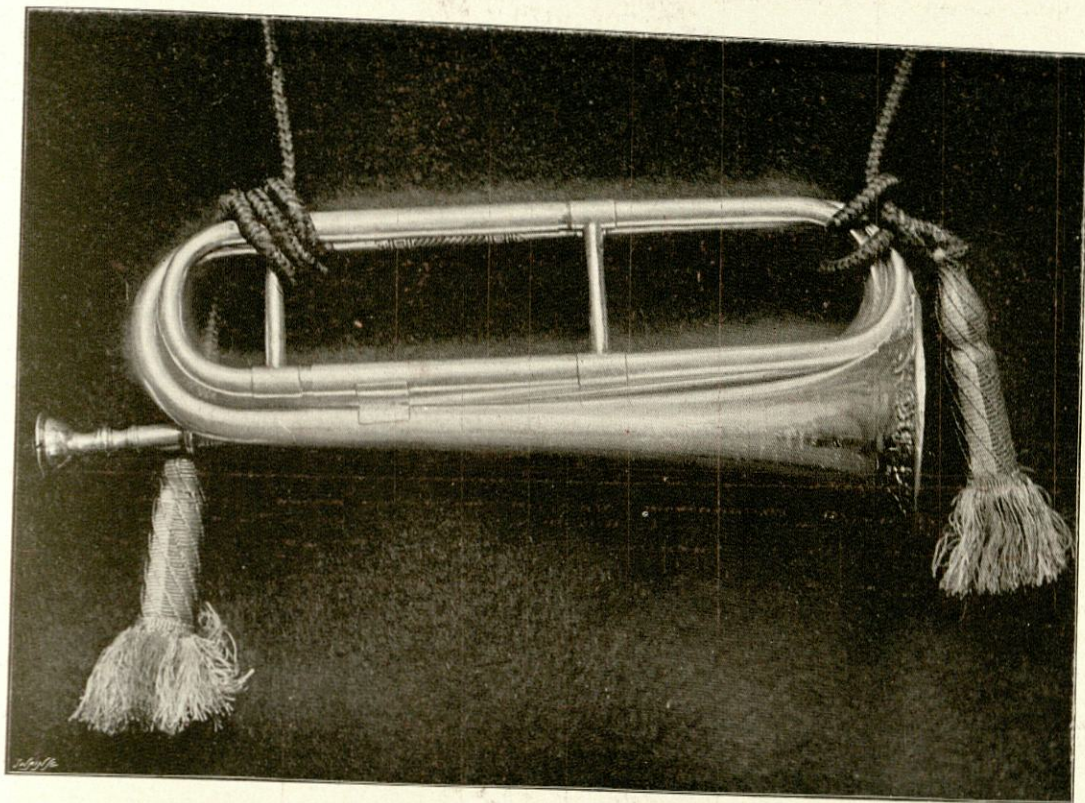
defeated the Egyptian champion, the sheik retired to his tribe greatly astonished and sorely disappointed at the result.

The regiment reached Alexandria on April 7th, arrived at Balaclava on the 15th, and encamped on Crimean soil on the 17th, 109 days after leaving Kirkee, a journey that would not now take a tenth part of that time. The British army—its cavalry

transport work of the army, that there were hardly any left fit for duty, and the whole Light Brigade could hardly put one squadron in the field. It was at this moment that the Tenth arrived upon the scene, bringing five hundred sabres to the relief of their almost worn-out companions in arms. As has already been mentioned, they were mounted entirely on Arabs, which, although much smaller than English horses,

were extraordinarily hardy and enduring, and just the sort for the outpost, convoy, and orderly duties which fell to the share of the regiment on landing, and were, as a matter of fact, almost entirely performed by them, there being by this time scarcely any other horses in the Brigade fit for work. On April 19th, two days after they had joined, the Tenth took part in a reconnaissance towards the Tchernaya, of which the *Times* correspondent wrote as follows:—"The 10th Hussars were conspicuous for the soldierly and efficient look of the men, and the fine condition of their light sinewy horses." The regiment subsequently took part in the occupation of the line of the Tchernaya, and in the defeat of the Russian attempt to drive us out of it on August 16th. There was not much fighting in the open after this. The Russian army in the field had found out that they could not make the handful of British let go their grip on Balaclava, the approaches of the Allied armies were daily and hourly drawing closer round the

doomed fortress of Sevastopol, the Malakoff was taken by the French, and at last the night arrived in which, covered by its darkness, the garrison, who had defended their post with such praiseworthy devotion, stole reluctantly away and left it to the Allies. They had blown up the forts and magazines and burnt the city, however, before letting

