



This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at <http://books.google.com/>

HISTORICAL RECORD
OF THE



ROYAL
SHERWOOD FORESTERS.



600020779V







ROYAL
SHERWOOD FORESTERS.





HISTORICAL RECORD

OF THE

Royal Sherwood Foresters ;

OR

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE REGIMENT

OF

MILITIA.



BY

CAPTAIN A. E. LAWSON LOWE,

ROYAL SHERWOOD FORESTERS.

London :

W. MITCHELL & CO., MILITARY PUBLISHERS,
39, CHARING CROSS.

MDCCLXXII.

231. d. 16

LONDON:
W. MITCHELL & CO., MILITARY PUBLISHERS,
39, CHARING CROSS.

TO
THE RIGHT HONORABLE
EDWARD, BARON BELPER,
OF BELPER, IN THE COUNTY OF DERBY,
LORD LIEUTENANT
AND
CUSTOS ROTULORUM
OF THE
COUNTY OF NOTTINGHAM,
THIS
HISTORICAL RECORD
OF THE
ROYAL SHERWOOD FORESTERS,
OR
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE REGIMENT OF MILITIA,
IS DEDICATED,
WITH PERMISSION,
BY
HIS LORDSHIP'S MOST OBEDIENT SERVANT,
THE COMPILER.



P R E F A C E.

—o—

IT is doubtful whether there is another regiment in Her Majesty's Service, possessing so small an amount of documents relative to its origin and services, as the Royal Sherwood Foresters. The fact, although affording some apology for the publication of this regimental record, has added in no small degree to the difficulties of its compilation, and must account for any omissions or inaccuracies which may occur. Amongst the various works and periodicals from which information has been derived relative to the Royal Sherwood Foresters, and the Militia force in general, the following should be specially mentioned:—the "Annals of Nottinghamshire;" "Memoirs of Colonel Hutchinson;" the "History of our Reserve Forces;" the "Gentleman's Magazine;" and the "Nottingham Journal," from 1759 down to the present date: together with the published records of Line and Militia regiments. Other information has been derived from the official documents, preserved at the Lieutenancy office at Newark-upon-Trent, and the compiler takes this opportunity of expressing his thanks to THOMAS FOWKE ANDREW BURNABY, Esquire, Clerk of the Lieutenancy of the County of Nottingham, for having given him every facility for examining them; and last, but not least, he acknowledges the assistance rendered him by Sergeant-Major WILLIAM ABBOTT, and by the veteran Hospital-Sergeant EDWARD HURST, of the Royal Sherwood Foresters.

HIGHFIELD HOUSE,

Near Nottingham.

June 30th, 1872.



HISTORICAL RECORD

OF THE

Royal Sherwood Foresters.



ALTHOUGH the origin of the Royal Sherwood Foresters does not date back beyond the middle of the last century, yet it may not be uninteresting to preface the record of the regiment with a brief account of the rise and progress of the Militia in general, particularly as connected with the county of Nottingham.

Sir William Blackstone and others include the formation of the English Militia, amongst the improvements attributed to the inventive genius of King Alfred the Great. The Fyrd, or Militia, is, however, of much earlier origin. "From the earliest period," says Sir Francis Palgrave, "to which our documents can reach, we find the Fyrd appearing as a general armament of the people, comprehending every rank, though under different obligations and penalties. If the Sithcundman, being a landowner, remained at home, he forfeited all his land; sixty shillings was his fine; whilst thirty shillings was the Fyrd-wite of the Churl—and to the last it continued a levy of all the population of the country." At first no special organisation was adopted in this force, and the want of proper discipline and military knowledge was severely felt when the country was invaded and devastated by the repacious Danes. The improvements which King Alfred effected in the Fyrd, procured for him the credit of having planned the system. Under his able guidance the Fyrd became a formidable army, which soon freed England from Danish incursions, and secured peace to the land for several generations. The regulations which he instituted caused the force to very closely resemble the Militia of later days. All such as could bear arms in each family were compelled to serve under

the head of the family; every ten families constituted a Tything, which was commanded by a Thorsholder, or conductor; ten Tythings formed a Hundred, or Wapentake, and each Hundred was commanded by the chief magistrate of the division, who, in his military capacity, was styled a Hundreder; and the Hundreds were united into Counties, each being commanded by a Heretoch, or county leader. At the head of the whole was the King himself, and immediately beneath him in rank was the *Anglo* *lord*, or King's Lieutenant. Each section of the community had not only to furnish its quota in time of war, but also to provide for the maintenance, keep them in repair, and undergo, so many *years* of military training every year.

It was the *Norman* that, under the command of King Harold II., defeated a large army of 60,000 Norwegian invaders, at Stamford Bridge, in Yorkshire, in the year 1066; and, in less than a week, met the *Norman* *leader*, Duke William, at Hastings, and after contending for a while *bravely*, against the most practised warriors in Europe, only *retired* by a stratagem.

The *Norman* Conquest did not produce so much effect by altering the *system* as established, as by bringing the new engine of feudalism into *operation* with it. The King was then the commander of the *new* *army*. His feudal army was furnished by the tenants *with* *land*, for each of which he could demand the service of *one* *or* *two* esquires, for forty days in each year. These were his *personal* followers during their period of service, and were liable to be *summoned* either at home or abroad. But the absolute demand on his *services* was inconvenient to the vassal, and the limitation of the *period* was often no less so to the King. Hence, those who were *partial* to a military life often remained with the army beyond their *assigned* period, for a stipulated remuneration, whilst others got their *services* commuted to a money payment, which afterwards merged into the *oppressive* exaction of scutage. Whilst this new species of military force came into existence, the Fyrd still remained in operation, but it was *not* levied throughout England, except in times of great emergency; and, indeed, seems only to have been regularly maintained on the Welsh and Scottish marches to preserve peace upon the border.

The earliest recorded service of Nottinghamshire troops is in 1135, when the Militia of the county, under William de Peverel, Lord of Nottingham, fought gallantly at the memorable Battle of the Standard, at North-Allerton, in Yorkshire, where, in the space of two hours, the *Scotch* lost over 12,000 men.

The Militia proved of invaluable service to the Crown in restraining

the power of the Barons, who possessed great control over the feudal troops. On this account King Henry II. re-established the annual trainings of the Militia, and in the celebrated "Assize of Arms" of 1181 we find the Fyrd of the Anglo-Saxons in its original purity. All freemen were then appointed to have arms in their possession according to a scale of ranks, which was carefully adjusted. By the "Statute of Winchester," in 1285, King Edward I. enacted that all freemen between the ages of fifteen and sixty were bound to serve in the Fyrd (or Militia), but only in their respective counties, except in case of invasion; at the same time the scale of arms for the various ranks was entirely revised.

In 1298, the Militia of Nottinghamshire, which was then mainly composed of archers, fought against the Scotch, under William Wallace, at the Battle of Falkirk. But even a passing mention of the many glorious military achievements, in which the far-famed Nottinghamshire archers participated, would be far beyond the limits of this record. At the Battles of Neville's Cross and Cressy, in 1346, and at Poitiers, in 1356, the Nottinghamshire troops were conspicuous for their bravery. During the Welsh rebellion, when the Royalists and the insurgents met near Shrewsbury, in 1402, the representatives of the county added not a little to the glories of the day; and at that battle Sir John Clifton, Sir Nicholas Burden, and Sir Hugh Shirley, together with other brave Nottinghamshire knights and gentlemen, were slain, fighting at the head of their troops. At Agincourt, in 1415, the Nottinghamshire archers again played a prominent part, and there, for the first time on record, they fought as "Sherwood Foresters," their banner being thus quaintly described by Drayton:—

*"Oft Nottingham, an archer clad in green,
Under a tree, with his drawn bow that stood,
Which in a chequered flag far off was seen;
It was the picture of bold Robin Hood."*

Throughout the Wars of the Roses, Nottingham Castle was viewed by the belligerents as a station of the highest importance; and in the many fierce and bloody conflicts that ensued during that unhappy period of civil war, the military reputation of the county was maintained. In 1485 King Richard III. raised his standard, and a considerable number of Nottinghamshire troops—principally infantry—accompanied him to Bosworth Field. Two years later Sir John Markham led the Militia of Nottinghamshire against the army of Lambert Simnel, at the Battle of Stoke, and earned glory for himself and his

followers. In 1537, on the breaking out of the rebellion in the north of England, caused by the suppression of the smaller monastic establishments, and known as the "Pilgrimage of Grace," George Talbot, fourth Earl of Shrewsbury, who then resided at Worksop Manor, assembled the Militia of Nottinghamshire without waiting for the Royal commission to do so, and marched out to meet the rebels.

The advances made in the art of war necessitated great alterations in the arms and accoutrements for the Militia, which were effected by Acts of Parliament in 1558 (4 and 5, Philip and Mary, cap. 2) and again in 1604 (1 James I., cap. 26). The bow was entirely abolished, and matchlocks, arquebusses, and other firearms successively substituted; and defensive iron armour was gradually replaced by buff leather jerkins.

Queen Elizabeth raised the number of her Militia to 80,000 men; and in the year 1573 Her Majesty sent a commission to the Mayor of Nottingham to muster the Militia belonging to the town. The proportion of militiamen furnished by the town appears to have been very small, for the Corporation records show that in 1596 the town militia consisted of only sixteen trained soldiers, in addition to twenty-four bowyers (or halberdiers), who were maintained at the expense of private individuals. In 1615 the number was the same.

King James I. instituted "Trained Bands" in place of the old Fyrd (or Militia), and removed the control of the force out of the hands of the Lords-Lieutenant of counties. In 1612 the same monarch framed the first "Articles of War," which received the sanction of Parliament under King Charles I., in 1625.

In the celebrated dispute between King Charles I. and his Parliament, regarding the right to command the Militia, it was maintained on the one hand that the preservation of the peace of the country, and its protection from foreign invaders, were the unalienable privileges of the Crown, and involved the right to command all armies, and to demand on all occasions the military service of the lieges; and, on the other, that such privileges existed in no individual without the consent of both Houses of Parliament; whilst it was urged—first in the form of an ordinance, and next in that of a bill—that the King should consent to the Militia being placed in the hands of commissioners named by Parliament. The firm denial of His Majesty to accede to this demand led to the disastrous civil war; and each party mustered its own forces in its own way. In the year 1641 the House of Commons appointed John Holles, second Earl of Clare, "as one of the persons fit to be entrusted with the Militia of Nottinghamshire, and

of the county of the town of Nottingham." Not long afterwards a commission was issued by the Parliament for settling the Militia, and raising a force in Nottinghamshire and other counties to support the claims of the Parliament against the King. The Militia of many of the English counties proved faithless to their allegiance, and obeyed the orders of the Parliament; but the Militia of Nottinghamshire—to their eternal honour be it recorded—remained loyal, and refused to bear arms against His Majesty. The Parliament accordingly ignored the old Militia, and appointed three colonels, for each of whom a new regiment was to be raised. The three colonels nominated were Sir Francis Molyneux, of Teversal, baronet; Sir Francis Thornhaugh, of Fenton, knight; and Francis Pierrepont, esquire. Of these three, Sir Francis Molyneux had the courage and loyalty to emphatically decline to take up arms against his Sovereign; but Sir Francis Thornhaugh immediately appointed his son lieutenant-colonel of the new regiment, whilst he himself superintended the formation of a regiment of cavalry; and Francis Pierrepont appointed John Hutchinson, Esq., of Owthorpe, as his lieutenant-colonel, and George Hutchinson, Esq., as his major. The Parliament afterwards commissioned major-generals to command the various districts; and Nottinghamshire being associated with Leicestershire, and other midland counties, was placed under the command of Thomas, Lord Grey, of Groby, the eldest son of Henry Grey, first Earl of Stamford, and from him the inferior officers received their commissions. The new regiments of Militia do not seem to have maintained the military renown of the county of Nottingham, for Mrs. Hutchinson, in her celebrated "Memoirs," in speaking of Sir Francis Thornhaugh's regiment, says that the men "being in their own country, and having their families in and about Nottingham, were more guilty of straggling than any of the rest, and Captain White's whole troop having presumed to be away one night when they should have been upon the guard, the Newarkers beat up their quarters and took almost two whole troops of the regiment." The Newarkers, here referred to, consisted, for the most part, of the loyal Militia of Nottinghamshire, who, upon the outbreak of hostilities, had assembled at Newark to aid the inhabitants of that most loyal borough in defending it for the King. Immediately after King Charles had raised his standard at Nottingham, he issued instructions to his commissioners of array for the several counties of England and Wales, to be observed by all justices of the peace, sheriffs, and mayors, who were to assist in embodying the Militia for His Majesty. The Nottinghamshire Militia was assembled by Sir Gervase Clifton, of

Clifton,* and Robert Sutton, Esq., of Averham† and Sir John Byron, of Newstead‡ raised a new troop of horse Militia in the southern part of the county, and commanded it with valour and discretion. The great mass of the people of Nottinghamshire warmly advocated the cause of the King; and it is doubtful if there was another county in England which, at this unhappy time, proved more thoroughly loyal, or more devotedly attached to the Crown. No better proof of this can be given than to quote the words of King Charles, in his speech at Newark, to the knights, gentlemen, and freeholders of the county of Nottingham, in July, 1642: "I go to other places," said His Majesty, "to confirm or undeceive my subjects; but I am come here only to thank and encourage you."

The townspeople of Newark, aided by the Militia, and by some troops of horse, raised by the Marquis of Newcastle, fortified their town and castle, in May, 1643, and under the command of Sir John Henderson, a tough old Scotch soldier, gallantly withstood the combined assaults of all the Parliamentary troops that could be raised in the district. After some hard fighting, a vigorous sortie from the garrison put General Ballard's Lincolnshire division of the Parliamentary army to flight, and his men were speedily followed by Sir John Gell's Derbyshire "grey-coats." The remaining division of the besieging force, which was under the command of Colonel Hutchinson, and was strongly entrenched, stood firm until lack of ammunition compelled them to abandon their position.

* Sir Gervase Clifton, Bart., of Clifton Hall, was the representative of one of the oldest and most distinguished families in Nottinghamshire, and was one of the first baronets created by King James I., in 1611. At the commencement of the troubles he appears to have inclined somewhat toward the side of the Parliament, but he soon became an ardent Royalist. Sir Gervase was successively the husband of seven wives; and, having lived to a good old age, he died July the 28th, 1666, and was interred, as the inscription upon his monument records, "*pompa decora*," in the family vault in Clifton Church, near Nottingham.

