

1799 to Tullamore, the 29th to Philipstown. On the 11th of June, both regiments returned to Kilkenny, soon after which the former received orders to embark for England.

Previous to the 29th leaving Philipstown, Captain Wm. Shairp, who "had been out," received a ball in his groin, which completely disabled and prevented him taking part in the approaching campaign in Holland.

Late in the evening of the 13th of July, orders were received by express, for the regiment to march with all possible speed to Cork, and there embark for England. On the arrival of frigates, no time was lost, and having embarked on board the "Melpomene," "Naiad," "Proselyte," and "Pomone" (on which were the head-quarters), the ships sailed from Cove on the 24th. After a favourable passage, the regiment landed at Deal early in the morning of the 30th, and marched to Barnham Downs, where it was brigaded with the "Queen's," 27th, 55th, and 85th regiments, under command of Major-General Sir Eyre Coote, and encamped with the army there assembling for the expedition to the Helder, under command of Sir Ralph Abercromby.

Previous to this the British Ministry had decided to send an army to Holland, with the desire of bringing that country once more under the dominion of the House of Orange, believing that numbers of the Dutch would combine with them, as soon as they could with safety act according to their sentiments. Negotiations were also entered upon with Emperor Paul I of Russia, with the view of obtaining the assistance of an auxiliary corps of Russian troops, and on the 22nd of June, a treaty to that effect had been concluded.

On the 8th of August the camp broke up, and on the 11th, the 29th marched to the village of Birchington, on the coast of the Isle of Thanet. Here it encamped till the 13th, when it marched for Margate, and embarked on board the "Royal Admiral," an old East Indiaman.

which accommodated the whole of the regiment, together with all its **1799** light baggage. The heavy baggage, and sick were sent to Deal, under command of Major George Johnstone

Sailing on the 14th inst, the "Royal Admiral" was joined by various transports which had embarked troops at Dover, Deal, and Ramsgate.

On account of the very stormy weather, the Helder was not reached till the 21st and the following morning the "Royal Admiral" got near enough to anchor, but in a few hours the wind blew so hard that it was found necessary to weigh anchor, and put to sea. It was not till the morning of the 26th that the whole expedition again approached the shore and anchored. That evening instructions were received for Major General Coot's brigade, and a detachment of light artillery, the whole under the command of Lieut-General Sir James Pulteney, to effect a landing the next morning, in front of the right of the line of transports.

That the 29th was always a very exact corps one may gather from a Regimental Order issued that evening preparatory to its disembarking, viz.: "Officers are to be clubbed,* and powdered, but may wear blue overalls provided they have regimental buttons."

At 3 a.m. on the 27th instant, two flat-bottomed boats from the "Melpomene," together with the ship's boats, were filled with the Flank companies of the regiment, under the command of Captain D White. The men had each been supplied with 60 rounds of ball ammunition, two days' provisions, and had their canteens filled with spirits and water. Major Ramsay, of the "Queen's," commanded the Flank companies of the brigade. When everything was ready, a gun fired from the admiral's ship, gave the signal for the simultaneous

* Circular Memo, 2nd May, 1799 --Officers and Men to wear their hair queued, tied a little below the upper part of the collar, and to be ten inches in length, including one inch of hair to appear below the binding

1799 advance of the landing parties, whose approach covered by a heavy and incessant fire from all the men-of-war, and gunboats, met with but small opposition.

On landing, the troops found themselves on a ridge of sandhills stretching along the coast, north and south. Scarcely, however, had the 1st Division formed up than it was met with volleys of musketry, and a continued fire of light artillery.

The right flank being unavoidably exposed to the whole force, and fire of the enemy, many casualties occurred. The first object of contention, was a signal station situated on a slight eminence, which, after a sharp contest, was carried by the Flank companies of the "Queen's," 27th, 29th, and 85th regiments. This position afterwards proved of great service in directing the fire from the fleet, and gunboats.

The following anecdote is related by Mr. Edward Walsh, assistant surgeon to the regiment.—

"The gallantry, and spirit of the 29th Grenadiers deserves to be mentioned.

"Finding themselves encumbered with their knapsacks, &c., while charging the enemy through the heavy sand, they threw away both them, and their provisions. After the battle they petitioned to have these necessaries replaced, which in truth they very much wanted, but from a strict adherence to the rules of military discipline the request could not be granted."

Lieut. H. Grove, in his diary, writes.—

"I was Lieutenant of the Grenadiers, commanded by William Edgell Wyatt. We had 3 subalterns, Henderson, † Tod, and myself, Tod being the only one who was not wounded. Wyatt was shot through

† *Extract from the "Military Chronicle."*—Lieut-Colonel Henderson of the Royal York Rangers, b. near Aberdeen 16 Sept. 1775, accompanied the 29th Foot on board H.M.S. "Glory," was present at the Action of 28th and 29th May, and 1st June, 1794,

the thigh, Henderson was saved by having a thick map in his pocket, 1799 six folds of which were shot through. I was shot in the chin, and for this wound, twenty years after, received a year's pay. I was taken with others on board the "Romney," 50 guns, and the regimental surgeon ordered me off, saying my wound was not likely to spoil my beauty or destroy my constitution; had I been a little older I should not have left the field; in short I was more frightened than hurt. Admiral Mitchell who commanded the fleet, now turned his thoughts to the Dutch fleet, all chained together in the Zuyder Zee. A Russian 64 took the lead, but as she got aground, the "Romney" took her place. Captain Lamford advised me to go below when the Action commenced, to keep out of danger, to this I demurred, so he gave me the command of a gun on the main deck. At last a flag of truce, announced the surrender of the Dutch fleet. When the Duke of York arrived with reinforcements, the army advanced to Schagen, and I re-joined the 29th."

In the meanwhile the remainder of the regiment was anxiously awaiting the arrival of the boats to take it ashore, for those of the "Royal William" had been detained near the beach. At length a lugger came alongside, and by means of it, the men were landed in detachments, which advanced until met by General Coote, who ordered them to halt, and await his further orders. About 1 o'clock the headquarters of the regiment were joined by Captain White and the Flank

when he was^d wounded. Served with the regiment in Holland, and commanded the Grenadier company (his captain being wounded at the landing) Was honoured by particular thanks of the Commanding Officer Sir Eyre Coote, and Colonel (afterwards General) McDonald, the latter in particular, who having afterwards occasion to speak of him officially, stated "that he first fell in with Lieut Henderson in command of the Grenadier comp^y of the 29th, in a trying situation, pressed by the enemy on the sand hills in Holland, where he conducted himself, as he remembered to have expressed at the time, 'with the gallantry of a soldier, and judgement of an officer.' In 1806 Captain Patrick Henderson was appointed Major of the Royal African Corps. He died 1809."

1700 companies which had been engaged nearly the whole morning, and had suffered the following casualties :—

Killed †—3 Rank and File.

Wounded—Captain Edgell Wyatt, Lieut H Grove, 3 Serjeants, 1 Drummer, 30 Rank and File.

The wounded were sent on board the fleet as quickly as they were brought down to the beach.

It was late in the afternoon, when orders were received for the regiment to advance as fast as possible ; no time was lost in so doing, yet before it reached the front, the action was over and the enemy in retreat. That part of the army which had been most engaged now fell back, thus leaving Coote's brigade in front, and the 29th Regiment in the advanced part, which post it retained as long as the army kept its position on the sand-hills, which, from the north point at the Helder, extended about seven miles to the village of Kallends Oog.

The troops now suffered severely from the inclemency of the weather, for the nights were unusually cold, and there were frequent showers. On the evening of the 1st of September, the army took up a fresh position, but the regiment did not move until the following morning, when it took up cantonments about a mile in rear of the village of Oud-Sluis. On the 4th instant, it occupied part of that place, and after two or three days, marched to Schagen.

Having established his right at Petten on the German Ocean, his left at Oud-Sluis on the Zuyder Zee, and with his front protected by the Zyp, Sir Ralph Abercromby awaited the arrival of the Russian allies. At daybreak on the 10th, the enemy made a sharp attack on the British right, and centre, from Petten to St. Martins, the neighbouring village to Schagen, but were repulsed by the troops there stationed. Coote's brigade was not called upon to take any active part, though the 85th Foot had one rank and file killed, and three

† Pay Lists 29th Foot.—Privates—Ferguson, Dundas, Slack, Stephen ; Smithurst, Jac.

wounded. After this both armies resumed their original positions, and the British head-quarters were established at Schagen, those of the enemy at St. Pancras, a village north of Alkmaar. **1799**

From the Weekly State of Coote's brigade, it appears that on the 12th inst. the strength of the 29th Foot was as follows :—

Present and fit for duty.	2 Lieut Colonels, 1 Major, 4 Captains, 17 Lieutenants, 4 Ensigns, 5 Staff.
	57 Sergeants 16 Drummers 502 Rank and File
Sick	43 ..
On command	35 ..
Recruiting . . .	15 ..
Wanting to complete	5 .. 2 .. 5 ..

On the 13th of September, H.R.H. the Duke of York assumed the chief command, and having been reinforced by 7,000 Russians under General d'Herman, considered his force strong enough to take the offensive. All being in readiness, the advance of four columns was commenced in the following order.—

The left column, under Lieut.-General Sir R. Abercromby, being destined to turn the enemy's right, marched at 6 p.m., the 18th inst., and the next morning the remainder of the troops were put in motion.

The other three columns commencing from the right were: 1st, that commanded by Lieut.-General d'Herman, which was ordered to advance against the enemy's left, which rested on the sea. The 2nd, under Lieut.-General Dundas, to attack Schorlham, and the enemy's centre. The 3rd, under Sir James Pulteney, "consisting of two squadrons of 11th Light Dragoons, Major-Generals Don's and Coote's brigades," was to take possession of Oud-Karspel, a fortified village at the head of the Lange dyke, or canal, leading to Alkmaar.

The country over which the two last columns had to pass was a plain, intersected every three or four hundred yards by broad, deep, wet ditches, and canals. The bridges across the roads which led to Oud-Karspel had been destroyed.

1799 Coote's brigade, "consisting of the 'Queen's,' 27th, 29th, 69th, and 85th regiments" (with a troop of 11th Light Dragoons, two 6-pounders, and one howitzer), was directed to attack the village in front, whilst the remainder of the column stormed its flanks

Leaving Schagen at 2 a.m., the brigade marched to Nieu-Diep-Verlaat, where it arrived at five o'clock, and finding the bridge broken, its advance was for some time delayed. The 85th Regt. was then left in reserve, part at Nieu-Diep, the remainder in Oos-Nieu-Diep, a patrol of cavalry was sent to Rustenburg, and the 'Queen's,' 29th, and one 6-pounder, and the howitzer were directed to proceed along the dyke leading to Oud-Karspel, in order to turn the battery that commanded the road from Nieu-Diep-Verlaat. The Light companies of the brigade, under Major Knight of the 'Queen's' were at the same time directed to clear the wood upon the left of the road leading to the battery, whilst, to protect the left the cavalry patrolled the road, and the 27th Regt. with one 6-pounder, occupied the cross at the turn to the middle way. These dispositions having been made, the "Queen's" and the 29th Regiment continued to advance until stopped by a broad canal, which protected the front of the enemy's work. The bridge across this obstruction having also been broken, and there being no means provided for crossing the dyke, which was very deep, full of water, and about 40ft. wide, a constant cannonade was kept up on the village, and battery; and the two regiments had the extreme mortification of being mere spectators of all that was occurring, so that it was not until the Guards and the 40th Regiment had taken the place, and furnished materials from a neighbouring house, that the "Queen's" and 29th were able to cross the canal, and join in the pursuit.

The Dutch troops which had occupied the village were so completely defeated, that eighteen of their guns, with ammunition waggons, and horses complete, were captured.

The 29th being comparatively fresh, now found themselves well in front, but having advanced to within three-quarters of a mile of

the enemy's camp were halted. A great number of people could now **1799** be seen near the gate of Alkmaar, and it being observed that many of them were dressed in green uniforms, it was supposed that they were Russians, and that the 1st column had been as successful as that of General Pulteney. At this time Coote's brigade occupied a bridge at the end of Oud-Karspel, this as evening approached the 29th was endeavouring to strengthen, when orders were received to retire as soon as possible. So peremptory was the order, that time was not even given to destroy the bridge. The Dutch cannon, and ammunition waggons, however, were hastily disabled, and turned over into the ditches on either side of the road. No communication having been kept up between the advancing columns, the defeat of the Russians was not heard of until this moment, when it was ascertained that those seen in the neighbourhood of Alkmaar were prisoners.

