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The
R X B
Gazette



A Quarterly Chronicle
OF
Soldiering and Sport, &c.,
IN THE
10th Royal Hussars.



Major-General H. R. VISCOUNT DOWNE,
K.C.V.O., C.B., C.I.E.

THE 10TH ROYAL HUSSARS GAZETTE.

A Quarterly Regimental Magazine.

Vol. 1.]

RAWALPINDI, 1ST APRIL 1908.

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MAJOR-GENERAL H. R. VISCOUNT DOWNE, K.C.V.O., C.B., C.I.E.

LORD DOWNE is now on the retired list after a long and distinguished military career.

He commenced his soldiering on the 8th August 1865 as a Cornet in the 2nd Life Guards. He was promoted Lieutenant on the 10th November 1869, and obtained his troop on the 25th June 1873. He was appointed A.-D.-C. to the Major-General Commanding the Cavalry Brigade, Cape of Good Hope, on the 6th April 1879, and served in the Zulu War that year (mentioned in despatches, medal and clasp, Brevet-of-Major).

He was promoted to substantive field rank on the 1st July 1881, to a Lieutenant-Colonelcy in the “Bays” on the 7th August 1886, and transferred to the Tenth four days later. He succeeded to the command, on the retirement of Colonel R. S. Liddell, on the 13th September 1887, and retained it until the 13th September 1892—one year in excess of the prescribed period.

The official statistics of this time are remarkable, showing an absence of serious offences, a minimum of minor offences and unvarying favourable reports of the high state of the Regiment's efficiency; those who remember the busy, though happy times of Hunslow, York, The Curragh and Dublin, do not hesitate to endorse the popular opinion, that Lord Downe was

one of the best Commanding Officers under whom the Tenth has had the privilege to serve. (When located in Hare Park, on the Curragh, the G. O. C. made a special expression of his appreciation of the exemplary behaviour and soldier-like spirit of the Regiment during the exceptionally inclement weather it had been under canvas.)

It was during his command also, *vis.*, from the 17th to the 21st March 1889, that His Majesty The King (then Prince of Wales) took active command of the Regiment and was in quarters with it at York. His Majesty exercised the Regiment on the Knavesmire and made a searching inspection of the stables, troop rooms, etc., and was pleased to express to all ranks his great satisfaction with all he saw during his stay in barracks, and his extreme gratification on the remarkable good conduct of the Regiment.

Lord Downe served on the Staff of the Major-General Commanding the Cape of Good Hope until August 1882; as A.-D.-C. to the Major-General Commanding in Bengal from November 1883 to October 1885; and was attached to the Marquess of Northampton's special Mission to Spain in 1881.

On the expiration of his command of the Tenth, he was appointed A.-D.-C. to Field Marshal H. R. H. The Duke of Cambridge, the Commander-in-Chief.

He commanded the Cavalry Brigade at The Curragh from 1897 to 1899 and again in 1901 with the rank of Brigadier-General.

He served in the South African Campaign as A.-D.-C. to Field Marshal Lord Roberts and in charge of the Foreign Military Attachés (twice mentioned in despatches, medal with 5 clasps ; C. B.).

He retired on the 30th July 1902 after serving 36 years 257 days.

He is one of the Stewards of the Jockey Club, has attained some successes on the Turf, and is an enthusiastic supporter and follower of fox-hunting.

Editor's Notes.

THE long-looked-for rain, the first for five months, fell on the 9th January, the following day, and at intervals on six subsequent days; it was much needed and, besides rejoicing the hearts of the native agriculturists, greatly improved the appearance and prospects of our gardens. The Squadron gardens were also given a fillip, and immediately efforts were to be observed in some, doubtless with an eye to the Spring Show.

THE concerts which have been customarily given weekly by the Regiment were resumed on the 10th January, under the able management of Captain Rose, assisted by Mr. Wade, S. Q. M. S. Black, and Bandsman Scales. Despite the appearance of the rains on that date, a large audience filled the Regimental Theatre, and were amply repaid for braving the inclement weather by the following programme :—

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

1. MARCH ... "Entry of the Gods" ... *Wagner.*
(from *The Rhinegold*)

THE BAND.

2. SONG (Comic) "I'm Aristocratic"
S. Q. M. S. G. BLACK.

3. SONG (Sentimental) "In the Twilight"
GR. BROOKS, R.A.

4. FANTASIA ... "Alpine Echoes" ... *Herfurth.*
THE BAND.

5. SONG (Comic) "Keep on doing it, Sandy, Oh!"
SERGT. FRISBY.

6. SELECTION ... "Life on the Ocean" ... *Binding.*
THE BAND.

INTERVAL.

PART II.

7. SELECTION ... "Tannhäuser" ... *Wagner.*
THE BAND.

8. SONG (Comic) "The Gladiator"
BDSM. DURKIN.

9. DOUBLE TURN ...

MESSRS. CAMPBELL & SKARRATS.

10. SONG (Comic) "Waltz me' round once again, Willie."
S. Q. M. S. G. BLACK.

11. MARCH ... "Oh! You Women" ... *Lincke.*
THE BAND.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

It would be invidious to single out as conspicuous any of the artists; it is only necessary to say that all were up to their well-known form.

Subsequent concerts were given weekly during the months of February and March, and Captain Rose is given the thanks of the Regiment—which have been so well earned—for the entertainment he has provided.

Valuable assistance from outside has been rendered by Mrs. Sanders, whose vivacious rendering of songs from "The Belle of New York" and "Floradora" afforded much pleasure, and invariably created a demand for more; by Mr. Bird, of the Sappers, whose violin solos proclaim him of a rank far above the ordinary amateur, and evoked the most vociferous plaudits of the audience.

Our wish is that we may hear them frequently in the future.

THE concert of the 17th January served as the occasion of the *début* of Sergt. Curtis. He at once jumped into favour, and has sung at every concert since. Much surprise was expressed that his light should have been hidden so long and so successfully, but his artistic sense of the humorous, as displayed by his quiet gestures, his immobility of feature, and general style, did not astonish those who remember his appearance, at Malmesbury, Cape Colony, when he as Judge and Bandsman Durkin as the Policeman in "Black Justice" kept the audience, largely composed of reputedly stolid Dutch folk, convulsed with laughter during the whole time taken by the very funny burlesque.

Many would like to sit out again.

Sergt. Curtis is acting as Stage Manager in S. M. Black's absence.

A VERY smart and pretty wedding was that of Sergt. Graham and Miss Ivy Curtis, the daughter of Conductor Curtis of the Ordnance Department, who, as an old Seventh Hussar, soldiered with us in the early eighties.

The ceremony was enacted in the Garrison Church on the 23rd January, the Rev. Mr. Wheeler, Chaplain to the Forces, being the officiating clergyman.

A numerous gathering of the friends of the bride and bridegroom attended the service. A party of 24 of the Sergeant-Majors and Sergeants of the Regiment, strengthened by members of the Sergeants' Mess of the Royal Artillery, and representatives of the Ordnance Department in Review Order, lined the aisle, and a choir, formed of N.-C. Os. and men of the Regiment, supplied the musical portion of the service, with good effect. Mr. Bacon, Army Schoolmaster, who did duty with the Regiment in Cahir, 1893-94, presided at the organ.

On the departure of the bridal party, an arch of swords was formed by the party in the aisle, under

which they passed out of the church, and entered their carriages: these were escorted by 12 of the bridegroom's brother N.-C. Officers, mounted on greys. The carriage of the bride and bridegroom was driven by Sergt. Paskell, that of the bridesmaids by Sergt. Dixon.

They drove, followed by the whole company, by way of The Mall, to the Masonic Hall.

The accommodation of the building was taxed to its uttermost by the large number of guests, who greatly admired the wedding presents laid out here for their inspection.

The usual photographic group was taken, and the happy couple left by the evening train for Lahore, where the honeymoon was spent.

We wish Mrs. Graham a long and happy time with the Regiment, and, if there is any reliance to be placed in the proverb that "happy is the bride the sun shines on", this wish will be realised, for the rain which fell heavily until 2 o'clock, and the angry-looking clouds which threatened a continuation of it, cleared as if by magic at that hour, and brilliant sunshine prevailed for the remainder of the day.

We must not omit to mention that Sergeant Ward filled the rôle of "best man" with the assurance to be expected from one so well acquainted with the "aids".

THE annual inspections of the Regiment were made by Major-General Stratford Collins, Commanding the Second (Rawalpindi) Division, on the 23rd January, and by Major-General J. E. Nixon, C.B., Inspector-General of Cavalry, on the 20th and 21st March.

REGIMENTAL SERGEANT-MAJOR GORDON and Corporal Sellars are congratulated on their successes in the Royal Irish Regiment Annual Rifle Meeting.

THE enterprising native burglar has been amongst us again. On the night of the 31st January—1st February, at about 2-30 A.M., Mr. Littlewood was aroused from his slumbers by his *chaukidar* loudly shouting "*loose-wala-loosewala-chalo-chalo.*" Mr. Littlewood at once snatched his sword blade and ran into the dining room to which the intruder had gained access by forcing the padlock which secured the back door. The thief, on entering the room, had taken the precaution of opening the French windows giving on to the verandah, and escaped that way as the Riding Master entered the room. The night was intensely dark, and pursuit hopeless.

Since then four fresh attempts have been made to enter the same bungalow, but were frustrated on each occasion by the vigilance of the *chaukidar*.

On three nights the Civil Police guarded the bungalow, action of which the marauders were probably well posted, for they did not put in an appearance on either occasion.

Eight men have been convicted of burglaries since, and it is hoped that this will have a deterrent effect upon those still at large.

An important change in the "Rules for the Management of Regimental Institutes" has been introduced, and had effect in the Regiment on the 28th January.

The authorities have at last recognised that the soldier, as well as his civilian brother, is a reasoning as well as a reasonable individual, who can be entrusted with the option of providing himself with liquid refreshment other than beer.

By an order of the Commander-in-Chief the sale in the liquor bar, and with his evening meal in the supper bar, of whisky and soda, and of gin and soda, has been approved, and the measure has given much satisfaction, although very little advantage has been taken of it, in fact only about from a dozen to a dozen and-a-half "pegs" have been consumed daily.

After all this is only a reversion to an old order of things in this country. When the Regiment last served in India rum pegs were sold in the Regimental Institutions, and were known by the euphonious name of *snitchers*. The last of our regimental doctors could never remember this name, and always referred to them as *snipers*.

In the hot season many men suffered from boils, which they attributed to eating mangoes, and frequently the eruptions prevented them from riding. On reporting themselves at Hospital, it was Surgeon-Major Berkeley's invariable custom, after learning the opinion of the men as to the cause of their inability, to turn to the Apothecary (which was the official title of the Assistant Surgeon in those days) and say to him, "Do you take *snipers* with your mangoes, Mr. Barker"? and this became a catch-phrase in the Regiment.

Of course Mr. Barker's reply was an emphatic "No, Sir."

It remains to be seen whether innovation will result in the appearance of boils this coming mango season: judging by the present very small indulgence in *snitchers* it is almost safe to predict that no unpleasant effects will follow, and that the blame, if any, as in former days, lies with the mischievous mango.

MR. BRADSHAW, formerly Regimental Sergeant-Major of the Regiment, now President of "The Old Comrades Association," wishes it to be announced that the next gathering of The Old Comrades of the Regiment will take place in the "Trocadero" Restaurant on the 2nd June, when, he hopes, that all Officers and N.-C. Officers at home will be present.

It is unnecessary to refer to the effect for good by keeping up the old bonds of regimental friendship, and in encouraging and fostering true *esprit de corps*, that these annual gatherings of the past and present members of the Regiment produce.

Several of us have had opportunities of attending them and have realised how old Tenth who left the Regiment two or three decades ago make it their greatest boast that they were of the Regiment, and how they claim that they are still Tenth Hussars.

We have witnessed the pride with which they recount the deeds of the Regiment in their day, and the incredulity with which they receive the assertion that it is as efficient now as then.

They listen, however, with unstinted attention to the relation of more recent events recounted by participants in them, and feel as keenly as they did when serving, respecting all regimental matters.

Their devotion to the Regiment, their obvious pleasure at meeting those still serving, and the undoubted effect of their fealty in inspiring the younger members to emulate them in preserving the old traditions, are convincing that, beyond the social feature of these meetings, they are potent agents of all that is good.

MR. BRADSHAW also sends an announcement of a Grand Smoking Concert to be held under the auspices of the combined Old Comrades of the Cavalry, of the Committee of which he is the Chairman. It will take place at the Holborn Restaurant on the 10th April. The profits realised will be given to the Fund being raised for the benefit of the Crimean and Mutiny Veterans.

Some of our N.-C. Officers who are at home, and resident in London, will probably attend the Concert, the charge for admission to which is one shilling.

ANOTHER scheme, with an Advisory Board, of which Mr. Bradshaw and a former S. Q. M. Sergeant of the Regiment (Mr. Gerard) are Members, is one for the establishment of a new Club to be called "The Veterans' Club": the proposed site is in the Kingsway, and the estimated cost £15,000. The Club will be for the use of retired soldiers, and on the same lines as the Union Jack Club.

In pursuance of the powers conferred upon them by the Territorial and Reserve Forces Act, the Army Council have made schemes for the establishment and constitution of a Territorial Force Association for the Counties of Great Britain.

Among the names of Chairmen which appeared in the *London Gazette* of the 14th January, the following are included:—

NORTHAMPTON.

Major-General the Rt. Hon. The Viscount Downe, K.C.V.O., C.B., C.I.E.

OXFORD.

The Rt. Hon. The Viscount Valentia, C.B., M.V.O., M.P.

Lord Downe commanded the Regiment from 1887 to 1892, and subsequently served in the campaign in South Africa.

Lord Valentia served as Cornet and Lieutenant in the Regiment from 1864 to 1872, and has since commanded his County Yeomanry.

Both these Officers have ever taken the keenest interest in all service matters, and with their ripe experience enabling them to form practical decisions on all military questions, the Associations of their Counties cannot fail to do well.

THE 2nd Battalion Gordon Highlanders, marching through from Peshawar for Jullundur on relief, were, on arrival at Rawalpindi on the 3rd February, ordered to "stand fast".

They hoped they would participate in the Zakka Khel expedition, but after a stay in the station of a fortnight, were ordered to proceed to Calcutta.

This has afforded the Battalion an opportunity of renewing with the Tenth the associations of 1878-79, when, as the 92nd Regiment, they served with us in the Afghan Campaign.