† Robert Sutton, Esq., was created Baron Lexington, of Averham, in the county of Nottingham, in the year 1645, "in consideration of his steady loyalty to his Sovereign." He died October the 12th, 1668, and lies buried in the chancel of the parish church at Averham, near Newark, where there is a mural monument to his memory.

‡ Mrs. Hutchinson, in speaking of the loyalty of the Byrons, could only say that they "were all passionately the King's," so devotedly were they attached to the cause of King Charles. Sir John Byron, of Newstead Abbey, and his six brothers, all fought gallantly against the Parliament, and spared neither exertions nor expense in raising troops for the service of His Majesty. Sir John Byron was for some time Constable of the Tower of London; and on October the 14th, 1643, he was created Baron Byron of Rochdale, in the county of Lancaster. After the loss of the Royal cause he quitted his native country, and died in France, in 1652.

Sir Richard Byron* was afterwards appointed Governor of Newark, and he soon distinguished himself by a well appointed expedition, which may justly be considered as one of the most dashing and spirited enterprises which the annals of the revolutionary war, in this district, record. The town and castle of Nottingham were then in the hands of the Roundheads, and Sir Richard Byron formed the design, by a bold, yet secret movement, of obtaining possession both of the town and castle, and was very nearly being attended with complete success. He marched to Nottingham from Newark in September, 1643, reaching the town under cover of the night. His entrance into the town was effected by strategem; and having seized and disarmed the sentries, most of the Parliamentary cavalry, and about two-thirds of the garrison from the castle (who were billeted in the town) were seized in their beds, and made prisoners by the cavaliers. All this was done without the soldiers in the castle being alarmed; and it was not until the guard was relieved at *reveille* that the fact of the cavaliers being in possession of the town became known. Those men who had been on guard during the night left the castle in the morning, to go to their quarters in the town; but no sooner were they outside the castle gates than they were injudiciously fired upon by the Newark infantry, when, instantly running back to the castle for safety, an alarm was given, and thus the chance of gaining possession of the castle was lost, though the Royalists pressed so closely after the flying Roundheads as to have been near entering the gates with them. Colonel Hutchinson at once dispatched messengers to Leicester and Derby, soliciting aid from the Parliamentary troops there, and opened a heavy fire from the castle upon those parts of the town principally occupied by the cavaliers. The cavaliers, however, gained possession of St. Nicholas' church, the tower of which brought them upon a level with the platform of the castle, and poured such continuous volleys of musket balls on to it that the soldiers could not stand to the guns without wool-packs being placed before them, and even then they were not able to pass from one gate to another, nor relieve the guards without the extreme hazard of being shot. The cavaliers held the town in possession for five days, during which period they threw down a great portion of the fortifications

* Sir Richard Byron afterwards succeeded his brother as second Baron Byron, and was enabled to regain some considerable portion of the old family estates which had been alienated during the civil wars. His lordship died at Newstead Abbey, October the 4th, 1679, and his remains lie interred in the chancel of the parish church at Hucknall-Torkard, in the county of Nottingham, where there is a mural monument to his memory.

which the Roundheads had raised for the defence of the approaches to the castle. Not having a sufficient force to attempt to capture the castle by storm, Sir Richard Byron marched his men back to Newark, leaving a detachment of the Royalist Militia, under the command of Captain Hacker, in possession of a fort near the Trent Bridge.

In January, 1644, the Newarkers, commanded by Sir Charles Lucas made another sally; and, though troops were sent out to oppose them, they again succeeded in forcing their entrance into Nottingham. At this time there had been so heavy a fall of snow that it is recorded that the Royalist infantry, on their march to Nottingham, waded almost to their waists in snow for several miles. The Roundheads did not regain possession of the town without some hard fighting, which resulted in heavy losses on both sides. Many skirmishes between the garrisons of Newark and Nottingham ensued. To guard against these constant surprises, Colonel Hutchinson, the Parliamentary Governor of Nottingham, hit upon the curious expedient of establishing a night watch, composed of women, who paraded the town of Nottingham in companies of fifty; it being wisely considered that fifty women, in a state of terror, would create an alarm that would arouse those sleeping in their beds more effectually than any other means which might be devised.

In February, 1644, Newark was again invested by all the troops that could be collected by the Roundheads in the midland counties. The attacking force amounted to nearly 9000 men, with a strong train of artillery and mortars, and was under the command of Sir John Meldrum. The fortifications of Newark had been judiciously strengthened and augmented by Sir Richard Byron; and his garrison, at this time, consisted of about 4500 men, with a fair proportion of artillery. The Royalist cavalry having gallantly cut their way through the besiegers, succeeded in joining that portion of the King's army commanded by Prince Rupert, who, upon hearing the state of affairs at Newark, immediately marched to the relief of the town. A bloody conflict ensued, which resulted in a complete victory for the Royalists, who captured no less than 4000 stands of arms, eleven brass cannons, two mortars and much ammunition.

Towards the latter end of 1644 the Parliamentary commanders again sent large bodies of troops to attempt to take the town and castle of Newark by storm. The various detachments assembled at Mansfield, and from there marched upon Newark by way of Thurgarton. At this place Sir Roger Cooper had fortified his house, and lined the surrounding hedges with foot soldiers, who fired on the Roundheads as they passed. Sir Roger Cooper's house was afterwards carried by

assault, after a gallant defence. At Southwell the Parliamentary troops were met by the Royalists, who, though far inferior in point of numbers, drove them back, and took two whole companies of infantry prisoners.

In January, 1645, Newark was for the third time in a state of close siege, and the devoted garrison was at one time in great danger of being reduced by famine, but was saved by a brilliant attack on the Roundheads by Sir Marmaduke Langley, at the head of a small force. The Governor of Newark, at this time, was John, Lord Bellasis, and he valiantly defended the town and castle, against an overwhelming force, until about the 6th of May, 1646, when the unfortunate King Charles, having given himself up to the Scottish army, at Kelham, was compelled to send an order to his lordship to deliver up the town to the Parliamentary commissioners. Such was the valour of the Royalist troops, and of the townsmen of Newark, that, although a pestilence was then raging in the town, they besought the Governor not to obey an order which had been issued under compulsion; and it is recorded that the Mayor of Newark, with tears, and upon his knees, begged the Governor to trust in God, and abandon all idea of yielding up the town. Lord Bellasis thought fit, however, to obey his Sovereign's commands; and Newark, after sustaining three vigorous sieges, was evacuated by the Royalist soldiers, and given up to the Roundheads.

Want of space would forbid mention of the many gallant deeds of the cavaliers of Nottinghamshire, were it not foreign to the purposes of this record. Enough has been said to evince the loyalty, devotion, and bravery of the Nottinghamshire Militia during one of the most trying periods in the history of England.*

Upon the cessation of hostilities the greater part of the Militia was disbanded, and we know but little of the condition of the force during the Commonwealth. Upon the fall of Richard Cromwell the greatest exertions were made by the Provisional Government, with the strenuous aid of the whole body of the magistracy and gentry, to organize the Militia. In every county the trained bands were held ready to march; and the Militia force is estimated to have then amounted to not less than 120,000 men.

After the Restoration of King Charles II., military tenure was

* A memorable gentleman volunteer, Mr. Gawen Rutherford, well deserves to be held in everlasting remembrance for his zeal and loyalty. Being far advanced in years, and having no less than twenty-nine children by one wife, he served as a common soldier in the Nottinghamshire Militia, under his twenty-seventh son, who was a commander for King Charles during the sieges of Newark.

abolished, and the Militia was the only army which the law recognised. That force was entirely remodelled by two Acts of Parliament passed shortly after the Restoration. Every man who possessed £500 per annum from land, or £6000 of personal estate, was bound to provide, equip, and pay, at his own charge, one horseman. Every man who had £50 per annum derived from land, or £600 of personal estate, was charged in like manner with one pikeman or musketeer. Smaller proprietors were joined together in a sort of society, and each society was bound to furnish, according to its means, a horse soldier or a foot soldier. The whole number of cavalry and infantry thus maintained was popularly estimated at 130,000 men. "The King," says Lord Macaulay, "was, by the ancient constitution of the realm, and by the recent and solemn acknowledgment of both Houses of Parliament, the sole captain-general of this force. The Lords-Lieutenant, and their deputies, held the command under him, and appointed meetings for drilling and inspection. The time occupied by such meetings, however, was not to exceed fourteen days in one year. The justices of the peace were authorised to inflict slight penalties for breaches of discipline. Of the ordinary cost, no part was paid by the Crown; but when the Trainbands were called out against an enemy, their subsistence became a charge on the general revenue of the State, and they were subject to the utmost rigour of martial law." Within a few years after this reorganisation of the force, the annual trainings were carelessly conducted, and hurried over; and the force necessarily became inefficient, and its maintenance was at length considered a useless impost upon the country. This marked decrease in the popularity of the Militia may doubtless be mainly attributed to the institution of a standing army, which was first regularly maintained in this country in the reign of King Charles II.

The unhappy struggle between King Charles I. and his Parliament, concerning the Militia, caused succeeding monarchs to be remarkably tenacious of their rights, and it is recorded that when Dr. Francis Turner, Lord Bishop of Ely, preached the coronation sermon of King James II., he cited a phrase in the Book of Chronicles to show the King alone ought to command the Militia!

In 1685, at the breaking out of the Monmouth Rebellion, the Militia of the south-western counties were embodied under the Duke of Albemarle, and the extreme folly of neglecting the force then became apparent.

The Militia regulations were slightly amended in the years 1699, 1714 and 1743.

In 1756, when the large standing army, which the position of Britain rendered it expedient to keep up, was made more unpopular by the introduction of Hanoverian mercenaries, a bill to entirely reconstruct the Militia passed through the House of Commons, but was rejected by a large majority in the House of Lords. With some difficulty the measure was carried in 1757; but, though approved of by a large party, its practical enforcement frequently produced discontent and local disturbance. From this period the regimental record of the Royal Sherwood Foresters may be commenced.

In the year 1757, the ballot was first applied to the Militia by King George II., and a force of 32,100 men was thus raised. The measure met with great opposition in many counties, and some difficulty was at first experienced in filling up the vacant commissions. In Nottinghamshire it was especially unpopular, and on September the 5th, 1757, a great riot took place at Mansfield, in consequence of the meeting of the Deputy Lieutenants to make arrangements for carrying into effect the recent Act of Parliament to raise by ballot the county Militia. When the gentlemen were assembled, a mob of over 500 persons broke into the room, and demanded all the papers relative to the Militia ballot; on their being refused, they took them by force, carried them in triumph through the streets of Mansfield, and finally committed them to the flames. Several persons met by the rioters were most shamefully maltreated, and amongst others, Sir George Savile, of Rufford Abbey—a kind and humane gentleman—who, during the preceding hard winter, had distributed in charity to the poor of his neighbourhood, flour and meal, to the amount of some hundreds of pounds.

In 1759, when an invasion of England by the French seemed imminent, another attempt was made to embody the Nottinghamshire Militia, but such was the aversion to the ballot, that, notwithstanding the critical position in which the country was placed, the gentlemen of the county held aloof from receiving the commissions tendered to them by the Lord Lieutenant, choosing rather to pay the conditional fine imposed in such cases, than to answer the summons to serve in a regiment, raised by a system so repugnant to them.

For several years the county continued to pay heavy levies to the Crown, in default of raising the Militia, but the strong feeling against the ballot was gradually overcome, and the Nottinghamshire Militia would have been raised in 1765, had not another obstacle arisen, in the shape of a dispute between the authorities of the town of Nottingham and the gentlemen of the county, as to the number of men which the town ought to furnish to the county Militia.

Definite arrangements respecting the Militia were at length concluded at a meeting held at Mansfield on June the 13th, 1775, under the presidency of the Lord Lieutenant of the county, the most noble Henry Pelham Clinton, Duke of Newcastle. At that meeting it was unanimously resolved that the Nottinghamshire regiment of Militia should be raised and embodied for training, as soon as the necessary forms prescribed by Act of Parliament could be put in force. Another meeting was held at Mansfield on August the 1st, and the long pending dispute between the town and county was then amicably adjusted; the proportions being as follows:—Town and county of the town of Nottingham, 80 men; Hundred of Bassetlaw, 123 men; Hundred of Broxtow, 93 men; Hundred of Thurgarton, 70 men; Hundred of Rushcliffe, 34 men; Hundred of Bingham, 37 men; Hundred of Newark, 46 men; in all, 483 men. This number of men were shortly afterwards balloted for, and sworn in by the justices of the peace, and commissions were issued for the officers. The final regimental arrangements were made at a meeting of the Deputy Lieutenants of the county and the officers of the regiment, held at Ollerton, October the 19th, that same year. The officers present upon this occasion were, Colonel, the Right Hon. Lord George Sutton; Lieut.-Colonel, the Right Hon. Henry Pelham Clinton, Earl of Lincoln; Major, John Cartwright; Captains, Sutton, Nevile, Bird, Boyd, Parkyns, and Gilbert Cooper; Lieutenant Berks (the adjutant), Lieutenant Johnson (the quartermaster), and most of the subalterns.

By an Act of Parliament passed in 1752, the names of all officers were obliged to be submitted for a twenty day's veto, previous to their appointment. The right of appointing adjutants and sergeants was reserved to the Crown, but the Lords-lieutenant had the exclusive power to promote all officers, who, with the exception of the adjutant, were obliged to have a property qualification. Every fourth year one-third of the officers in each regiment were to retire, in order to make room for others willing to accept their commissions, but this regulation was but sparingly enforced. The Privy Council had the power to adjust the quota of the men, who were to be Protestants, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five; they were to serve for three years, with an annual training of twenty-eight days; and if volunteers, or substitutes, they were to be five feet four inches in height. Any balloted man could pay a fine of £10, which was applied in providing a substitute, or serve and receive half the price of one. Each man received a bounty of one guinea, and their pay was made equal to that of the soldiers of the line; their wives and children were also entitled

to parochial relief if left destitute, except during training, at which time the officers deducted sixpence a day for soldiers' rations, damage of arms, and the residue for their families. Their clothing was their own property after one year's embodied, or three years' disembodied service. During embodiment, and during the annual trainings, the punishments were under the Mutiny Act, and the Articles of War for the time being were in force; no punishment, however, was to extend to life or limb, except during embodied service.