Some few of the inhabitants having remained in their houses, Colonel Enys took two into custody, to act as guides. This proved a very useful precaution, as the night was very dark, and rain fell in torrents. To the left could be seen the route of the retreating Russians, for they burnt all the villages, and houses they passed.

About daybreak of the 20th, the brigade returned to its old quarters near Schagen. The retreat of Pulteney's column, which was conducted without any confusion, need not have been so hurried, for the enemy never pursued.

For some days after this, the state of the weather prevented any further operations, but on the morning of the 2nd of October a vigorous ~~attack~~ ^{3d} was made on the enemy's left at Bergen. This large village was surrounded by woods, through which passed the great road leading to Haarlem, and between it and the sea, lay an extensive range of sand-hills, impassable for artillery, and, on account of their broken surface, unfavourable for cavalry. The enemy's right was protected by dykes, and canals, easily to be defended; their centre rested on the town of Alkmaar.

1799 The 1st, or right column, under command of Sir Ralph Abercromby, with a view of turning the enemy's left, was directed to march against Egmond-op-Zee, by way of the beach.

The 2nd column, composed of Russians under Major-General D'Essen, advancing through the villages of Groet, and Schorl, was to co-operate with Major-General Burrard's brigade in the attack on Schorl dam, and then march on Bergen.

The 3rd column, under Lieut.-General Dundas, consisted of Major-Generals the Earl of Chatham's, Coote's, and Burrard's brigades, together with a squadron of the 11th Light Dragoons

The 4th, commanded by Sir James Pulteney, was destined to turn the enemy's right, and covered the whole of the left, to the Zuyder Zee.

The state of the tide determined the march of the right column, which proceeded from Petten at 6.30 a.m. This was followed at seven o'clock by Major-General Coote's brigade, which on reaching Kamp turned to the left, and advancing as far as the extremity of the Slaper Dyke, and the village of Groet, cleared the road for the Russian column.

The brigade had not proceeded far when Colonel Enys was ordered to form the 29th on the edge of the sand-hills, and to continue to advance, keeping always slightly ahead of the Russian line, which was moving upon Schorl. In this formation the regiment continued the greater part of the day, clearing the sand-hills above Schorl, until the Russians halted not far from the scene of their former defeat. After some delay the enemy was driven from Schorl and Schorl dam. In pursuing them, the regiments of Coote's brigade, whose left was now above Schorl, became separated by very great intervals, and extended a long way into the sand-hills. On the right, the 85th Foot were considerably in advance, and warmly engaged. As the enemy showed a disposition to attack this part of the line, Lord Chatham's

brigade was ordered from the plain to support it and the enemy, being **1799** now outflanked, and having their rear threatened, retired to another range of hills above Bergen.

Colonel Enys was about this time ordered to proceed towards the front, and place the 29th under the command of Lord Chatham but before this could be effected, fresh orders were received from Sir David Dundas for it to dislodge a party of the enemy posted on a hill near Bergen. The regiment was now joined by the Light companies of the 4th, 5th, and 27th, which, taking part in the charge drove the enemy into a thick wood at the bottom of the hill. The advance of the 29th was the signal for all the troops on its right to move forward and the enemy retired into the village whilst the victorious troops occupied the surrounding hills, and made as many and as large fires as they could find fuel for.

Although the action might be said to have been decided at sunset, yet the firing of the flank companies of Coote's brigade, and of the enemy, posted in a small angular wood, did not cease before 11 p.m.

In this day's action the 29th Foot suffered the following casualties —

Killed—Serjeant—Cook, John * Privates Butler, Simon Gilbert John Holt Jas., Robinson, Jas Swindall, Richd.

Wounded—1 Captain, 3 Lieutenants, 1 Serjeant, 30 Rank and File.

Missing—1 Serjeant, 10 Rank and File.

Officers Wounded Captain D. White Lieutenants A. Brunton Lundy, R. Ross Rowan, and Thos. Bridgate Bunford.

At daybreak of the 3rd of October, it was discovered that the enemy had evacuated Bergen, and their line of retreat in the direction of Alkmaar was plainly visible. The allied troops therefore quitted their positions, and occupied those from which the enemy had retired. On passing through the wood to its front the regiment marched into

* These names are taken from the Regimental Pay Lists. The official return of ~~Killed~~ in the 29th Foot in the Battle of Bergen is 1 Serjeant, 7 Rank and File.

1799 the plain, and took up cantonments in the neighbouring farm-houses to the right of the village. These, being very large, and having barns, stables, cow-houses, and all such conveniences under the same roof, and being attached to the dwelling, furnished most excellent quarters for both men and officers. In the course of the day intelligence was received that Alkmaar had been occupied, and that the enemy, in expectation of reinforcements, were taking up a strong position between Beverwyck and Wyck-op-Zee

The Duke of York therefore determined, if possible, to force them thence before the reinforcements could arrive. The regiment remained in cantonments until the 6th of October, when it moved into Bergen, and had been there but a little while when orders were received for it to advance without loss of time. When, after passing round Alkmaar, it got on the great road leading to Beverwyck, it was ascertained that part of the troops in front were in action, and on approaching the village of Haloo, the enemy were seen retiring along the sand-hills to the right. After a short halt near Haloo Bridge, the regiment advanced about a mile and a half, when the village of Castricum, through which the enemy's rear-guard had just passed, came in view.

Firing, on the sand-hills, having altogether ceased, and as evening was approaching, it was not judged expedient to continue the pursuit, so the regiment returned to Haloo Bridge, and took up a position on the banks of the river. Early the following morning it advanced to Egmond-op-den Zee.

The position on which the Duke of York wished to direct his forces was Haarlem, but hearing that the enemy had been reinforced by 6000 men, that Vandamme had strengthened the position of Beverwyck, and stationed a large force at Purmerend, a position now rendered by inundations almost inaccessible, and one which it was necessary to take, or mask, before a further advance, failing also to find the expected support from the Dutch, or to obtain the necessary supplies, together with the impossibility of covering the troops in the narrow

district of country in possession of the allies, a Council of War was **1799** summoned, and it was decided to withdraw the army to England. No time was lost in embarking the sick, wounded, and stores, and on the evening of the 7th, the troops received orders to return to their old lines. Taking the road by the sea shore, the regiment reached Potten before daybreak, and continuing its march, proceeded to its former quarters at Schagen.

Thus may be said to have ended the expedition to North Holland, for although there were some slight affairs between the rear-guard of the allied army, and the enemy's advanced troops, they were of but little consequence.

On the 17th, a suspension of hostilities was agreed to, when it was decided that all prisoners on both sides should be given up, and that the allies, on liberating 8000 Dutch and French seamen, then prisoners in England, should be allowed to re-embark without molestation. After this, the Russian troops were landed, and quartered for some time in the Channel Isles.

On the 28th of October, the 29th and 85th regiments embarked on board H.M.S. "Irusty," 50 guns, and when, on the 5th of November, the regiment landed at North Yarmouth † "the men were all dressed in white breeches with black gaiters to the cap of the knee, and all wore cocked hats (with one unfortunate exception who was paraded in rear in a forage cap.) Upon this occasion the 29th was hissed by the crowd, who supposed that on account of the uniformity, and smartness of the corps, it had not seen any service, whilst other regiments were cheered from a supposition that they had done everything, because they landed in round hats tied up with pack-thread, and fastened with pieces of tobacco pipes, and in trousers of all sorts, and fashions.

"The 29th, at a subsequent embarkation for service, was reported by a General officer to be perfect in every respect, except in the want

† *Morning Herald*, 17th March, 1840.

1799 of a commanding officer ; this remark might almost have been omitted. On another occasion, this gallant regiment was deprived by sickness, of the service of its only Field officer who happened to be present, and the general in command entreated the officer to leave the parade, saying that " the youngest officer could command the regiment."

From Yarmouth, the regiment marched to Dover Castle, where it arrived on the 29th of November, and remained during the winter.

On its route, the regiment had to pass through London, and with regard to this march, the following note in Colonel Enys' handwriting, still exists .—

" Upon this occasion I made application at the Guildhall for permission to allow the 29th to march through the City of London with their Drums beating, &c , the regiment having always been prepossessed with the idea that they, in common with the Buffs, had that privilege—but they would not allow of it, indeed the person to whom I spoke would not allow that the Buffs had any such privilege, but said they once had done so by the authority of the then Sheriff, who put himself at the head of the regiment, and marched through with them ; at any rate the 29th were not allowed to Beat their Drums, which being the case, they cased their colours, and marched through in silence like all other regiments."

CHAPTER X.



THE following Circular was addressed to the Officer Commanding the 29th (or the Worcestershire) Regiment **1800**

"Horse Guards,

January 17, 1800

"Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that it is His Royal Highness, the Commander in Chief's intention to form a Corps of detachments from the different Regiments of the Line for the purpose of its being instructed in the use of the Rifle, and in the system of exercise adopted by Soldiers so armed. It is His Royal Highness' Pleasure that you shall select from the Regiment under your Command 2 Serjeants, 2 Corporals, and 30 private men for this duty, all of them being such men as appear most capable of receiving the above instructions, and most competent to the performance of the duty of Riflemen. These N^o. Officers and Privates are not to be considered as being drafted from their regiments but merely as detached for the purpose above recited; they will continue to be borne on the Strength of their Regiment, and will be clothed by their respective Colonels. His Royal Highness desires you will recommend 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, and 1 Ensign of the Regiment under your Command who Volunteer to serve in this Corps of Riflemen, * in order that His Royal Highness may select from the Officers recommended from the regiments which furnish their quota on this occasion, a sufficient number of Officers for the Rifle Corps. These Officers are to be considered as detached on duty from their respective Regiments, and will share in all promotion that occurs in them during their Absence.

Eight drummers will be required to act as Bugle Horns, and I request you will acquaint me, for the information of His Royal Highness, whether you have any in the 29th Regiment qualified as such, or of a Capacity to be instructed

I have, &c, &c.,

HARRY CALVERT,
A.G."

* Now the Rifle Brigade (The Prince Consort's Own), then known as Colonel Coote Manningham's Corps of Riflemen.

1800 On the 20th, orders were issued for the detachment, intended for the Rifle Corps, to march to Horsham Barracks, and there remain.

GENERAL ORDER.—24TH FEBRUARY, 1800.

It is His Majesty's Pleasure, that in future, the use of Hats is to be entirely abolished throughout the whole of the Infantry of the Army, and that instead thereof, Caps are to be worn. [These Caps made of lacquered felt, were seven inches deep, had a leather peak two inches broad; and the cockade and tuft were worn in front.]

His Majesty is pleased to permit the Colonels to engrave the number of their respective Regiments on each side of the Lion, on the lower part of the brass fronting [an oblong plate about six inches high and four broad]; and likewise to the Regiments which are entitled to that distinction, His Majesty grants permission to bear their Badges in the centre of the Garter.

The Grenadiers who are allowed to wear these Caps occasionally, when they do not use their proper Grenadier Caps, may, if their Colonels choose it, bear the Grenade, in the same manner as regiments entitled to them, wear their Badges.

It is His Majesty's Pleasure that the Tufts used by the Grenadiers shall be White; those of the Light Infantry (who are likewise included in this order) dark Green. All soldiers shall bear the buttons of their respective regiments in the centre of the Cockade, except the Grenadiers, who shall use the Grenade.

The Caps are to be made of sufficient size to come completely on the soldiers' heads: they are to be worn straight and even, and brought forward well over the eyes.

The Field and Staff Officers, as also the Officers of the Battalion Companies, are to continue to wear Hats as usual.

The Grenadier Officers are permitted to wear Hats when their men do not parade in dress Caps.

The Officers of the Light Company are to wear Caps, similar to those ordered for the Light Infantry.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS.

"Dover, 20 March, 1800.

"His Majesty having been pleased to appoint Major John Byng from the 60th Foot to be Lieut.-Colonel in the 29th Regiment, Lieut.