THE following N.-C. Officers and men have left the Regiment for England during the last quarter:—

*In the Transport "Rewa" from Karachi on
16th January.*

No. 4502 Private Rogers.	No. 4507 Private Bowden.
" 4549 " Bacon.	" 4547 Lce.-Cpl. Gemmell.
" 4537 " Austin	" 4539 Private Kimmens.
" 4561 Lce.-Cpl. Mayes.	" 4572 Lce.-Cpl. Andrews.
" 4594 " Beaken.	" 4757 " Wilkins.
" 5430 " Stephens.	" 4777 " Woods.
" 4513 " Coles.	" 803 " Barnard.
" 4780 Private Gould.	" 4779 Private Durant.
" 4795 " Parham.	" 4723 " Thompson.
" 4528 " Thomas.	" 4552 " Edwards.
" 4545 " Bagnall.	" 4567 " Kennerley.
" 4626 " Sweetland.	" 4717 " Cryer.
" 5414 " Milner.	" 4775 " Harvey.
" 4787 " Johnson.	" 4783 Corporal Skillen.
" 4782 Corporal Seal.	" 5436 Private White and family.

In the "Dongola" from Bombay on 20th February.

No. 4556 Lce.-Cpl. Menage.	No. 4798 Private Masters.
" 4759 Private Crook.	" 789 " Smith.
" 5134 Lce.-Cpl. Clancy.	" 5269 " Webber.
" 5183 " Teale.	

In the "Rewa" from Karachi, 19th March.

No. 5235 Pte. Clancy.
" 4881 " Sutton.

The following N.-C. Officers and men have left for England on furlough. We wish them a very good time and an enjoyable holiday:—

In the "Dongola," 20th February.

No. 3060 Sergt. C. Mitchell.	No. 3566 Sergt. Dixon.
" 3072 " H. J. Payne.	" 4004 " J. Dawson.
" 4036 " G. Quinn.	" 4048 " W. Mitchell.

In the "Plassy," 16th March.

No. 3806 F. S. S. W. Noble.	No. 4921 Corpl. T. Nance.
„ 4881 Corpl. G. Farrant.	„ 5620 Private C. Hadaway.

In the "Rewa," 19th March 1908.

R. S. M. Gordon, Mrs. Gordon and family.
S. Q. M. S. Black, accompanied by Mrs. Black
and two children of S. Q. M. S. Gould.

LIEUT. E. W. WILLIAMS claims the distinction of being the first Officer of the Regiment to attend a course of instruction at the Cavalry School, Netheravon, the most modern of our Military educational establishments. It was opened soon after the termination of hostilities in South Africa, the Commanding Officer of the Tenth at the time being selected as the first Commandant. There are two classes assembled there yearly—one of Subalterns lasting nine months, and one for Sergeants of eight months' duration.

Mr. Williams left Bombay on the Transport *Assaye* on the 7th February to join the Officers' class which commenced on the 2nd March.

LIEUT. AND RIDING MASTER P. THWAITE, who served as a N.-C. Officer in the Tenth, and was promoted to commissioned rank in the 14th Hussars, is one of the Permanent Staff of the School.

ON the 27th February, The Countess of Airlie, accompanied by the The Lady Helen Ogilvy, who are making a brief tour in India, visited the Regiment, and stayed with us until the 9th March. Her visit gave great pleasure to all, and the interest displayed by her in all ranks and the married families was much appreciated. The presence of Lady Airlie in the lines of the Regiment recalled many reminiscences of the time when we claimed her as a Tenth Hussar; and increased our hopes that The Earl of Airlie will, before very long, follow in the footsteps of his father, and become one of the Regiment.

The young Earl was born in the Regiment, in Cahir, on the 18th July 1893, and is at present at Eton. Quite a number of us remember his birth and the gathering which assembled to commemorate it in the Riding School at the famous little Irish town—then a Cavalry Station: we look forward to the early fruition of the promise then made by his father that the boy was, in his turn, to become a Tenth Hussar.

NO. 4367, PTE. E. EVANS was transferred to the Army Reserve on the 15th January, and No. 4568, Pte. W. Gadsden on the 4th February: they are retained in the employ of Lieuts. Chaplin and Williams, respectively.

THE annual exodus of Officers for home was started this year by Major Crichton, who, unfortunately, was compelled to go on medical certificate on account of

trouble with his eye, the result of an unlucky blow from a portion of a fireworks-set last summer. We wish him a speedy relief from the affection. He sailed from Bombay on the 28th March.

THE whole Regiment regrets the extraordinary bad luck of Mrs. Kavanagh, at the Gymkhana, on the 19th March. She rode in the Diana Stakes, a flat race for ladies, and when coming in, an easy winner, about 100 yards from home, her mount jumped the rails sideways, and fell on the near side, with Mrs. Kavanagh underneath. It looked a very bad business, and really was so, as the fair rider sustained a broken leg and a dislocated shoulder bone. We are glad to know that she is making satisfactory progress towards recovery.

IN addition to our allusions to the death of the King's horse *Persimmon*, we have to sympathise with Mr. Bass on his loss of *Sancy*, the five-year-old son of Diamond-Jubilee—dam Agneta. He was purchased by Mr. Bass as a yearling, and was at his best last season, when he just went under to Lally in the Eclipse Stakes at Sandown, but a little later won the Ten Thousand Pounds Jockey Club Stakes. His death was due to valvular disease of the heart.

SERGEANT HARPER proceeded to Nowshera on the 24th March for employment, as a probationer, with the Supply and Transport Department.

WE cull the following from *The Army and Navy Gazette* of the 12th February:—

“The latest addition to the ranks of Regimental journals is *The X. R. H. Gazette*. The journal, which is to appear quarterly, is splendidly got up and illustrated, it having for a frontispiece, of course, a portrait of His Majesty The King, the Colonel-in-Chief.”

“As to the letter-press, every line will, we are sure, be read with interest by all past and present Members of The Tenth.”

SERGT. EVANS with his family, who was sent home on medical grounds a year ago, returned to Karachi on the *Rewa* and rejoined the Regiment on the 14th March, greatly benefited, we hope, by the change.

SERGT. CURL, CORPORALS HARDING AND MARTIN AND TRUMPETER ROGERS returned from furlough in England at the same time, and were warmly welcomed by their comrades.

THE efforts of the Regiment in the various descriptions of sport will be gathered from the reports in the *Gazette*, and of the results none can say that they have not been satisfactory. The Regimental Polo Team deserve all the commendations showered upon them anent their brilliant performances in the Inter-Regimental Tournament.

OBITUARY.

It is with the most profound regret that we have to announce the death of Captain A. G. K. Davies-Cooke, which occurred at Exbury, Hants, on the 24th March.

The deceased Officer was, at the time of the declaration of hostilities against the Transvaal and Orange Free State Governments, serving with the Yeomanry, and was one of the first to volunteer for active service. His services were accepted, and he was attached to the Inniskilling Dragoons, taking part in the protracted operations near Colesberg.

He was gazetted a Second Lieutenant in the Tenth on the 5th May 1900, and took part in the operations in the Orange Free State, including the actions at Poplar Grove and Driefontein; in the Transvaal in May and June 1900, including the actions near Johannesburg, Pretoria, and Diamond Hill; and in Cape Colony, South of the Orange River (medal with four clasps, King's medal with two clasps).

He accompanied the Regiment to India from South Africa in September 1902, and served with it until the 4th October of last year, when, on account of ill-health, he was placed on temporary half pay.

From reports received from England in December, it was hoped that he would again be able to resume his place with us; this, alas, was not to be, and it is now only left to us to deplore his loss, and place on record his excellent qualities. He was a good soldier, an ardent lover of all kind of sport, in many branches of which he took an active part; he will be remembered as a reliable and valuable member of the Regimental Cricket Team, for his assistance with the Regimental pack of hounds at Mhow, and as the owner of *Marquis*, the winner of the Governor's Cup at the Poona Meeting in 1904.

A Memorial Service to mark the Regiment's deep sense of the loss of a beloved comrade was held at Christ Church, Rawal Pindi, on the 27th March. The whole of the Officers, and many of the N.-C. Officers and men attended, and the band of the Regiment provided the choral portion of the service.

The Regiment offers its deep sympathy to Mrs. Davies-Cooke on the loss of her son.

THE Regiment congratulates Mr. Fraser on winning the "Average" Cup, competed for during the cold weather at Calcutta, he having earned the highest number of points during the season. On the last day he rode *Diabolo*.

Also on his winning the Hog Hunter's Cup on the same horse, at Meerut, on the 26th March.

2ND LIEUT. BROCKLEHURST joined on the 18th March, and 2nd Lieut. Alexander on the 25th March. The former was posted to "B" Squadron, the latter to "C."

2ND LIEUT. GORDON-CANNING has been attached to the 18th Hussars, at The Curragh, and will join us next trooping season.

ONE OF THE "TENTH" AT KARA HASSANKOI.

(By an Old War Correspondent.)

THE little town of Kara Hassankoi (the village of the black horse) is in Bulgaria, on the right bank of the Black Lom river, about 30 miles south-east of Rasgrad (on the White Lom) and a little over 40 miles to the north-west of Eski Djuma. These two rivers run nearly in parallel curves from south-east to north-west, with fairly open country between them except towards the south, where there are some terraced heights called Karadirli Tepe.

During July and the early part of August 1877 the Turkish Commander-in-Chief, Abdul Kerim, by the most criminal apathy and negligence of the most ordinary precautions, allowed the Russians to seize and cross the whole line of the Black Lom from the Danube to the Balkans.

When he was relieved by Mehemet Ali Pasha (a German by birth), things began to look better for the Turks.

To justify his selection, the new Commander-in-Chief began by vigorous measures. He drew up a plan of campaign by which the lower parts of the Lom towards the Danube were to be held defensively, while an energetic defensive was to be carried out by his left wing moving from Rasgrad and the White Lom as a base.

This brought on the battle of Kara Hassankoi, which was fought on the 30th of August.

The day was frightfully hot—not a cloud on the face of the sky.

The Russians were commanded by General Leonoff, whose force consisted of about 9,000 Infantry, 2,000 Cavalry, and eighteen guns.

The Turks were commanded by Nejb Pasha, Salih Pasha, and Fuad Pasha; the forces which took part in the battle being about 14,000 Infantry and thirty

guns, with about 1,200 regular Turkish Cavalry ; this last body being under the command of BAKER PASHA, a born Cavalry soldier and leader of men, who had formerly been an Officer in the Tenth Hussars.

At the break of the day on the 30th, Baker's advanced Cavalry, numbering about 300, suddenly stumbled on a body of Cossacks, about six *sotnias*, or 800 strong. The Pasha in command was with his main body, and his advanced party was driven back, with a loss of about forty or fifty in killed and wounded. The Turks came flying back, closely pursued by the Cossacks, and Baker saw them. He deployed the rest of his Cavalry, and falling on the flanks of Cossacks, killed or wounded the greater part of them, putting the rest to flight. This took place near the village of Sadina on the Rasgrad road, and by the time this body of Cossacks were cut up, the battle had become general all along the line.

It was now about eight o'clock in the morning. I was with a battery of Artillery, in a redoubt, on a height, on the Turkish left. In our immediate front, but slightly to our right, was the village of Haidarkoi, further on Kara Hassankoi.

The whole battle field stretched out before us like a panorama, the Lom winding through it like a silver ribbon.

Nejib's Infantry, pushing in on the right, came under the fire of a well concealed Cossack Battery and began to break, when two battalions of Russian Infantry came down on them at the double. Then they fell back, and some of Fuad Pasha's Infantry and guns hammered the two Russian battalions hard on the flank.

It was now getting on towards mid-day, and the heat was terrible. In the very middle of the battle, the Turkish Infantry threw themselves by dozens into the river to cool themselves, burying their heads and faces in the water, and swilling it up like thirsty wild beasts.

At times it was very hard to tell how the fight was going, on account of the dust and smoke, but it was always possible to guess which side was getting the best of it,—by the hoarse, deep, continued roar of the Russian, or the short, sharp yell of the Turk.

Away on the right was the Turkish regular Cavalry; and behind them about 2,000 irregular Cavalry, Bashi-Bazouks. These latter were under command of an old *sowar* of the Indian Frontier Force Cavalry, who called himself Safvet Pasha. He was a most frightful ruffian, but the whiff of battle to him was as the breath of his nostrils, and as a fighting man he had few equals. The only Officer in the whole Turkish Army who could do anything with him or for whom he had any respect, was Baker Pasha.

The Russians fought well; and the line of battle was swaying backward and forward till about three o'clock in the afternoon.

Just then I saw eight Squadrons of Turkish regular Cavalry come out from behind a low round hill on the Turkish right. They were led by a man on a fine grey Arab, the grandest horseman I have ever seen. They came round the hill at a trot, then broke into a gallop and came swooping down on the left flank of the Russian Infantry, tearing through them like an express train through a flock of sheep.

Then the whole line of Turkish Infantry rushed forward, sweeping everything before them, like a raging mountain torrent. There was not, in all the campaign, a better example of the tremendous effect of a successful Cavalry charge.

I could not help watching the man on the grey Arab, and I saw his sabre go sweeping up and down, and all round, like lightning flashes. He made a lane through the ranks of the Russian Infantry in whatever direction he went. Some bodies of Russian Cavalry came out to meet him, and they came into contact in a large field of high maize.

But there was no holding back Baker and his Turks, and the Russian Cavalry was soon tearing back as hard as they could go, to get under the shelter of their guns. The Turkish Cavalry followed them hard, like tigers who had once tasted blood, and longed for more. I saw a shell explode within a few yards of the Pasha; his horse fell, and down he came. That was the end of the grey Arab but not of his master, for Baker was up again in a moment, on the charger of a common Trooper, in the middle of his men, hissing and grunting and hacking like a very Hercules.

The old Artillery Officer, who was standing quite close to me, laid down his field-glasses and said: "I swear by the Great God and the Prophet that the infidel who commands our Cavalry fights with the courage of ten thousand tigers."

"And yet," said a younger Artillery officer, "Allah has smitten the English with such mad blindness, that they allowed a man like him to leave their Army. May dust be on their mouths, and the graves of their fathers defiled by yellow dogs." "Ai-ee," chimed in the veteran of the battery, "he should be one of us in faith, as he is in heart; for the Divine Ali himself would give him to drink from a silver cup, the sweet and pleasant waters of the heavenly streams of Kausar."*

The battle of Kara Hassankoi was won by the Cavalry charge of Baker Pasha's regulars, that is by Baker himself. No man has ever attempted to deny

* The head waters of the River of Paradise, given to the victorious ones (ghazi) by the son-in-law of the Prophet.

this; least of all his opponents, who felt the power of his leadership and the weight of his terrible blows. They paid him the very highest compliment they could think of when they said that he was the "Turkish Skobelev." There was no man who could get such an amount of work out of the Turkish Cavalry, as Baker Pasha: none of their own blood and faith in whom they had such absolute confidence, or for whom they had such respect and admiration.

And the man fully deserved it. He threw himself into their cause with an enthusiasm, an energy, and unselfishness which the grateful Ottomans have never forgotten.

After the war was all over, I was riding along a wheat-field, near Adrianople one sultry afternoon, when the reapers lay under the shade of a tree, listening to the song of a maimed old minstrel, who sang of war, and love, and death.