The new regiment obtained the title of the "Forty-Second, or Nottinghamshire Regiment of Militia," and, at its first formation, consisted of a grenadier company, a light infantry company, and six ordinary companies, having three sergeants and two drummers to each; the total of all ranks, not including the band, being 543. The grenadier company, commanded by Captain George Nevile, was entirely composed of picked men, averaging more than five feet eleven inches in height. The light infantry company, commanded by Captain John Gilbert-Cooper, was also composed of picked men, but of a much lower standard. The band consisted of two bassoons, three clarinets, two French horns, cymbals and drums.

The original uniform worn by the Nottinghamshire Militia exactly resembled that worn by the infantry of the line at that period, and consisted of a wide flapped red coat, faced with black and lined with white, cut away to show the lower part of the waistcoat, and having broadly turned up laps; three cornered hat with black cockade; white kerseymere waistcoat and breeches; long black gaiters and buckled shoes. The officers had scarlet coats of the same pattern as those worn by the men, ornamented with gold lace and faced with black velvet; shirt frills, showing above the third coat button; cocked hats and feathers; crimson silk sashes, tied over the hips; epaulets and gorgets; and white leather sword belts worn over the right shoulder. For undress the officers wore short jackets; blue pantaloons, with scarlet cord down the side seams; half boots; and round bear-skin hats, with scarlet and white feathers at the side. The hair of all ranks was worn powdered and queued, and the face was closely shaven. The device for the regimental button was designed by Major Cartwright, and consisted of a cap of liberty resting upon a clasped book, behind which appeared an arm holding a drawn sword; above the device was the motto, "Pro legibus et libetate," and the whole was surrounded by a garter, inscribed "Nottinghamshire Regiment." Swords for the rank and file having been discontinued since the year 1746, the regiment was armed with the musket and bayonet. The barrels of the

arms were kept bright. The weight of the musket, with the bayonet fixed, was 11 lbs. 4 ozs.; the weight of the bayonet alone being 1 lb. 2 ozs. The length of the barrel was 3-ft. 3-in., and the diameter of the bore, .753 in. The charge of the powder was 6 drs., F. G.; bullets, 14½ to the lb.; and flints, 3 to every 60 rounds.

On May the 20th, 1776, the Nottinghamshire Militia assembled in the town of Nottingham, for the first time, for twenty-eight days' training. The men received new arms and accoutrements which had been sent down from London about a month before, under the direction of Captain Boyd, and which, prior to the assembly of the regiment, had been deposited in Nottingham Castle. A parade-ground was formed on the north side of the town, on a portion of Sherwood Forest then unenclosed; and the first regular parade was on the morning of May the 22nd. The new colours, which had embroidered upon them the armorial bearings of the Lord-Lieutenant, and those of the county of Nottingham, were carried on this occasion for the first time.

June the 4th, being the anniversary of the birth of His Majesty King George III., was observed with all proper respect. At five o'clock in the evening the drums beat to arms, and the Nottinghamshire Militia, under the command of Colonel Lord George Sutton, having assembled in the great market-place, fired five excellent volleys in honour of the King, after which the men were turned about so as to face the Exchange Hall, where the Mayor and Corporation of Nottingham were assembled, and a sixth volley was fired in compliment to them. Two guineas were then divided amongst the men in each company, to enable them to drink His Majesty's health, and the officers were afterwards entertained in the Exchange Hall, by the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Nottingham (John Fellows, Esq.).

To inaugurate the formation of the Nottinghamshire Militia, a ball was given by the officers in Nottingham Castle, on June the 14th; and it is remarkable that no such entertainment had been given there for upwards of half a century. A guard of honour, composed of two companies of the regiment, did duty at the castle upon this occasion; and the appearance of the men, after so short a period of military exercise, excited equal surprise and admiration.

The men were dismissed to their homes on June the 16th, their arms and accoutrements being deposited, at the special request of the Lord-Lieutenant, in Nottingham Castle, which for some years continued to be used as the regimental stores.

The Nottinghamshire Militia assembled at Nottingham for its second training on May the 22nd, 1777, and remained in the town for

twenty-eight days. This year the King's birthday was observed with even greater demonstrations of loyalty. About noon the regiment marched into the market-place, headed by the band, the colours being carried by Ensigns Sutton and Byron, and were formed into line in front of the Exchange Hall. A *feu-de-joie* was then fired in presence of His Grace the Duke of Portland, the Mayor and Corporation of Nottingham, and some thousands of spectators, who joined heartily in the cheers between each volley. A sum of money was divided amongst the men, and the officers were entertained by the Corporation. In the evening the officers dined together at the White Lion Hotel, the grenadier company being stationed outside to fire a volley when King George's health was drunk. The regiment was officially inspected on June the 13th.

On April the 13th, 1778, the Nottinghamshire Militia assembled at Nottingham, being embodied for permanent duty, as were many other English regiments of Militia, on account of the alliance of France with the rebellious American colonies. About this time so many men had volunteered into the line that the number of privates was reduced to 320; and, from a circular issued by the Lord-Lieutenant, it appears that there were also vacancies for subaltern officers.

The regiment was inspected at Nottingham on May the 13th, by Major-General Ward, who, at the conclusion of the review, addressed the regiment in terms of the highest approbation. This year the King's birthday was duly observed; and a few days afterwards the regiment received orders to leave Nottingham for Hull, to protect that port from any attempted invasion by the French. Accordingly, on Wednesday, June the 10th, the first division, consisting of the grenadier company, with three other companies, and the band and colours, marched out of Nottingham under the command of Colonel Lord George Sutton, at about five o'clock in the morning, amid the cheers of an immense crowd, which, even at that early hour, had assembled to witness the departure. The second division, consisting of the light infantry company, with the three remaining companies, left Nottingham on the following morning, under the command of Major Cartwright.

On October the 22nd, 1778, died Lieut.-Colonel the Right Hon. Henry Pelham Clinton, Earl of Lincoln, eldest son of the most noble Henry Fiennes Pelham Clinton, second Duke of Newcastle, and Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Nottingham. His lordship was succeeded in the lieut.-colonelcy by his youngest brother, the Right Hon. Lord John Pelham Clinton.

Towards the close of the year 1778 a small volume was published at Hull, containing the standing orders of the Nottinghamshire Militia,

which had been carefully and judiciously compiled by Major Cartwright, at the request of the commanding officer. After the publication of the volume, these standing orders were adopted by many other regiments, and were long held in the very highest estimation. The book is now exceedingly scarce; and it is a remarkable fact that not a single copy has been preserved by the regiment.

Whilst the Nottinghamshire Militia was stationed at Hull, an alarm was raised of an attack upon that place by the French, and the conduct of the regiment upon that occasion was highly spoken of by the civil and military authorities of the district. On the evening of November the 11th, between the hours of four and five, information was received that a large French privateer, followed at a distance by other hostile vessels, was cruising in the Humber. The drums at once beat to arms, and in less than five minutes the whole regiment was marching to the magazines to be supplied with extra ammunition. Outposts, composed of men from the Nottinghamshire Militia, were placed on the most commanding situations along the coast; the ordinary town guard was strongly reinforced; two detachments of invalid soldiers were armed; and all preparations made in anticipation of the enemy's landing. These active measures happily frustrated the attempt; and the leading vessel, having approached until almost within gunshot of the batteries, suddenly changed her course, and, with the others, put out to sea. The alertness with which the men of the Nottinghamshire regiment repaired to their rendezvous on the first alarm, and the zeal and courage they displayed on finding themselves in the presence of the enemy, together with the energy and activity of the officers, was long remembered with gratitude by the inhabitants of the town of Hull.

In August, 1779, during the race week, a meeting was held in Nottingham of the nobility, gentry, and clergy of the county, for the purpose of raising a subscription "to be applied for the public service of this kingdom in the present critical situation of affairs." Sir Robert Sutton, Bart., presided, and after some little discussion it was resolved to form a committee, who unanimously agreed "that the chairman of this committee do write to the Secretary-at-War, transmitting to him copies of the resolutions of the general meeting, and of the present committee, and do request him to move His Majesty to appoint some particular regiment to be recruited in this county, with the assistance of the subscription entered into; and that His Majesty be graciously pleased to order such regiment henceforward to be distinguished by the name of the county." This request was at once complied with, and

the skeleton of the 45th Regiment of Foot, which had recently returned from America, numbering less than 100 men, was at once ordered into Nottinghamshire, on recruiting service, with the assurance that whenever 300 men should be raised and incorporated into the said regiment, with the assistance of the influence and bounty of the noblemen and gentlemen of the county, then the regiment should be distinguished from thenceforward by the title of the "Nottinghamshire Regiment," as a memorial of the zeal and loyalty shown by the county. In addition to the usual sum, an extra bounty of six guineas was paid to each recruit out of the county subscription, and many more than the stipulated number were speedily obtained. The 45th Regiment and Nottinghamshire have ever since been closely connected; and, during the French Revolutionary War, the regiment received many hundreds of men belonging to the county, nearly all of whom were volunteers from the Nottinghamshire Militia. Few regiments under the Crown have, during the last eighty years, seen more arduous service than the 45th, and none have earned for themselves a higher renown. Should any be disposed to sneer at this bloodless record of a Militia regiment, let them look at the honours upon the tattered colours of the gallant 45th, and remember that it was by Nottinghamshire militiamen that those honours were won.

During the time that the Nottinghamshire Militia was quartered at Hull, the men acquired such a proficiency in shooting as to obtain the sobriquet of the "Nottinghamshire Marksmen"—a name which was retained by the regiment for many years, and was even occasionally used in official documents.

Many quaint and curious advertisements for Militia' substitutes appeared in the provincial newspapers about this time. The following, from the *Nottingham Journal*, may be quoted as an example:—

"WANTED.—ABLE SUBSTITUTES,

To serve in the 'Nottinghamshire Marksmen,' or 42nd Battalion of Militia, for the space of three years; commanded by the worthy Lord George Sutton, and now quartered in the delightful and plentiful town of Kingston-upon-Hull, where excellent ale is sold at only three pence the full quart; fish, of the best quality, at one penny per pound, and shambles meat at a lower rate than in most towns in the kingdom.

"Young Men of spirit and activity, from the age of 17 to 30, and from 5 feet 4 to 5 feet 10 inches high, disposed to engage, will be paid a handsome bounty by applying to Mr. S. CRESSWELL, printer, Nottingham.

“Substitutes for the Militia who enter their names, agree to serve, and duly attend to be enrolled before the Deputy Lieutenants, next Monday, will be welcome to a good English ordinary of roast beef and plum pudding, at Mrs. Scott’s, at the Eight Bells, and a ticket to see the famous play of ‘King Richard the Third,’ and the favourite farce of the ‘Jubilee.’

“Those men balloted for the town of Nottingham, and willing to serve in person, shall be paid four guineas and a half, receive the county guinea at Hull, with many other legal advantages for themselves and families, partake of a good dinner, and have a ticket for the Play at night.

“GOD SAVE THE KING.”

After remaining at Hull for exactly a year, the “Marksmen” were ordered into camp on Southsea Common, near Portsmouth, being replaced at Hull by the Second West York Militia, then commanded by Colonel Hervey. The regiment marched from Hull in two divisions, the distance being performed in twenty days, by the following route:—
 First division—June the 9th, from Hull to Glandford Bridge; 10th, to Gainsborough; 11th, to Retford and Tuxford; 12th, to Newark (previous to their arrival in that town the men were halted, by special desire, at the seat of Joseph Pocklington, Esq., at Carlton-upon-Trent, and were most hospitably entertained by that gentleman); 13th, being Sunday, the division remained in Newark, and, for the first time, attended divine service in the old parish church. The Corporation of Newark, considering the fatigues of the march, presented a sum of money to be divided amongst the men. 14th, to Grantham; 15th, to Melton-Mowbray; 16th, to Oakham and Uppingham; 17th, halt; 18th, to Kettering; 19th, to Newport-Pagnall; 20th, being Sunday, halt; 21st, to Stony-Stratford; 22nd, to Aylesbury; 23rd, to Tame, Watlington and Bennington; 24th, halt; 25th, to Altham; 26th, to Petersfield; 27th, being Sunday, halt; 28th, to Portsmouth, and into camp on Southsea Common. The second division marched from Hull, on June the 10th, and proceeded by the same route.

On September the 1st, the regiment was officially inspected by General Monckton, who made a most gratifying report of the general efficiency and appearance of the men.

Early in December the camp at Southsea was broken up, and the regiment went into winter quarters at Gosport. Whilst at this place, a portion of the duty was to mount guard over the prisoners of war confined in the Forton prison, near Gosport; and in the performance of this duty a melancholy accident occurred. One of the sentries, Private

William Stevenson, hearing some unusual noise in the dead of night, most imprudently left his post to ascertain its cause. Another sentry seeing him, but not recognising his uniform owing to the darkness of the night, fancied him to be a prisoner escaping, and, receiving no answer to his challenge, fired and mortally wounded his comrade, who only survived long enough to explain how the fatal mishap occurred.

Nor was this the only fatal event which happened in the regiment whilst it was quartered in Gosport. Early in June, 1780, a party of soldiers, belonging to the 14th Foot, were quarrelling and fighting in a public-house in the town. A baggage guard of the Nottinghamshire Militia, under the command of a sergeant, named Reeves, happened to be passing at the time, and the landlord called upon the sergeant to assist him in putting an end to the brawl. Sergeant Reeves accordingly entered the house, accompanied by several of his men; but, before he had time to defend himself, a grenadier of the 14th Foot stabbed him in four places with his sword, inflicting such serious wounds that the sergeant died almost immediately.

In June, 1780, the Nottinghamshire Militia was relieved at Gosport by a detachment of the Derbyshire Militia, and was encamped on Ranmoor Common, near Dorking, in Surrey. In consequence of the inclemency of the weather, the camp was broken up early in November, and one division of the regiment was sent into winter quarters at Basingstoke, and the other division was quartered in detachments at Farnham and Bagshot.

Towards the end of January, 1781, the whole regiment was removed to Gosport, where the Nottinghamshire Militia remained until March, when it was relieved by the Surrey Militia, and was sent to Poole, to defend the inhabitants of that district from the depredations of bands of piratical smugglers, which then infested the coast of Dorset.