Colonel Enys cannot take leave of a Regiment, in which he has passed **1800** almost the whole of his life, and from which he now retires only because he finds himself unequal to the fatigues of so active a profession, without returning his most sincere thanks to all and every part of the Corps, from whose Officers he has at all times (since he had the honour to command it) found the utmost, cordial and zealous support whenever necessity required, and whose Non-Commissioned Officers have at all times been so attentive to the support of their respective commands, nor does he feel himself less obliged to every individual Soldier in the Corps for that tranquillity and regularity in quarters and on the march, that patience when on the most fatiguing duties, and that steady and uniform obedience which they have ever paid to the discipline of the Regiment, by which its character has been raised to such an height of military fame, as to render it the pride and envy of the British army. To leave such a Corps, after having served in it nearly twenty-five years, must naturally be a very painful task, but it is a great satisfaction to know that he leaves the command in the hands of a nobleman, who has for nearly three years witnessed the courage and conduct of the Regiment, and who is well-acquainted therewith; one whose conduct has deservedly acquired the esteem of every officer in the Corps; and he flatters himself that the officer whom His Majesty has been pleased to appoint as his successor will by following the steps of his Lordship equally become himself an acquisition to the Regiment, and he most ardently entreats every part of the Corps to pursue the same line of conduct in future as the only means by which they can preserve that character they have so deservedly gained, and he begs leave to assure them that although he has no longer the honour to belong to the Regiment, that their conduct and behaviour will ever remain deeply impressed in his mind, and that it will be at all times one of the greatest pleasures of his retirement whenever any opportunity is offered him, of showing his gratitude (not by words only) but by using every means of serving those, who have served with him."

1800 Writing from Enys, Penryn, Cornwall, 12th August, 1885, Mr. F. G. Enys says :—

"I send you the inscription on the sword, made by Rundell and Bridge, London.

On the hilt opposite his coat of arms—" *A Present from the Officers of the 29th Regt. to Lt.-Col. Enys.*"

On the blade in embossed letters are the following words—" *As a Tribute of Sincere Regard and as a Testimony of their Perfect Approbation of his Conduct during Twenty Five Years' Service, This Sword is Presented to John Enys, late Lieut. Colonel of the 29th Regt., by his Brother Officers.*"

Monthly returns, dated the 1st of June, show the following as being *on command* :—

Lieut. T. Langton,	2 Serjts., 1 Drumr., 32 Rank and File,	at Shorncliffe.
" H. Birmingham,	2 " 1 " 20 "	at Bagshot.
" *Blous Lynch }	2 " 1 " 32 "	{ Detached to Rifle Corps.
Ens ⁿ . *Chas. Douglas }		

With a view of establishing a uniform system of manœuvring, it was now decided to form a camp of about 14,000 at Swinley, under command of Lieut.-General D. Dundas. On the 6th of June, the regiment marched from Dover, and on arriving at the camp on the 14th, was brigaded with the three battalions of the 9th Foot under Major-General Robert Manners, but afterwards with the 2nd battalion of the 1st (Royals), and the 1st and 2nd battalions of the 27th Foot, under Major-General W. Morshead.

The King frequently came from Windsor to attend the drills, and on the 17th of July, a grand review of about 32,000 troops took place on Winkfield Plain.

*Lieut. Lynch, Ensign Douglas, 1 Serjt., and 2 Privates were on the 24th October following discharged to the Rifle Corps.

The following account of this review is taken from the daily papers :-- 1800

"The 7th Regiment of Light Dragoons was first on the ground, the Stafford Militia appeared next, preceded by their field guns. The 27th Foot, with their band, drums, and fifes playing, marched in companies abreast, as did the whole of the infantry. The 29th and 2nd battalion of the "Royals" then followed in the same manner.

"His Majesty, attended by the Prince of Wales, Duke of Cumberland, his A.D.C.'s and a number of officers, arrived on the plain at 10.30, followed by the Queen, the Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth, and Mary, the Princess of Orange, and the Countess of Harrington, in two sociables, and His Serene Highness the Stadtholder in another open carriage. On His Majesty's arrival, a royal salute of 21 guns was fired. The troops were drawn up in two lines, the cavalry being at each extremity with their artillery.

"Having passed and re-passed the front of the lines of troops, His Majesty took up his station in the middle of the plain, the whole line of cavalry and infantry immediately fired in quick succession: beginning with the cavalry on the right in front, and ending with the cavalry on the right in rear, the "*battalion guns*" of each regiment, firing as signals, and the music playing after each salute. This part of the review, which was repeated three times, had a most striking effect

"A signal gun was soon afterwards fired for the cavalry and infantry to form into single companies, in order to march off the ground, past the king, each regiment with its artillery at its head.

"The Duke of York, who acted as Commander-in-Chief, marched on to the ground at the head of the Guards, he wore in his hat a large bough of laurels. The review was over at 1.30 p.m. The Light Infantry wore their new caps, similar to those worn by the Austrians."

1800 On the 1st of August, the Light company marched for Weymouth, and on the camp of exercise being shortly after broken up, the remaining companies of the regiment set out in three divisions (the first marching on 1st September) for Canterbury, and proceeding thence to Deal, embarked on board the "Dido" and "Resource" transports for Guernsey. On arriving there, the regiment occupied the New Ground Barracks for the night, and the following morning moved into Fort George. Whilst in these quarters two companies were detached to Sark, and two to Rocquaine. The Weymouth detachment did not join head-quarters till about the first week in November.

The Union of Great Britain with Ireland having been effected on the 2nd of July, on the 15th of December a H.G. Circular was issued, ordering all *Colours* to be sent to the Ordnance Office, Tower of London, for alteration to the new pattern. This was the conjoining of the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew with that of St. Patrick, the addition of the Shamrock to the wreath of Roses and Thistles, and the placing *on the regimental colour* of a small Union in a "canton."

It was directed that every regiment and corps in the service should display the new *Colours* on the 1st of January, 1801.

1801 On the 30th of January, the regiment embarked on board the "Sea Nymph," "Polly," "Isabella," and "Ceres" transports for Spithead, where on arrival it disembarked and marched to Winchester. During the assizes, it moved to the neighbouring towns of Bishops Waltham, Warnford, Exton, Meonstoke, Hambledon, East and West Meon, and returned to Winchester on the 9th of March. About this time an order was received for the formation of two additional companies (the 11th and 12th), each to consist of 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 5 sergeants, 5 corporals, 2 drummers, and 95 privates; these were to be borne on the establishment from the 25th inst.

On account of disturbances in the West of England, on the 4th of April the regiment commenced to march in three divisions for Exeter.

Having halted at Taunton on the 13th inst., two companies were detached to Shepton Mallet, and one to Chard. On the 16th these companies, under command of Major Johnstone, proceeded to Exeter, where on the 6th of May they were joined by the remainder of the regiment. On the 8th, head quarters with five companies, under command of Lt.-Col. Lord Fredk. Montagu, marched for Berry Head, whilst Lt.-Colonel Byng and two companies proceeded to Taunton, Major Johnstone with three companies to Totnes, one company to Dartmouth, and one to Chard. Detachments were subsequently sent to Exeter, Newton Bushel, and Paignton.

On the 23rd of April, a Warrant was published for providing each man with a great coat. Previous to this there had only been a few watch coats allowed per regiment.

Early in June, the head quarters and eight companies marched to Plymouth Dock, and occupied the barracks in George and Cumberland Squares. Three companies remained on detachment at Berry Head, and one at Exeter. In July, head quarters and 11 companies were assembled at Plymouth. One company, under command of Captain A. Creagh, with Lieuts. Burdett, Tandy, and Rowan, was on duty at Woodbury Camp from July to October, when it rejoined head-quarters. About this period the idea of regimental schools appears to have been started, as in the *Military Extracts*, at the Royal United Service Institution, is the following paragraph, which has been cut out of a newspaper:—

“We find that the plan of Regimental Schools is not limited to the Devonshire Regiment of Militia alone. There are in the Plymouth Garrison two Schools for the children of the Privates and N.C.O.'s; the 29th Regt. of Foot, under the patronage of Lieut.-Colonel Lord Frederick Montagu and the Officers of that Regiment, and the Plymouth Division of Marines under the patronage of Major-General Bower and the Officers of that invaluable Corps. The happy idea

1801 of infusing a portion of useful knowledge into the children of our brave defenders, formerly too much neglected, has already been productive of the most salutary effects."

1802 On the 25th of February, 1802, a notice of payment of prize money due to the army engaged in the expedition against Holland, in 1799, appeared in the *Gazette*. The sum amounted to a little over £21,830.

The 23rd, 25th, 27th, and 29th regiments were to be allotted their share on the 4th of March; the state of distribution being as follows :—

Each Field Officer	£62	8	3
„ Captain	£10	8	3
„ Lieutenant, and Ensign	£4	14	3
„ Serjeant	£2	0	7
„ Corporal, Drummer, and Private		6	8

On the 24th of June, the regiment embarked at Stonehouse, on board the "Matthew and Thomas," the "Queen," "Hilberts," and "Camilla" transports, for Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Previous to the sailing of the transports, Major-General England caused the following order to be published :—

"Plymouth Dock, 24 June, 1802.

"Major-General England begs to express his thanks to the 29th Regiment for the regular, sober, and soldierlike manner in which they embarked this morning for Foreign Service; such meritorious conduct must ensure to them the approbation of Lieut.-Colonel Byng, under whose immediate command the Regiment is now ordered; and the Major-General will not fail to inform him of the high state of discipline of the Corps, and the very great satisfaction he felt, during the time they were under his direction in this Garrison."

By a General Order dated the 14th of July, 1802, the wearing of Epaulettes and Shoulder Knots by the Non-Commissioned Officers of the Foot Guards, and Regiments of Infantry was directed to be discontinued; Chevrons of Regimental lace worn on the right arm being substituted: 4 Bars for a Sergt.-Major, or Quarter-Master Serjeant, All other Serjeants, 3 Bars; Corporals, 2.

On landing at Halifax in September, the regiment was quartered **1802** in the North Barracks, and whilst here several eligible volunteers were received from the 66th Foot and the Loyal Surrey Rangers.

The following story is related by Judge Haliburton in "Sam Slick's Wise Saws" :—

"The Sable Island Ghost."

" 'Now,' said Cutler, 'sit down here, Mr Slick, and I'll tell you one of the strangest stories you ever heard. In the year 1802, the ship 'Princess Amelia' was wracked off Sable Island, having the furniture of the Queen's father, Prince Edward, on board, and a number of recruits, soldier officers and their wives and women servants. There were 200 souls of them altogether, and they all perished. About that period, some piratical vagabonds used to frequent there, for there was no regular establishment kept on the island then, and it's generally supposed some of the poor people of that misfortunate ship reached the shore in safety, and were murdered by the wrackers for their property. Well the Prince sends down Captain Torrens *— of the 29th Regiment, I think it was—from Halifax to inquire after the missin' ship, and, as luck would have it, he was wracked too, and pretty nearly lost his life in trying to drag others through the surf, for he was a man that didn't know what danger or fear either was, except by name. There was but few that could be rescued before the vessel went to pieces. Well, he stationed them that survived at one end of the island, and off he goes to the other so as to extend his look-out for aid as far as he could, but first they had to bury the dead that floated about the troopship, and gather up such parts of the Prince's effects as came ashore, and were worth saving. It was an awful task and took them a long time, for the Grave was as large as a cellar a'most. There they are, just where that long bent grass grows. Having done this, and findin' fire-arms in the Government shelter-hut, off he goes alone

* H. Torrens, Ensign 29th Foot, 28 July, 1801

1802 to the other eend of the island. One day, having made the circuit of the lower half here, he returned about dusk to where we now are.

“ ‘Where you see that little hillock, there was a small hut in those days, that had fireworks in it, and some food and chairs and tables, that had been saved out of wracks, which were placed there for distressed people; and there were printed instruction in French and English, telling them what to do to keep themselves alive till they could be taken off. Well, he made a fire, hauld down some hay out of the loft, and made up a bed in one corner, and went to take a walk along by the side of the lake, afore he turned in. As he returned, he was surprised to see his dog standin’ at the door, lookin’ awfully skeered, growlin’, barkin’ and yelpin’ like mad. The first thing he saw inside was a lady sittin’ on one side of the fire, with long drippin’ hair, hangin’ over her shoulders, her face as pale as death, and havin’ nothin’ on but a loose soiled white dress, that was as wet as if she had just come out of the Sea, and had sand stickin’ to it, as if she had been rolled over and over on the breakers.

“ ‘Good Heavens, Madam,’ said he, ‘who are you, and where did you come from?’ But she didn’t speak to him, and only held up her hand before her, and he saw one of the fore-fingers was cut off, and was still bleedin’. Well, he turned round, and opened a case that he had picked up in the mornin’ from the drift-ship, in which was materials for bandagin’ the wound, and was goin’ to offer her some assistance, when she rose up sudden, slipped past him, and went out of the door and walked off. Well, he followed and called to her, and begged her to stop; but on she went, and thinkin’ she was out of her mind, he ran after her, and the faster he went, the swifter she raced, till she came to the lake, and dived right into it headforemost.