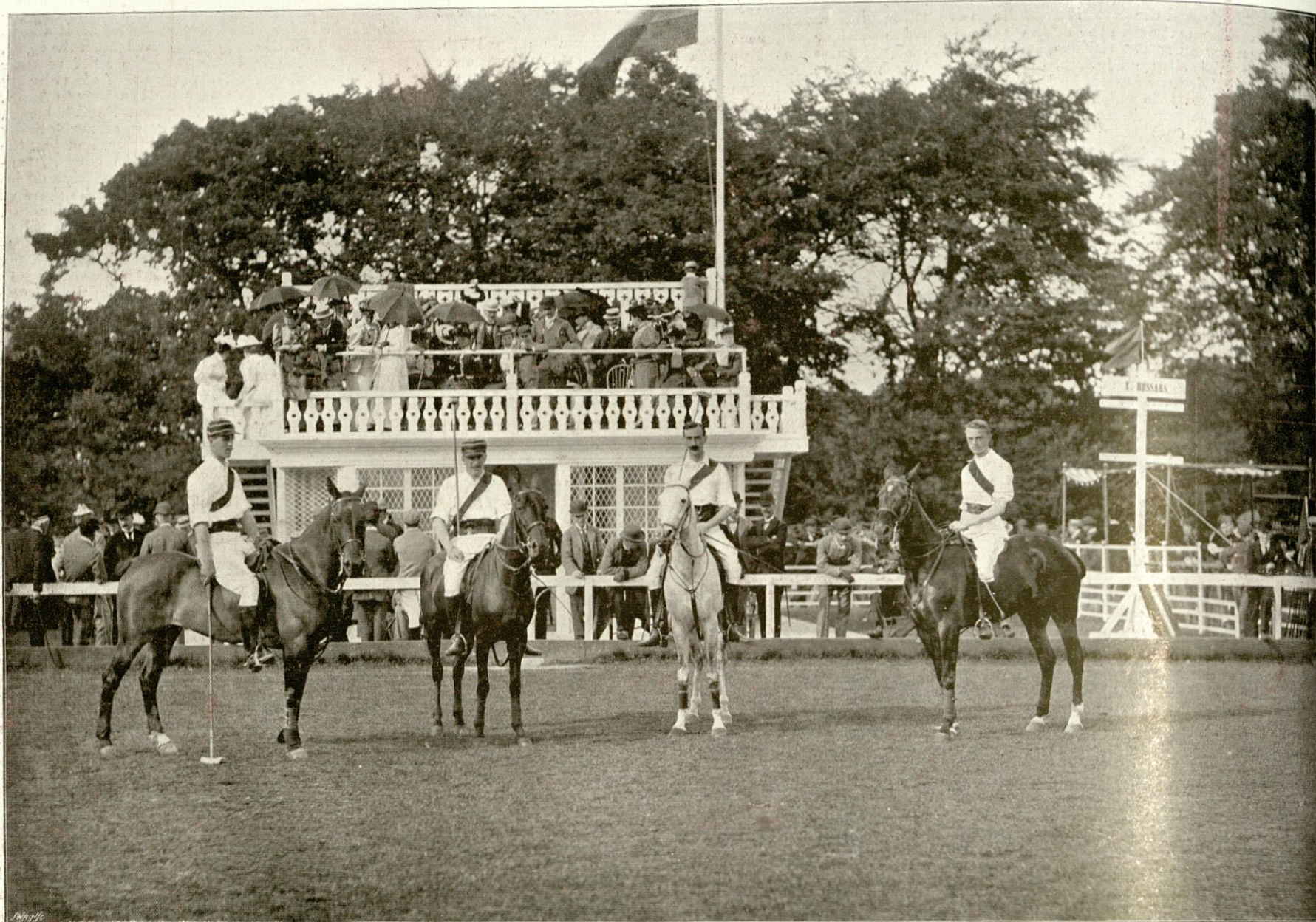


THE WATERLOO TRUMPET.

especially—was at that time in a terrible state. It had just gone through a fearful winter, it was almost entirely without resources of any sort, the roads from Balaclava to the trenches were almost impassable, and the transport department had, as usual, broken down hopelessly. The cavalry horses had been so reduced by actions, privations, and in carrying out the



OFFICERS' MESS AND PLATE.