About the end of May, the regiment, under the command of Major Cartwright, was recalled to Gosport, and, together with the Surrey, was encamped at Stokes Bay, near that town. Winter setting in, the camp was broken up; and the Nottinghamshire regiment, being divided into detachments, was quartered at Andover, Basingstoke, and other places in the vicinity,

The officers of the Nottinghamshire Militia, in August, 1781, were as follows: Colonel the Right Hon. Lord George Sutton, Lieut.-Colonel the Right Hon. Lord John Pelham Clinton, Major John Cartwright, Captains, George Isham Parkyns, George Sutton, William Coape Sherbrooke, Augustus Parkyns, and Harrington Baudin; Captain-Lieutenant John Tracy, Lieutenants, John Collishaw, John Smith, Frederick

George Pyron, Thomas Cood, Thomas Littlewood, Philip Ellis, and William Champion ; Ensigns, Squire Rein, William Pritchard, Thomas Hand, William Hamilton, and William Sampson ; Adjutant, Lieut. Richard Berks ; Quartermaster, Lieut. William Johnson ; and Surgeon, Ensign John Manners.

The lieut.-colonelcy was again vacant about this time, by the death of Lieut.-Colonel the Right Hon. Lord John Pelham Clinton, youngest son of His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, and Groom of the Chambers to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. At the time of his death his lordship was only in the twenty-sixth year of his age. The lieut.-colonelcy was given to Edward Thoroton Gould, Esq., of Mansfield Woodhouse, in the county of Nottingham, who eventually succeeded to the command of the regiment.

In the summer of 1782, the detachments of the Nottinghamshire Militia were called together, and the whole regiment was encamped on Brampton Common, in Kent. Here, the principal duty of the regiment was to mount guard over the stores and batteries in the neighbouring garrison of Chatham.

Early in November, orders were received for the regiment to return into Nottinghamshire ; and on November the 29th the first division of the Nottinghamshire Militia, with the band and colours, marched into Newark, under the command of Colonel Lord George Sutton, and was quartered there during the winter. The second division was divided into detachments, respectively quartered at Tuxford and Retford.

On January the 5th, 1783, the regiment experienced a severe loss in the death of its gallant colonel, the Right Hon. Lord George Sutton, which occurred at his seat at Kelham, near Newark, after a short illness. His lordship was the first commanding officer appointed to the Nottinghamshire Militia after the Militia was re-organised, in 1757, the date of his commission being August the 19th, 1775. He was born in 1722, and was the third son of the most noble John Manners, third Duke of Rutland, by Bridget, his wife, only daughter and heiress of the Right Hon. Robert Sutton, second Baron Lexington, of Averham, in the county of Nottingham. At the decease of his elder brother, Lord Robert Sutton, in 1762, he inherited the estates of his maternal grandfather, and assumed the name and arms of Sutton by Royal license. He first married Diana, only daughter of Thomas Chaplin, Esq., of Blackney, in the county of Lincoln, by whom he had several children ; and secondly, Mary, daughter of Joshua Peart, Esq., of the city of Lincoln, by whom he had one daughter. In 1754 he was returned as representative in Parliament for the borough of Grantham, which

place he continued to represent until the general election of 1780, when he was elected for the borough of Newark. His remains lie interred in the chancel of the parish church of Kelham, where a tattered achievement, displaying the armorial bearings of the deceased officer, still remains. He was succeeded in the colonelcy by the Hon. Henry Willoughby, eldest son of the Right Hon. Henry Willoughby, fifth Baron Middleton.

On Monday, March the 3rd, 1783, the first division of the Nottinghamshire Militia marched into Nottingham from Newark, under the command of Major Cartwright. Peace having been concluded, the Militia of the whole kingdom was being moved towards the headquarters of the respective regiments, previous to disembodiment; and about the same time that the first division of the Nottinghamshire regiment arrived in Nottingham, the Leicestershire marched into the same town, *en route* for Leicester. A few days later the second division of the Nottinghamshire arrived in Nottingham, and the whole regiment was immediately disembodied. A contemporary local newspaper, in mentioning the disembodiment, remarks that "the men retired to their respective homes with the greatest order and regularity, maintaining to the end the reputation they had earned for themselves."

For several years the regiment was not assembled for training, the staff being stationed at Nottingham, and the arms, clothing, and accoutrements being deposited in Nottingham Castle. During this period the regiment was maintained up to a certain strength, men being balloted for to supply the vacancies as occasion required.

On May the 12th, 1788, the Nottinghamshire Militia was assembled at Nottingham for twenty-eight days' training, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Gould.

June the 4th, being the anniversary of the King's birthday, the regiment fired a *feu-de-joie* in the great market-place, and the officers were entertained in the banqueting hall of the Exchange, by the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Nottingham (Joseph Lowe, Esq., of Highfield).

The regimental orders of the day, previous to the conclusion of the training, contained the following:—

"Lieut.-Colonel Gould returns his sincere thanks to the regiment for their very soldier-like and good behaviour during the month's exercise; and he shall feel himself particularly happy in reporting the same to His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, and Colonel Willoughby, on the first opportunity."

How thoroughly the compliment was merited may be judged from the fact that during the whole month's training only one man had to be dismissed in the regiment.

The men were dismissed on June the 21st and on the evening of that day Surgeon Bright, the surgeon of the regiment met with an accident which resulted in his death. Having dined with his brother officers at their mess room, he had returned to his quarters on the Long Row, and whilst in the act of undressing his groin, the blade of a candle cut into his spine, hurting him so severely that he only survived for two days when death put an end to his sufferings.

The regiment assembled in Nottingham in May the 12th 1789, for twenty-eight days training, and in 1791 assembled on the same date for a similar period.

In 1791 Colonel the Hon. Henry Willoughby resigned his commission. He was the only son of the Right Hon. Henry Willoughby, fifth Baron Middleton, by Dorothy, his wife, daughter and co-heiress of George Cartwright, Esq. of Ockington in the county of Nottingham. Colonel Willoughby was born in 1751, and was only in the twenty-second year of his age when he was appointed to the command of the Nottinghamshire Militia by the Lord-Lieutenant of the county. He seldom, if ever, served with the regiment. In 1800 he succeeded his father as sixth Baron Middleton. He married Jane, daughter of Sir Robert Lawley, Bart., but died without issue, June the 19th 1835, aged seventy-four years, and was buried in the chancel of Wollaton Church, near Nottingham, where there is a mural monument to his memory.

Early in May, 1791, the regiment was called together in Nottingham for the usual period of training. At that time the 15th Light Dragoons were quartered in the town; and the billet accommodation not being considered as sufficient for both Dragoons and Militia, one division of the former was removed out of the town.

On May the 25th, the greater part of the Nottinghamshire Militia, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Gould, marched from Nottingham to Mansfield, where the detachment remained for three days, returning to Nottingham on the evening of the 28th. It is worthy of note that at this training there was not a single man absent, whose absence was not accounted for satisfactorily.

The regiment, at this period, enjoyed a great reputation for the exactness and celerity with which its manœuvres were executed; and Colonel Churchill, the commanding officer of the 15th Light Dragoons, expressed a particular desire to be permitted to inspect the regiment. It was accordingly reviewed by him on Sherwood Forest, on June the

4th; and at the conclusion of the review the Colonel expressed himself as highly gratified with what he had seen, and added, that the regiment fully merited the good name which it had won.

Major John Cartwright,* having taken an active part in various political agitations, his commission in the Nottinghamshire Militia was withdrawn, October the 23rd, 1792; or, in other words, he was dismissed from His Majesty's service.

In May, 1792, at the usual time for the annual regimental training, there were quartered in the town of Nottingham three troops of the 6th Inniskilling Dragoons, and the greater part of the 57th Regiment of Foot. On this account the training was deferred until towards the end of the year, and the regiment was not assembled until November the 12th.

During this training an incident arose which is worthy of mention, if only as an example of the state of society at this time. Party feeling then ran high; and a certain few of avowed Republican principles—sympathisers of the notorious Thomas Paine—were vainly endeavouring to obtain for themselves some notoriety. Nottingham, like all other large towns, had its representatives of this class; and, one evening, as a private of the Nottinghamshire Militia (who had partaken too freely of the far-famed Nottingham ale) was returning to his billet, he was met by a party of these would-be “Republicans,” and decoyed by them into a conversation highly disrespectful to His Majesty the King. Being overheard by a non-commissioned officer, he was immediately confined, and would certainly have been tried by court-martial had it not been for his previous exemplary conduct, and his protestations of steady loyalty and profound attachment to his Sovereign. He was accordingly released from confinement; but, upon parade next morning, he, at his own request, in proof of his sincere penitence, knelt down, bareheaded, in sight of the whole regiment, and humbly craved pardon from King George, and from the officers of his regiment, for the stain which might have fallen upon them through his intemperance.

During the important struggle between Great Britain and her rebellious American colonies, France had treacherously afforded active assistance to the latter; and, although peace had been concluded and preserved for several years, still the bitter feeling which existed between the English and French nations rendered the re-commencement of war merely a question of time. Partly for this reason, and partly on account of the supposed growth of Republican feeling in England, the Govern-

* *Vide Appendix.*

ment resolved to embody a certain number of regiments of Militia. A Royal proclamation was accordingly issued, December the 1st, 1792, alleging that "the utmost industry was stated to be employed by evil-disposed persons, acting in concert with persons in foreign parts, with a view to subvert the law and constitution; and that a spirit of tumult had manifested itself in acts of riot and insurrection;" that His Majesty had therefore "resolved to embody part of the Militia of the kingdom." The Nottinghamshire Militia was accordingly distinguished by being one of the first to receive orders for immediate embodiment.

The regiment assembled in Nottingham for permanent duty on Monday, January the 28th, 1793, under the command of Colonel Edward Thoroton Gould, who had recently succeeded to the colonelcy, on the resignation of Colonel the Hon. Henry Willoughby. Thomas Charlton, Esq., of Chilwell, in the county of Nottingham, was appointed Lieut.-Colonel, on the promotion of Colonel Gould.

On January the 21st, 1793, King Louis the Sixteenth of France was executed; and the French made it known that their whole power would be lent to the assistance of nations desirous of overthrowing their existing Governments. Secret offers were made to the English Republicans; and on February the 3rd, France declared war against England. The whole of the English Militia regiments were at once embodied, and ordered to be encamped in different parts of the coast; independent volunteer companies being raised to protect the inland counties.

About a month after its embodiment, the Nottinghamshire Militia received orders to proceed to the Lincolnshire coast; and on March the 4th, marched out of Nottingham; and since that time—during a space of upwards of eighty years—the regiment has never once been quartered in the county town. The first day's march was from Nottingham to Newark, where the regiment remained for the whole of the next day, proceeding *en route* for the Lincolnshire coast on March the 6th, and, in the course of a few days, was quartered in detachments at Boston, Spalding, and elsewhere in the vicinity; the head-quarters being at Boston.

The King's birthday was observed at Boston, on June the 4th, with unusual festivities. At noon, the principal detachment of the Nottinghamshire Militia, with the band and colours, assembled under command of Colonel Gould, and fired a *feu-de-joie*, with a salvo of artillery between each round. The Mayor of Boston gave a cold collation to the officers, and afterwards the Mayor and Corporation, together with the principal gentry of the neighbourhood, dined at the officers' mess. In the

evening the Corporation gave a supper to the officers, and divided ten guineas amongst the men, to enable them to drink King George's health.

Early in November, in anticipation of an invasion by the French, the light infantry companies of all Militia regiments received orders to hold themselves in readiness to march at an hour's notice, and each man was provided with forty rounds of ball cartridge.

In 1793, all the Militia Acts were consolidated, and a body of 21,660 men was raised, consisting of both Protestants and Roman Catholics. The quota of men for England and Wales was also fixed at 30,740 men, who were to be raised by ballot. In March, 1794, an Act was passed to enable the Crown to accept the services of one or more companies, which were to be raised by persons of influence and distinction, to be attached as extra companies to Militia regiments, but as volunteers. Temporary rank, which was not to exceed that of Lieut.-Colonel, was given to the officers.

In the summer of 1794, the Nottinghamshire regiment was sent into Essex, and encamped near Danbury in that county, together with the Cambridgeshire, Leicestershire, and First West Norfolk regiments of Militia. At the end of October the camp was broken up, and the following highly complimentary letter was addressed by the General in command to the commanding officer of the Nottinghamshire Militia :—

“ Danbury Place,

“ *November 3rd, 1794.*

“ Sir,

“ The campaign happily over, I cannot allow our separation to take place without remarking upon the constant zeal and exertions of you, Sir, and the officers and men of the Nottinghamshire Regiment of Militia, for the establishing and maintaining that order and discipline—the essence of soldiers—without which they are nothing but a lawless banditti, and returning you and them my thanks for a conduct which has done you so much honour, and has given me so much satisfaction. Accept of them, Sir, and present them to your officers and soldiers, with the assurance that I shall ever remember their attention to myself with pleasure, and the summer of 1794 as one of the pleasantest of my long military career.

“ I have the honour to be, with the greatest regard,

“ Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

“ JAMES JOHNSTONE, General.

“ Colonel Gould,

“ Commanding Officer of the Nottinghamshire Regiment of Militia.”

The Nottinghamshire Militia, being divided into thirteen detachments, was sent into winter quarters in as many small towns and villages in Essex, the head quarters being at Braintree, and the next principal division at Bocking.

In June, 1795, permission was given to the Militia to volunteer into the Royal Artillery, or the Navy, in the proportion of one to every ten.

In 1795, the Nottinghamshire regiment was quartered in the city of Ely, a strong detachment being stationed in the neighbouring town of Newmarket.

This same year, the King, taking into consideration the high price of bread, ordered that all Line and Militia regiments should have supplied to them the six pound loaf at fourpence below the market price, the difference to be paid by the Government. This was an inestimable boon to the soldier, who then had but two meals a day—the food being none of the best. His Majesty also ordered that all the beer provided for the troops should be carefully examined, in order that its wholesomeness might not be questioned. It need hardly be added that this regulation gave unbounded satisfaction in the Army.

About the beginning of the year 1796, the regiment, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Charlton, was removed to King's Lynn, in Norfolk.

The Nottinghamshire Militia at this time had attached to it a field-battery of artillery of two guns, and two rifle companies in green uniforms, which were placed on either flank when the regiment was in line, the artillery being on the extreme right. The field-battery was entirely composed of privates of the Nottinghamshire Militia, a certain number being told off and placed under the tuition of a party of Royal Artillery, who were sent down to head-quarters for that purpose. This course of instruction was afterwards extended to the whole regiment, the companies taking the great gun drill in regular rotation.