“ ‘Well, he stood some time there considerin’ and ponderin’ over what had happened, and at last he strolled back, and sat down by the fire a good deal puzzled. Arter studyin’ it out for some time, sais he, — ‘There can’t be no mistake here. That is not a ghost, nor a

demented person, but a murdered woman. If I catch a wracker here **1802** while I am on the island, I'll ask no questions but I'll shoot him as I would a wolf.

" 'Poor thing, she wants me to tell her friends I have seen her, and that she is actilly dead, but who is she, and who are her folks? But the finger,' said he, 'that is very odd. I suppose in putting up her hand to save her life, it was cut off. Confound the villain, I wish I could once get my eyes on him,' and he look'd at the primin' of his gun and went out and kneeled down, and takin' off his hat, held his head close to the ground, to see if anybody was a movin' between him and the horizon, and findin' there warn't, and feelin' tired, for he had been on his feet all day, he returned to the hut again, and who should be there but the selfsame lady in the selfsame place.

" 'Now,' said he to himself, 'don't go too near her, it's evidently onpleasant to her, but she has some communication to make.' Well, what do you think, it's a positive fact, she held up the mutilated hand again. He paused some time afore he spoke, and took a good look at her, to be sure there was no mistake, and to be able to identify her afterwards, if necessary. 'Why,' sais he, after scrutenizin' of her (for he was a man, was the brave Captain Forrens, that the devil himself couldn't daunt), 'why,' says he, 'it am't possible.' Why, Mrs. Copeland is that you?' for he knew her as well as I know you. She was the wife of Dr. Copeland[†] of the 7th Regiment, and was well known at Halifax, and beloved by all who knowed her. She just bowed her head, and then held up her hand, and showed the bloody stump of her finger.

" 'I have it,' sais he, 'murdered for the sake of your ring.'—She bowed her head. 'Well,' sais he, 'I'll track the villain out, till he is shot or hanged.' Well, she looked sad, and made no sign. 'Well,'

[†] Surgeon John Copeland was appointed to the 7th Foot (or Royal Fusiliers) on the 14th of May, 1795.

1202 sais he, 'I'll leave no stone unturned to recover that ring, and restore it to your family.'

"Well, she smiled, bowed her head, and rose up and waved her hand to him to stand out of the way, and he did, and she slipped by him, and then turned and held up both hands, as if she was pushin' some one back, and retreated that way, makin' the same motion; and he took the hint, shut to the door, and sot down to digest this curious scene.

" 'Now, that story is a positive fact,' sais the Superintendent. 'Them is the real names. My father heard Torrens tell it word for word, as I tell it to you; and there is people now living at Halifax who knew him well, for he was a great favourite with everybody. Just after that, there was an awful storm, and another wrack, and he was mainly the means of saving the people at the risk of his own life. His name is on the Chart as the 'brave Captain Torrens,' the House of Assembly voted him a large sum of money, and the Prince thought everything of him. I dare say the Duchess of Kent has often heard the story, and if she hain't——'

" 'But about the ring?' sais I.

" 'Oh, yes!' said he, 'that is the curiosest part of it.' Captain Torrens got hold of the names of three of the most noted wrackers, and set out to track 'em to their hidin' places. One of them lived to Salmon River, just about as solitary and lonely a place as he could have found to escape observation. When the Captain got there, the feller had gone to Labrador. Well, Torrens soon knocked up an acquaintance with the family by stayin' at the house, and makin' it his head quarters while he was fowlin' and fishin' in the neighbourhood. One evenin' he put on a splendid ring, which he brought down for the purpose, so as to draw the talk to the subject he wanted. The eldest girl admired it greatly; and he took it off, and it was handed round, and commented on. At last one of the darters said she didn't think it

was half so pretty as the one daddy got off the lady's finger at Sable 1802 Island.

" 'No, my dear,' said the mother, who got behind his chair to telegraph, 'he got it from a Frenchman, who picked it up at the sand there.'

" 'Oh! I believe it was,' said the girl, colourin' up, and lookin' a little confused.

" 'Well, at last the ring was handed back, and he put it on his finger again, and when he was kinder pretendin' to admire it, sais he carelessly, - 'Show me your ring, if it is as handsome as this I'll buy it of you, for I am a great ring fancier, but I don't suppose it would go on my great coarse finger would it? Where is it?'

" 'It's at Halifax, sir,' said she. 'The last time daddy was there, he left it with a watchmaker to sell. He gave him twenty shillings on it, and told him if it fetched more he should have it.

" 'Oh,' said he, quite unconcerned, 'it's no matter.'

" 'Oh, yes! it is, sir,' said she, 'for it's a most beautiful one, you had better buy it', and she described it most minutely

" 'He was quite satisfied, and arter breakfast the next mornin' he started for Halifax as fast as he could. Well the town warn't then what it is now. Two watchmakers was all that was in it so a search couldn't last very long any how, but in the window of the fust shop he went to was the identical ring. Says he to the shopman

" 'Friend,' sais he, 'give me the history of that ring, as far as you know about it.'

* " 'Well, the account was just what he had heard himself, omittin' of course all mention of the finger. Says he - 'Give it to me, here are the twenty shillings advanced, and if the owner wants more, tell him to bring the finger that was cut off to get at it, and then come to me.'

1802 " 'Well it was identified at once by the ladies of the regiment, and some of the Doctor's brother officers ; and the moment the Prince saw it, he knew it, for it was a curious old family ring, and the Captain sent it to England to Mrs. Copeland's friends.'

" 'Torrens was ordered home soon after that, and there the matter dropt.'

" 'That's a strange story,' said the Skipper ; ' what do you think of it, Mr. Slick ?'

" 'Why,' said I, 'It seems to come very straight, and looks as if it was true ; and nothin' ought to be considered impossible because it is uncommon.'

" 'Well, says Eldad, that story is as true as Gospel, for I've heard it from Mr. Collingwood's father, who was with the Prince at the time, and saw the ring himself ; and more than that, I could tell you the name of the wracker, but I won't, for some of his descendants are still living, and are decent people. I have seen the old coon several times and the devil himself with all his arts and insinuations never could coax him out of the house arter dark.' " *

Although on the 27th of March, 1802, the Treaty of Amiens had been concluded, yet both England and France were ready to renew the **1803** conflict, and early in 1803, on account of the extensive warlike preparations being carried on in the ports of France and Holland, an explanation was requested from the French Government.

On the 12th of May, the ultimatum of the British Government was presented, which being rejected, war was declared on the 18th instant, but it was not till 1808 that the 29th Foot was called upon to take a share in the active operations.

In June, 1803, the Field Officers' companies were taken from them, and the rank of captain-lieutenant and captain abolished ; the latter officers were promoted captains of the colonel's late company, and the two senior lieutenants succeeded to the command of the lieut. colonel's, and major's companies.

* *Note by Judge Haliburton.*—This story is given with the real names, and is well known to an Officer of the 7th, still living who was intimately acquainted with the parties.

In "*James' Regimental Companion*," published this year, it is **1808** stated "The *Sash* is now usually worn outside the coat and crossbelt. There is not however any specific regulation on this head, as in many regiments, the officers have their sashes made so as to tie with ribbands, under the coat. The tuft or tassels, on duty, hang on the right side for cavalry officers, on the left for infantry. As the original purpose for which sashes were ordained (being for the immediate conveyance of a wounded officer off the field of battle), is now wholly defeated by its diminutive size, there appear to be only two points of view in which this article can properly be considered; these are, designation of duty, and convenience to the wearer. The sash was originally made full enough to hold the human form, and was worn across the shoulder."

The following were the rates of pay at this period : -

	INFANTRY OF THE LINE, PER DIEM	H.P. INFANTRY OF GREAT BRITAIN.	INFANTRY OF IRELAND
	£ s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Colonel	1 2 6	12 0	12 6
Lieut.-Colonel	15 11	8 6	8 6
Major	14 1	7 6	7 6
Captain	9 5	5 0	5 0
Lieut., with additional allowance ..	5 8	2 4	2 4
Ensign	4 8	1 10	1 10
Paymaster	15 0		7 6
Adjutant	8 0	2 0	2 0
Qr.-Master, with additional allowance	5 8	2 4	2 4
Surgeon	9 5	5 0	2 0
Assistant Surgeon	5 0	2 6	2 6
Surgeon's Mate	4 6		
Serjeant-Major	2 0½		
Qr.-Master-Serjeant	2 0½		
Paymaster-Serjeant	1 6½		
Serjeant	1 6½		
Corporal	1 2½		
Drummer, and Grenadier Fifer	1 1½		
Private	1 0		

1804 On the 19th of August Lieut-General Bowyer inspected the regiment at Halifax. The *Colours* were reported as being good :—

"Queues" were this year shortened to 9 inches. As it may interest some to know the mode of dressing such appendages, the following account is taken from "*Notes and Queries*":—"A lock of hair at the back of the head was allowed to grow a little longer than the rest, and upon this was placed a piece of whalebone of regulation length and of the size of a small quill, a narrow black ribbon was then wound round the lock of hair and the whalebone, and continued along the latter until near the end of it, when another lock of hair, kept for the purpose, was placed on the whalebone, projecting about two inches beyond it, and the ribbon wound to the end of the whalebone, where it was fastened off. The whole thus resembled a continuous tail of hair terminating with a curl."

REGIMENTAL ORDERS.

Halifax, 18th Oct, 1804.

Lieut.-Colonel Byng, having been appointed to the 3rd regiment of Guards, wishing, in taking leave of the officers of the 29th regiment, to express his high approbation of their conduct and to acknowledge the very great assistance he received from them in maintaining the discipline of the regiment whilst he had the honour to command it; for the very great happiness he experienced in their society he returns them his most grateful thanks, and his sincere wishes for their future welfare, will ever attend them. To the non-commissioned officers and privates, he has only to say that he considers them in every point of duty, surpassed by none, and equalled but by few regiments in His Majesty's service, and he hopes that every one of them will always consider themselves entitled to call upon him whenever they think he can in anyway serve them—and he hopes that these few lines will be considered by every individual of the regiment, not as a commonplace compliment, but as the sincere effusions of gratitude, and good wishes towards them.

1805 During 1805, the regiment supplied the following detachment at Melville Island, viz. :—1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 1 ensign, 3 sergeants, and 74 privates. Subalterns were sent in command of parties detached

to Forts Charlotte, Clarence, and Sackville, Point Pleasant, York **1805**
Redoubt, Dartmouth, and Cape Breton, whilst at Camperdown, and the
Light House respectively, 3 privates were on command.

Black canvas knapsacks[†] were this year adopted by most infantry
regiments, but as late as 1810, the 29th Regiment were still in possession
of calf-skin ones, with the hair on the outside. Much trouble was taken
in matching the skins as to markings. As the regiment did not return
from the Peninsula till December, 1811, it is most probable that it
continued to wear the calfskin pack till the following year.

In 1806, the above-mentioned detachments were still on command. **1806**

By General Order dated the 20th of October, black felt Caps were substituted for
those of lacquered felt, the brass plate in front was of a smaller and a more oval shape
than that of 1800. It was surmounted by a crown, and bore the G R in a cypher, with
the number of the corps immediately below it, on the centre. The worsted tuft and
cockade were fixed on the side of the cap. Suspended across the front of the officers'
cap was a crimson and gold twisted cord, with tassels, the same cord in white worsted
was worn by the non-commissioned officers and privates of the battalion, and in green,
by the Light infantry company.

From later accounts, it appears that the officers of the 29th continued to wear their
cocked hats for some years after this.

An account of the dress of the officers of the regiment at this
period says. "They wore large cocked hats, white leather breeches,
and long boots reaching above the knee. Their evening dress consisted
of grey cloth tights, Hessian boots with tassels. Before setting down
to dinner, the facings of the coats were buttoned back, and the hair
dressed in a queue powdered. When on duty, the men wore black
cloth leggings with 25 white metal buttons."

On the 15th of January, Lieut. Henry Birmingham was granted **1807**
six months leave of absence, and soon after sailed for England.
Unfortunately, the ship in which he was coming home was captured
by a French privateer, and he was detained, a prisoner, in France till
May, 1814.

United Service Journal, 1830, and *Broad Arrow*, 2nd of October, 1886.

1807 On the 2nd of April, Major-General Martin Hunter inspected the regiment at Halifax.

The *Colours* were reported as good.