I joined the party, and asked the minstrel to sing of the heroes of war and he sang of Solyman the Magnificent, Sekunder Bey, and Baker Pasha.

(The above short sketch is given from notes made at the time by the *only* newspaper correspondent who was with the Turks at the battle of Kara Hassankoi.)



Meet of Mr. Chaplin's Hounds at Mona.

A VISIT TO MONA.

ON the 27th of January, in response to a very kind invitation from Captain Loch, a team of Cricketers of the Regiment paid a visit of three days to the Government Remount Farm at Mona, and, as will be seen, a most enjoyable time was spent.

Before describing the events of those three days, it would doubtless interest the readers of the Regimental Magazine to hear a short description of Mona, and the system by which the Remounts we draw from there are produced.

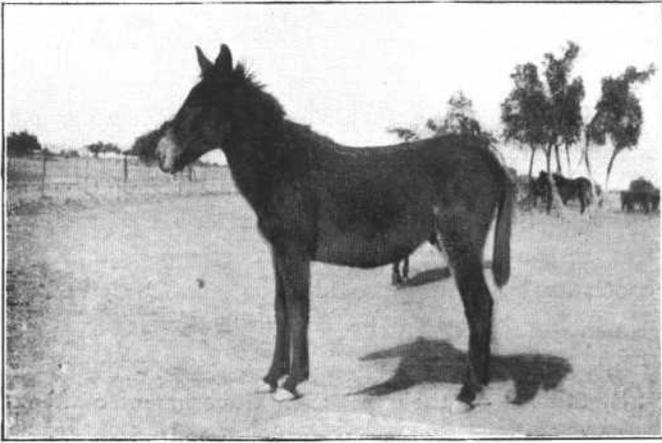
Mona is a large stud farm of 10,000 acres situated on the West of the N.-W. Ry. and on the reclaimed land brought under cultivation by the Jhelum

Canal. Its existence is due to Lord Kitchener's desire to make India self-supporting as regards Cavalry Remounts, in peace and war, instead of being dependent on over-sea shipments.

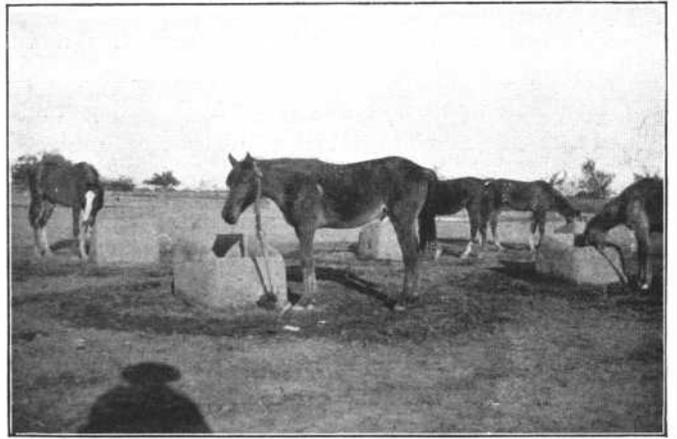
All attempts to make the breeding of country-bred Remounts for British Cavalry successful, have hitherto proved a failure, owing to the expenses of breeding studs being prohibitive.

The present system is for the breeding to be done by the Zamindar or Farmer and the Government to buy likely colts, and run them at Mona until of an issuable age.

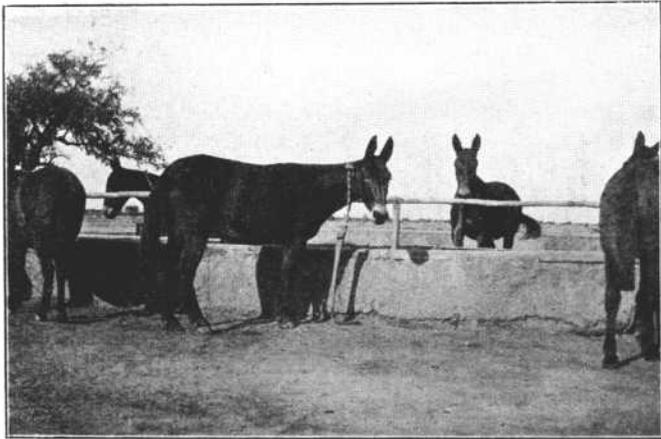
Horse and mule breeding are carried on in certain selected Districts, under the Army Remount Department, *viz.*—Rawal Pindi, Lahore, Baluchistan, Meerut, and the Jhelum and the Chenab Canal Colonies.



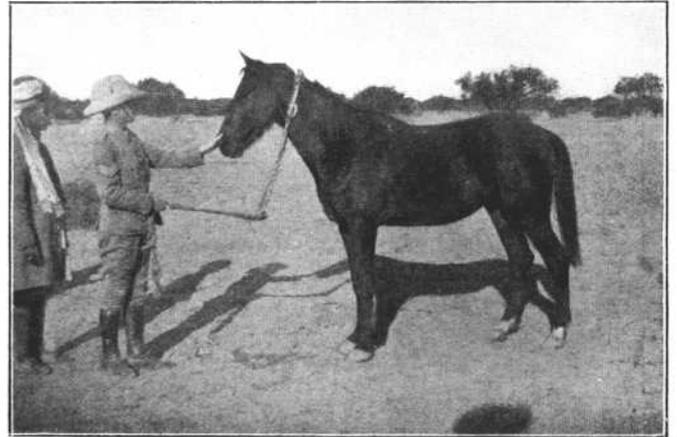
Mule Stag No 1. just arrived in Dépôt, aged 9 months.



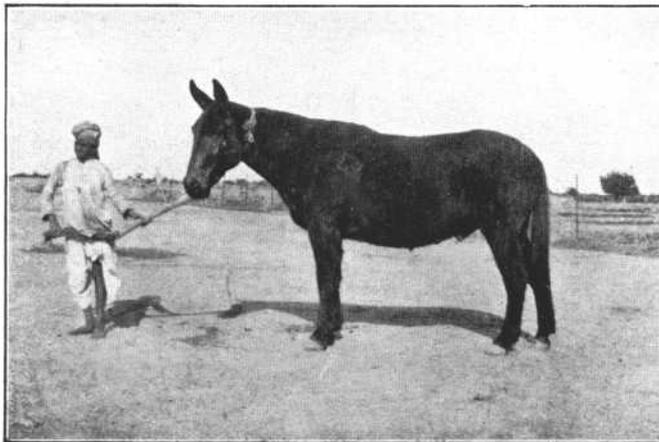
Remounts just arrived in Dépôt.



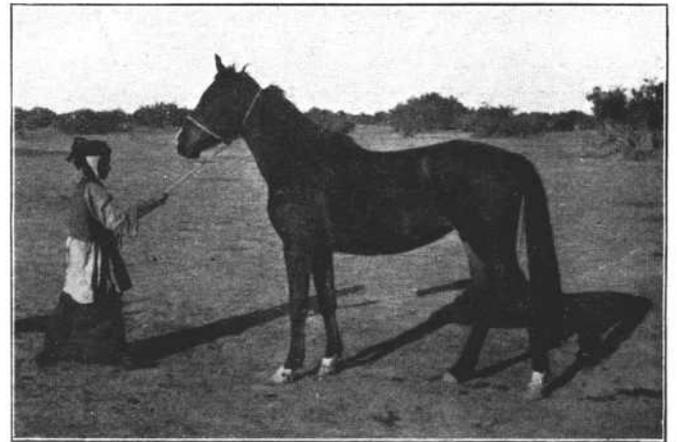
Mule Stag No. 3 ready for issue.



Remount, 3-year old (by Vermail, T. B. E.)



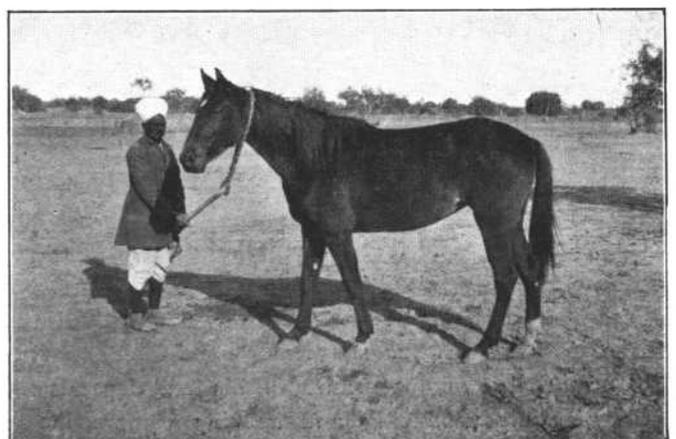
Good type of ordinary Mule, height 16-1, girth 70 inches.



Remount, 3-year old filly (by Galepean, T. B. E.)



Donkey Colt, aged 3 years.



Remount, 4-years old.

Of these districts, Rawal Pindi furnishes a very large number of mules for Mountain Batteries and Transport purposes, also donkeys for breeding mules, and a certain number of likely Cavalry remounts.

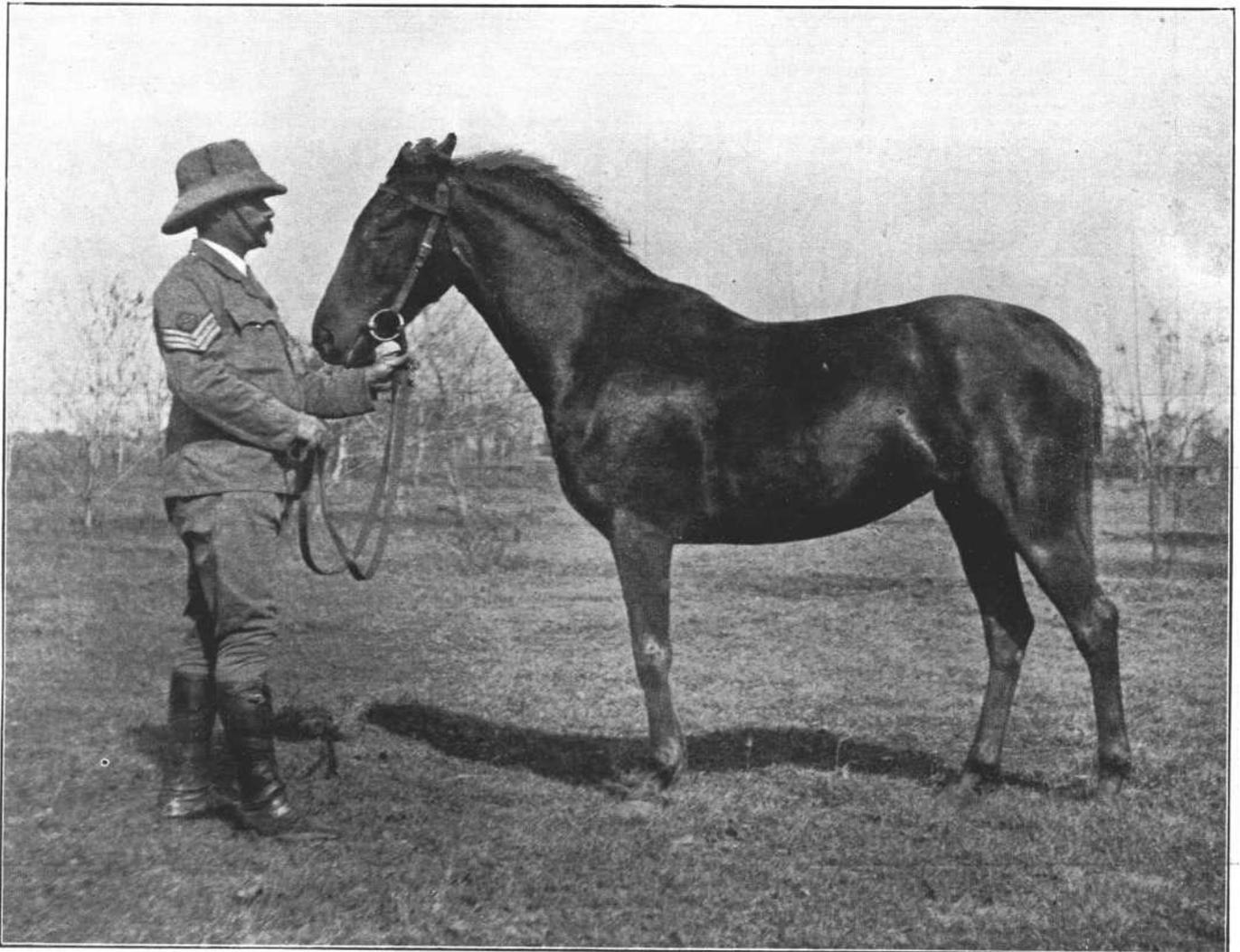
Lahore, Baluchistan and Meerut furnish fair numbers of likely Cavalry remounts, the Chenab Colony large numbers of mules, and the Jhelum Colony by far the largest number of Cavalry remounts.

In the selected districts, stallions are stationed in likely centres, equal proportions of Arabs and thorough-breds being adhered to as far as possible, and every inducement given to the breeder to make

ment Officer in charge, fit to breed British Cavalry remounts.

This means that every Colonist must have a mare of suitable stamp, whose stock he is bound, by the terms of the agreement, to sell, if suitable, to Government at the prices mentioned later on. In short, this means that the Colony is one huge stud farm, consisting of some 3,000 to 4,000 mares, the whole of whose progeny can be bought from Government, if wanted, at fixed prices.

By this means the expense to Government of keeping a large stud of brood mares has been avoided, and although the scheme is only in its infancy, it



Remount ready for issue.

use of these sires, no fees of any kind being charged, the only *sine qua non* being that mares should be branded as suitable by an Officer of the Army Remount Department.

It has been said that by far the greatest number of likely Cavalry horses come from the Jhelum Cana Colony, and for this reason, in this Colony, all the land is held on horse-breeding conditions, that is to say, that a man's tenure of his land depends entirely on his producing and keeping a mare in all respects, in the opinion of the Army Remount Depart-

ment Officer in charge, fit to breed British Cavalry remounts.

Young stock likely to grow into British Cavalry remounts are purchased at all ages, from 9 months to 5 years, and the price allowed is Rs. 12-8-0 per mensem from date of birth or £10 (Rs 150) for a yearling, £20 for a two-year-old, and so on, up to £40 for a four-year-old, but stock is paid for by purchasing officers according to merit, so long as the average price is not exceeded.

Mules of all classes are bought at the following prices:—Ordnance mules over two years, roughly at £20, under one year £8; Transport mules over two years, roughly at £20, over one year £8, under one £5. Transport mules over 2 years are not bought by the Army Remount Department, but by the S. and T. Corps direct.

At present the yearly purchases of young stock for British Cavalry total about 700 (the majority being about 12 months old), the remainder going to Native Cavalry, Police, etc.

This number should be sufficient to supply remounts to all British Cavalry Regiments in India and leave a reserve for emergencies. At present there are about 1,500 young stock horses, which will be issued to British Cavalry at 4½ or 5 years of age, and 1,800 mules—about 900 for Mountain Batteries and the rest for Transport purposes.