The sobriquet of the "Saucy Notts" (by which name the Nottinghamshire Militia was familiarly known for many years) was given to the regiment about this time.

From King's Lynn the regiment was sent to York, and from there to Hull, then a garrison town.

Early in 1797, whilst the Nottinghamshire Militia was at Hull, great apprehensions were entertained lest the French should attempt an invasion of England; and, it being generally thought that the coast of Yorkshire would be selected as the most favourable locality to effect a landing, troops were hastily sent into that district. The Leicestershire Militia was sent to relieve the Nottinghamshire at Hull, and the latter

regiment, being divided into several detachments, was quartered at Bridlington, Driffield, Hornsea, Market-Weighton, and other neighbouring towns. The Loyal Irish Fencibles were quartered in those towns at the same time.

In November, 1796, a Supplementary Militia had been raised, consisting of 59,441 men for England, and 4437 for Wales. The Nottinghamshire Supplementary regiment, consisted of about 900 men, who were furnished by the various divisions of the county in the following proportions: "Hundreds of Rushcliffe and Bingham, and the south division of Broxtow, 190 men; north division of the Hundred of Broxtow, 131 men; Hundred of Bassetlaw, 211 men; Hundreds of Newark and Thurgarton, 206 men; town and county of the town of Nottingham, 158 men; in all, 896 men. The men belonging to the Hundreds of Rushcliffe, Bingham, and the south division of Broxtow, were assembled for training at Nottingham, together with the men belonging to that town; those men belonging to the north division of the Hundred of Broxtow were assembled at Mansfield; those belonging to the Hundred of Bassetlaw, at East Retford; and those belonging to the Hundreds of Newark and Thurgarton, at Newark. It was agreed that the number of men of the Supplementary Militia assembled at one time for training, or otherwise, should never exceed half the whole number, except in case of invasion. In March, 1798, a portion of the force being embodied, half of the Nottinghamshire Supplementary Militia was called out and sent into the north of England. The force was altogether abolished in the years 1799 and 1800, many of the men enlisting into regiments of the Line.

Towards the end of May, 1797, the regular Nottinghamshire Militia, which had for some months been quartered in detachments at Bridlington, and other towns near the Yorkshire coast, was sent into new barracks at Hull. The troops then quartered in the immediate vicinity consisted of the 31st Regiment of Foot, a party of the Royal Artillery, the Nottinghamshire, Northumberland, Durham, and Leicester Regiments of Militia, the North York Supplementary Militia, and the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Regiments of West York Supplementary Militia; the whole brigade being under the command of Brigadier-General Smith, whose head-quarters were at Elton. The grenadier and light infantry companies of each regiment were formed into two separate regiments, the grenadiers being commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Hepburn, and the light infantry by Lieut.-Colonel Carlton.

Several companies of each regiment were encamped at Burstwick, a small village about eight miles west of Hull, and the officers were

requested to add to their topographical knowledge—to study the features of the country—so that should the troops be called upon suddenly to move, either by day or night, there might be no confusion or delay. All the camp requisites were ordered for instantaneous use, the men's knapsacks packed, horses in preparation for the field-pieces, and everything arranged as though they had been in the actual presence of the invader. The men were diligently exercised in the manual, platoon, and great gun drill, alarm-posts were established, and all lights were extinguished at an early hour. At Hull, and other places on the Humber, the sentries on the various stations were doubled, and there was incessant watchfulness on the part of all, from the general to the private soldier. These precautions were taken because the Government had received an intimation that the French, supported by the Dutch fleet, intended to land either in the Humber or the Tees. Admiral Duncan's victory, however, over the Dutch fleet at Camperdown; and the prevention of the French landing in Ireland (which was to have taken place simultaneously with the descent upon England) allayed the anxiety for the time, and the duties of the garrison were in a slight degree relaxed.*

In September, 1797, Sergeant George Hoovey, of the Nottinghamshire Militia, was, by sentence of a general court-martial, degraded to the ranks, and received no less than five hundred lashes, for having connived at the escape of certain French prisoners of war, whom he was conducting under escort to the prison at Yaxley, in Huntingdonshire.

About this time, beside the regular force, the British Army consisted of thirty regiments of fencible cavalry, forty-two of fencible infantry, and 110 regiments of regular Militia, together with enrolled corps of invalids and volunteers amounting to 100,000 men, or more.

In June, 1798, the British Militia volunteered to serve in Ireland for the suppression of the rebellion, and an Act was passed, permitting 12,000 men to serve there for a limited period.

On May the 1st, 1798, the Nottinghamshire Militia marched from Hull, and was encamped at Dimplington, a hamlet on the sea-coast, in the district of Holderness, about five miles north of Spurn Point. Here the regiment remained until winter set in, when it was moved, by way of York, to Edinburgh, and was quartered in that city until June, 1799, when, being relieved by the North York Militia, it was sent to Glasgow, the place from whence the North York had come.

* Record of the Durham Militia.

In October, 1798, the officers were directed to appear at mess in their coats and cocked hats, and, optionally, to wear pantaloons and half-boots, or breeches, silk stockings, and half gaiters. At church, during the winter months, they were to wear blue pantaloons, long coats and cocked hats; and on parade they were to wear their morning dress, consisting of short jacket, pantaloons, half-boots, and round bearskin hat.

In 1799, a voluntary subscription was commenced, towards the defence of the country, by which a million and a half of money was raised. The King subscribed £20,000, and the Queen £5000; the proprietors of the Bank of England gave £200,000, and the subscribers to the Royal Exchange £46,534; Messrs. Yates and Peel, the eminent Lancashire cotton manufacturers, contributed £10,000; the Common Council of London gave £10,000; and the subscriptions in Nottinghamshire were on a proportionately munificent scale. An offensive and defensive alliance was entered into by England, Russia, and Turkey, and hostilities were actively prosecuted.

In a General Order, dated October the 10th, 1799, for the regulation of militiamen volunteering into the Foot Guards, Royal Artillery, and other forces, His Royal Highness the Duke of York stated "that having witnessed the brilliant success which has already attended the efforts of His Majesty's arms in Holland, and for which the country is so much indebted to the distinguished gallantry and zeal of the first volunteers from the Militia," he urged upon the militiamen to follow the examples of their former comrades. Free commissions in the Line were offered for captain, lieutenant, and ensign, to officers serving with the same rank, in any regiment of Militia which should furnish to the Line a company of not less than eighty men.

In the month of July, 1799, about 300 men volunteered from the Nottinghamshire Militia into various regiments of the Line, and towards the close of the year upwards of 100 men volunteered into the 35th Regiment of Foot; and, at the same time, one captain and three lieutenants obtained commissions in that regiment. About sixty men also volunteered into other regiments of the Line.

Some idea of the extent to which volunteering from the Militia to the Line was now carried on may be formed from the fact that upon the 1st of July, 1799, out of 80,626 militiamen, no less than 15,712 volunteered, and served under Sir Ralph Abercrombie, in Holland, during the war; and shortly afterwards 10,414, out of 63,879, joined regiments of the Line. From July the 18th, 1799, to November the 15th, 24,958 militiamen volunteered for active service, the greater pro-

portion joining the 4th, 5th, 9th, 15th, 17th, 20th, 31st, 35th, 40th, 52nd and 62nd Regiments of Foot.

A circular, dated May the 2nd, 1799, stated that "by desire of His Majesty, the officers and men were ordered to wear their hair queued, to be 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." The officers and men were strictly forbidden to cut their hair, so as to prevent their wearing it queued, as previously directed. On the 10th of the same month an order was issued that the non-commissioned officers, and privates, were to be provided with false queues of an approved pattern, so as to save them the expense of "stuffed tails and ribbons;" and, by an order dated October the 2nd, the men were directed to put as much powder in their hair as would make it tie neatly, and appear clean in every respect. By a circular from the Horse Guards, dated February the 1st, 1800, the use of hair powder was ordered to be discontinued. In March, 1800, the officers were ordered to appear on morning parade in half-boots, and on afternoon parade in stockings and buckled shoes.

In March, 1800, the Nottinghamshire Militia marched in three divisions from Glasgow to Dumfries; and in August, 1801, left Dumfries for Kelso. Shortly after the arrival of the regiment in that town, it was inspected by General Vise.

In the year 1800, Ensign Sempronius Stretton* obtained an ensign's commission in the 6th (Royal First Warwickshire) Regiment of Foot. His subsequent services in the Peninsula and at Waterloo earned for him the reputation of being one of the most distinguished officers who has held a commission in the Nottinghamshire Regiment of Militia.

The regiment received orders to return to England in March, 1802, and commenced its march southward in three divisions, which were respectively halted and quartered at the towns of Doncaster, Retford, and Newark. The Doncaster detachment was shortly afterwards removed and divided, part being sent to Retford, and part to Southwell.

In the month of April, 1802, the Peace of Amiens occasioned the disembodiment of the Militia of the United Kingdom. The outlying detachments of the Nottinghamshire Militia were ordered to join the head-quarters at Newark, and about the end of April the whole were disbanded, every non-commissioned officer, and private, receiving one month's pay as a gratuity.

By the special desire of the Lord-Lieutenant, the permanent staff

* *Vide* Appendix.

remained in Newark, which has ever since continued to be the headquarters of the regiment. The arms, clothing, and accoutrements were deposited in a portion of the Town Hall which was set apart for the regimental stores.

About this time the number of the Militia was reduced to 30,586 men; and the exemption from the Militia ballot, which had hitherto been enjoyed by those serving in the various volunteer corps, was withdrawn. An Act was passed, however, to continue the volunteer force, and the Militia quota was fixed at 40,963 men for England and Wales, and 7950 for Scotland.

A general Militia Act was passed in 1802, by which men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five were to be raised by ballot, or to pay a fine of £10 to be exempt for five years. The services of a balloted man was to be for five years, with the option of re-engaging, should the desire be expressed within four months of the expiration of the term of service. A volunteer, or substitute, received a bounty of one guinea, and had to serve for five years, or during such further time as the Militia might remain embodied. When embodied, the Militia received the same pay as the Line, and were also entitled to the benefits of Chelsea Hospital, if disabled on active service.

The Nottinghamshire regiment did not long remain inactive. On the rupture of the Peace of Amiens, in 1803, hostilities were prosecuted against the French with all the power the British Government could command, and the Militia was at once embodied. The Nottinghamshire was again distinguished by being one of the first regiments called out; and, in the month of May, 1803, was sent down to Dover, the rifle companies being ordered to the Isle of Wight.

Shortly before the embodiment, Lieutenant Richard Berks, who had been adjutant of the Nottinghamshire Militia since the formation of the regiment in 1775, resigned his commission, and was succeeded by Captain Simon Peter Boileau. Lieutenant Berks had previously served as a lieutenant in the Royal Marines, and was present at the siege and capture of Quebec, under General Wolfe. He died at Tuxford, in the county of Nottingham, in December, 1808, in the 76th year of his age.

On August the 12th the regiment left Dover and was quartered at Margate, detachments being posted in various parts of the Isle of Thanet. About this time many men volunteered from the Nottinghamshire Militia into the Royal Navy. The strength of the regiment was afterwards very considerably augmented, and amounted to more than 1000 of all ranks. The principal detachment, with head-quarters,

after remaining for a few months at Margate, was removed to Ramsgate. In June, 1804, the Nottinghamshire Militia relieved the Derbyshire at Canterbury; and, upon this occasion, the following General Order was issued:—

“Brigadier-General Sir Samuel Auchmuty cannot permit the Nottinghamshire Regiment of Militia to leave the Isle of Thanet without expressing his unqualified approbation of its conduct during the time he has had the honour to have it under his command. From the regularity of their behaviour in garrison, their cheerful and exact obedience of orders, and the rapid progress they have made in discipline, he has no doubt of their gaining distinguished reputation, should their services be required in the field.”

About this time the uniform was again changed. The officers wore for their full dress a scarlet coat with black velvet facings and gold lace, white cloth waistcoat, white leather breeches, full boots, cocked hat with feather, black silk cravat tied behind, crimson silk sash, gorget and epaulet, and white leather sword-belt with breastplate. In evening dress the officers wore white kerseymere breeches, silk stockings, and shoes with gold buckles. A cloth cap was substituted for the round bearskin hat formerly worn by the officers in undress.

The year 1804 is memorable as the one in which Napoleon Bonaparte gathered at Boulogne, what he termed, the “Army of England,” and collected the fleet of flat-bottomed boats which was to land it on these shores; all France being filled with preparations for a war which was intended to overthrow for ever the power of Great Britain.

At this trying time, the county of Nottingham substantially evinced its patriotism and loyalty by raising a force of over 4000 yeomanry cavalry and volunteer infantry. The total number of the cavalry was 472, and of the infantry 3635.

In November, 1804, the Nottinghamshire Militia marched from Canterbury to the Ridding-street barracks, near Tenterden, but was shortly afterwards moved from there into barracks in the neighbouring towns of Winchelsea and Rye.

In May, 1805, the regiment was called upon to furnish its quota of volunteers for the Line. The number being stated on parade by the commanding officer, more men than were required at once stepped out from the ranks and volunteered for active service; and this, be it remembered, was at a time when a fierce and bloody war was raging. Indeed, so little delay was there in the matter, that the whole of the

non-commissioned officers and men who had volunteered were marched off that same day to the various regiments they had selected. The manner in which this affair was conducted reflects eternal credit on the Nottinghamshire Militia, and elicited the following gratifying compliment:—

“Major-General Fraser, having finished the inspection of the volunteers who have so handsomely turned out from the Nottingham Regiment this day for the regular service, thinks it a duty incumbent upon him to express to Colonel Gould, the officers, non-commissioned officers, and private men of that well-regulated corps, his entire approbation of the soldier-like, impartial, creditable, and exemplary manner in which they have conducted themselves throughout this business, and to assure them that he feels much pleasure in being able to report thus favourably of the exertions they have made to the general officer commanding the district.”

The regiment was still further complimented by the above being placed in General Orders, and read on parade to every Line and Militia regiment quartered in the district. After this volunteering into the Line had taken place, the Nottinghamshire Militia was composed of ten companies of sixty-one men each, exclusive of officers, sergeants, corporals, and drummers.

In May, 1805, the sergeants presented Colonel Gould with a handsome sword and gold snuff-box, in token of their estimation of him as an officer and a gentleman.