The following returns are taken from the inspection report

	COUNTRY					HEIGHT.			
	ENGLISH	SCOTCH	IRISH	FOREIGN		PRIVATE	SERGEANTS	CORPORALES	DRUMMERS
Officers	18	4	12	*1	6ft. 2in. and upwards	5	—	—	—
Staff . . .	5	—	—	—	6ft. 0in.	26	3	2	—
Serjeants.	32	10	2	—	5ft. 11in	34	3	3	1
Corporals.	26	6	8	—	5ft 10in.	35	8	5	—
Drummers	—	—	2	20	5ft 9in	87	9	5	4
Privates.	410	83	133	12	5ft 8in.	107	8	12	1
					5ft. 7in	117	11	9	2
					5ft 6in	119	2	3	2
					5ft 5in	68	—	1	6
					Under 5ft 5in	40	—	—	6
					TOTAL	638	44	40	22

Having received orders to return to England, on the 19th of June, the regiment embarked on board the "Dominica," "Crisis," "Zephyr," "Amphitrite," and "Sceptre" transports.

One company, under command of Captain Thomas Egerton, consisting of Lieut. W. Birmingham, 3 serjeants, 1 drummer, 65 rank and file, did duty as marines on board H.M.S. "Mermaid" during the voyage. Previous to leaving Halifax, N.S., the following district order was issued :—

"Halifax, 18th June, 1807.

"Major-General Hunter cannot allow the 29th regiment to embark for England, without assuring them, that there is not a regiment in His Majesty's service, he would prefer having under his command, either in garrison or in the field, he will report the regiment to His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief, in the highest state of

* Lieut.-Col. White, aged 35, 19½ years service.

discipline, and fit for any service His Majesty may be pleased to order **1807** them upon; and that the conduct of officers and men has been most exemplary since he has had the honour to command the garrison."

The inhabitants of Halifax having presented the officers' mess with a very handsome silver cup, sent the following letter to General Gordon Forbes, Colonel of the 29th Foot:—

"Halifax, Nova Scotia,

"13 July, 1807.

"The inhabitants of the town of Halifax, although strangers to you, are encouraged with the hope that as Colonel of the 29th Regiment you will oblige them by communicating to the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Soldiers, of that highly distinguished Corps, the Esteem in which they are held by all descriptions of His Majesty's Subjects in this Town and Province, and that you will express to them, our sincere regret at the departure of a body of men whose Exemplary Conduct, during their residence in this Garrison, has excited our highest respect and admiration. We are all aware Sir, that the Praises of a remote Colony like Nova Scotia can but add little to the Reputation of a Regiment long accustomed to receive the tribute of respect and admiration, which it has on all occasions so justly merited.

"But when we recollect the pleasure which many of us for several years enjoyed in the Society of the Officers, the correct and gentlemanly manners which marked their intercourse with all classes among us, the orderly and becoming behaviour of the Non-Commissioned Officers and Private men, and reflect on the Confidence and Security with which the presence of such a corps would have inspired us had danger approached Our Shores, we feel it a duty highly incumbent on us, to express the interest we shall ever take in the welfare and happiness of every Individual of the 29th Regiment, and the pleasure and satisfaction it will at all times afford us to hear of any event which can tend to its Fame and Glory.

1807 "In the hope, Sir, that a Corps which resided Five Years in this Garrison, will not think us unworthy of its remembrance, we take the liberty of offering a Silver Cup with our sentiments inscribed on it; and we beg through you to have it presented to the Regimental Mess, and to request the Officers will be pleased to allow the small tribute of our Sincere Regard to have a place on their table.

"We hope, Sir, you will deem the occasion to be a sufficient apology for the liberty we have taken in troubling you; and allow us to express to you the sentiments of high respect with which we have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your very obedient & humble Servants,

Signed (*by the principal inhabitants,
and addressed to*)

Lieut.-General Gordon Forbes,

Colonel of His Majesty's 29th (or Worcestershire)
Regiment of Infantry."

It will be remembered that in 1749, Colonel Hopson's Regiment, afterwards known as the 29th Foot, was employed in clearing and marking out the site for the future town of Halifax

In "*Cyril Thornton*" (by Capt. Thos. Hamilton, late 29th Foot) is a most interesting account of the regiment whilst quartered in Nova Scotia, and its subsequent services in the Peninsular campaign.

After a favourable passage, the regiment under command of Bt. Lieut.-Colonel D. White, arriving at Deal towards the end of July, was in full expectation of being employed with the expedition then assembling in the Downs and destined to proceed to Copenhagen. To the great disappointment of the officers and men, instructions were however received to disembark, and occupy the barracks at Deal. The reason for this order was afterwards ascertained, viz., that the

authorities at the Horse Guards thought that the regiment, owing to **1807** its lengthened absence from England, could not be in a fit state for immediate active service. Never was there a greater mistake, for all the general officers who witnessed its landing, declared it to be one of the finest corps they had ever seen.

The following description of the regiment is taken from the "Adventures of Captain J. Patterson".—

"In August 1807, I joined the 2nd Battalion of H M 50th (or West Kent) Regiment at Deal Barracks

"In the adjoining barrack lay the 29th (or Worcestershire) Regiment, commanded by Lieut-Colonel Daniel White. It had lately returned from Halifax, where it had been stationed many years. Being in preparation for active employment, it was now passing through the usual ordeal of drill, and ball practice, and consequently the interminable sounds of drums and bugles, the monotonous din of the drill serjeants 'as you were,' accompanied by the clamour from the adjutant's stentorian lungs, were continually ringing in our ears.

"The 29th was a fine regiment, although it had been trained up after the manner of the old school. Their Lieut-Colonel, a gallant veteran, showing the example, made his officers dress with cocked hats, square to the front, long queues, and wide-skirted coats, fastened or looped back with hook and eye. We were enlivened by their excellent band; and their corps of black drummers cut a fierce and remarkable appearance while hammering away on their brass drums."

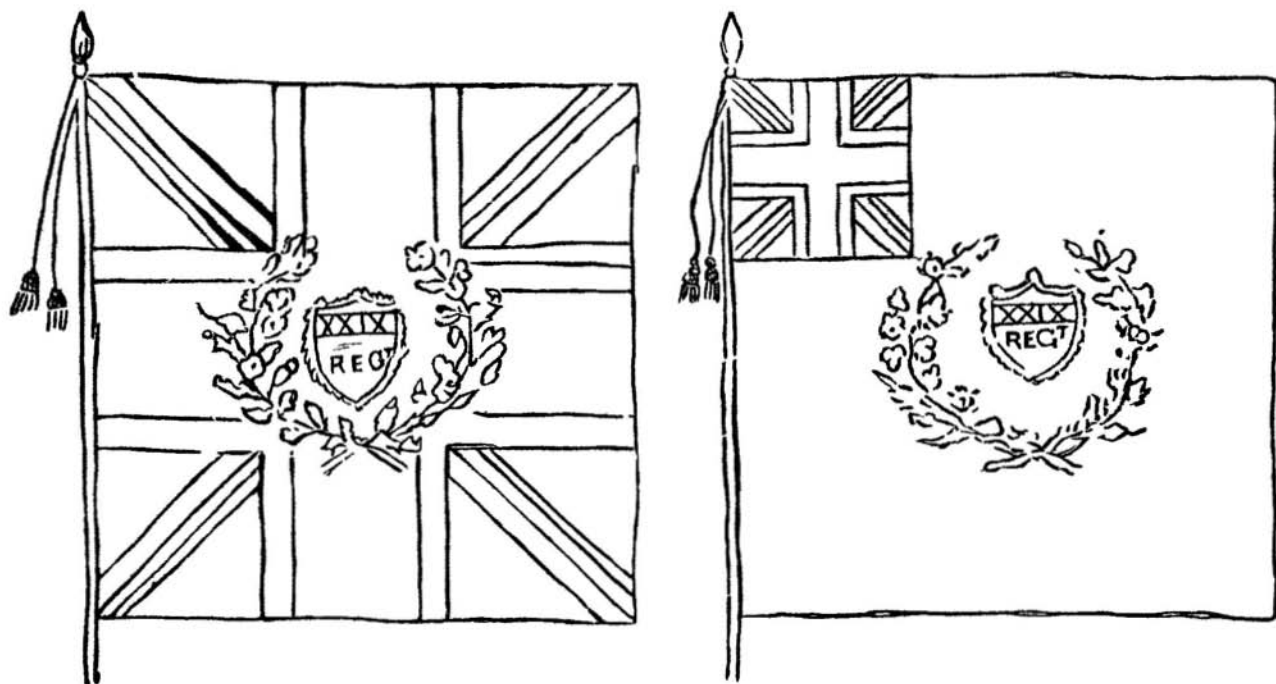
It appears that about this time the College of Arms became more particular as to the Colours, and also the devices borne on them, for the following correspondence still exists there, for a copy of which I am indebted to Sir Albert Woods, C B., Garter King of Arms

"Sir,

"Deal, August 12, 1807.

"In answer to your letter of the 2nd May, I have the honour of enclosing you, Sketches of the Colours borne by the 29th

By Regulation, the Colours should have been "*The King's.*" The great Union, only.



"*The Regimental,*" in the centre $\frac{\text{XXIX}}{\text{REG}^1}$, encircled by a wreath of roses, thistles, &c. ; in a canton, a small Union.

"*The Camp Colour,*" which was of yellow, without any device, should have had "XXIX REG¹" straight across it.

Regiment, in which you will find a slight deviation, but cannot state **1807**
by what authority the alteration took place

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your obedient Servant

D. WHITE, Lt. Col.

George Naylor, Esqre
&c. &c. &c "

Major 29th Regt."

As these Colours were carried by the regiment throughout the Peninsular War, an exact copy of the sketches mentioned is inserted.

One evening in September, the officers whilst at mess, were startled by the sound of musketry, and on going into the square, several shots passed over their heads. On repairing to the barrack gate, which opened almost on to the beach, it was discovered that a large smuggling boat had passed through the fleet, which was lying at anchor, and had been run ashore. The smugglers, having been observed by some of the boats of the men-of-war, fire had been opened on them. As soon as their boat touched ground, the smugglers landed, drew up, and returned the fire, whilst their accomplices emptied the boat of its cargo. The regiment having neither authority nor orders to interfere, could but remain spectators of what was going on. It was not till after this affair was over, that the Custom House authorities applied for assistance. The Light company was immediately turned out, and on searching the houses on the outskirts of the town, some fifty kegs of brandy were secured, but the greater part of the cargo had been successfully carried off into the country.

On the 7th of November, orders were received to march to Brabourne Lees, situated on a low-lying common between Hythe and Ashford, where some temporary wooden barracks had been erected.

1807 On the 28th, the regiment set out for Portsmouth, and passing through Tenterden, Cranbrooke, Tunbridge Wells, East Grinstead, Cuckfield, Horsham, and Petworth, reached Petersfield on the 6th of December. Here it was met and inspected by its colonel, General Gordon Forbes, who entertained the officers at a dinner, and informed them that they were to embark the following day, and be employed on a secret expedition, but that they were not to divulge this to the men. The march was continued early the next morning, and on reaching Cosham, Lieut.-Colonel the Honble. G. A. F. Lake, who in 1804 had retired on half-pay of the regiment, now re-joined and took command of it. Having ordered it to halt, he invited all the officers to breakfast, and gave the men a substantial meal, after which they continued their route to Portsmouth, marching directly to the point, where flat-bottomed boats were found ready to convey them to the transports. This was the first intimation the men had of their embarkation for foreign service. Their spirits rose immediately, and they got into the boats with as great coolness and regularity as if they had only been going to cross a ferry. They embarked* to the sound of martial music and to the cheers of an immense crowd, to which they heartily responded. It was, however, very distressing to hear the wailings of many poor women and children who were thus suddenly separated from their husbands, and fathers, and left destitute on the beach. A certain number belonging to each company were, however, afterwards permitted to embark.

It was now ascertained that a force (consisting of the 29th, 32nd, 50th, and 82nd regiments, the 3rd, 4th, 6th, and 8th battalions of the King's German Legion, a brigade of British, and one of German artillery, the whole under command of Major-General Sir Brent Spencer, with Brigadiers-General Sir Miles Nightingale and Sir

* Lieut. James Nestor, Ensign Samuel Hardy, 3 Serjeants, 3 Corporals, 1 Drummer, and 16 Privates were left at home for Recruiting purposes. On the 23rd of May, 1808, the Recruiting company was directed to be augmented to 1 Captain, 2 Lieutenants,

Robert McFarlane, commanding brigades, the 29th and 50th being in 1807 that of the latter) was to be employed on a secret service, and that the transports had been provisioned for six months.

The 29th were put on board the following ships —the "Dominica" (head-quarters of the regiment), "London," "Scipio," "John," "Neriod," and "John Taylor."



LIEUT.-COLONEL LARK.