There is also at Mona a small experimental stud of 20 mares of pure country-bred blood for the breeding of pure country-bred stallions, but at present it is too early to know if this is going to be a success. There are also 80 donkey mares for breeding donkey jacks, and it is hoped that in future no jacks will have to be imported from Europe and America.

Of the 10,000 acres, about 3,000 are under cultivation—1,000 oats, and the remainder fodder. 2,000 acres are enclosed as paddocks, and the remainder is at present jungle, whence wood and grass are obtained. At present the prices of horses issued are very high, but this is on account of all the new buildings, etc., on the farm having to be paid for, and once this is done a country-bred remount ought not to cost Government more than £50.

Besides Captain Loch, the Superintendent, the Depôt is carried on by a Veterinary Officer, an Assistant Superintendent, a Farm Overseer, an Assistant Surgeon, and five line Overseers with a Native Establishment of about 1,500.

The Overseers are all old Cavalry N.-C. O.s, and they live in comfortable bungalows on different parts of the farm.

When we arrived at Mona on the morning of the 26th, the Officers were put up by Captain and Mrs. Loch and Captain Webb at their bungalows, and the men by the different Overseers, and right royally we were all done.

The first day, being Sunday, we spent in looking over the Depôt, and seeing the different stages of future remounts. We also saw about 63 remounts over four-year old, fit for issue, and out of these Colonel Kavanagh chose 40, the probable number required by the Regiment this spring. A very nice level lot of horses they were too, varying from 14-3 to

15-1½. We noticed that those selected were principally by Arab sires, and certainly they looked a more useful and handier type than those by Waler or English sires.

On the following morning we started off early to hunt jackal, with the hounds Mr. Chaplin had brought with him. We had a most enjoyable morning and two good runs, but hounds were each time disappointed of blood by changing on to buck, of which there were a good many in one part of the Depôt. There were a good many irrigation drains to jump, and a certain number of dirty coats in consequence, and—we are sorry to say—that our hostess, Mrs. Loch, got rather a nasty fall, happily without any serious results.

After returning from hunting, having had an excellent breakfast, we were driven to the cricket field, in the Depôt brakes, drawn by some nice teams, made up of future remounts.

We then began a cricket match against a team of the Depôt.

The cricket ground is a great feature of Mona, and in a few years will be one of the best in India. Captain Badcock, the late Superintendent, was a keen cricketer, and encouraged all to play; in consequence we met a very useful, keen team, who, as the scores will show, defeated us after a capital game, finished on the second afternoon.

On the Thursday morning, we again went out hunting, but this time without much success, as in trying to avoid buck, we avoided jack too, and failed to find any.

That evening we returned to Pindi, full of regrets that our stay at Mona had been so short and feeling most grateful to Capt. and Mrs. Loch, and our other kind hosts for having given us such a good time.

We cannot help thinking that a good Cavalry N.-C.-O., really fond of horses, who does not dislike the idea of remaining on in India, cannot do better than try to get appointed as Line Overseer at Mona, and we were glad to see Sergt. Perley, late of the Regiment, looking so well, and to hear how well he is getting on.

Thus ended a most enjoyable visit, which we hope may be repeated while the Regiment is at Pindi, and we wish we could persuade Captain Loch to bring his team to Pindi, to give us our revenge, and have another pleasant match together.

The photographs we reproduce were taken by Mrs. Loch, and will give some idea of the stock raised at Mona.

CRICKET MATCH.
X. R. HUSSARS vs. MONA DEPOT.

MONA XI.	
1st Innings.	2nd Innings.
Lieut. Hagger, b Price	1 l-b-w. Burt 5
„ Webb, c Burt, b Chaplin	7 c & b Tomsett... .. 35
Mr. Murray c & b Burt	36 b Burt 3
Lieut. Beatty, b Tomsett	9 b Burt 0
Sergt. Perley, b Burt	3 c Mitford, b Chaplin... 13
„ Gates, b Burt	20 b Tomsett 33
Lieut. Anderson, b Chaplin	4 c Burt, b Tomsett 0
Sergt. Cook, b Burt	1 c Tomsett, b Burt 7
„ Walsh, b Chaplin	10 b Price 24
Mr. Goater, b Tomsett	7 not o t 3
Sergt. Cleaver run out	21 c & b Burt 1
Extras	12 8
Total	131 132

X. R. HUSSARS.	
1st Innings.	2nd Innings.
Col. Kavanagh c & b Web.	3 c Goater, b Hagger... 17
Sergt. Mitchell, b Anderson	34 c Cleaver, b Anderson 13
Lieut. Chaplin, b Anderson	19 b Hagger 9
„ Peto, c Walsh, b Ander- son	6 b Hagger 0
Private Burt, b Hagger	0 c Goater, b Hagger. 10
Capt. Matford, b Anderson	5 c Beatty, b Anderson 9
Trumpeter Harding, c Webb, b Gates	25 st. b Hagger 0
Corporal Tomsett, c Murray, b Anderson	44 b Hagger 8
Sergt. Stoven, c Anderson, b Murray	8 b Murray 6
Capt. Rose, c Cleaver, b Webb 1 not out	8 8
Sergt. Price not out	2 b Hagger 3
Extras	12 4
Total	159 87



Cricket Teams : X R. H. and Mona.

**RAWAL PINDI DIVISIONAL
ASSAULT-AT-ARMS,**

The finals in connection with the above were fought off on the 5th, 6th and 7th March.

Charming weather favoured each day's proceedings, and all the attendant circumstances helped to make the Meeting the great success which it undoubtedly was.

Although the Munster Fusiliers and a large number of the Garrison had not returned from what General Startford Collins humorously referred to as the Zakka Khel Assault-at-Arms, the entries were very numerous, and each day's card was well filled.

A great feature of the competitions was the precision and punctuality with which each event came on for

decision : everything appeared to work automatically, and therefore with the utmost smoothness.

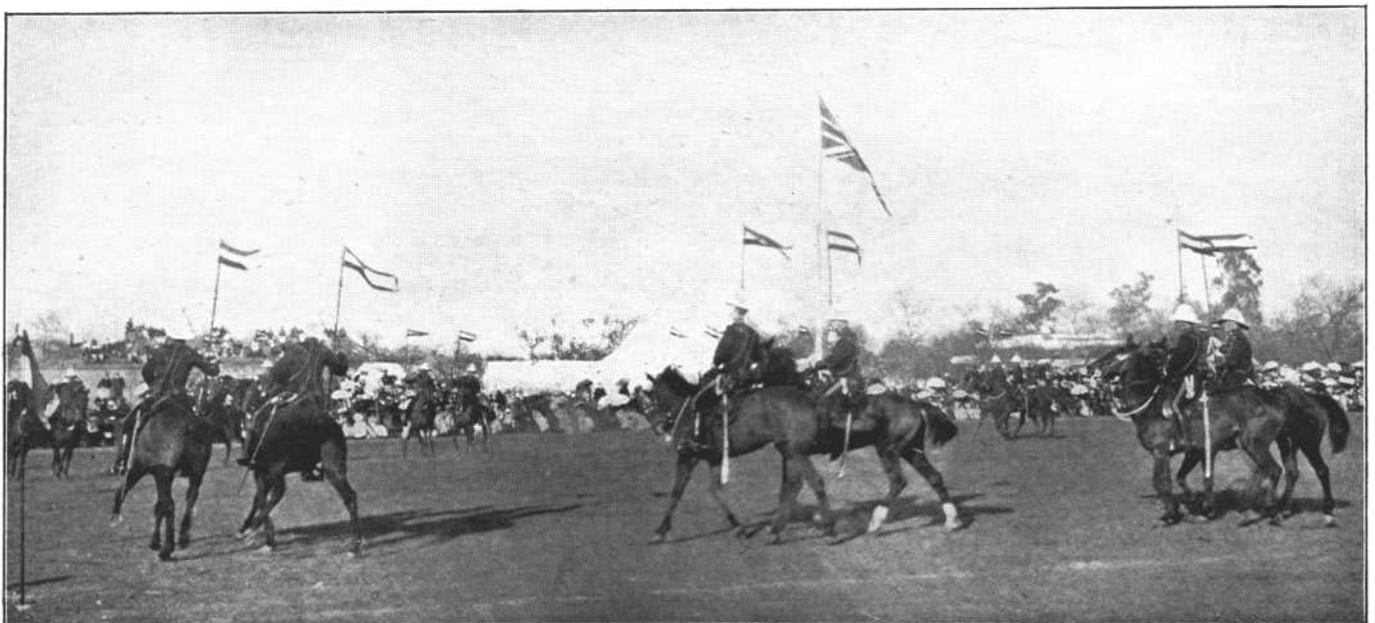
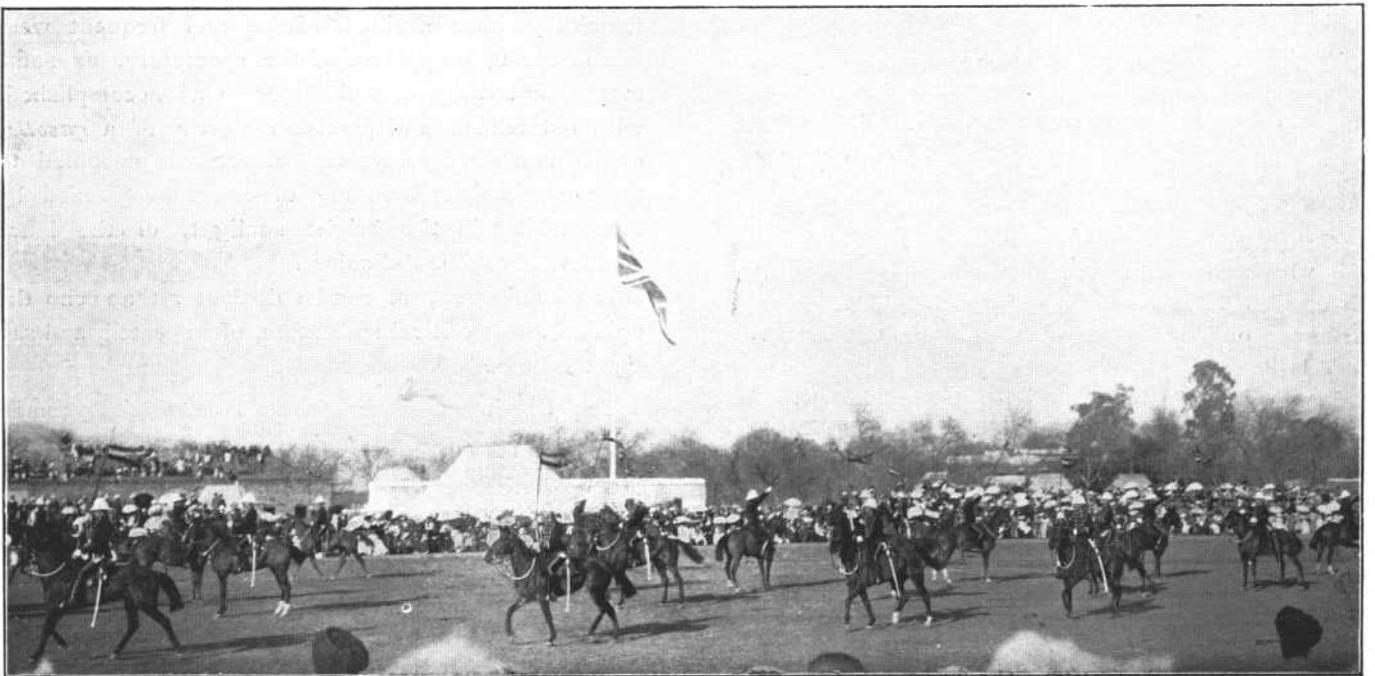
This was due (again quoting the General) solely to the painstaking efforts and thoroughness of the work of the Honorary Secretaries.

To them must be given the credit for the comfort of competitors and spectators, and for the perfect arrangements and general success of the Tournament.

Major Crichton was the Hon. Secretary, he having taken over the duties from Major Munn, 36th Sikhs, when that Regiment was ordered to be in readiness to proceed to the expedition in the Bazar Valley.

The Regiment has every reason to be satisfied with the results obtained by the quota of competitors furnished by it : in every individual event for British W. & N.-C. Officers and Men, firsts were won by

Musical Ride X R. H. Rawal Pindi Divisional Assault-at-Arms.



them, and it is also noteworthy that for the third consecutive year the best man-at-arms of the same ranks has been discovered in the Tenth.

In 1905 at the Bombay Division Assault-at-Arms at Poona, Squadron-Sergt.-Major King earned the title in 1906 at Rawal Pindi; Sergt. Ward gained it; and now again Squadron-Sergt.-Major King wears the much-coveted honor for another year.

Lieut. Littlewood was the best man-at-arms of the British Officers at Poona in 1903 and 1904.

A special medal is given for this distinction by the Committee of the Royal Military Tournament held annually in London.

The following events were won by the Regiment:—

Individual Competition—For British W. and N.-C. O. and Men.

Heads and Posts ... 1st Prize...	S.-S.-Major Cox, X.R.H.
„ 2nd „	Pte. Massy, 12th Lancers.
„ 3rd „	S.-S.-Major King, X.R.H.
Sword vs Sword ... 1st „	S.-S.-Major King, X.R.H.
„ 2nd „	Sergt. Ward, X.R.H.
„ 3rd „	Sgt. Lockyer, 12th Lancers.
Sword vs Lance ... 1st „	S.-S.-Major King, X.R.H.
„ 2nd „	Bombardier Thacker, R.F.A.
„ 3rd „	Pte. Smith, 12th Lancers.
Tent-Pegging with Sword ... 1st „	Corporal Coombes, X.R.H.
„ 2nd „	Sergt. Hill, R.F.A.
„ 3rd „	Pte. Massy, 12th Lancers.
Tent-Pegging with Lance ... 1st „	Sergt. Ward, X.R.H.
„ 2nd „	S. S.-Major King, X.R.H.
„ 3rd „	Pte. Massy, 12th Lancers.
V. C. Race ... 1st „	Pte. Studd, X.R.H.
„ 2nd „	Corporal Loader, X.R.H.
„ 3rd „	Pte. Massy, 12th Lancers

Section Competition.

Jumping and Riding ... 1st Prize ...	„A” Sqdn., 12th Lancers
„ 2nd „	69th Battery, R.F.A.
„ 3rd „	„B” Sqdn., X.R.H.
Tent-Pegging ... 1st „	13th Battery, R.F.A.
„ 2nd „	„C” Sqdn., X.R.H.
„ 3rd „	„C” Sqdn., 12th Lancers

Officers' Competitions.

Heads and Posts ... 1st Prize ...	Lieut. Littlewood
Sword vs Sword ... 1st „	„ Capt. Hon. C. B. O. Mitford.
Riding and Jumping ... 2nd „	„ Major C. W. H. Crichton.
Tent-Pegging with Sword ... 3rd „	„ Lieut. W. P. Littlewood.