The two divisions of the Nottinghamshire Militia marched from Rye and Winchelsea, on June the 27th, to relieve the Monmouth and Brecon Militia at Steyning.

On August the 11th, the regiment was sent into camp near Brighton; and on the following day had the honour of being reviewed, together with three other regiments of Militia, and three regiments of dragoons, by their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, the Duke of Sussex, the Duke of Clarence, and the Duke of Kent, who were attended by the Right Hon. Lord Moira and a brilliant staff of general officers. The review was highly successful, and concluded with a *feu-de-joie* from the whole line. A few days later the Nottinghamshire Militia marched back to their barracks at Steyning.

In 1806, the pay of the regiments of the Line was increased, but no augmentation was made to that of the Militia. In this year more than 11,000 men volunteered from the Militia to the Line; and at the commencement of the Peninsular War, in 1808, 30,883 were drafted into the Line.

The Nottinghamshire Militia was moved from Steyning to Portsmouth on May the 29th, 1807; and, whilst at that place, the men were employed in constructing and strengthening the fortifications, and other military works along the coast; for this the sergeants daily received eighteen-pence, and the privates one shilling, over and above their ordinary pay.

During the months of August and September, the whole regiment was encamped on Southsea Common, returning into barracks on October the 30th. That same month 225 men (including one whole company, with its full compliment of officers, non-commissioned officers, and drummers) volunteered into the Line.* The 45th, 59th, and 76th were, about this time, favourite regiments with the men of the Nottinghamshire Militia.

In 1807 the Militia amounted to 94,202 men; and the total estimate for the Militia service was £4,203,727 5s. 5d.

A Local Militia was established in the year 1808, by which upwards of 214,000 men were obtained by ballot, from men between the ages of eighteen and thirty, who were enrolled for four years, no substitutes being allowed. The Local Militia of Nottinghamshire was divided into four regiments, under the following field-officers: 1st, or Nottingham Regiment—Colonel, Ichabod Wright; Lieut.-Colonel, John Chaworth; and Majors, Mark Huish and John Smith Wright. 2nd, or Southwell Regiment—Lieut.-Colonel Commandant, William Sherbrooke; Lieut.-Colonel, William Wylde; and Majors, Robert Padley and William Gregory Williams. 3rd, or Retford Regiment—Lieut.-Colonel Commandant, Sir Thomas Wollaston White, Bart.; Lieut.-Colonel, John

* A brief recital of the services of one of the private soldiers who volunteered at this time into the 45th Regiment, will show how manfully these Nottinghamshire Militiamen could fight, and how nobly they maintained the reputation of their county. Private William Crowder joined the Nottinghamshire Militia in 1801, and served with the regiment until August, 1807, when he volunteered into the "gallant 45th." He landed in Portugal, with a detachment of that regiment, in 1808, and directly took part in the war then raging against the forces of the first Napoleon. He formed one of the "forlorn hope" at the storming of Fort Picariene, at Badajoz; the attacking forces consisting of the grenadier and light infantry companies of the 45th, the 14th, and the 88th Regiments, three companies of the 60th Rifles, and one company each of the 9th and 21st Portuguese regiments. On that occasion Crowder escaped being wounded by the enemy, but fell from one of the scaling-ladders, the effects of which he felt ever after throughout his life. He was discharged in November, 1814, but for many years afterwards he had no pension. He was awarded a medal with thirteen clasps for the following battles: Rolicca, Vimiera, Talavera (in which action he was wounded in the left hand), Busaca, Fuentes d'Onor, Cuidad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Moëlle, Orthes, and Toulouse. He was also present at the battle of Nives, and the affairs of Campo Mio and Tarboz. Private Crowder died at Mansfield, January the 1st, 1871, in the 85th year of his age.

Kirke ; and Major, John Shergold. 4th, or Newark Regiment—Lieut.-Colonel Commandant, Thomas Thoroton ; Lieut.-Colonel, Thomas Bradshaw ; and Major, James Tomlinson Terrewest. In 1809 the various volunteer corps in Nottinghamshire were disbanded, and most of the men transferred their services to the Local Militia. The services of the Local Militia were at first exclusively confined to the counties in which the regiments were raised ; but, by an Act passed in 1813, they became liable to serve out of their own counties till 1815. On May the 21st, 1816, the ballot was suspended annually, and the Local Militia was allowed to die out. The four Nottinghamshire regiments of Local Militia wore a somewhat similar uniform to that of the regular Militia regiment of the county, and received the same pay.

On February the 24th, 1808, the regular Nottinghamshire Militia marched from Portsmouth to Lewes ; and, on June the 25th, from Lewes to Bletchington barracks, near Brighton.

Whilst at Bletchington, the whole regiment volunteered for service in Spain, under Lord Wellington. The special thanks of the Government were conveyed to the regiment for the patriotism and loyalty which this offer of foreign service evinced ; and, whilst graciously declining the offer, as a whole, intimated that permission would be granted to any number of men who might wish to transfer their services into regiments of the Line, then serving in the Peninsula. Accordingly, a great number of men availed themselves of this permission, and volunteered into the 33rd, 45th, and 59th Regiments of Foot.

On June the 2nd, the second battalion of the 45th Regiment of Foot was inspected in Nottingham Park, by Lieut.-General Pigot. The battalion was then under the command of Major Browne, and consisted of about 600 men, the greater part of whom had at various times volunteered from the Nottinghamshire Militia.

On September the 19th, the Nottinghamshire Militia returned to Lewes, remaining there until February the 1st, 1809, when it was removed, and quartered in three detachments at Rye, Winchelsea, and Playdon. On July the 7th the whole regiment was again sent to Lewes, but in less than a month was ordered to Bletchington barracks, near Brighton, where the 3rd Dragoon Guards and the 81st Regiment of Foot were then quartered.

About this time Lieut.-Colonel Charlton resigned, and Major Henry Cope was promoted to the lieut.-colonelcy. Captain Wheatley was afterwards made major.

On October the 25th, King George III. entered upon the fiftieth year of his reign, and a public jubilee was celebrated throughout the

country in honour of the event. The Nottinghamshire Militia had ever stood foremost in manifestations of loyalty, and the rejoicings upon this occasion were worthy of the corps. The officers gave a banquet to the neighbouring gentry, and to the officers of the 3rd Dragoon Guards and of the 1st Regiment. They also entertained the non-commissioned officers and privates, together with their wives and children, with a substantial dinner, and presented every sergeant in the regiment with a bottle of wine. A ball and a brilliant display of fireworks, terminated the day's festivities: and it is recorded that on the following morning no less than twenty empty bear casks were rolled out of the barrack yard!

On November the 16th, the regiment was moved to Playdon, and on December the 15th was again moved to Basingstoke and Andover; and on December the 18th marched into Salisbury, in which city the Nottinghamshire Militia remained between four and five months.

In March, 1810, Major Wheatley resigned, and Captain John Gilbert-Cooper was appointed junior major.

On May the 30th, the Nottinghamshire Militia marched from Salisbury to Plymouth, to be quartered in the Frankfort barracks in that town. On the march, the senior major of the regiment, Major Richard Claye, caught a severe cold, which necessitated his remaining at Wellington, in Somersetshire, when the regiment marched through that place. Inflammation of the lungs set in, and, after six days' illness, Major Claye died on May the 22nd, in the 46th year of his age. A month later Captain Henry Stenton was promoted to the vacant majority.

At the time when the Nottinghamshire Militia arrived in Plymouth, Lieut.-General England was in command of the garrison, and the troops quartered there were detachments of the Royal Artillery, Marines, and several regiments of Militia. More than 10,000 French prisoners of war were then confined in Plymouth, the greater part being in a large wooden barrack, surrounded with high brick walls, known as the Mill Bay prison, the remainder being in large prison-ships lying in the Hamaoze.

At the latter end of September, the Nottinghamshire and Devonshire regiments of Militia were inspected together by General Thomas and Lieut.-General England. Shortly after the inspection, the Nottinghamshire regiment received orders to leave the Frankfort barracks, and replace the Shropshire Militia at the prison on Dartmoor Forest, where about 6000 prisoners of war were confined. The regiment arrived at the prison on October the 20th, and upon the same day the

Shropshire Militia marched from there to Plymouth. The prisoners imagined that the Nottinghamshire regiment, being unused to the place, could not at first maintain the guards with as much strictness and vigilance as usual, and accordingly planned an attempt to escape on the following night. A violent storm of wind and rain aided their project, which was so well organised that it was not until some few prisoners had contrived to get outside the prison walls that the attempt was discovered. Immediately on the alarm being given, the whole regiment got under arms with so little delay, that, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, many of the men were in their places in the ranks with no more clothing on than their shirts and breeches. Major Gilbert-Cooper was in command, and his prompt and decisive orders were attended with such success that every prisoner was recaptured, and without bloodshed.

On November the 20th, the regiment, being relieved, marched back to the Frankfort barracks, in Plymouth.

In the year 1810, Robert Millhouse—one of the most brilliant and truly unfortunate of England's minor bards—enlisted as a private soldier in the Nottinghamshire Militia. He was born in Nottingham, October the 14th, 1788, of the poorest of parents; and, from extreme poverty, was compelled to work for his living before he had completed his seventh year. His poetical writings having attracted the attention of his commanding officer, Colonel Gilbert-Cooper-Gardiner, he obtained the patronage and substantial support of that gentleman, who, in 1817, promoted him to the rank of corporal, and placed him upon the permanent staff of the regiment. "Sherwood Forest," the "Song of the Patriot," and the "Destinies of Man," are considered to be Millhouse's best works, and they occupy no mean position in English literature. But, as is too often the case, his genius was not appreciated until too late; and Robert Millhouse, after a life of privation and suffering, died in the utmost want, April the 13th, 1839.

On the morning of July the 8th, 1811, the Nottinghamshire Militia being on parade, Colonel Gould desired the adjutant to read to the men the Act of Parliament permitting the services of the British Militia to extend to Ireland, and he then informed them that it was the unanimous wish of the officers that the regiment should volunteer for service in Ireland—an announcement which was greeted with loud and prolonged cheers. In order that the volunteering should be conducted with the most perfect fairness, the regiment was formed into line, the King's colour being placed in front of the right wing, and the regimental, or county colour (as it was then not unfrequently styled), in

front of the left. The colonel then directed those who were willing to serve His Majesty in Ireland to place themselves in rear of the King's colour, and those who objected to do so to place themselves in rear of the county colour. The band moved first, marching in a body up to the King's colour, halting there, and striking up "God save the King;" the whole regiment followed, almost to a man, for, out of 900 men, there were only fourteen who declined to leave the country. In smaller regiments than the Nottinghamshire as many as 200 men were found who objected to serve out of England.

The various Militia regiments which volunteered for Ireland were constituted into three divisions, each division to serve in that country for two years, and then be relieved by another. And, it being determined that all three divisions should be sent out in turn, those regiments belonging to the second and third divisions were kept embodied for several years after peace had been proclaimed. The Nottinghamshire was placed in the first division; and, in less than a week after volunteering, received orders to prepare for embarkation, together with the Cornwall, Westmoreland, Radnor, Leicestershire, Anglesea, Northumberland, West Middlesex, Cornwall Miners, Montgomery, Carnarvon, Marioneth, Cardigan, and 2nd Surrey regiments of Militia. Each man who volunteered for service in Ireland received a bounty of two guineas.

On August the 26th, the Nottinghamshire Militia embarked at Plymouth for Dublin, on board the "Margaret," "Nestor," "Wadstray," and "Fame," transports, under the convoy of His Majesty's ship "Helena," commanded by Captain Montresor. The *Plymouth Chronicle* thus mentions the event: "The Nottinghamshire Militia embarked yesterday for Dublin, leaving only twelve privates behind. It must be a matter of great pride to Colonel Gould, who embarked with his regiment, that there was not a single man drunk or absent. The conduct of the regiment, whilst quartered here, has very much endeared them to the inhabitants, and reflects the very greatest credit on the officers, to whom a garrison dinner was given, yesterday, at the Pope's Head inn."

The regiment, having landed at Dublin, was quartered in the Palantine-square barracks. The most noble Charles Lennox, fourth Duke of Richmond, was then Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and Sir John Hope was commander of the forces.

The Nottinghamshire Militia had the gratification of being considered the pattern regiment of the whole division, and, consequently, was never removed from the capital, whilst the first division was on

Irish service. Whilst at Dublin, many men volunteered into regiments of the Line, and embarked direct for Spain in their Militia uniform.

In July, 1812, Colonel Gould being on leave of absence in England, the regiment was commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Coape, who received the following complimentary report, after the half-yearly inspection :—

“ Dublin,
“ July 24th, 1812.

“ Sir,

“ I am directed by Major-General Raymond to transmit to you an extract from the Deputy Assistant-Adjutant-General's letter, conveying Sir John Hope's sentiments and pleasure on the half-yearly inspection report made of the Nottinghamshire Regiment :—

“ ‘ Nottinghamshire Militia.—This regiment appears in every particular to meet with and merit the Major-General's approbation.’

“ And I am instructed to acquaint you that its appearance and conduct give satisfaction to the commander of the forces.

“ I have the honour to be, Sir,

“ Your obedient, humble servant,

“ J. HAYSTED, Major of Brigade.

“ Lieut.-Colonel Coape,

“ Nottinghamshire Militia.”

It is worthy of mention that, during the latter part of the time that the Nottinghamshire Militia was in Ireland, there were only four officers in the regiment who were members of Nottinghamshire families. The four were—Colonel Edward Thoroton Gould, Lieut.-Colonel Henry Coape, Major John Gilbert-Cooper, and Captain Roger Pocklington.

In October, 1812, Captain Simon Peter Boileau resigned his commission as adjutant to the Nottinghamshire Militia, and was succeeded by Lieutenant Jacob Barth, who, at the same time, obtained the brevet rank of captain.

This year Ensign Severus William Lynham Stretton* obtained a commission in the 68th (Durham) Regiment of light infantry, and served with distinction through the Peninsular war.

Towards the end of the summer of 1812 the regiment returned to England, landing at Bristol on August the 1st, and marching from there to Chatham, and afterwards to Colchester.