Hon. T. W. Brand.

Lord W. A. Cavendish-Bentineck.

Captain C. T. McM. Kavanagh.

Mr. N. W. Curzon.

THE ALL-IRELAND OPEN CUP, 1894—TENTH HUSSARS (WINNERS).

Photo by J. Robinson and Sons, 65, Grafton-street, Dublin.

COLONEL, ADJUTANT, AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.



THE IRISH INTER-REGIMENTAL SUBALTERN'S CUP, 1896—TENTH HUSSARS (WINNERS) v. THIRTEENTH HUSSARS, PHOENIX PARK, DUBLIN.
Photo by J. Robinson and Sons, 65, Grafton-street, Dublin.



SQUADRON DRILL.

it go, and it was but an empty shell into which the Tenth escorted the commander of the British army on the following day.

While these things were going on in front of Sevastopol, one squadron of the Tenth had been doing good service against the Russians in quite another place. In May, 1855, Sir George Brown had been sent with an expedition to Kertch in the sea of Azof, and in the following September a squadron of the Tenth had been sent to join this force. They had only arrived a few days when a large force of Cossacks were reported to be plundering close at hand. Captain Clarke's and Captain Fitz-Clarence's troops were forthwith ordered out to attack them. Captain Clarke's troop was the first to come into contact with a body of the enemy whom they at once charged and dispersed, but following them up they came across the main body of Russian cavalry in such overwhelming numbers that they were forced to fall back. In doing so they were at one time cut off in a narrow gorge, but wheeling about they charged, and cut their way through, not without some very tough fighting. On the other side they found Captain Fitz-Clarence's troop, and then these two fell back together, turning to charge whenever an opportunity occurred, and successfully carrying out their retirement with remarkable coolness and courage. In April 1856, peace was signed, and the whole of the Prince of Wales's Own Hussars soon afterwards embarked for England, after an absence of over ten years. Before sailing they handed over their horses to the Turks. These hardy and intelligent little Arabs, which had carried them in India, in the march through Egypt, and in the Crimea, had proved themselves most excellent campaigners, and we are told by those who were in the regiment at the time of the sore grief which it was to the men to part with them.

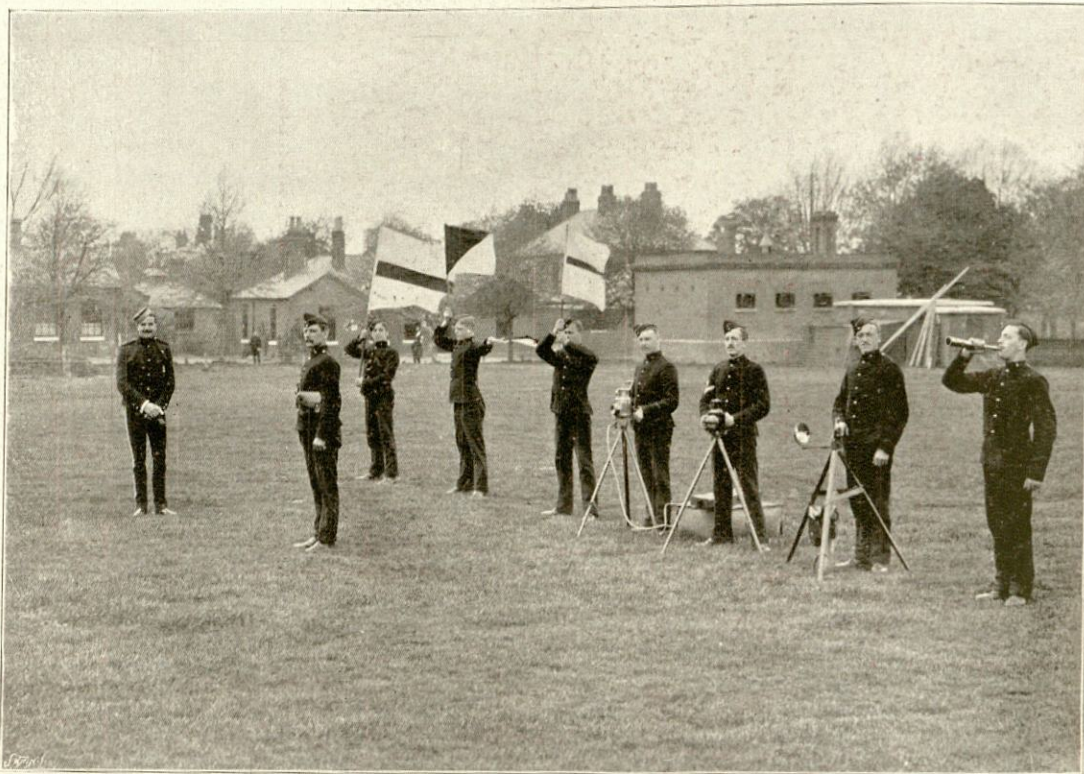
It was some years after their return from the Crimea before the Tenth again drew swords in anger, during most of which time they remained in this country, and went in keenly for all sorts of sport. In March 1860, their first regimental steeplechase meeting took place, when their colonel, Valentine Baker, the best cavalry soldier of his day, presented a challenge cup to be run