The Peace of Tilsit (7th July, 1807) having restored Buonaparte, victorious, to his capital, he now took advantage of the dissensions in the Spanish Court, to get its Royal Family into his power, when he

1807 at once sent a *corps d'armée* into Spain, and made his brother Joseph, king. At the same time the Prince Regent of Portugal having refused to carry out Buonaparte's decrees with regard to British shipping, French troops were marched into Portugal, on which the Royal family fled to Brazil. But though thus abandoned, neither the Spanish nor Portuguese were inclined to submit to the universal enemy, but determined to apply to England for help.

The destination of General Spencer's force being kept a profound secret, the ships were directed to sail with sealed orders, with the first fair wind after the 10th of December. It was not until the 20th inst., when the wind having changed to the eastward, that the convoy got under weigh, and passing through the Needles, was on the 22nd, fairly in the Bay. The next day the wind failed, it became a dead calm, so smooth was the sea that boats were lowered, and visits exchanged with the other transports. During the night a S.W. wind began to rise, which increased to a gale, so bad was it on Christmas day, that all sail was shortened, and the men were only able to get a small quantity of meat cooked, which they eat, seated like Turks, on sails on the cabin floor. As the storm continued with unabated fury, signal was made to bear up, and sealed order No. 1 being opened, it was found that the fleet was directed to rendezvous off Lisbon. On account of the hurricane which still raged, it was found impossible to make this rendezvous, so the transports bore up for Falmouth, where, those with the 29th on board, with the exception of the "Neriod," were re-

1808 assembled by the 23rd of January, 1808. The "Neriod" (on board which was Captain E. Nestor's company with Lieut. R. Stannus, Ensigns Wm. Duguid and Benj. Wild), having become separated from the convoy, made for Gibraltar, where on arrival she was despatched to strengthen the British force assembled in Sicily, under Lieut.-General Sir James Stewart, Bart., to support and protect King Ferdinand IV., who had been driven by Buonaparte from the throne of Naples.

On the 23rd of February, the fleet having re-assembled, it once **1808** more sailed from Falmouth with a fair wind and scaled orders. On arriving off the Tagus, it being ascertained that the French under Marshal Junot, had occupied Lisbon and the surrounding forts, the expedition proceeded to Gibraltar and anchored at the New Mole on the 12th of March.

Dr. Geo. Guthrie, surgeon of the regiment, gives the following anecdote :—

“One of the transports having a detachment of the 29th on board, anchored on the bank in the Bay, and being in harbour, all turned in, except the watch and mate. Being a bad sleeper on board ship, and knowing the carelessness of the sailors, I went on deck in the middle of the night, and to my astonishment, found the ship was drifting. The mate, on being awakened from his nap, would not believe it, until I showed him the cable, nearly right up and down. Well, we turned up all hands, got sail on the ship, and the moment we tacked, the battery at Algeçiras opened fire upon us (the Spaniards were not yet our allies), and after some trials, they sent one shot through the accommodation box on the poop. We got half-a-dozen more shots from Cabrito Point, on passing, and then beat our way back, to the astonishment of the fleet and the garrison, who could not understand what we had been after.”

On the 14th, the English regiments disembarked (leaving, however, detachments and all their baggage on board), and occupied the South Pavilion. This division was guided by orders distinct from those of the garrison, and its destination was still kept a mystery.

About the 8th of May, the troops were surprised to hear the batteries of Algeçiras firing a salute, and it was shortly afterwards ascertained that on the 2nd inst. the Spaniards at Madrid, had risen against the French.

On the 14th, orders were issued for the immediate embarkation of General Spencer's division. An east wind having sprung up, the whole of the convoy got under weigh early on the 17th, and the

1808 following day arrived off Cadiz, where it joined the blockading fleet under Lord Collingwood and Rear-Admiral Purvis

The favourable disposition of the people now induced the British Admiral to endeavour to open a private communication with the Spanish officers, but the Governor, the Marquis of Solano-y-Socoro, not feeling himself either strong, or bold enough, to oppose the views of the French, declined all overtures.

On the 28th, this officer, having been considered as gained over to the French cause, fell a victim to popular vengeance. The people now turned their fury against the French troops, who retired on board their vessels. The new Governor, General Morla, immediately entered into negotiations with the British, and the Spaniards separating their fleet from that of the French, prepared to attack their ships then in Cadiz Harbour, at the mouth of which Admiral Purvis and the transports remained anchored, ready to give assistance if necessary. The French admiral, hemmed in on all sides, determined not to yield without a fight, which took place in full view of the British. As soon as the French ships were captured, the port was opened to the English, who were received with acclamations of joy from all ranks.

Abstract of the Description of Service of the Non-Commissioned Officers and Rank and File of the 29th Regiment of Foot. Cadiz Bay, 1st June, 1808.

	SERGEANTS	DRUMMERS	RANK AND FILE
Men Serving for Life .	40	18	677
Men Serving for a Limited Period ..			126
Boys Serving for Life			
Boys Serving for a Limited Period . .			7
Total	40	18	810

On the 7th, Captain Nestor's company re-joined from Sicily.

1808

The Spaniards, thinking themselves now capable of defending Cadiz, General Spencer's expedition cruised between that port and Lisbon, touching occasionally at Ayamonte, as it was reported that the French army, then collecting at the mouth of the Guadiana, intended to enter Spain by that route, but on the approach of General Spencer, the French retired towards Lisbon.

On the 1st of July, the transports, with the regiment on board, were once more in Cadiz Harbour, and, on the 3rd, the whole of the troops disembarked and occupied barracks at Puerto Santa Maria, on the opposite side of the town of Cadiz. These were the first British troops to land in the Peninsula, § and were received with shouts of "Viva. Viva los Ingleses! Rompez los Franceses!"

The patriots, having assumed a red cockade, with the cypher ¹/_{III} worked upon it, the Spanish ladies took a pride in embroidering and presenting the English officers with this national emblem, which they had been ordered to place above their black one. General Spencer's force was kept in constant readiness to take the field, and the 29th were actually under orders to march to the aid of Generals Reding and Castaños, when information was received that General Dupont's army had been surrounded at Baylen and compelled to capitulate. After these successes, General Spencer communicated to the Junta his intention of joining, on the coast of Portugal, the expedition which had sailed from England under Sir Arthur Wellesley. With this object

§ Extract from Military Journal of Colonel Chas. Leslie, K H., who was gazetted to the 29th Foot, 18th Dec., 1806, was present at Roliça, Vimero, Oporto, Talavera, Albuhera, Siege of Badajoz, besides various other affairs and skirmishes —

"We had the honour of being the first British troops who landed in the Peninsula."

Captain Leslie, who was severely wounded at Talavera, retained the musket ball in his right leg for the remainder of his life. He received the Peninsular medal with four clasps, and was in 1813 transferred to the 60th Rifles.

Colonel Leslie was 26th Baron of Balquhain, and died January, 1870.

1808 the whole of the troops re-embarked on the 19th of July, and, sailing the following day, arrived in Mondego Bay on the evening of the 6th of August, where orders were received for them to disembark the next morning. Owing to the swell and surf, several boats were upset whilst endeavouring to get ashore, and one containing a party of the 29th Grenadiers, lost arms and everything, the men narrowly escaping with their lives.

General Spencer's division being the last to land, it was found that every animal in the neighbourhood had been purchased, so that it was impossible to get horses or mules to carry the tents and baggage. The officers were therefore obliged to carry in their haversacks a few shirts, stockings, shaving articles, &c ; their cloaks were slung over their shoulders on one side, and a canteen of rum on the other.

It was late in the evening, before the regiment reached Sir Arthur Wellesley's army, then encamped above the small town of Lamos, on joining which the 29th and 82nd, under command of Brigadier-General Sir M. Nightingale, formed the 3rd brigade.

The army which landed in Mondego Bay, expected to meet the enemy forthwith, but no arrangements had been made for sick or wounded. Dr. Guthrie was therefore ordered by Colonel Lake to purchase a mule, or an ass, to carry the instruments and medicines.

Dr. Guthrie said -- "I had two one-handed men, attached to me, whose hands I had cut off, after maiming themselves in America, and who had hitherto been necessary cleaners. These fellows could saddle a horse or mule nearly as quickly and as well as if their hands had not been amputated. They took care of the jackass that carried the physic and surgical stores in a biscuit bag, which I begged from the master of the transport, there being nothing else to be had ; and thus the regiment set off to fight two or three battles and take Lisbon."

When Nightingale's brigade arrived in camp, it was so dark that the regiments had some difficulty in finding their tents, and in regard to

food, nothing whatever could be obtained, so the men had to content themselves with a morsel of ship's biscuit from their haversacks, and a glass of rum. They then wrapped themselves up in their coats, and lay down in hopes of getting some rest. 1808

At 2 a.m. on the 8th of August, without a bugle sound or beat of drum, the whole army was under arms, and remained so till an hour after sunrise, lest the enemy should attempt a surprise.

*Extract from "Recollections of My Military Life," by Colonel
G Landmann, R.E.*

"On the next day, Monday, the 8th of August, 1808, we discovered a large fleet ahead already at anchor in Mondego Bay. Having arranged my luggage, I gave it in charge of . . . It now occurred to me that my long 'queue' might be inconvenient on service, so after very serious consideration, I resolved on cutting it off, for it was my own natural hair. From this day, the dropping of 'Queues' * throughout the army may be dated, excepting the 29th Regiment, of whom I shall hereafter have occasion to say a few words on the subject." —(*Vide this Officer's account of meeting the 29th, with Colonel Lake at its head, on the 17th of August, page 278*).

* The 29th was the last regiment of the Peninsular Army to retain the "Queue"—*"Notes and Queries," 2nd Series, Vol II*

"Queues" were doomed by Horse Guard General Order, 20th of July, 1808, but officers continued to wear the Flash, made of black ribbon, attached to the collar of the coat behind, to distinguish them as flankers. This custom has been for years preserved in the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers—*Records of 44th Foot*.

"Broad Arrow," 30th October, 1886 —*"The Flash, and the Royal Welsh Fusiliers"*—After the Queue was done away with, Colonel Pearson retained the Flash on the officers' coats until the regiment came home in 1834. The dress regulations had been revised and materially altered a short time before the 23rd landed, and the General commanding at Portsmouth questioned the right of the officers to wear the "flash." Colonel Harrison, then commanding, referred the question to the Horse Guards, and through the interest of Sir Willoughby Gordon, permission was obtained from King William IV, for its retention.—(*Records of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers*.)

1808 On the afternoon of the 10th, the army commenced its first march in the Peninsula, and the 29th bivouacked for the night near a wood.

The next morning it marched for Leira, and on the 13th bivouacked at Caviero, near Batalha, from which the enemy's advanced posts had but a few hours previously retired. The following day the march was continued towards Alcobaça, and the regiment, when halted at a short distance beyond that town, could trace the retreat of the enemy by the clouds of dust which they raised for a considerable distance. Having passed through Caldas on the 15th, the regiment bivouacked in a vineyard. About 6 p.m., the alarm being given that the outposts were engaged, Nightingale's brigade instantly turned out, and marched off to their support. Having advanced about two miles, it was ascertained that the enemy had been repulsed, and driven from Obidos. The brigade therefore retraced its steps, but remained accoutered the whole night. During the 16th, the army remained perfectly tranquil, but two of the 29th being caught in the town against orders, were tried by drumhead court-martial. One of these was Private Needham, a grenadier of the finest order of men, a man of the kindest heart, an excellent soldier, but he could not resist rum. In America, in summer or in winter, for heat or cold were nothing to him, he would swim across the harbour of Halifax, on a stormy night, and return to his post with as many bladders of rum tied round his neck as he could get money to buy. Of course everybody got drunk, and poor Needham was detected and flogged. He never disputed the justice of his sentence, but readily admitted that he could not possibly refrain from doing the same thing again. "This man eventually died in the element he had so often braved with impunity, for he was carried off the fore-castle of a transport, by a heavy sea in the Bay of Biscay, and was long seen buffeting the waves in vain, and without hope or prospect of relief."

That evening, there was every reason to believe the 29th would be among the first troops to be engaged with the enemy the following

morning, and when Colonel Lake formed up the regiment for 1808 the punishment of the two culprits, he knew full well that every man was satisfied they deserved it, but he did not say so. He spoke to the hearts of his soldiers, he told them he flogged these men not only because they deserved it, but that he might deprive them of the honour of going into action with their comrades in the morning, and that he might not prevent the guard, who was stationed over them, from participating in it. The regiment was in much too high a state of discipline to admit of a word being said, but the colonel's remarks were repeated all the evening from mouth to mouth, and the poor fellows who were flogged, declared to Dr Guthrie, that they would willingly have begged on their knees, at Col. Lake's feet, if they dared, as the greatest favour he could bestow on them, to be allowed to run the risk of being shot first, with the certainty of being flogged afterwards if they escaped.