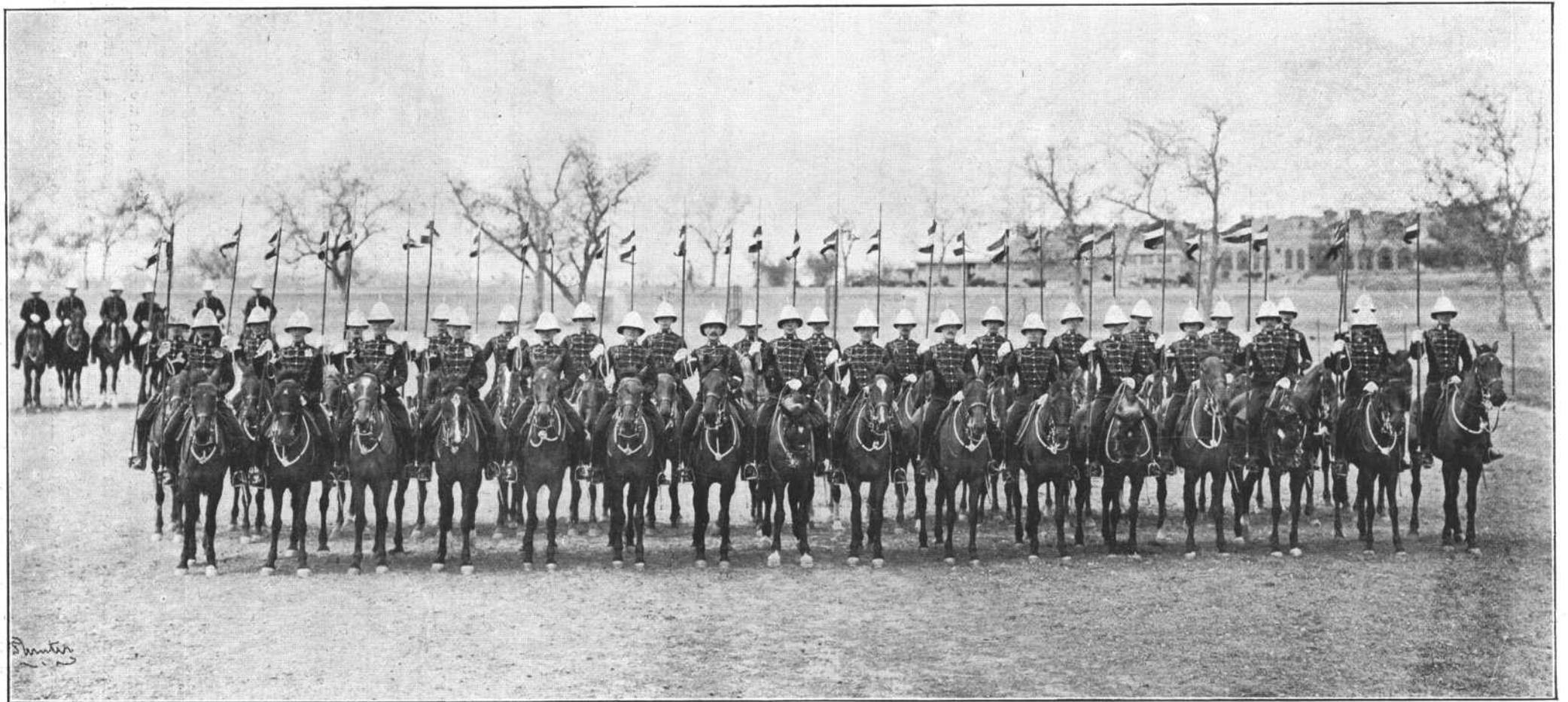
A much-admired number of the last day's card was the musical ride of the Regiment, devised by Riding Master Littlewood, and performed by 32 N.-C. Officers and men. The combinations were quite new, quite pretty, and sufficiently intricate and mazy to display the perfect state of training which the horses and their riders have attained. Loud and frequent were the outbursts of applause of the spectators, as some more than usually difficult figure was accomplished, with a stateliness and precision worthy of a *gavotte*; or when some very involved movement presented to the eye an artistic blending of color, heightened by the flashing in the bright sunlight, of the lance pennons of regimental colors.

In summing up, we cannot do better than echo the opinion of the critical spectators, oft repeated, and say "marvellous."

The Band, under Mr. Wade's *baton*, did yeoman service in playing the incidental music, not only for the Regimental ride, but also for the Musical drive of "V" Battery, and contributed largely to the effect of both.



Balloon Ascent with Telephone.



↑
Sgt. Coughlan VC

Rawal Pindi Division Assault-at-Arms. Musical Ride, X R. H. 1903

FORD OF KABUL RIVER.

The river's up an' brimmin',
 An' there's 'arf a Squadron swimmin'
 Cross the Ford o' Kabul River, in the dark
 You can 'ear the 'orses threshin',
 You can 'ear the men a splashin'
 Cross the Ford o' Kabul River, in the dark.
 Gawd 'elp them if they blunder,
 For their belts will pull them under,
 By the Ford o' Kabul River, in the dark.
 'Im an' 'arf my troop is down,
 Done an' drowned by the Ford
 There's the river loud an' fallin',
 But it ain't no use o' callin'
 Cross the Ford o' Kabul River in the dark.

(KIPLING).

Yesterday was an anniversary of a sombre day in the history of the Regiment.

In the year 1878, when stationed in Rawal Pindi, difficulties which had arisen between the Government of India and the Amir of Afghanistan, resulted in active hostilities, and the Tenth was the first British Cavalry Regiment to take the field.

One Squadron consisting of "E" and "B" Troops marched from the Cantonments, on the 5th October, 1878, and joined the Kurrum Valley Force, commanded by Major-General F. Roberts, V.C., C.B. (Now Field Marshal Earl Roberts, V. C., K. G.,) etc., etc.

The Head-quarters and remaining Squadrons left eight days later, and formed part of the Peshawar Valley Field Force, commanded by Lieut.-General Sir Samuel Browne.

The Squadron took part in many engagements— notably the capture of Kurrum Fort, the Peiwar Kotal, Matun Fort, and the Assault and taking of Ali Musjid, —and on the 28th February 1879, the first Squadron rejoined Head-quarters at Jellalabad.

From that place one Squadron of the Tenth and one of the 11th Bengal Lancers, the whole under the command of Major E. A. Wood (afterwards Commanding Officer of the Regiment) were detailed to cross the Kabul River on the night of the 31st March, with a view of taking up a position on the opposite bank, in anticipation of the probable movements of the Khugiani tribe, which was reported to have assembled at Fattehabad, and against whom, a mixed force, under Brigadier-General Charles Gough, had received orders to proceed early next morning.

While pointing out that the episode afforded many gratifying examples of gallantry in the deeds of Lieuts. Greenwood and Grenfell, and of Private Crowley, who, in an exhausted condition, at the risk of their own lives, re-entered the rushing waters of the river, and saved others; we cannot do better than give a relation of the event, in his own words, of Mr. W. Byartt, formerly Regimental Quarter-Master Sergeant, one of

the survivors, who is still, happily, hale and strong, and doing good work for the Regiment in which he served 28 years.

He says,—

During the latter part of March 1879, the Tenth Royal Hussars being part of the 1st Division, Peshawar Valley Field Force, were encamped at Jellalabad, when preparations were made for moving the Troops under General Sir Sam Browne towards Gundamuk or Safed Koh, and it was known at the time that the Khugiani tribe had assembled in the Fattehabad District, for the purpose of opposing our advance.

Accordingly arrangements were made for carrying out a reconnaissance in force, under the command of Brigadier-General Sir Charles Gough, V. C., and the force was ordered to parade at midnight on the 31st March, with the object of advancing and engaging the enemy during the early hours of the following morning.

A small force of Cavalry, consisting of a Squadron of the Tenth and one of the 11th Bengal Lancers, was ordered to precede the main body at 9-30 P.M., cross the Kabul River, and take up a position in ambush, with a view of intercepting the enemy in the anticipated event of their retreat to the hills.

This party was commanded by Major E. A. Wood of the Tenth.

The Squadrons paraded at the time ordered, and were marched down to the bank of the River, some two miles from Camp, the Bengal Lancers leading.

Owing to the nature of the Ford, the form of which somewhat resembled the letter S., the services of an Afghan guide had been secured to lead the Squadrons across, and he was placed at the head of the column to show the way.

Strict orders were issued to leaders to keep close up, and on no account lose touch, as owing to the melting snows on the mountains above, the river was much swollen, and the current very strong.

Being one of the Regimental signallers at the time I was posted to my own troop, and on leaving camp, in addition to being fully accoutred, and carrying 60 rounds of ammunition, was carrying a heliograph box on my back.

The order of march was in half section, and I was in about the sixth from the front of our Squadron. The night was very dark, the moon, which was in its first quarter, was just sinking below the horizon, as we entered the river.

As far as could be seen we had first to cross a branch of the river, before we came to the main channel, and although this small branch was only a few yards in width, very soon after entering it the horses were off their feet, and had to swim a short distance before touching ground again.

We all got across this in safety, and came to a broad sand-bank, where we were ordered to dismount, tighten girths, etc., and to allow the baggage animals in rear to come up with the column.

During this halt, I was fortunately (in view of subsequent events) instructed to hand over the heliograph box to Private Murrell, taking in exchange, the legs or tripod, which were strapped on the wallets, in front of the saddle: this considerably lessened the weight carried on my back.

After a brief halt, "Stand to your horses, was sounded, quickly followed by "Prepare to mount," and, after a pause "Mount."

The Bengal Lancers had been quicker in getting away than us, and by the time our leading half-section reached the edge of the waters, were part of the way across, still led by the Afghan guide.

On entering water, which was icy cold, I soon realized that something untoward was happening. The four or five half-section in front of me seemed to have disappeared in a most mysterious manner, and my own horse was off its legs, and labouring in the water.

I certainly had no previous experience of swimming horses in service marching order, but, being a strong swimmer, did not lose confidence, and only thought of the unpleasant prospect of being out all night in wet clothing and jack boots full of water.

(Putties were not worn by the men on this occasion.)

Very soon I had a reason to take a less cheery view of things.

Releasing my feet from the stirrups, I stuck to my horse, keeping his head in the direction, as I thought, of the opposite bank: the poor beast was soon distressed, and in difficulties: its hind quarters kept sinking very low, and I was at times immersed up to my shoulders: anon it would appear to recover its balance, and bring its hind quarters almost level, but I began to doubt the possibility of getting the horse across. Not until now did the thought occur to me that something of a serious nature was happening, but even at this time the only sounds audible were the occasional neighing of a horse, and the noise of the rushing water.

In quicker time than it takes to tell the tale, the event I was anticipating happened. The hind quarters of my horse sank so low that it was only with great difficulty that I retained my seat in the saddle, and failing to recover his equilibrium, he turned completely over, in a manner similar to that of a horse which rears and comes over.

Down I went beneath him, and my first thought was that I must get my head above water, and swim to the opposite bank, where I should find my squadron: this, alas, was easier to think of than to accomplish.

The next thought to rise with lightning rapidity in my mind was the advisability of unhooking my sword-belt, and thus free myself from the dragging weight of my sword, which in those days was invariably carried on the shoulder, not as now, on the saddle.

This also I failed to do, in consequence of the fact that I was wearing a sword suspender, by which the belt was secured in front and behind, so I had to make the best of it.

Digressively I may here mention that, when parading for the duty on which we were engaged, I had disobeyed an order of dress, and to this may, undoubtedly, be attributed the fact that I am now writing my experiences in the ford of Kabul River.

In consequence of the severe cold, the order was that the full dress tunic was to be worn under the khaki Norfolk jacket (which was the regimental pattern coat then worn).

Instead of my tunic I wore a thin unlined jacket of blue serge, also a regimental garment of that period.

The reason for mention of this in the middle of my narrative is, that to many readers it may appear incredible that a cavalryman, clothed, armed and equipped according to the regulations of the period, could possibly swim for more than a few moments.

On this occasion, besides the tightly fitting tunic under the Norfolk jacket, the cloth pantaloons, heavy jack boots, and other articles of clothing, each man carried on his body, a well filled haversack, water bottle, pouch belt, sixty rounds of Martini-Henry balled ammunition, sword belt, sword and scabbard; and when later I gazed upon the recovered bodies of my drowned comrades, I was not surprised that so many good strong swimmers, as they were known to be, succumbed to the force of the rushing waters of the river.

To resume; after struggling for a time which appeared many minutes, but was unquestionably only some few seconds, I succeeded in getting my head above water, to find that my own and another riderless horse had kept me under. I then saw two horses immediately beside me, pawing at each other. I at once took a stroke or two, cleared myself of the animals, and commenced an attempt to reach the opposite bank.

Almost immediately I realized that I had taken on something beyond my powers, that I was swimming very heavily, and that the weight I was carrying was rapidly reducing my strength.

The idea quickly occurred to my mind that, in the language of the barrack room, I was "for it," and that the waters of the Kabul River were about to close my brief and happy service of eight and a half years in the 10th Royal Hussars.

The moon had disappeared, and, trying to peer through the darkness of the night, I could see nothing but water in front—not a sign of land—for the first time despair seized me, but, as a last endeavour, turning round in the opposite direction, saw what I took to be the dim outline of a bank: instead of making any progress towards the other side of the river the current had been steadily carrying me back to the side from which we started—needless to say the sight of the bank gave me renewed strength and courage, and, summoning all my powers, I made a last effort to reach it; at this time I was swimming very heavily and was barely able to keep my mouth above water: making a few more desperate laboured strokes, to my great joy the bank loomed up nearer, and more distinct, and still struggling on, my toes at last touched bottom.

I was still far from safety, as I dared not attempt to stand in the 5 feet depth of water,—I was far too exhausted and pumped out, and the current, which was running at a rate of about seven miles an hour, too powerful for me, with the remnant of strength left to resist; I therefore continued swimming, and with a few more strokes reached the bank, and dropped on my knees, absolutely done.

I then perceived on the bank above me the figure of a man, but could not, try as I would, call out to him: remaining therefore on my knees, with the water up to my chin, after a few moments, I recovered sufficiently to crawl on hands and knees up the bank.

I then at once recognised the man who I had seen from the river as my signalling comrade, to whom I had handed over the heliograph box—"Coster" Murrell. He was in shirt sleeves, and appeared bewildered. His first words were:—"Is that you Billy?" to which I replied: "Yes, Coster, old boy, it is, and a pretty bad time I've had. I thought it was all up with me. "Yes, Billy, and I also have had a stiff fight for it, especially with the *bloomin'* helio box on my back." I then said, "I wonder what's happened, old man, I believe a lot of our boys must be drowned,—well, if they've had anything like my experience, I'll back there's a dozen gone under." Little did we imagine that the toll of lives exacted by the ruthless waters amounted to no less than forty-seven; all gallant fellows and tried soldiers.