the favourite amusement of the British army all the world over. In the meantime, however, they had put in a spell of soldiering in Ireland, and keenly as they went in for sport, it must not for a moment be supposed that they neglected to keep up their reputation for smartness, and efficiency in the field. Good sportsmen always make the best soldiers, and

the Tenth have always been a striking illustration of the truth of this fact. Their colonel, that well-known, and keenest of soldiers, Valentine Baker, who was responsible for the non-pivot system of drill introduced at this period, and who did so much to simplify cavalry movements, was a great believer in fast drill, and he very soon brought his regiment to a pitch of perfection that had hardly ever been seen up to that time. A celebrated sportsman who joined the regiment about this time was Edward Hartopp, better known to his intimates as "Chicken" Hartopp. He was a good whip, the best heavy man to hounds in Ireland, and equally at home with rod and gun. There are many amusing stories told of the way in which, during troublous times in Ireland, where he was subsequently master of the Kilkenny hounds, he dealt with the natives of that county who tried to interfere with hunting. He was at one time on the personal staff of Lord Spencer in Ireland, at another on that of Lord Northbrook in India,

in which latter country he contracted the disease from which he afterwards died at a comparatively early age. His name may be almost forgotten now, except by those who knew him and liked him for his many good qualities, but there was a time when his name was a household word in the British army.

After five years of Ireland the Tenth, in 1868, returned to England, and were sent to Aldershot where, among other forms of sport, they held some point-to-point steeplechases, at which a cup, presented by the



DIFFERENT FORMS OF SIGNALLING.

for by horses belonging to the regiment. This was won by a horse of Captain Baumgarten's, ridden by Cornet Wood, who afterwards commanded the regiment. Mr. Thacker, V.S., afterwards won this trophy twice, and being thus entitled to keep it, Colonel Valentine Baker gave another which had to be won three times before it could be retained, and which is still in the regiment. It was towards the end of the sixties, too, when the regiment was at Aldershot, that they introduced polo into this country, a game destined shortly to become



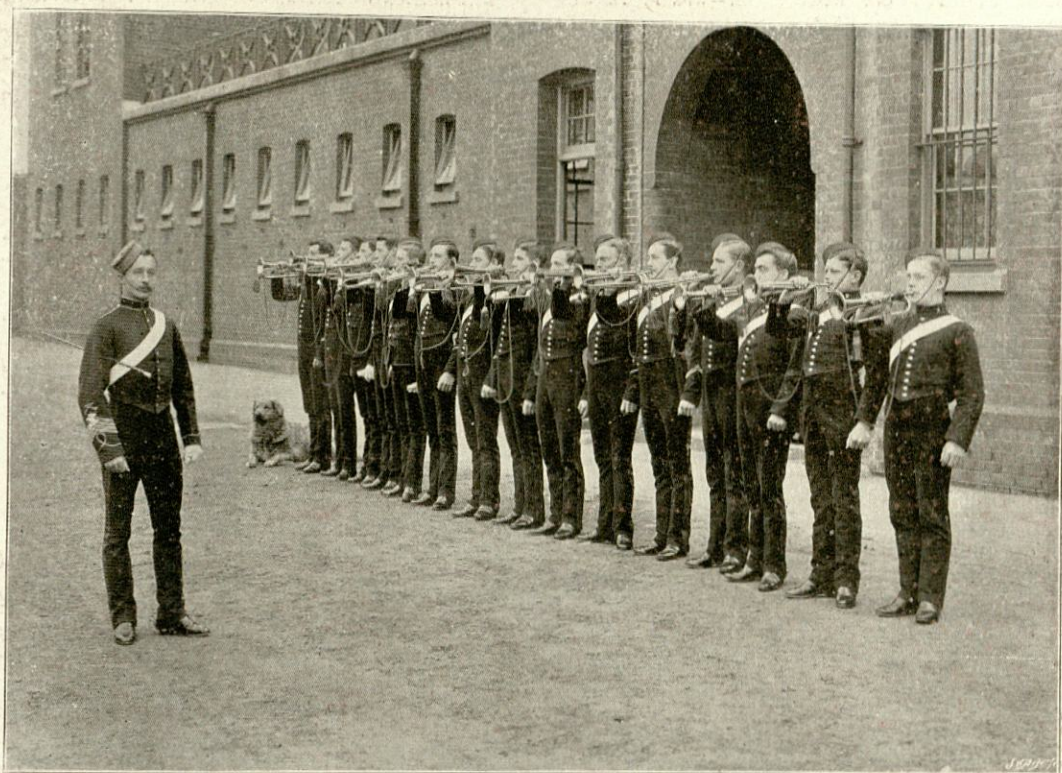
REGIMENTAL FOOTBALL TEAM.