In November, the commanding officer received the following

* *Vide* Appendix.

circular, which is worthy of transcription into this record, as explanatory of the terms of enlistment :—

“ Horse Guards,

“ *November 12th, 1812.*

“ Sir,

“ Certain men of the Militia, serving as substitutes, having been led erroneously to suppose that they will be entitled to take their discharge after ten year's service, the Commander-in-Chief, desirous of affording every information that can tend to remove this error, has been pleased to signify his commands that you immediately explain to the Nottinghamshire Regiment of Militia that, on reference to the 41st clause of the Militia Acts of the 42nd of King George III., cap. 90 (which contains the terms of their enrolment), it appears that the oath taken by every balloted man is, to serve for five years, unless sooner discharged ; and the oath taken by every substitute is, to serve for five years, or for such further time (if the Militia shall be drawn out within the five years) as the Militia shall remain embodied ; it follows, of course, that the men serving as substitutes have no claim at present to their discharge.

His Royal Highness entertains no doubt that the men, from this statement, will be aware of the nature of their engagements ; and I am to desire you will use your endeavours to afford them every satisfaction on this head, and explain to them that the Act of Parliament now referred to is the only one which relates immediately to their case.

“ I have the honour to be, Sir,

“ Your very obedient, humble servant,

“ HARRY CALVERT, Adjutant-General.

“ The Officer commanding Nottinghamshire Militia.”

In the month of March, 1813, the volunteering of men from the Nottinghamshire Militia into regiments of the Line recommenced ; and, from a circular dated at Whitehall, March the 20th, 1813, it appears that the men were permitted to enter the Foot Guards, and any regiment of the Line except the 60th ; but no men were allowed to enter the 43rd, 51st, 52nd, 68th, 71st, or 85th Regiments of Light Infantry, or the 95th Rifle Regiment, unless he was specially fit for service, and not less than 5 feet 5 inches, or more than 5 feet 10 inches in height ; and no man was permitted to join the Foot Guards who was not 5 feet 7½ inches in height, or upwards. All the men who volun-

teered before June the 1st, received a bounty of ten guineas for limited service, and fourteen guineas for unlimited service. After that date, smaller bounties were given. For every fifty men who volunteered from the Militia, a free commission in the Line was offered to a Militia officer.!

In August, the permanent staff of the Local Militia received orders to raise recruits for the regular Militia of their respective counties. A bounty of ten guineas was offered; three to be paid on attestation, two on joining the recruiting party, and five on joining the head-quarters of the regiment. No man was to be taken who was over thirty-two years of age, or under 5 feet 4 inches in height.

In September, the Nottinghamshire Militia obtained permission to have five sergeants, five corporals, and five drummers, in addition to those allowed on the establishment of the regiment.

At the beginning of October the regiment was moved from Colchester to Brentwood, proceeding by the following route:—October the 2nd, from Colchester to Witham, Kilvedon, and Coggeshall; 3rd, being Sunday, halt; 4th, to Chelmsford; 5th, to Brentwood. At Brentwood orders awaited the Nottinghamshire Militia to proceed on the following day to the Tower of London.

From the Tower, detachments were sent to various places. On October the 7th, a detachment, consisting of one captain, two subalterns, and sixty rank and file, was ordered to Kew barracks, to relieve a detachment of the Oxfordshire Militia. Another detachment was afterwards sent to relieve a detachment of the Royal Flint Militia at Epsom, and another to relieve a detachment of the 55th Foot at Guildford. These detachments, together with the number of men who had recently volunteered into the Line, caused the regiment to be so short of duty men, that arms and accoutrements were served out to the bandsmen and drummers, who were placed on the Spur Guard, at the Tower gates, in their white uniforms.

The following memorable order, relative to the Nottinghamshire Militia, was received by the Constable of the Tower, on November the 21st:—

“It is His Majesty’s will and pleasure that you cause the duties now performed by the Foot Guards to be taken to-morrow morning by a detachment of the Nottinghamshire Regiment, agreeably to a detail furnished by the officer commanding the brigade of Guards. Wherein the civil magistrates, and all others concerned, are to be assisting in providing quarters, impressing carriages, and otherwise as there shall be occasion.

“ Given at the War Office, this 21st day of November, 1813, by the command of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name, and on behalf of His Majesty.

(“ Signed), in the absence of the Secretary at War,

“ WILLIAM MERRY.

“ To the Constable of the Tower of London, or his deputy.”

It was an almost unprecedented circumstance, since the formation of the Household troops, for a Militia or marching regiment to mount guard over the Royal Family; and the selection of the Nottinghamshire Militia for that duty reflected the highest lustre, not only on the regiment itself, but also upon the county in which it was raised.

The Royal guard was composed of the grenadier company and the light infantry company, and was commanded by Captain Boulton. It remained on duty for two days and two nights, at St. James's Palace—the then residence of His Majesty King George III.—the Treasury, the Bank of England, and other places, returning to the Tower of London on the morning of November the 24th.

Nor was this high honour the only reward that was conferred upon the Nottinghamshire Militia. The regiment, having done Royal duty, was almost immediately afterwards raised to the rank of a Royal regiment, and the facings of the uniform were accordingly changed from black to royal blue. These most distinguished marks of approval of the long service and the good conduct of the regiment were the more gratifying from the fact that they were wholly unexpected, and that they were obtained by merit alone. The following letter intimated to Colonel Gould that the title of “ Royal Sherwood Foresters ” had been conferred upon his regiment:—

“ Horse Guards,

“ December 16th, 1813.

“ Sir,

“ I have the honour to acquaint you that His Royal Highness the Prince Regent has been pleased, in the name, and on behalf of His Majesty, to approve of the Nottinghamshire Militia, under your command, being in future styled the ‘ Royal Sherwood Foresters,’ or, ‘ Nottinghamshire Regiment of Militia.’

“ I have the honour to be, Sir,

“ Your very obedient, humble servant,

“ H. CALVERT, Adjutant-General.

“ To Colonel Gould.”

It has been stated that the suggestion that the Nottinghamshire Militia should be styled the "Royal Sherwood Foresters," actually emanated from no less exalted a personage than His Royal Highness the Prince Regent himself; but, whether this be the case, or not, it is equally certain that no distinctive title could have been chosen which would have given more pride and gratification to Nottinghamshire men, than to be thus identified with the renowned traditions of "merrie Sherwood."*

The official notification of the new regimental title was conveyed to the regiment in the Tower yard, on the morning of December the 18th, with some little ceremony. The regiment paraded in full marching order, and, after a few preliminary manœuvres, was formed into square; bayonets being fixed, and muskets shouldered, the men were faced inward, and a General Order was read, stating that the regiment "having fairly earned the distinction," His Royal Highness the Prince Regent had been pleased to command, on behalf of His Most Gracious Majesty the King, that the title of "Royal Sherwood Foresters" should in future be borne by the Nottinghamshire Regiment of Militia. The band then played the National Anthem, during which the men presented arms, the colours were lowered, and the officers stood bare-headed. After the parade, the captain of each company celebrated the event by regaling his men with a substantial dinner of roast beef and plum pudding.

About this time the regimental badge, now borne by the Royal Sherwood Foresters, was adopted. The badge consists of a shield *gules*, charged with two staves, couped and raguled *vert*, one in pale, surmounted by the other in fesse, between two ducal coronets in chief, *or*, the lower part of the staff in pale, enfiled with another ducal coronet of the last—being the armorial insignia of the town and county of Nottingham. The shield is surrounded by a garter of royal blue, edged

* A somewhat similar title had previously been borne by a Nottinghamshire regiment. In 1745, the Duke of Kingston, with the assistance of the noblemen and gentlemen of the county, undertook to raise a regiment of light cavalry for the service of the Crown. This regiment, though more commonly known as "Kingston's Light Horse," acquired the distinctive title of the "Royal Foresters," and fought bravely for King George II. against the adherents of the house of Stuart. At the battle of Culloden, the regiment especially distinguished itself; and, in that engagement, three Nottinghamshire butchers, who had enlisted as private troopers in the "Royal Foresters," are recorded to have slain fourteen of the enemy with their own swords. The tattered banners and broken kettle-drums of this regiment were for many years preserved over the entrance of the grand jury room, in the Shire Hall, at Nottingham, but, to the disgrace of the county of Nottingham, these honourable memorials of the military prowess of Nottinghamshire men have been removed from the position which they so long occupied, and have been either destroyed or lost.

to Norman Cross barracks. The second division marched out of Deal on the 10th, and halted for the Sunday at Stortford.

The war being at length concluded by the ever memorable battle of Waterloo—the most glorious victory ever won by British arms, and the most decisive and happy in its consequences—the further services of the Militia were rendered unnecessary, and preparations for the disembodiment of the various regiments were commenced. A letter, of which the following is a copy, was addressed to the commanding officers of Militia :—

“ Horse Guards,

“ *June 24th, 1814.*

“ The re-establishment of peace having enabled His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, to direct the disembodiment of the Militia forces, the Commander-in-Chief, previous to their return to their respective countries and counties, desires thus publicly to offer to them his best acknowledgments for the zeal and perseverance with which they have, during a long and eventful war, shared with the regular army in every military duty which has fallen within their province. From the gallant and patriotic spirit displayed by the Militia were derived, at the most critical periods of the war, the means of reinforcing the disposable force of the country, a measure which most essentially contributed to its military renown, by placing the British army foremost in those confederate bands which resisted the unbounded ambition and overwhelming power of the late Ruler of France ; and, by their bravery and discipline, under the direction of Divine Providence, rescued the country from tyranny and oppression, and restored to Europe the blessings of peace. The Commander-in-Chief feels personally indebted to the Militia forces for the ready and cheerful obedience with which they have at all times received his commands, and requests that, with these heartfelt expressions of approbation, they will collectively and individually accept his warmest wishes for their welfare and happiness.

“ (Signed)

“ FREDERICK, Commander-in-Chief.”

About the same date, the Lord-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire received the following instructions relative to the number of officers, non-commissioned officers, and men to be maintained on the strength of the Royal Sherwood Foresters after the disembodiment of the regiment :—

“ Whitehall,

“ June 23rd, 1814.

“ My Lord,

“ I have the honour to annex for your information a plan, which has been approved by the Prince Regent, for the disembodied establishment of the Nottinghamshire Militia ; and I am at the same time to apprise you that the whole of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and drummers exceeding the numbers therein specified, must be reduced from the day on which the disembodiment of the corps shall take place, His Royal Highness's power of retaining any such having ceased on the signature of the definite Treaty of Peace.

“ I have the honour to be, my Lord,

“ Your obedient, humble servant,

“ SIDMOUTH.”

The following was the number of all ranks allowed to be retained : one colonel, one lieut.-colonel, one major, eight captains, ten lieutenants, six ensigns, one adjutant, one surgeon, one quartermaster, one paymaster, one sergeant-major, eighteen sergeants, nineteen corporals, one drum-major, ten drummers, and 564 privates. Total of all ranks, 644.

The regiment, having received orders for immediate disembodiment, marched out of Norman Cross barracks, *en route* for Newark, on July the 25th. Whilst the regiment was quartered at Norman Cross, the whole of the French prisoners confined there were liberated ; and the huge block of buildings, which had been specially erected for the reception of prisoners-of-war, was entirely demolished almost immediately after the place was vacated by the troops.

On Friday and Saturday, August the 5th and 6th, the Royal Sherwood Foresters were disembodied at Newark, after about eleven years and a half of active service, and after attaining to a pitch of efficiency and smartness which was universally acknowledged to be equalled by but few, and surpassed by no regiment in His Majesty's service. Shortly before the disembodiment, the special thanks of the Government were conveyed to the officers and men of the regiment “ for their excellent conduct on every occasion.”

Previous to the disembodiment, new colours, beautifully embroidered by the ladies of the noble family of Clinton, were presented to the regiment ; but it is somewhat remarkable that no record of the date or circumstances of the presentation has been preserved. Although now sadly tattered and faded, these colours are still carried by the regiment. The fate of the original colours seems to be unknown.

It would be impossible to overrate the service rendered to the

country by the Militia, during the long period of war; and, it is not saying too much, to affirm that had it not been for the Militia, England could not now boast of the glorious victories of Vimiera, Corunna, Talavera, Busaco, Fuentes d'Onor, Albuera, Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, St. Sebastian, Toulouse, or Waterloo. A recent writer has remarked that "the alacrity displayed by the Militia soldiers, in volunteering, appeared, at the time it took place, as something almost miraculous, and its long continuance quite as wonderful; and the officers, with a sacrifice of selfish feeling in having their ranks swept away, with good sense and patriotism gave every assistance to the measures of the Government." Many whole regiments, like the Royal Sherwood Foresters, volunteered for active service against the enemy, and some few regiments actually did serve in the provisional battalions in the Peninsula.

From the year 1814 the disembodied regiments of Militia were only assembled for training at irregular intervals during a period of eight-and-thirty years.

Towards the latter end of the year 1816, the Luddite outrages, which had for some time disturbed and alarmed the midland counties, reached to such a pitch of violence and audacity, that fears were entertained lest an attempt should be made to attack the stores in the Town Hall, at Newark, and carry off some of the arms and accoutrements belonging to the Royal Sherwood Foresters. The adjutant, Captain Barth, accordingly issued orders on November the 13th, that the whole of the permanent staff should parade at four o'clock each evening, in the market-place, fully armed and accoutred, and that at five o'clock a guard, consisting of four non-commissioned officers and one drummer should be mounted at the stores, in the Town Hall. Immediately after the guard had been posted, the gates of the Town Hall were to be closed, and on no pretence were they to be opened until the guard dismounted at eight o'clock on the following morning. During the night a sentry was posted beneath the Town Hall, with his musket loaded with ball. On the occurrence of any suspicious circumstance, the drummer on guard was ordered to beat an alarm, and the whole of the staff were at once to get under arms and repair to the stores. A large quantity of ball cartridge was served out to the staff, and the precautions were for some time most vigilantly maintained.

In 1819, Colonel Edward Thoroton Gould resigned his commission. He was the eldest son of Edward Gould, Esq., of Mansfield Woodhouse, in the county of Nottingham, by Mary, his wife, daughter of Robert Thoroton, Esq., of Screveton, in the same county. At an early

age he joined the 1st King's Own Royal Regiment of Foot, in which regiment he attained the rank of captain, and served with distinction in the American war. Having resigned his commission in the 4th Regiment, he was appointed lieutenant-colonel of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, in 1770, and was promoted to the command of the regiment in 1772, on the resignation of Colonel the Hon. Henry Willoughby. Colonel Gould was twice married. His first wife was the Lady Barbara Yelverton, only daughter and heiress of the Right Hon. Henry Yelverton, third Earl of Bristol, fourth Viscount Langueville, and eighteenth Baron Grey de Ruthyn; and by her he had two daughters and one son, Henry, who, upon the death of his grandfather, the Earl of Sussex, in 1779, succeeded to the barony of Grey de Ruthyn, and assumed the name and arms of Yelverton. His second wife was the Hon. Anne Dormer, eldest daughter of the Right Hon. Charles Dormer, eighth Baron Dormer, and sister to the ninth and tenth Barons. Colonel Gould died at the Hotel Breteuil, in Paris, February the 15th, 1830, and his remains lie interred in Père la Chaise.