The whole affair was so unexpected and had happened so quickly, one couldn't concentrate one's thoughts even to think of it coherently.

We pulled ourselves together; listening we thought we heard distant cries for help; we shouted out "Who's that? Do you want help?" but there was no response; the rushing icy waters had closed over the expiring appeal.

Just then we came across another comrade—Tom McIntosh who had succeeded in reaching the shore;

he was occupied in an attempt to get his horse out of the river: it was near the bank and plunging.

The water carried the animal away down stream and out of sight, but it eventually got out and returned to Camp.

Later we encountered two others who had managed to swim to safety—Privates Lynch and Purkiss—and we held a consultation as to the best thing to do.

Above the roar of the river, we heard from the opposite side the Regimental Call and "Fall In," but compliance on our part was impossible.

Soon after we observed a mounted man and a guide crossing towards us from the far side of the river, and they proved to be the Afghan guide and a N.-C. Officer of the Bengal Lancers, who brought an order from the Squadron Leader that any man with his horse was to return with them and rejoin what was left of the Squadron.

Three men of the rear guard, who had not entered the water, were found, and conducted across in safety.

The order for those who had lost their horses was to return at once to Camp.

We had now been joined by a fifth survivor—Sammy Gale—and we considered the matter of getting back, our chief difficulty being the passage of the branch of the river to which allusion was made above.

It can be imagined that neither of us yearned for more swimming, and, providentially, when we reached the piece of water which had to be crossed to regain the road to Camp, we encountered an Afghan in possession of a *shinas* or inflated goatskin on which the natives of the country are accustomed to float down the rivers.

We lost no time in securing the individual, and in default of our ability to converse with him in Pushtu, I, the only one of the party in possession of a sword, found that weapon very convincing in lucidly explaining to him that we desired him to guide us across the water. This he did, and we moved on towards the Camp.

When about half-way we met a party of the Regiment under a Sergeant making its way to the river, to ascertain what had happened, as a number of wet and riderless horses had already arrived in Camp.

The Sergeant (since deceased) met us with—"All right my lads, turn back; your horses are being brought down to the river for you." What an alluring prospect for us—soaked to the skin, exhausted, nearly frozen, minus helmets, arms, etc.,—to go back.

Fortunately, at this juncture, a Staff Officer appeared, and ordered us to continue our journey to the Camp, which we did and were interviewed by the Colonel, Lord Ralph Kerr; he sent us to our tents to change our clothing at once, and Lieut. the Hon.

H. T. Allsopp sent us a generous supply of hot water from the Officers' Mess, as well as a stiff brandy peg each.

After changing, bathing and disposing of the brandy pegs we had time to talk over and review the events of the evening.

In the meantime two or three others returned to Camp, of whom I can recall the names of Shoeing-smith Goddard and Private Patrick Crowley.

The latter had had a very severe struggle, and in addition assisted Lieut. (since Colonel) the Hon. J. P. Napier to get out of the river.

The following day elephants were employed to search for the bodies of the drowned, and nineteen were recovered, including that of Sub-Lieut. Harford, who had only recently joined the Regiment from England.

They were, in many instances, terribly disfigured by kicks. The bodies were sewn in blankets and committed to the earth in one grave in Jellalabad Cemetery.

Some were never recovered, some were found many miles away from the Ford, down the river.

The sad affair naturally cast a gloom over the Regiment, which was not dispelled during the Campaign.

In conclusion it may be said that the reconnaissance in force was carried out, and resulted in the complete defeat and overthrow of the Khugianis.

Until quite recently four survivors of this terrible disaster were residing in London, near each other; *viz.*—the writer, Sergt-Major Gale, Sergt. Murrell and Shoeing-smith McIntosh.

Sergt. Murrell, famous in the Regiment as an efficient Drill Instructor, good swimmer, and all round athlete, died some three years ago.

FOOTBALL NOTES.

THE standard of football in the Regiment, at the present time, is worse than it has been for years: most of the old players have left, and very few of the new men play; what is worse, very few of them display the least interest in it. This is not as it should be: the Regiment has always been to the fore in football, and ought to get there again; but this is impossible unless the drafts that come out every winter play the game and display an active interest in it.

Very few matches have been played, as the season has been rather broken up, but a team was entered in the "Murray Cup Tournament."

The Royal Irish Regiment was met on our ground; a very large crowd of spectators attended.

The Royal Irish attacked most of the first half, and showed very good combination; the whole forward line worked well and the halves fed them well; had it not been for our two backs (Sergt. Morgan and Pte. Hadaway) tackling and kicking magnificently, and a marvellous exhibition of goal-keeping by Sergt. Dixon, the score would have been very heavy: as it was only one goal was scored. The Irish outside right swung the ball across the goal, and the Irish centre drove it into corner of the net, far out of Dixon's reach.

In the second half we had more of the game, and soon after the re-start the ball was sent to Burt, who took it up the side line, and centred beautifully; a *melee* ensued in front of goal, which resulted in the ball being netted. This encouraged our men, and they gave the Irish defence a very warm time for ten minutes; the defence however prevailed—the whistle then blew for time, the score being 1—1.

Extra time was played, and about 5 minutes after play was resumed, the Irish forwards swept the ball down the field and their centre half netted from 15 yards out, with a high drive, with which Dixon had no chance.

No further score occurred, and the Royal Irish were left the winners by 2—1.

Our goal-keeper was very good, and the backs played magnificently, but the halves were weak and too slow for the opposing forwards; they fed their forwards badly, kicked much too widely, and kept the ball in the air instead of on the ground. Liley was the best of the three.

The forward line was also weak, the centre never acted as a pivot, entirely failed to keep the line together, and never went straight for goal, but twisted and turned, and often lost the ball further from goal than when he received it; he's a very clean dribbler, but will never be any good until he learns to go straighter for goal and shoot oftener.

The inside forwards did not feed their outsides enough, and didn't shoot enough; both outside men played very well indeed, but were not fed enough, and often their centres went begging, through the insides not being up.

However the whole team, which was composed as follows, are young, and are bound to improve:—

Goal:—Sergt. Dixon: Backs:—Sergt. Morgan and Pte. Hadaway; Halves:—Trumpeter Harding, Ptes. Liley and Hogg; Forwards: Ptes. Burt, Smith, Pollock, Morris and Reardon.

THE annual "Troop Cup" competitions, played during the months of January and February were productive of some good displays by the rival teams, and as the scores indicate some very keen and level contests.



"C" Squadron 3rd Troop Football Team, X R. H., Winners of Annual Troop Cup Competition, 1908.



PAARDEBURG BALL.

THE members of the Sergeants' Mess gave a most successful dance, in celebration of the anniversary of the final victorious assault on General Cronje's position at Paardeburg, on the night of the 26th-27th February. The original intention was that the event should be held to commemorate the battle of El-Teb, on the anniversary of that action, but as it fell on Saturday, the idea was relinquished for a Paardeburg dance.

The scene of the function was the Sergeants' Mess rooms, admirably adapted for the purpose, but even *its* spacious accommodation barely provided sufficiently for the large number of guests who responded to the invitations of the hosts. If numbers in any way serve as an indication of popularity, then our gallant Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officers are pre-eminently regarded with approval by their military comrades and civilian friends of Rawal Pindi.

At half-past nine, when the first dance was announced, the ball room was well filled by an ever-increasing company, who unquestionably enjoyed the programme provided for them.

Our Colonel and Mrs. Kavanagh, Miss Nugent, the Officers of the Regiment, Colonel Delamain and Mrs. Delamain of the 11th K. E. O. Lancers, and Officers and N.-C. Officers of every unit in the station were present; the bright and beautiful dresses of the ladies and the varied uniforms of the soldiers forming a kaleidoscopic scene, at once brilliant and most pleasing to the eye. Even the more sombre orthodox kit of the civilians enhanced the effect of the picture, as it served as a foil to the brighter hues worn by the ladies and the military garb of the soldiers.

That the string band of the Regiment was up to its usual excellent form need not be said, nor that it added largely to the pleasure of the votaries of the dance.

The wants of the inner man (we never refer to the fairer sex in connexion with such subjects) were well catered for in spacious tents and in the auditorium of the Theatre: very great credit is due to the Dance Committee, composed of Sergt.-Major Black, Sergeants Fewster, Salter and Maher, and Armourer-Staff Sergt. Wheaton for the excellence of the arrangements generally, which could only have resulted from much work and consideration of details.

The hope was expressed by all present that this is only the pioneer of other similar assemblies, with the same hosts and the same and other guests.

RACING NOTES.

SINCE our last edition, a good many wins have been credited to the Regiment at Lucknow, Umballa,

Meerut, and Rawal Pindi, and, in addition, we have more than held our own in the local Gymkhanas, which, as a rule, have been held once a fortnight.

Mr. Chaplin's Myrtle, Little Gallant, Brown Boy, and Avatar have all scored in their turn, and, in addition, Avatar won the Great Oudh Handicap at the Lucknow Spring Meeting, ridden by Captain Annesley, and beating that well-known pony Dilerjung by a head.

We are sorry to think that one well-known pony will no longer be seen at our local meetings, as Colonel Kavanagh's pony Money Spinner was sold to the Nawab of Bhopal, after winning a race at the Meerut Meeting.

He was an old-fashioned, high caste, flea-bitten grey Arab, who proved himself a perfect gold mine to his owner. He was one of the first Arabs bought by the Regiment on arrival in India, having been bought for Rs 1,300 by Captain Pelham from Captain Matthew-Lannowe, of the 4th Dragoon Guards, at the Delhi Durbar. Colonel Kavanagh bought him for the same price from Captain Pelham, and for his new owner he won over Rs. 6,000 in stakes, winning important races all over India, besides many Gymkhanas, and playing polo continually at the same time.

We hope he will have a happy life at his new home, and wish we could find a few more like him; but they are few and far between.

Mr. Fielden, on his country-bred pony Richmond, made a big bid to follow in Mr. Williams' steps of last year, and win the Punjab Army Chase, as he was only beaten, after a good race, by Mr. Reynard, of the 12th Lancers' Arab pony Zoowar.

This pony was to have been ridden by Captain Annesley, but we are sorry to say that a bad fall at Umballa, in a hurdle race, has kept him out of the saddle for over a month; and, though better, he has by no means recovered, and, we think, will need a spell of leave at home before he is right again. He has been riding with great success this year, and now has no superior among amateur riders in this country. Indeed, we think the Regiment may congratulate themselves on the riding talent among the junior officers, and, besides, Captain Annesley, Captain Gibbs, Messrs. Peto, Wilson and Fielden can all hold their own among the best of amateurs.

Our Spring Meeting, which is just over, has been a great success, and all agree that it has in every way been the best meeting held here for many years.

This is in a great measure due to Captain Gibbs, who has recently taken up the Honorary Secretaryship; and we congratulate him on this and on his victory on his horse, Refuge Bay, in the principal Steeplechase Open to Horses at the Meeting.

Though not quite coming under the head of legitimate racing, we cannot close these notes without congratulating Major Shearman on his victory in the Staff College Point-to-Point Race at Umballa, and Mr. Fraser on his victory on Diabolo in the Houghunter's Cup at the Kadir Meeting, and on winning the Paper Chase Average Cup at Calcutta on the same gallant horse.

We must confess that when Mr. Fraser bought Diabolo, we did not like him; he was then a big baby, high on the leg, who looked as if he would never grow down and finish. In spite, however, of frequent journeys round the Steeplechase course, either leading all sorts of other horses or giving his sporting owner an almost daily private school on his own account or running in every sort of race, he has grown the right way, and proved himself an honest, genuine horse, a good stayer, and a reliable jumper, and a very awkward customer to tackle over a country, and we wish now we could find a few more like him.

PERSIMMON.

THE Regiment regrets the death of His Majesty's famous horse, Persimmon, one of the greatest equine giants of modern times. Persimmon was bred by the King; and his dam, Perdita II, also gave His Majesty, Florizel and Diamond Jubilee, all by St. Simon, three brothers, whose deeds on the turf will live long in the memory of sportsmen.

The blue riband of 1896, which was won by Persimmon, was a never-to-be-forgotten occasion on account of the scene of enthusiasm which followed the decision of the race. For many minutes the vociferous plaudits of the heterogeneous assemblage which forms a Derby crowd were continued, the like of which has probably never been heard before on any race-course, and the climax of the event was reached when His Majesty (then the Prince of Wales) walked into the centre of the square outside the saddling paddock, and led Persimmon to the weighing room.

The Ascot Gold Cup and the Eclipse Stakes were among his victories, and when he was relegated to the stud his winnings amounted to £34,706 in stakes.

As a sire Persimmon proved an immediate success, among the first of his stock being the famous mare Sceptre, and later Zinfandel, both now owned by old Tenth Hussars.

Foreign breeders long coveted him and offers up to £50,000 were made for him, but the King always had a genuine affection for his first Derby winner, and to all offers the reply was politely made that "Persimmon was not for sale at any price."

An oil painting of him, presented by King Edward to the regiment, is a prominent and much-valued possession of the Officers' Mess.

PIG STICKING.

GUJERAT CUP MEET.

THE meet, which this year was at Dholka on the borders of the Ahmedabad hunt country, was attended by Sir John Milbanke, V.C., and Captain F. Rose.

The former won the first nomination of the Gujerat Cup, and lost the final of the second nomination to D. Graham. As both men and horses had just run, it was decided that they should start off at once, after another pig, for the final of the Cup.

A small sounder had been marked down close by, so a move was at once made and the beaters put in the field. They were most accommodating, and came out at once. The order to ride having been given, Milbanke got off first and turned the pig; then Graham took up the running. Some shallow nullahs here appeared to favour Milbanke as he forged ahead, and he gained a twenty-length lead. Rattling the boar over a couple of fields, they entered a lane; half way down the pig jinked into a bush, came out, looked round in an undecided manner, then, in a flash, went off down the lane again—this time with Graham at his heels; a hundred yards down the lane, and he was into him and speared handsomely, Milbanke did the same a moment after.

THE SALMON CUP.

THIS Cup was won by Captain Rose, who was warmly congratulated on the result of this his first appearance in competitive pig sticking. The contest may be briefly described as follows:—

HEAT NO. 1.	HEAT NO. 2.
Milbanke.	Rose (spear).
J. S. Forbes.	D. N. Graham.
H. E. Rudkin (spear).	R. C. Brown.
	J. R. Darley.

Heat No. 2 was rather an unfortunate one, as after the order to ride had been given, they got mixed up with a heat that was also riding their pig: thus eight competitors, two umpires, and at least a dozen pigs were all flying round in a small patch of jungle. Finally Rose emerged with a smile on his face and blood on his spear.

HEAT NO. 3.	HEAT NO. 4.
F. Graham.	A. K. Graham.
J. St. J. Graham.	K. S. Lakhaji Rai,
P. P. Lory (spear).	Narsinghi of Baria.
	G. Hutchinson (spear).