DRAWING RATIONS: INSPECTION.

Prince of Wales, who had been appointed Colonel of the Regiment in 1863, was won by Lieut. H. S. Gough. In 1871 his Royal Highness ran a horse at the Regimental Meeting, which was ridden by poor Bulkeley, a well-known and very popular member of the regiment, who died suddenly in the train a few years later on. The bearer of the Royal colours unfortunately fell. At this meeting the Regimental Challenge Cup was won, for the second time, by Lord Valentia, with a horse named Wellington, ridden by Captain Wood. At the autumn manœuvres which took place in that year, the 10th Hussars were brigaded with the 12th Lancers and the 7th Dragoon Guards, under the command of the Prince of Wales, for whom Colonel Valentine Baker acted as A.D.C. In 1872 the Tenth took part in the procession to St. Paul's, after their Colonel's recovery from his severe and dangerous illness; and it was at the regimental dinner in that year that his Royal Highness presented to his "Own Hussars" a bronze statuette of himself mounted on his charger, and in the uniform of the regiment, by Boehm. Another royal Colonel of the Tenth, the Prince Regent, afterwards George IV., had, in 1822, made a similar presentation to the regiment, consisting of a centrepiece in the form of a large pedestal surrounded by candelabra, on which is inscribed, "The gift of His Majesty King George IV. to the 10th or Prince of Wales's Own Royal Regiment, which he commanded from the year 1793 until

his accession to the throne," whilst on another panel are the famous names: Benavente, Corunna, Morales del Toro, Vittoria, Orthez, Toulouse, and Waterloo, the whole supporting a statuette of George IV., as a Roman Emperor. Then came manœuvres on a large scale on Salisbury Plain, and, after these, orders to prepare for another term of service in India. It was about this time that they lost their famous leader, Col. Valentine Baker, whose command had been a distinct success, and under whom they had become admittedly the best cavalry regiment in the service. A few words about the subsequent career of this remarkable soldier, during which he proved himself to be not only an exceptional cavalry leader, but also a skilful organiser, an able tactician, and a great general, could not be omitted from any history of the regiment which he brought to a pitch of smartness and efficiency which has been its chief characteristic ever since. After going on half pay he first travelled in Persia, as a result of which he gave us that remarkable and prophetic work, "Clouds in the East." He was afterwards Assistant Quarter-Master-General at Aldershot, but when, in 1877, war broke out between Turkey and Russia, he took service under the Sultan and showed by his brilliant leadership during the retreat of Suleiman Pasha's army from the Balkans, what a loss the British army had sustained when he retired. Not only did he possess the highest genius for war, but also, in a

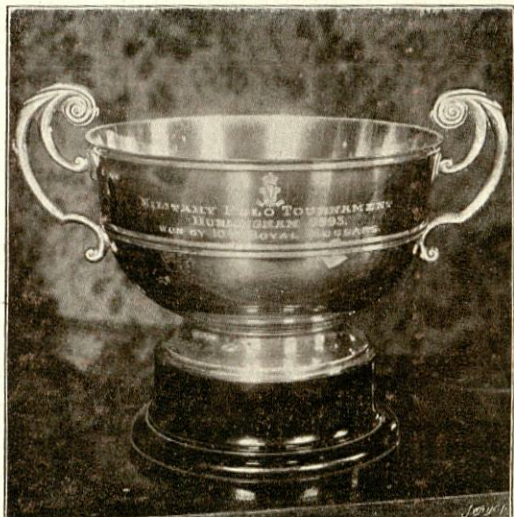


THE TRUMPETERS.