The outlying picquet this evening, which consisted of fifty men under Major Thos. Egerton, Lieutenants Robert Stannus and Chas. Leslie, was posted in an open wood, with a chain of sentinels along its outer edge

Soon after daybreak on the 17th, these were called in, and joined the regiment which had commenced its march towards Obidos

On reaching the plain in front of that town, the whole army was formed in mass, each brigade in contiguous columns of battalions at half distance. After a short halt, an order was received for all the women and baggage to go to the rear, and for the troops to stand to their arms. The enemy's position having in the meantime been reconnoitred, and the final dispositions for an attack been made, the army was again put in motion. Soon after passing through Obidos, the various columns of attack struck off into different routes, and Nightingale's brigade, with the 29th Foot leading, proceeding along the main road marched direct for the enemy. Drawn up in line, on an elevated plain

1808 beyond the village of Mamed, with Columbeira in rear of their left, were discovered two battalions of the French 70th Regiment of the Line.

A momentary halt was now made, and the 29th and 82nd having deployed into line, the men were ordered to prime and load. Then, with shouldered arms, and in perfect order, these regiments advanced until the red tufts, and even the enemy's faces, were easily distinguished.

On Dr. Guthrie asking what was his place on such an occasion, he was told it was seven paces in rear of the colours. Colonel Lake, who was about the same distance in front of them, now turned round, and called out, "Gentlemen, display the colours," the colours flew, and shortly afterwards he again turned round and addressed the line thus, "Soldiers, I shall remain in front of you, and remember that the bayonet is the only weapon for a British soldier!" On arriving at the position where the French were first seen, it was found that their right was filing to the rear, and that their left had retired through Columbeira, to their principal position on the heights of Roliça,* which commanded that village. To attack these heights, five columns had been formed and to each was assigned the carrying of a pass. The forcing of the 3rd or centre one was entrusted to Nightingale's brigade. The 82nd Regiment was ordered to another point of attack, and on the right of the 29th, again meeting the road, it advanced in column of sections through Columbeira.—Colonel Landmann states:—"On reaching the main road, the 29th regiment was at this moment coming up with Lieut.-Colonel the Honble. G. Lake, at their head, the band playing a country dance. Lake was mounted on a complete charger, nearly 17 hands high, with a famous long tail, and was dressed in an entire new suit, even his leathers, boots, hat, feather, epaulettes, sash, etc., being all new, and his hair powdered and queued, his cocked hat placed on his head square to the front, and, in fact, accoutered in the strictest accordance with the King's Regulations."

* By an error of a copying clerk in Lord Bathurst's office miswritten "Roliça" and which spelling has since been continued.

"I was so struck with the marked distinction between the 29th **1808** Regiment and all others, then with the army, that I could not refrain from observing to Lake, 'Well, colonel, you are dressed as if you were going to be received by the king'—Lake smiled and replied with a dignified air, 'Egad, sir, if I am killed to-day, I mean to die like a gentleman.'"

In passing through Columbeira the 29th became much exposed to the fire of the enemy's sharpshooters on the heights, and to a cannonade of round shot from the left, this being the case, the left wing was ordered to march round the village to the left, and thus it did not reach the entrance of the pass until a considerable time after the right wing

On the Light company being detached (with those of the 5th and 82nd, the whole under command of Major Andrew Creagh of the 29th) with the object of making a demonstration against a pass further to the right, some of the old grenadiers called out, 'We can do it as well as them, colonel!' but Col Lake replied, 'Never mind, my lads. Let the 'light bobs' lather them first, we will shave them afterwards."

Having passed through the village, the right wing of the regiment turned to the left through some vineyards, and advanced along the foot of the heights in order to gain the pass and during this movement it became necessarily exposed to a flank fire, from which it suffered considerably.

On approaching the pass, it was found to be extremely steep and narrow, and being overhung with rock and groves, it afforded excellent cover to the enemy's light troops, whilst in some places, only two or three men could ascend at a time. About half-way up, there was a small olive grove in which the men were halted to form, and ordered to take off their haversacks, great coats, etc., which was done under a hot fire. It was about this time that Colonel Lake, who was leading the attack at the head of his grenadiers, had his horse shot under him,

1808 upon which Major Gregory Way dismounted and gave him the charge he was riding, "*Black Jack*," which had been lent him by the colonel.

After clearing the narrow defile, the right wing reached some open but thinly wooded ground, and in order to make room for the left wing to form up when it should arrive, the leading companies, already much reduced in numbers, were obliged, under a heavy fire, to take ground to the right. The officers then lost no time in forming their men in line, and the remains of the three or four companies having advanced, gained the heights.

Some of the enemy who had been lining a broken fence, then suddenly rose up and opened fire, upon which Colonel Lake called out, "Don't fire, men; don't fire; wait a little, we shall soon charge!" These were nearly his last words, for, as he was moving towards the left to superintend the prolongation of the line, he was shot by one of the French skirmishers, and "*Black Jack*," who galloped into the French lines, was taken prisoner, and became the property of General Delaborde.

The right, not receiving any orders to advance, now opened fire, and some of the enemy in front of the extreme right, either as a ruse, or in earnest, called out that they were poor Swiss, and did not want to fight the English; some were actually shaking hands, and a parley ensued, during which the French troops (1st battalion, 70th) which had been posted on the side of the ravine, finding that it had been forced, and that they were likely to be cut off, began to retire, and coming in rear of the right of the 29th, dashed through, carrying away with them Major Way (who was dismounted, and whose sword had been broken by a ball), five other officers, 1 serjeant, 1 drummer, 32 rank and file. Owing to this accident, and the tremendous fire now poured in from all sides, there were but three officers remaining with the right wing, one of whom was Lieut. Charles Leslie. The senior officer, Major Thos. Egerton, seeing the impossibility of making an effectual resistance with the few men remaining, ordered them to fall back, and under

cover of the wood, await the arrival of the left wing, which was fast **1808** advancing. The enemy, on observing this, set up a shout, and then, but not till then, advanced, as if with the intention of charging. Some individuals on both sides got mixed, and had personal encounters with the bayonet, but the French did not venture to press, or follow.

On being joined by its left wing, and supported by the 9th Foot, which had been sent to reinforce it as soon as it was found to be so seriously engaged, the regiment pushed forward, regained the dangerous footing above, and succeeded in maintaining the position against all attacks. The 29th was then halted, and on mustering the regiment, it was found that those who had been taken prisoners all belonged to the 3rd and 4th right companies.

It may here be added, that one of the men who had been punished the previous day, scorning to remain in the rear while his regiment was engaged, gallantly broke away from the hospital serjeant, joined his company, and fought most daringly against the enemy.

The army having taken up a good position, and re-formed in order of battle, strong picquets were posted in front and rear. Orders were then received for the regiment to remain accoutered, and ready to fall in at a moment's notice.

Among the men who escorted the prisoners to Lisbon, were two brothers named Bellegarde, one a "sous-officier," the other a private. Both laid claim to having shot poor Colonel Lake. The "sous-officier" insisted that it was he who did it, and that he was lying behind a bush when he fired seven shots at the colonel, who was in front of his men superintending their forming in line. Once he observed that he seemed to stagger as if hit, but it was only at the seventh shot that he fell.

It is probable that this was correct, for the colonel was slightly wounded in the back of his neck, but the ball that killed him passed quite through from side to side beneath the arms. Major Campbell, ADC. to Sir Arthur Wellesley, being near when the colonel fell,

1808 immediately went up and expressed a hope that he was not seriously wounded. Colonel Lake lifted his eyes, took Major Campbell's hand, which he pressed with all his remaining strength, and soon expired. The body was then covered with a cloak, and after the action removed for interment.

As Major Campbell was passing, many of the wounded called out to him, "Never mind us, sir; for God's sake take care of the colonel."

The spot where this gallant officer was buried † is marked by a plain square stone monument, surmounted by a cross of the same material, bearing on one of its sides the following appropriate inscription:—

Sacred
to the Memory of Lieut.-Col. Lake
of the 29th Regt
who fell at the head of his Corps
in driving the Enemy from the heights
of Columbeira,
on the 17th August, 1808.

This Monument is Erected by his Brother Officers
as a Testimony of their Regard and Esteem.

The expenses of the above memorial, as well as of a handsome tablet erected in the north-west tower of Westminster Abbey, were defrayed by a subscription of so many days' pay from the officers, non-commissioned officers, drummers, and privates of the regiment.

The end of a more humble, though as brave, a soldier should also be mentioned, viz., that of Serjeant-Major Richards, who, seeing his colonel fall, stood over defending him, until he himself fell wounded in thirteen places by shot and bayonet. Dr. Guthrie, who gave him some water in his dying moments, said his last words were, "I should have died happy, if our gallant colonel had been spared"—a sentiment shared by almost every wounded man of the regiment.

† *United Service Journal*, 1844.—"Stray Gleanings from British Battle Fields."

Killed, Wounded, and Missing of the 29th Foot in the Battle of Roliça, 17th of August, 1808.

*Killed**—1 Lieut Colonel, 2 Sergeants, 31 Rank and File

*Wounded**—1 Major, 3 Captains, 4 Lieutenants, 6 Sergeants, 105 Rank and File

Missing—1 Major, 2 Captains, 5 Lieutenants, 1 Serjeant, 1 Drummer, 32 Rank and File

In the *Broad Arrow* of the 2nd of October, 1886, is the following paragraph —“On this occasion the brunt of the fight was borne by the 29th Regiment, which was considered one of the finest corps in the army. It is recorded that the men of the regiment fought in queues, and powdered hair, and carrying hury packs of a pattern long forgotten ; and the officers in cocked hats, worn athwartships, in the fashion of the preceding decade ”

The men stood to their arms at about 2 a m on the morning of the 18th, and as the enemy had entirely disappeared, the troops advanced to Lourinha, where they bivouacked that evening.

The next day, with the view of covering the disembarkation of reinforcements, the army took up a position at Vimiero, a village situated in a valley through which the Maceira, flanked at right angles on either side by a range of steep hills, flowed into the sea.

About 11 o'clock on the night of the 20th, the alarm was given that the enemy was advancing. All the inlying picquets were immediately ordered under arms, and a brigade was sent to occupy some heights on the left of Vimiero. As nothing further occurred, the rest of the troops again laid down by their arms. The morning of the 21st dawned in all its brilliancy, and the troops, who as usual were under arms an hour before daylight, were dismissed at about 6 a m., on the arrival in camp of the reinforcements. Two hours later, the bugles sounded the alarm, and the drums beat to arms, for distant clouds of

* The names of the officers will be found in the Monthly Returns inserted on page 286; those of non-commissioned officers, rank and file, killed in the Peninsular War, will be found on pages 332 and 333.

1808 dust announced the approach of the enemy. A breakfast of biscuit and water, with a bunch of grapes, had to be hastily swallowed, and the men were directed to leave their knapsacks in the camp under charge of the quarter guard. In order to support the force which was posted on the heights to the left of the village, towards which the enemy appeared to be marching, the 29th and 82nd were moved across the valley in which Vimiero stands. On reaching the foot of the heights, the road was found to be so steep and heavy, that two companies of the 29th were ordered to assist in dragging up the guns. After gaining the ascent, the 29th, being the leading regiment, moved along the edge of the heights which sloped abruptly to the valley below, and after advancing some distance, it deployed into line. Observing that the enemy were endeavouring to force his centre, Sir Arthur Wellesley immediately ordered the Grenadier, and another company of the 29th whose right was resting on the slope of the height commanding this route, to retire a short distance, and some artillery being brought forward, a well-directed fire was opened on the French column, which retired.

It was about this period of the battle that Lieut.-General Sir Harry Burrard, Bart., arrived on the field, and took over the command of the army.

Scarcely had the enemy been repulsed by the right wing, than they attempted to turn the left of the British position. The 29th had at first but little to do, but its Light company, with that of the 82nd, both under command of Major Andrew Creagh, became warmly engaged in its front, during which time the regiment was ordered to lie flat down. The men being under fire, were impatient to advance, and at last orders were received for them to move against a column of the enemy; they, however, were not allowed to fire, but marched steadily on, ready to charge. Before they could close with the French, the latter retreated, and abandoned all their guns. The brigade was then halted, and as the enemy appeared to have gone completely off, the men

were allowed to stand at ease. Whilst resting in this manner, another **1808** column of the enemy was observed to dash suddenly down some opposite heights, as if meaning to attack the brigade, and a body of cavalry appeared on the right flank, which it threatened to turn.