FINAL HEAT.

F. P. Lory.	Rose (spear).
Hutchinson.	Rudkin.

A preliminary canter proved a failure, and was only productive of a bad fall for Rose, who was knocked out of time for a few minutes, and it was only on

the following day that this heat was brought off. They were put on to a pig, and Rudkin got slightly the best of the start, but a jink in a tall crop threw him completely out. Rose and Lory then took up the running, the former's big powerful pony seeming

to revel in the heavy going : forcing the pace, he gave few chances, and ran into and speared his pig, an easy winner of the Salmon Cup.

We give a photograph of Captain Rose on *Carmen*, his mount.



Capt. F. Rose on "Carmen," winner of the Salmon Cup.

BOXING.

THE second annual Boxing Tournament took place on the nights of 22nd and 23rd January in the Regimental Theatre.

It is a great pleasure seeing Corpl. Blackman in the ring again and boxing just as well as he did before his severe illness.

Pte. Woodley is a great acquisition to the Boxing Club and if he keeps it up, should make a great name for himself in India.

The number of novices who entered was very satisfactory as it shows that the interest taken in the boxing and Sports Club is spreading in the regiment.

The total entries for the meeting was 47.

Lieut. Godfrey (Royal Irish) officiated as referee with Lieuts. Chaplin (10th R. H.) and O'Malley (Royal Munster Fusiliers) as judges, and Lieut. Sims (R.H.A.) time-keeper.

1st Night, January 22nd.

NOVICES' COMPETITION.

Pte. Glyn beat Pte. Hancock. Knock out second round.

Pte. Remington beat Pte. Maxwell on points.

Pte. Naylor beat Pte. King on points.

Pte. Walter beat Pte. Jagger. Counted out in the second round.

Pte. Lomas beat Pte. Purchon. A good fight decided on points.

Pte. Ley. Sparrred a bye.

Pte. Cherry beat Pte. Billings on points.

GARRISON LIGHT WEIGHT.

Pte. Carlton (10th R. H.) beat Pte. Ryan (R. I.). A good fight decided on points.

Pte. Casey (R.M.F.) beat Pte. Wright (R.I.). Casey hitting very hard, knocked his man out 1st round.

Pte. Burgess (R.I.) beat Pte. O'Keefe (R.I.) on points.

Pte. Spriggs (10th R. H.). Sparrred a bye.

GARRISON MIDDLE WEIGHTS.

Lce.-Corpl. Ayling (R.I.) beat Gunner Morden.

Pte. Flynn (R.I.). Scratched to Gunner Pimm.

BOYS' COMPETITION.

Boy Fahrlander (10th R.H.) beat Boy Parker (R.I.) on points.

Boy Dillon (R.I.). A bye.

FEATHER WEIGHT COMPETITION.

Lce.-Corpl. Francis (R.I.) beat Pte. Stoll (W. Yorks). Knock out in first round.

SPECIAL FOUR-ROUND CONTEST.

Bombr. Foley beat Pte. Earn (R.I.). Foley got the fight owing to repeated fouls by Earn.

Second Night, January 23rd.

SECOND ROUND—NOVICES.

Pte. Ley beat Pte. Remington. Knock out first round.

„ Lomas beat Pte. Walter on points.

„ Naylor beat Pte. Glynn on points.

„ Cherry. Sparrred a bye.

SEMI-FINALS—GARRISON LIGHT WEIGHTS.

Pte. Burges (R. I.) beat Pte. Spriggs (10th R. H.).

„ Casey (R. M. F.) beat Pte. Ryan (R. I.). Knock out first round.

SEMI-FINALS—NOVICES.

Pte. Ley beat Pte. Naylor.

„ Cherry beat Pte. Lomas.

Ley scratched to Cherry owing to illness, so Pte. Cherry won the Novices.

SIX-ROUND CONTEST.

Corpl. Blackman (10th R. H.) v. Pte. Kane (R.M.F.)

This was an extremely good fight. Corpl. Blackman, who was Feather-weight Champion of India before he was invalided home, had the best of it all through, but contented himself with letting Kane force the fighting during the first few rounds.

Kane fought very well though rather inclined to clinch, but Blackman was altogether too quick for him.

It is to be hoped that Blackman will be able to get plenty of fighting and bring back the championship to the Regiment again.

FINAL—BOYS.

Boy Fahrlander (10th R. H.) beat Boy Dillon (R. I.).

Dillon put up a very good fight but Fahrlander's reach was too long for him and he was not able to get in.

FINAL—MIDDLE WEIGHTS.

Lce.-Corpl. Ayling (R. I.) v. Gunner Pimm.

This was a great fight, hard hitting on both sides. Pimm had won this event at the last Tournament, but Ayling was a bit the better man, and won on points

SIX-ROUND CONTEST.

Pte. Woodley (10th R. H.) beat Sergt. Jacobs (West Yorks).

This was an excellent fight and full of interest all through. Woodley followed his usual tactics and played rather a waiting game at first with an occasional lead.

Both men took and gave a good deal of punishment but Woodley never seemed to tire or get blown. Jacobs went hard at it for the first three rounds, and again in the 5th, but Woodley managed to hold him with ease, and in the 6th round fairly let himself go and gave Jacobs a bad time, having him on the ropes twice.

Both winner and loser were much applauded.

At the conclusion of the Tournament Woodley challenged Pte. Earn and a fight has been arranged to take place in April for Rs. 300 aside.

“TIGER” SMITH AND JACK COSTELLO OF BIRMINGHAM.

THESE pugilists met at the Drill Hall, Sheffield, on the 27th January, to fight twenty-three-minute rounds, for £100 aside and a purse of £100.

The contest opened at a tremendous pace; Smith was the harder hitter, and landed oftener with right and left. In the third round, however, Costello, who had led lightly with his left, landed a heavy right, and sent Smith to the ropes. He did not appear strong enough to follow up his advantage, Smith running frequently, and dealing out more punishment.

In the eighth round, Costello was sent down twice, taking nine seconds to recover. He, however, went in and landed a good right, but Smith hit with more effect, and on two occasions in the tenth round Costello was down for nine seconds, and only time saved him.

The eleventh was the last round, for Smith landed both right and left with rare force, and the second time Costello went down he was beat, and Smith won.

POLO NOTES.

SINCE the last edition of the *Gazette*, we have played in two more tournaments, the "Tradesmen's Cup," Rawalpindi, and the Inter-Regimental Tournament. We have won both these tournaments, the latter being the seventh tournament the Regiment has won in succession during the last fifteen months.

To begin with the Tradesmen's Cup at Pindi, which was played in the beginning of January, we put three teams into the field. The first team consisted of Palmer back, Palmes three, Milbanks two, and Annesley one. For the second team Mitford, Chaplin, Cadogan and Gibbs played, while the third team was composed of Nelson, Wilson, Fielden and Stewart. Besides our three teams, the 12th Lancers, the Seaforth Highlanders, the 11th Lancers, the 13th Lancers, the 10th Lancers, and a Gymkhana team competed. The semi-finals were fought out between our second team and the Seaforth Highlanders, the latter winning by three goals to one, and between our first team and the 12th Lancers, the former winning by four goals to three. This left our first team and the Seaforth Highlanders in for the final. The game was rather spoilt by a very strong wind which blew straight down the ground. In fact the ball remained nearly the whole time in one-half of the ground. Extra time had to be played, and we managed to win by the narrow margin of one goal—scored by Palmer from a magnificent shot.

The Inter-Regimental was played at Meerut in the first week in March. Nine teams entered, namely, the 15th Hussars, 10th Hussars, Royal Dragoons, 12th Lancers, Carabiniers, 17th Lancers, King's Dragoon Guards, Rifle Brigade, and Central India Horse. We were unfortunate in the draw, having not only to play an extra match, but also having most of the strong teams on our side of the draw. We were represented by Annesley one, Gibbs two, Palmes three, and Palmer back. In the first ties we defeated the Rifle Brigade by six goals to four; in the second ties the 15th Hussars by three goals to two; in the semi-final the Central India Horse by three goals to one; and in the final the Carabiniers by six goals to four. They were all good hard games, and it is not surprising that our ponies were beginning to feel the strain of the hard work by the time that the final was reached.

From all accounts our representatives played well, especially Palmer and Annesley, our back and No. 1.

It was a good performance winning the Cup for the second year in succession, as they are a young team and were without the assistance of our old hand John Vaughan. Palmer took his place as Captain of the team, and is to be congratulated on the success which has attended his efforts and keenness.

THE COMBINATION OF RIFLE FIRE AND MOUNTED ACTION.

BY COL. C. M. KAVANAGH, M.V.O., D.S.O.

The principles of the combination of Artillery fire and shock action with large bodies of Cavalry and Horse Artillery are more often spoken about and practised than the combination of rifle fire with the mounted action of smaller bodies of Cavalry.

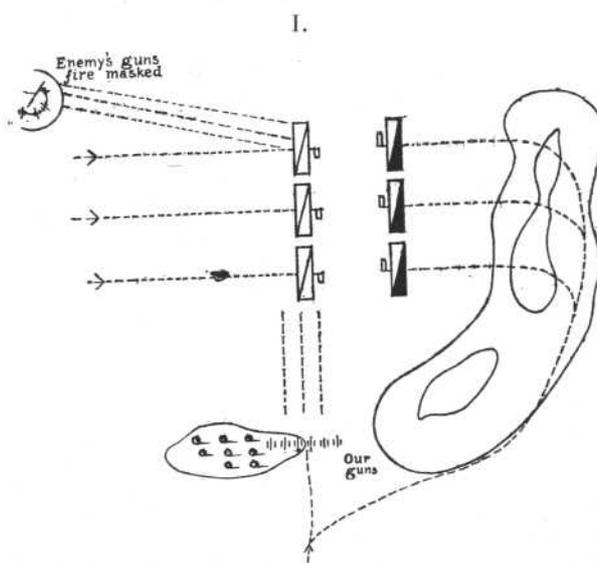
The principles, however, are identically the same, and should be studied and understood, and opportunities to practise them looked for by all Cavalry soldiers, down to the leaders of the smallest tactical units.

As has been so often said, only what has been studied in barracks and practised in peace time in the field and drill ground can be carried out successfully in war time, so no opportunity should be lost of practising the combination of rifle fire and shock action, on all sorts of ground and on all sorts of conditions, whatever the arm or arms opposed to us may be.

To start with Cavalry against Cavalry.

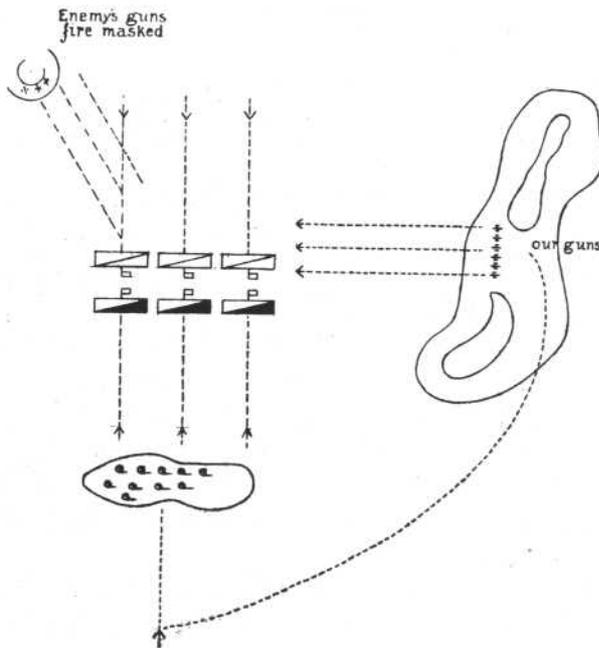
When large bodies are acting with Horse Artillery, the ideal is, to be able to manœuvre so that the direction of our Artillery fire may be more or less at right angles to the direction of the Cavalry charge, so that the opposing Cavalry may come under a heavy shell fire when committed to the attack, and so that this fire may be continued until almost the moment of the collision, without being masked by one's own men.

The two following diagrams explain this, the first



showing when a position to the front has been occupied by the guns and their escort and the Cavalry manœuvred to a flank to make an attack across their front, and the second showing the guns pushed forward to the right front while the Cavalry make an attack direct towards their front.

II.



Identically the same principles should be followed when smaller bodies are acting against one another, rifle fire being used instead of shell fire, when the ground is suitable for shock action.

The Advanced guard, whether composed of two or more troops in front of a Regiment, or a section in front of a troop, should look out for some tactical position to seize, unobserved by hostile scouts, and should dismount there, ready to pour in an unexpected and heavy fire on the opposing force when it is committed to an attack on the main body. This fire should never be delivered too early, and should be continued up to the last possible moment before the actual collision.

The leader of the main body, whether a Regiment, squadron, or troop, should endeavour, either to draw the opposing force past the position held by the dismounted men, or should manœuvre so as to make an attack across their front. We can all recognise the demoralising effect of a sudden and unexpected burst of hostile fire on a body of Cavalry advancing to the attack, and if to this is added the fall of two or three horses to a squadron, a certain amount of confusion is bound to follow.

It must, however, be clearly understood by the Commander of the dismounted men, that their fire is merely a preparation for the mounted attack, and to be effective, must be timed to a nicety. If opened too early, it would probably spoil the whole thing, and give the opposing force time to clear off, and postpone the

combat until a more favorable opportunity, or, if opened too late, would not have time to have effect, or would endanger our own side—you all understand giving physic to a horse—well, this rifle fire before the mounted attack is like the bran mash before the physic—it has a loosening effect on the horse, and enables the physic to act, in the same way that the rifle fire should have a loosening effect upon the opposing force, and enable the well-directed charge to be successful. In order to do this, however, there must be a thorough understanding between the leader of the advanced party who dismount and the leader of the main body, and this can only be attained by continual practice.

In almost every country features exist to give cover, and a small village, a clump of trees, a small hill, or even some irregularity in the shape of the ground, can be seized by the advanced party as a pivot of manœuvre, and from which the fire can be delivered, and within effective range of which the opposing force should be drawn before being attacked by mounted men.

When the attack has been delivered, the leader of the dismounted men should mount them as quickly as possible, whether he uses them to complete a victory, to cover a retreat, or to meet a fresh body of troops.

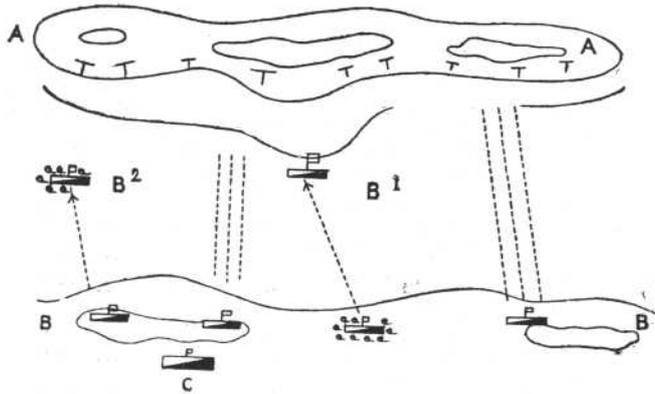
In the same way, it must be borne in mind that, just as it is the physic that is to have the main effect upon the horse, so it is the mounted attack that is to have the main effect upon the combat: therefore not a man more than necessary should be taken from the main body for dismounted action. In these days of magazine rifles even half a dozen men can produce a considerable value of fire, and a great deal more will depend upon the suddenness and unexpectedness and accurate timing of the burst of fire than on the actual number of rifles employed.