WATERING HORSES.

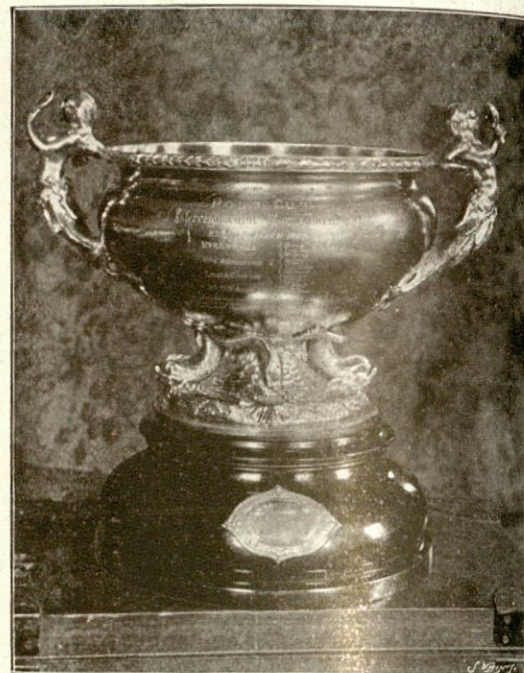
remarkable degree, the gift of leading men, and of inspiring his troops with confidence under difficulties, whilst the action of Jakhessen by which he detained the whole Russian army, whilst covering the retreat of his own, was a model of what a rear-guard action should be. After the campaign in Egypt in 1882, he left the service of the Sultan to become Commander-in-Chief of the Egyptian army, but the English Government for some obscure or vindictive reason of its own, refused to sanction the appointment,



REGIMENTAL POLO CUP, HURLINGHAM—WON BY TENTH HUSSARS.



CUP PRESENTED BY THE OFFICERS OF THE BENGAL AND PUNJAB CAVALRY AND CENTRAL INDIA HORSE TO LIEUT. COLONEL WOOD AND THE OFFICERS OF THE TENTH HUSSARS ON THE REGIMENT LEAVING INDIA IN 1884, IN COMMEMORATION OF THE NATIVE CAVALRY POLO TOURNAMENT OF 1883.



INDIAN INTER-REGIMENTAL POLO CUP—WON BY TENTH HUSSARS.

10th Hussars Polo Club.

1. A game of Polo to consist of not more than 12 players, six on each side, a match not more than 10 players viz five on each side.
2. The goals to be 300 yds apart, where the ground ~~shall~~ admit of such length & the boundary flags from 150 to 200 yds apart.
3. The Goal Posts to be 8 yds apart.
4. All sticks & balls to be approved of by the Committee.
5. The ball to be thrown up in the centre of the ground, a rival player of either side galloping from a point agreed on.
6. When the ball is hit out of bounds it must be thrown into the playing ground.

by an impartial person on foot.

7. No player is allowed to hit an adversary's pony. It is permitted to cross an adversary's stick, but on no account is the player allowed to put his stick over the back of his adversary's pony.
8. No player having gone through the ball & lost possession of the ball & finding himself between the ball & his adversary's goal, is permitted to hit the ball unless until he has (at least one player exclusive of the goal keeper) or one player between him & the hostile goal.
9. The colours of the Club to be blue & yellow.
10. In all matches, each side shall provide an umpire, who on detecting any irregularity or infringement of the above rules, shall be empowered to suspend the game until the irregularity has been corrected.

THE FIRST SET OF POLO RULES DRAWN UP BY MR. E. HARTOPP ABOUT 1869.

and he became commander of the Gendarmerie instead. He foretold the disaster at El Teb where 5,000 Egyptians who had been sent in chains from Cairo to oppose the up till then undefeated Dervishes, were almost totally annihilated by the fanatical warriors of the Mahdi, and from which indeed they were hardly saved by their English leader's skilful handling and devotion. He afterwards acted as chief of the Intelligence Department with Graham's expedition,



great leader of men. He was a generous, brave, and kind-hearted man, who was worshipped in the Tenth, and although, like another brave and neglected Englishman's, his body lies beneath a Southern sky, his memory will never fade in the regiment he loved, and which adored him in return. The trophy which forms the concluding picture in our article is the Regimental Challenge Cup presented by Lieut. Colonel Baker.

UNIQUE.