The 29th was therefore ordered to form four-deep, which formation afforded the advantage of showing a front to meet the enemy in line, and at the same time was of sufficient strength to resist cavalry. On the enemy's infantry arriving on the low ground, it was received by a destructive fire from the 71st, and the Light companies of the 29th and 82nd, which had been lying concealed by willow beds and bushes, from both friend and foe. After returning an irregular fire, the infantry retired, and the cavalry, observing their discomfiture, followed their example. This was the last effort the French made that day. The 29th, which was still halted, was much disappointed at its forced inactivity; the men were never in better humour for a brush, or in better fighting trim, for their knapsacks had been left in camp, and having only marched a short distance, they were comparatively fresh; but enough had been overheard of a conversation between Sir A. Wellesley and Sir Harry Burrard, to judge that no advance would take place that evening. Fatigue parties having been left to bury the dead, the regiment, after a short rest, marched back to its bivouac with band playing and colours flying. The general feeling amongst the troops was, that had Sir Arthur been allowed to carry out his plans, the advantage gained by this victory would have been far greater.

In the battle of Vimiero, fought 21st August, 1808, the regiment suffered the following casualties :—

Killed—2 Rank and File.

Wounded—~~Brigadier~~ Major Andrew Creagh, 1 Serjeant, 10 Rank and File.

Early on the morning of the 22nd, Lieut.-General Sir Hew ~~Donn~~ ^{Donn} disembarked to assume the chief command, so that ~~within twenty-four hours the army had had three different commanders.~~

1808 LIST OF OFFICERS OF THE 29TH (WORCESTERSHIRE) REGIMENT, TAKEN FROM THE MONTHLY RETURNS.

All the officers were present with the head-quarters of the regiment on the 1st of August and 1st of September, except where otherwise specified

	1st August	1st September.
	On board "Dominica" Transport at Sea.	Sobral de Monte Grape.
Colonel	Gordon Forbes, 16. Absent with leave,	His Majesty's permission.
Lieut.-Colonels	{ Fred Matland, MG Absent with leave, His Majesty's permission. Honble. G. A. F. Lake. Killed, <i>Nalica</i> , 17th August.	
Majors	{ Daniel White, <i>lc.</i> Gregory Way. — Wounded, 17th Inst	Prisoner of War.
	{ Thos. Egerton, <i>m</i> — Severely Wounded, 17th Inst	Sick in Portugal
	{ Andrew Creagh, <i>m</i> — Wounded at <i>Vimuro</i> , 21st Inst.	Sick in Portugal
Captains	{ John Tucker Absent Brigade Major, Nova Scotia L Augustus Northey. Absent A D Q M G, England Peter Hodge Wounded, 17th Inst (Arm broken)	Sick in Portugal
	{ Saml Gauntlett. George Tod.	Prisoner of War
	{ Eugene Nestor. Chas. W. Davy. Andrew Patison. Wounded, 17th Inst	Prisoner of War.
	{ H. Birmingham Absent Prisoner in France Walter Birmingham Prisoner of War. Robt. Birmingham Severely wounded, 17th Inst Died of Wounds, 10th September Ambrose Newbold. Prisoner of War. John Humfrey. Wm. Wade, <i>Adjt.</i> Charles Smyth. Thomas Gell	
	{ Thos Langton Wounded, 17th Inst	Prisoner of War.
	{ St. John W. Lucas. Wounded, 17th Inst.	Prisoner of War.
Lieutenants	{ Elmes S. L. Nicholson. James Nestor Recruiting at Killashandra, Ireland Robert Stannus. Wounded, 17th Inst	Prisoner of War.
	{ James Brooks Wm. Duguid. Adam Gregory. Charles Leslie. Thos. Popham. Wm. Penrose.	Absent. Not yet joined
	{ Charles Stanhope. Wm. Champain Wm. Elhot. Andrew Leith Hay.	Absent without leave. Absent. Not yet joined Absent. Not yet joined.
	{ Thos. Lewis Coker. Henry Pennington Samuel Hardy.	Recruiting at Manchester.
Ensigns	{ Alexr. Young. Benjn. Wild. John Marshall. Henry Reid.	Absent. Not yet joined. Absent. Not yet joined.
Pay Master	Thos. Stott	
Adjutant	Wm. Wade.	
Qr. Master	Wm. Gillespie.	
Surgeon	Geo. Guthrie.	
Assistant	{ Edwd. Curby, Lewis Evans.	
Surgeons		Attending the Sick on board the Transports.

Whilst Sir Hew Dalrymple was examining the state of affairs, a party **1808** of French cavalry approached the British advance guard. They were escorting General Kellerman, who, with a flag of truce, had been sent by Marshal Junot, to demand a cessation of arms, and propose the groundwork of a Convention, by which Junot offered to evacuate Portugal without further resistance. As several delays occurred in the negotiations, it was thought that the enemy wished to gain time, so on the 23rd the British army pushed forward towards Lisbon.

On the 2nd of September, the 29th approached Bucellas, but on learning that the French rear-guard had not yet evacuated that place, it halted on the heights above the town, and as soon as it was ascertained that the enemy had marched off, the route was continued to Antonio-de-Tozal, near which the regiment bivouacked and remained for a few days. During its stay here, the 29th was brigaded with the 40th and 50th regiments, and attached to the reserve under General Spencer. The Convention of Cintra was also concluded, and the officers who had been taken prisoners at Rolica, rejoined their regiments. These now informed their comrades of some of their adventures during their captivity. Major Way, who at the time of being made prisoner had but the hilt of his sword, with a few inches of the blade in his hand, was saved from the bayonet of a French grenadier by General Brenier. On being brought before General Delaborde, he requested permission to retain the hilt, which was very politely granted, and the General said, "Gentlemen, now that you are prisoners, we are no longer enemies." Another soldier made a thrust at Lieutenant Langton, but the bayonet fortunately struck his buff cross-belt, the thrust was about to be repeated when a French officer knocked up the bayonet with his sword, and saved Langton's life. The prisoners were hurried off to Lisbon, and put on board the "Vasca de Gama," then lying in the Tagus.

Marshal Junot, on returning to Lisbon, after his defeat at Vimiero, and before the Convention was concluded, was very civil to the British officers, and invited them to dinner every day.

1808 An officer of the 29th, writing to his brother in Edinburgh, said :—
 “The dinner service was all silver plate, and the dessert was served completely on gold ; in short, it was the most splendid thing of the kind I ever sat down to. There were about 20 French officers, high in rank, of the party, who were all very attentive ; General Junot himself was equally so.”

On the morning of the 12th of September, the 29th and 50th regiments marched into Lisbon, and took post in the Campo St. Anna, a large Square in the upper part, whilst the French occupied all the lower part of the town, and had pointed loaded cannon up each street leading to it.

The officers of the regiment were much amused on observing a proclamation of Marshal Junot's posted on the walls, announcing that he had defeated the English, and that the 9th and 29th regiments had been cut to pieces.

On the 14th, the British troops marched out of Lisbon, and joined the main part of the army then encamped on some heights commanding the town. It having been decided by the Convention that the French flag was to be hauled down, and the Portuguese hoisted on the towers of Lisbon on the 15th inst., on that day, a grand guard was formed (consisting of the Grenadiers of the 29th, 40th, 50th, and 79th regiments, with a party of the 95th and some pieces of artillery, the whole under command of General Cameron), and marched off at 6 a.m. to take possession of the citadel. At the same time the 29th Regiment, with colours flying and band playing, proceeded to Praça de Rocio, the grand Square of Lisbon, which it occupied, relieving all the French posts in that quarter. About mid-day the French flag was struck. Three companies of the 29th, under command of Major Way, were then ordered to cover the embarkation of the French army, and marching from the Rocio to the small Square in front of the Naval Arsenal, were

there drawn up in line opposite the principal entrance, through which **1808** the French troops had to pass to get to the boats waiting at the wharf to convey them to the transports. Several of the French officers felt so grateful for the protection which had been afforded them, that they made presents of their horses to officers of the covering party. The 29th were most anxious to recover "*Black Jack*," * their late colonel's charger. On a communication being made to General Delaborde that any sum he chose to name would be paid him, if he would part with the horse, the general, in the most handsome manner possible, sent the charger back as a present to the regiment, saying "that he was happy to have in his power the means of gratifying a corps which had displayed such determined gallantry against him."

The three companies of the regiment which were on duty covering the embarkation of the French, remained in the Square in front of the Arsenal all night, and on being relieved the following morning by the 50th Regiment, returned to their camp. On the 17th, the regiment marched into Lisbon, and relieved the 79th in the Black Horse Square.

Towards the end of the month, further reinforcements having been received, the army took up another position some miles from Lisbon, the 29th encamping near Monte Santa.

Previous to Sir Arthur Wellesley's return to England, the commanding, and field officers of corps, who had had the honour of serving

* "*Black Jack*" afterwards became the property of Major Gregory Way, who rode him at the Passage of the Douro, Battles of Busaco, Talavera, and Albuhera. On the latter occasion, when Major Way fell from his charger badly wounded, "*Black Jack*" again fell into the hands of the enemy, but was returned the following day, with a note from the French general, saying "he had been so struck with the gallant behaviour of the 29th, on the day previous, that he begged to return the charger to its owner, with his compliments."

1808 under his command, presented him with an address, and a piece of plate.

Sir Hew Dalrymple was next recalled, and the command devolved on Sir Harry Burrard, who, from bad health and other causes, requested leave to resign the appointment.

On the 27th of September, the Emperors Napoleon and Alexander met at Erfurt, and offered peace to England. This being rejected, on the 6th of October, Lieut.-General Sir John Moore, K.B., was given chief command of the British forces, and appointed to lead an army into Spain.

Owing to the losses the regiment had sustained, and the many wounded and sick still remaining in hospital, it was not destined to form part of Sir John's force, but on leaving Monte Santa, early in October, moved into Lisbon, and took up quarters in the St. Domingo convent, from which it subsequently marched into the citadel

GENERAL ORDER.

"Head Quarters, Lisbon, 15th October, 1808.

"Before entering Spain, in compliment to the Spanish nation, the army will wear the Red cockade, in addition to their own."

On the 27th, Sir John Moore left Lisbon. Sir John Cradock, K.B., having been charged with the conduct of military proceedings in Portugal, resolved, early in December, to make the reinforcing of Sir John Moore's army his first care, and therefore sent the 29th, who had lately received a draft of recruits from England, and whose sick and wounded had mostly recovered, to join it.

Communications with Sir John Moore being suddenly interrupted, and Napoleon having entered Madrid, the line of the River Tagus acquired greater importance; therefore, on reaching **Castello Branco**,

the regiment was ordered to halt, whilst two companies, under Captains 1808
 Tod and Davy, were detached to Villa Velha, to protect the flying
 bridge. The Portuguese force failing to support him, and hearing that
 30,000 French were on the road to Badajos, Sir J. Cradock determined
 to concentrate his troops near Lisbon, and having destroyed the Villa
 Velha bridge, Captains Tod and Davy's detachment rejoined the
 regiment, which, returning by Abrantes and Santarem, on the 20th of
 January, 1809, arrived at Lisbon and was quartered in the convents 1809

This brigade (General Richard Stewart's) had been marching
 incessantly for over a month, often in the rain, the men's uniforms were
 worn out, their accoutrements nearly destroyed, and, in common with
 the rest of the army, they were suffering from the want of shoes.

As the account of the Battle of Roliça, and the subsequent move-
 ments of the 29th, are partly taken from the military journal of Colonel
 Charles Leslie, it may be as well to quote the following letter from that
 officer to the editor of the *United Service Journal*

THE 29TH REGIMENT AT ROLIÇA.

"Mr Editor—In justice to a gallant old corps, I have to request that you will give
 the following statement a place in your most impartial and excellent journal. I observe,
 with much regret, in Colonel Napier's work on the Peninsular War, several inaccuracies in
 the account which he gives of the operations of the 29th Regiment, in the action of
 Roliça. To a regiment jealous of its reputation, it is at all times a matter of great interest
 that its deeds in arms should be fairly recorded, but infinitely more so that no mis-
 statements, even by mistake, should be made tending to its prejudice and disadvantage.
 I feel confident Colonel Napier would not willingly hurt the feelings, much less tarnish
 the fame and blight the laurels, of a corps which, during several arduous campaigns, dis-
 tinguished itself in every action that was fought, as testified by his Grace the Duke of
 Wellington's General Orders, when the regiment was sent a skeleton from the field, in
 consequence of the severe losses it had sustained in the numerous actions in which it had
 been engaged.