Again, take the case of Cavalry employed to drive back troops, of whatever arm, holding a position, whether they happen to be the rear guard protecting the retreat of a retiring force, or a protecting screen covering a position in rear, or whatever they may be—here each advance of mounted men, from position to position, must be supported by heavy bursts of fire from dismounted men, the Cavalry soldier using his mobility to cross fire-swept zones as quickly as possible, when no cover is available.

The following diagram may show more plainly what I mean, A—A representing the position to be attacked, and whose flanks cannot be turned, and B—B the line held by the dismounted Cavalry.

Each successive advance to positions under cover at B¹ and B² must be supported by a heavy fire from the remaining troops holding B—B. In actions of this kind, however, a Cavalry Commander should always be certain before each successive advance that the point he wants to reach affords cover to his men and horses,

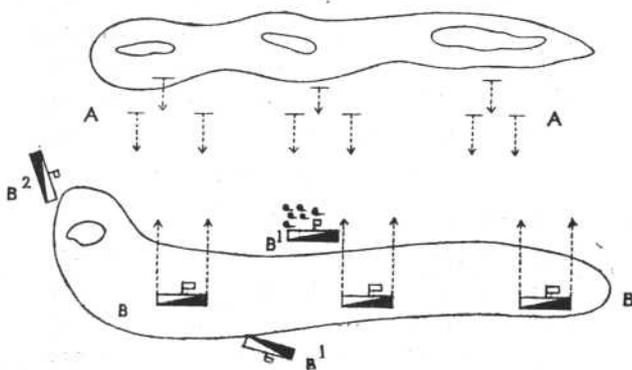
and is worth going for ; and this can be ascertained by sending one or two scouts on, either advancing rapidly mounted, or even creeping forward dismounted, and then signalling back the required information.



I have seen disastrous consequences ensue from a body of Cavalry dashing forward to seize a position, and when they got there finding they were still under a heavy fire, and having to retire again with heavy loss. Ground is often very deceptive to the eye, and when there is any doubt this precaution should never be neglected.

In an attack of this sort, a reserve must always be kept, whether it is to be used to launch against retiring troops or to meet a counter-attack.

The same principles exactly should be observed when Cavalry are retiring from a position they have been holding dismounted, each successive retirement across the open being executed as rapidly as possible, and covered by fire from troops in rear—in this case too many opportunities may occur for the use of a counter-attack by mounted men, and whether the opposing troops are Cavalry or Infantry, even the threat of a determined charge by mounted men may do more to delay them than the fire of dismounted men, and if a charge can be made from a flank supported by fire from the front, great results may be obtained.



The above diagram shows the rear-guard action described, AA representing the pursuing force, BB the position taken up by the dismounted Cavalry of the retreating force, BB the last body of Cavalry retiring, covered by the fire of the dismounted men at BB and B the mounted force either launched against or threatening enemy's flank to delay them while they are under the fire of BB in front.

These are a few of the instances that may occur in which mounted and dismounted action may be combined, but to carry them out successfully, all leaders must thoroughly understand the principles and have practised them continually in peace time, and by this means only will they be able to work together and mutually assist one another in war time.

Every subordinate leader must be prepared to act on his own initiative, without any order, whether supporting advancing troops, or covering retiring troops, by a heavy burst of fire, timing it to endeavour to throw a hostile body about to charge into confusion, or launching his force mounted to the attack when he sees the enemy slacken by fire from his own side.

It must never be forgotten that the sword and the lance are the Cavalry soldier's principal weapons, on account of their moral as well as their material effect, and no opportunity must be lost for using them ; but the leader who, when the occasion comes, can use both mounted and dismounted action in combination, will certainly defeat the man who only brings one weapon into use.

THE HOMING PIGEON CLUB.

A "HOMING PIGEON CLUB" has been formed in the Regiment, and has already attracted many enthusiastic members and followers.

The keenest spirit of competition has been displayed by the owners of birds, and the weekly flights have occasioned no little excitement, not only to these owners, but to a large number of others of the Squadrons to which the rival birds belong.

Some of the flights were :—

- 6th February—From Jani-ke-sang to Rawalpindi, 15 miles. 64 birds despatched.
- 9th ,, Sarai Kala to Rawalpindi, 46 birds 19 miles.
- 13th ,, Hassan Abbul, to Rawalpindi, 46 birds. 30 miles.
- 16th ,, Lawrencepur to Rawalpindi, 43 birds. 41 miles,
- 20th ,, Attock to Rawalpindi, 40 birds. 62 miles.
- 27th ,, Nowshera to Rawalpindi, 34 birds. 81 miles.
- 5th March, Peshawar to Rawalpindi, 30 birds. 108 miles.

On the 12th March the course was from Peshawar for a prize presented by the Commanding Officer ; 18 birds were released in Peshawar Cantonment at 7-30 a.m., and 12 birds reached the lines simultaneously at 9-15 a.m. The prize was offered for the first bird produced at the Orderly Room, and this proved to be No. G. W. R. G. A., 24, the property of Sergt.-Major Gouldstone.

Last hot weather the pigeons were frequently used for communication with the detachment at Lower Topa, and proved to be a valuable post. The flights

from Topa were accomplished in very good time, and it is recorded that a prominent member of the Sergeants' Mess explained, as a reason, that the journey was *all down hill*.

The Club at present consists of eight owners, and five non-owners who give their financial support to encourage the sport.

There can be no doubt that the training of these birds would prove most advantageous in the event of active service, and deserves the encouragement extended to it.

OVERHEARD DURING THE RECENT WET WEATHER.

1st Pigeon—Fancier (second day after release of birds at Attock)—Say, Bill, how many of your birds still absent?

Bill—Only one—the blue hen.

Facetious rival owner—Guess, she's walking home on stilts on account of the rains.

THE ZAKKA KHEL.

IT need not be said that in a Garrison like Rawalpindi—the largest in this country—the all-absorbing topic of conversation and thought was, for a period, the Zakka Khel Expedition.

In its first stage it was, with daring mendacity, styled "The Nowshera Manœuvres," but no one was deceived thereby, none were misled. The talk of every soldier one met—was it at the Club, or in the Mess, on The Mall, or at social rendezvous—was of the probability of his units or his own independent chance of "taking part in the show." And many and conflicting were the opinions entertained of the likely duration of it. Some were confident that it would be a small, sharp entertainment, others affected superior knowledge, and with omniscient looks, supported by erudite references to previous prolonged border businesses, prophesied that this was not going to be an exception to the precedents they quoted.

But all hoped that they would be part of the force to be despatched.

Now it is all over, and we know that it has probably established a record for brevity as applied to campaigns. The participators (except those who met a soldier's death in front of the enemy) are again in their quarters. Of the Tenth, Sergeant Harper is the only one who took any part in the affair. He was attached to the Supply and Transport Department at Peshawar, and did duty with the Department from Jamrud to Ali Masjid. He returned to us at Rawalpindi on the 11th March.

No time has been lost by the *quid nuncs* who are already predicting another border expedition in the very near future.

MUSKETRY.

THE Annual Musketry Course, 1907-08, has been brought to a close by the training of the Casuals, of whom the following are marksmen:—

"A" SQUADRON.

Sergt. Fewster	...	...	...	249
Private Coombes	...	...	...	246
„ Lawrence	...	...	...	239
Corporal O'Connell	..	...	...	235
Capt. Hon. C. Mitford	...	...	...	233
Shoeing smith Dunstall	...	...	...	228
Lieut. A. E. Parker	...	...	...	226
Private Elmslie	...	...	...	224
Lieut. C. H. Peto	...	...	...	224
Lce.-Sergt. Paskell	..	...	...	223

"B" SQUADRON.

Major C. W. H. Crichton	...	...	...	259
Lce.-Corporal Dixon	..	...	...	256
Sergt. Long	...	...	...	250
Private Bufton	...	...	...	234
Sergt. Marshal	...	...	...	229
Private Woods	...	...	...	229
Corporal Stannard	...	...	...	227
Lce.-Corporal Dunk	...	...	...	227
Sergt. Maher	...	...	...	225
Corporal Hawkes	...	...	...	221
Sergt. Henderson	...	...	...	221
Private Edwards	...	...	...	221

"C" SQUADRON.

Corporal Ward	...	...	...	254
Private Clarke	...	...	...	252
„ Kennard	...	...	...	252
Sergt. Willis	...	...	...	244
„ Curtis	...	...	...	243
Corporal Smeed	...	...	...	229
Sergt. Keates	...	...	...	229
Private Langford	...	...	...	227
„ Williams	...	...	...	224
Sergt. Langdon	...	...	...	224
Private Bear	...	...	...	224
Lce.-Corporal Heasman	...	...	...	223

"D" SQUADRON.

Private Cummings	...	...	...	271
Sergt. Nance	...	...	...	254
Lce.-Corporal Clapshoe	...	...	...	241
Private Liddington	...	...	...	235
„ Hartley	...	...	...	232

The results of the Casuals' training for the past year are:—

No. of men exercised	...	...	115
„ „ Marksmen	...	...	32
„ „ 1st Class shots	...	...	58
„ „ 2nd „ „	...	...	25

Sergt. Henderson with a score of 81 was awarded the badge for "The Best Shot of Sergeants."

Lce.-Corporal Jones, whose score in the firing for "The Best Shot of Corporals" was 82, was awarded the badge.

The winners of the badges for "The Best Shots of Squadrons" were:—

"C" Squadron, Lce.-Corporal Heppel, score	351
"B" " " Private Curnock ... " "	343
"A" " " S. S.-Major Brisley ... " "	342
"D" " " Sergt. Burdett ... " "	341

"B" Squadron was declared by the Commanding Officer the best shooting Squadron of the year.

MATCH.

A RIFLE MATCH was fired off by teams of the Sergeants' Mess, X. R. H., and the Punjab Light Horse on the Cavalry range on the 22nd March.

A fairly strong wind was blowing, and only moderate scores were obtained. The Punjab L. H. men were rather handicapped, as the new short rifle was used, an arm with which they are not equipped nor familiar.

At the close of the contest, Major Powell, Punjab L. H., addressed the team, and while congratulating the winning one, expressed a hope that opportunities would occur in the future for a reversal of the result on this occasion.

The scores were:—

X. R. H.		PUNJAB LIGHT HORSE.	
S. S.-M. Brisley	84	Sergt. McCulloch	84
S. Q.M.-S. Mason	79	T. S. M. Evans	78
" Druce	77	Lieut. Wilson	77
S. I. of M. Burdett	77	Trooper Edmunds	68
Sergt. Maher	77	" Webb	66
S. S.-M. Price	76	Major Powell	63
Sergt. Babcock	76	Trooper Belcham	55
S. Q.M.-S. Gouldstone	66	" Munn	54
Total	612	Total	545

The distances were 200, 500 and 600 yards, seven rounds at each.

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE.

No. 892, Ptes. H. Hines, and No. 5603, F. Thomas, appointed Bandsmen, 8th January 1908.

2nd Lieut. H. C. Brocklehurst from the Derbyshire Imperial Yeomanry, and 2nd Lieut. Guy Alexander, from the 5th Battalion, Warwickshire Regiment, to be 2nd Lieuts. on Probation, dated 8th January 1908.

No. 895, Pte. A Cooper, No. 5605, Pte. H. Crozier and No. 903, Pte. W. Golding extended their service to complete 8 years' Army Service, 18th January 1908.

Recruit Frederick George Drake joined 18th January 1908.

No. 4820, Pte. H. G. King, granted local rank of Sergeant, while employed in the Divisional Staff Office.

No. 4036, Sergt. G. Quinn, re-engaged to complete 21 years' service, 28th January 1908.

2nd Lieut. R. C. Gordon-Canning, Royal Gloucester Hussars (Imperial Yeomanry), to be 2nd Lieut. on probation, 25th February 1908.

No. 5106, Lce.-Corpl. Edney, extended his Army Service to 12 years, 1st February 1908.

No. 208, Pte. W. Petrie, transferred to 91st Co., R. G. A., and No. 179, Pte. A. Patterson, to the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles), 31st January 1908.

No. 4800, Lce.-Corpl. H. D. Orchard, extended Army Service to 12 years, 5th February 1908.

No. 4971, Pte. E. Coombes, appointed Lance-Corporal, 5th February 1908.

Recruit Henry Hugh Robinson, joined 7th February 1908.

No. 4866, Pte. E. Hopkins, extended his Army Service to 12 years, 14th February 1908.

Pte. F. W. Warren, transferred from the Northumberland Fusiliers, 29th February 1908.

No. 4921, Corporal W. Nance, extended his Army Service to 12 years, 22nd February 1908.

No. 905, Pte. H. Howes, transferred to the 31st Co., R. G. A., 31st March 1908.

OUR LETTER BOX.

PERPLEXED.—No. Although the Indian Army List gives the Regiment seniority in India, both Regiments came from South Africa in the same Transport, and disembarked on the same date.

FIRST CHUKKER.—The game was introduced into England by the Tenth in 1870. The first match was played on the 27th June 1871 between the 9th Lancers and the Tenth at Hounslow; the Tenth won by three goals to one.

UNION JACK.—Yes, the Regiment has a bedroom in the Club.

TROOPER.—The "Old Bull and Bush" is a real not a mythical hostelry. It is situated on the border of

Hampstead Heath, and is a very popular resort on Bank and other holidays.

Near it are two other famous old-time Inns—the “Spaniards” and “Jack Straw’s Castle.”

GIPPY.—The battle of El-Teb was fought on the 29th February, 1884, consequently the anniversary of the date has only recurred five times since it took place 24 years ago.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

Births.

PASKELL.—At Rawal Pindi, on the 22nd January, the wife of Lance-Sergt. Paskell, of a son.

DUNK.—At Rawal Pindi, on the 2nd February, the wife of Lance-Corpl. Dunk, of a son.

BELL.—At Rawal Pindi, on the 4th March, the wife of Lance-Corpl. Bell, of a son.

FOWNES.—At Rawal Pindi, on the 23rd March 1908. Schoolmistress Fownes, the wife of S. S.-M. R. R. Fownes, of a daughter.

Deaths.

FRISBY.—At Rawal Pindi, on the 2nd February, the infant (twin) son of Sergt. and Mrs. Frisby, aged 2½ months.

DAVIES-COOKE.—At Exbury, Hants, on the 24th March, Captain A. G. K. Davies-Cooke, aged 34 years.