The first training of the regiment after the disembodiment, was in the year 1820, when the Royal Sherwood Foresters assembled at Newark, on May the 26th, for twenty-eight days' exercise, under the command of Colonel Henry Coape, who had succeeded to the command of the regiment in 1819, on the resignation of Colonel Gould. After the conclusion of the training the following official letter was addressed to Colonel Coape, and it shows that even after six years of inactivity the strict discipline of the Sherwood Foresters was in no way relaxed, nor their military reputation impaired:—

“Newark,

“June 24th, 1820.

Sir,—“The mayor and justices of this borough have directed me to express to you, and to request that you will be pleased to make known to the regiment of Royal Sherwood Foresters, under your command, the high sense they entertain of the orderly and soldier-like conduct of that regiment during the period of their being on duty here, which is no less attributable to the admirable discipline preserved by the commanding officer, than to the good disposition evinced by the regiment at large.

“I have the honour to be, Sir,

“Your most obedient, humble servant,

“WILLIAM EDWARD TALLENTS, Town Clerk.

“Colonel Coape, “Royal Sherwood Foresters.”

In 1821, the regiment assembled at Newark, under the command of Colonel Coape, on June the 8th, for twenty-one days' training and exercise.

During the three following years no Militia regiments were called out for training, but on June the 7th, 1825, the Royal Sherwood Foresters were again assembled at Newark. A few months previous to the training, Lieut.-Colonel John Gilbert-Cooper-Gardiner was promoted to the command of the regiment, on the resignation of Colonel Coape. Colonel Henry Coape joined the regiment as a captain in 1791, and was shortly afterwards promoted to the rank of major. In 1808 he became lieut.-colonel, on the resignation of Lieut.-Colonel Charlton; and in April, 1819, he succeeded to the command of the regiment. He was the second son of William Coape, Esq., of Arnold, in the county of Nottingham, by Sarah, his wife, daughter and co-heiress of Henry Sherbrooke, Esq., of Oxton, in the same county, and was brother of General Sir John Coape Sherbrooke, G.C.B.—one of the most distinguished military men to whom Nottinghamshire can lay claim. Major Roger Pocklington was promoted to the rank of lieut.-colonel, and Captain Samuel Barker to that of major. The officers present during the training were—Colonel, John Gilbert-Cooper-Gardiner; Major, Samuel Barker; Captain, William Bennet Martin; Lieutenants, John Martin, William Stubbs, John Francis Elrington, Nicholas Evans, Joseph Bodill, Edward Wakefield, and —. Patterson; Ensigns, John Maughan (surgeon's mate), George Kirkby, and William Price; Adjutant, Jacob Barth; Paymaster, Stephen Else; Quartermaster, James Collins; and Surgeon, James Anders. Lieut.-Colonel Roger Pocklington, Captain Thomas Matthews, and Lieutenant John Edward Mapother, were absent with leave; Captain John Overend and Lieutenant Salmon were absent without leave (the latter having obtained a commission in the Royal Marines), and Ensign Morley was absent with sick leave. The training extended over a period of twenty-eight days, and the number of all ranks trained (exclusive of officers) was 488, consisting of one sergeant-major, eighteen sergeants, nineteen corporals, one drum-major, ten drummers, and 439 private soldiers. The uniform at this time very closely resembled that worn by the Foot Guards.

The next training was in the year 1831, when the regiment assembled at Newark, on March the 1st, under the command of Colonel Gilbert-Cooper-Gardiner, and remained on duty for a period of twenty-eight days.

From this date there were no Militia trainings for more than twenty-one years, and the permanent staffs of the various regiments of Militia were reduced to the very smallest possible dimensions.

Colonel John Gilbert-Cooper-Gardiner died at Rodmorton, in Devonshire, February the 13th, 1833. He joined the regiment as a captain in 1803, and in the month of March, 1810, was promoted to the rank of major. In 1819 he became lieut.-colonel, upon the promotion of Lieut.-Colonel Coape; and on January the 4th, 1825, he was gazetted to the command of the regiment. He was the eldest son of John Gilbert Cooper, Esq., of Thurgarton Priory, in the county of Nottingham (late captain in the Nottinghamshire Militia), by Catherine, his wife, daughter and heiress of John Roe, Esq., of Ladbroke, in the county of Lincoln; and was descended from Sir Roger Cooper, whose gallant defence of his mansion, against the Roundheads, has already been referred to in this volume.

Lancelot Rolleston, Esq., of Watnall Hall, in the county of Nottingham, was appointed Colonel of the Royal Sherwood Foresters in the following April. Shortly afterwards, Sir Thomas Wollaston White, Bart., was appointed Lieut.-Colonel, *vice* Pocklington, and John Sherwin Sherwin, Esq., of Bramcote Hills, in the county of Nottingham, became major, *vice* Barker; but neither of the two latter officers ever served with the regiment.

The following is a list of the officers of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, in the year 1838, according to a return sent in to the Lord-Lieutenant of the county: Colonel, Lancelot Rolleston; Lieut.-Colonel, Sir Thomas Wollaston White, Bart.; Major, John Sherwin Sherwin; Captains, Thomas Matthews, John Overend, Thomas Dickinson Hall, Henry Porter Lowe, John Bagshaw Taylor, George Walker, John Francklin, and William Taylor; Lieutenants, John Martin, William Stubbs, Joseph Bodill, Edward Wakefield, Robert Bigsby, Godfrey Gardiner Gilbert-Cooper-Gardiner, and Robert Thomas Hewitt; Ensigns, John Maughan (surgeon's mate), William Price, Thomas George Hewitt, and Campion Calvert; Adjutant, Jacob Barth; Quartermaster, James Collins; and Surgeon, James Anders.

In June, 1852, the entire reorganisation of the Militia of the United Kingdom was effected by Act of Parliament, and a force of 80,000 men authorised to be raised by voluntary enlistment, at a bounty not exceeding the sum of £6, with power to raise the quota by ballot from men between the ages of eighteen and thirty. Field officers, who had served in the regular Army, were to be allowed to retain their half-pay whilst serving in the Militia; and no property qualification was required of a captain or a lieutenant of five years' standing.

By the new organisation the numerical strength of the Royal Sherwood Foresters was considerably augmented, and the regiment was

made to consist of a grenadier company, a light infantry company, and ten ordinary companies. Under the revised regulations, the permanent staff consisted of an adjutant, a sergeant-major, twelve sergeants, and eight drummers. The Royal Sherwood Foresters had now become the 59th Regiment of Militia, instead of the 42nd, as heretofore.

About this time, amongst other changes, the uniform of the infantry Militia was altered, and assimilated with that worn by the infantry of the Line, silver lace being substituted for gold in the officers' uniforms, and white metal buttons and badges, in the place of brass, in the uniform of the men. The full-dress uniform of the officers of the Royal Sherwood Foresters consisted of scarlet coatees, with royal blue facings and staff-pattern silver lace; silver epaulets; crimson silk sashes, worn round the waist; black beaver shakoes, with silver plates and scarlet and white balls; black trousers, with scarlet welts down the outer seams; and white leather sword-belts, worn over the right shoulder. The undress uniform consisted of dark blue frock-coats, with black braid and frogs; dark blue cloth forage-caps, with scarlet bands and silver badges;* dark blue trousers, with scarlet welts down the outer seams; and black leather waist-belts for the swords. For mess, the officers wore scarlet shell-jackets, faced with royal blue and lined with crimson silk, having small silver studs down the front, and silver shoulder-knots; blue waistcoats, ornamented with silver lace; and black trousers with scarlet welts down the outer seams.

The regiment was armed with the old service percussion musket of 1842; then in use by the majority of the regiments of the Line. The weight of this musket, with the bayonet fixed, was 11lbs. 6oz.; the diameter of the bore was .753 in.; and the charge of powder was 4½ drs., the bullets being 14½ to the pound, or thereabouts.

The new arms and accoutrements were deposited in rooms beneath the Corn Exchange, at Newark, the stores having been removed from the Town Hall to that building.

Major John Sherwin Sherwin, having resigned his commission, Captain Thomas Dickenson Hall was promoted to the rank of major, in August, 1852, but in less than three months he resigned, and Alexander Boddam, Esq., of Kirklington Hall, in the county of Nottingham

* The badge for the forage-cap, at this time, consisted simply of the new number of the regiment (59) in silver numerals. Another badge was afterwards substituted, consisting of the royal cipher, in silver, surrounded by a garter of royal blue, edged with silver, and bearing upon it the regimental title, "Royal Sherwood Foresters," in gold letters; the whole surmounted by a crown, and surrounded by two branches of oak, in silver.

(formerly a captain in the 58th Foot), was appointed major by the Lord Lieutenant. Lieut.-Colonel Sir Thomas Wollaston White, Bart., also resigned his commission, and the lieut.-colonelcy was given to William Leigh Mellish, Esq., of Hodsock Priory, in the county of Nottingham (formerly a captain in the Rifle Brigade).

The Royal Sherwood Foresters assembled at Newark, on November the 9th, 1852, under the command of Colonel Rolleston, for twenty-one days' training and exercise. The regiment numbered less than 600 men of all ranks, and for all drill purposes the twelve companies were formed into eight only. During the whole training the weather was cold and inclement, causing much illness to be prevalent amongst the men. On November the 27th, the regiment was inspected by Colonel Rolleston, who, at the conclusion of the inspection, thanked the men in the name of the Queen and country for their attention to their duties, and for their general good conduct, commenting strongly upon the total absence of complaint against them from the townspeople. The men were dismissed to their homes on November the 29th.

On May the 4th, 1853, the full compliment of 1223 men, required to be enrolled for the Royal Sherwood Foresters, was completed by voluntary enlistment, and with but little difficulty.

In May, Captain Jacob Barth resigned, after having been adjutant to the regiment for more than forty years. He was formerly a lieutenant in the Royal Tower Hamlets Militia, and joined the Royal Sherwood Foresters in 1811, as lieutenant of the grenadier company. In October, 1812, he became adjutant, on the resignation of Captain Boileau. He died July the 22nd, 1863. Captain Barth was succeeded in the adjutantcy by Henry Holden, Esq., late Captain in the 36th Regiment of Foot.

The regiment assembled at Newark on May the 23rd, 1853, for twenty-eight days' training and exercise, under the command of Colonel Rolleston. During this training, a party of men from the 33rd Regiment of Foot was sent down to Newark to assist in the drill. The excessive heat of the weather caused several cases of serious illness, which in one instance had a fatal termination. A private of the 33rd Regiment was taken ill upon parade, on June the 9th, and died within a few hours. His remains were interred, with military honours, in the church-yard of the old parish church. The regiment was inspected on June the 14th, by Colonel Elliott, of the 42nd Highlanders.

In 1854, the regiment assembled at Newark, on April the 5th, for twenty-eight days' training. On April the 30th, the regiment (which upon this occasion mustered 844 rank and file) was inspected by

Colonel Slade, the inspecting field officer of the district, who, at the conclusion of the review, expressed his surprise that such precision and smartness could have been attained after so short a period of drill, and remarked that but a few more days' work were required to make the Royal Sherwood Foresters equal to any regiment of the Line. During the inspection, the ground was kept by a troop of the Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry Cavalry, under the command of Major Welfitt.

This year, the Militia was transferred from the authority of the Home Office to that of the War Office.

In consequence of the Crimean War, the Royal Sherwood Foresters were embodied for permanent duty, and assembled at Newark on December the 1st; being placed under the orders of the General commanding in chief.

At the time of the embodiment, the officers were posted to the several companies, as follows: Grenadier company—Captain, James Thomas Edge, and Lieutenant, Francis George Rawson; No. 1—Captain, Mansfield Parkyns, and Ensign, Robert John George Henry Hewitt; No. 2—Captain, John Bagshaw Taylor, and Lieutenant, John Draper Hemsley; No. 3—Captain, Arthur Swann Howard Lowe, and Lieutenant, George Stretton Watson; No. 4—Captain, John Franklin; No. 5—Captain, Richard Bayliss Bennett; No. 6—Captain, Godfrey Gardiner Gilbert-Cooper-Gardiner; No. 7—Captain, George Tomline Gordon, and Lieutenant, Charles James Barrow; No. 8—Captain, Theodore Henry Duŕy; No. 9—Captain, Edward Walter,* and Lieutenant, Robert Thomas Hewitt; No. 10—Captain, Alfred Hurst Lowe; Light Infantry company—Captain, Arthur Bromley, and Ensign, Robert Napoleon Surplice.

About this time, the officers' undress was altered to a plain double-breasted blue frock-coat, with two rows of silver buttons (eight in each) down the front, at equal distances; three on each sleeve, and three on each skirt; the sash worn over the left shoulder, and a white enamelled leather waist-belt, and sling, was substituted for the shoulder sword-belt. The full-dress coatee was afterwards abandoned throughout the service and a double-breasted tunic substituted.

In December, in compliance with an order from the Adjutant-General, volunteering from the Royal Sherwood Foresters into regi-

* With a view to provide suitable employment for discharged soldiers and sailors of good character, and, at the same time, to promote the convenience of the public in general, Captain Edward Walter subsequently originated and organised that most useful body of men, the corps of Commissionaires. Previous to joining the Royal Sherwood Foresters, Captain Walter served in the 8th (King's Royal Irish) Hussars.

ments of the Line was ordered to be commenced, under the superintendence of a Line officer. Upwards of ninety men at once volunteered, and more subsequently followed their example.

On May the 8th, 1855, the regiment was inspected by Major-General Arbuthnot; and on May the 19th, a special field-day was held in honour of the Queen's birthday.

This year, 200 men volunteered for service in regiments of the Line, and two subaltern officers of the Royal Sherwood Foresters accordingly received Line commissions. Lieutenant George Stretton Watson was gazetted as ensign in the 88th (Connaught Rangers) Regiment of Foot, February the 28th, 1855. He was soon promoted to the rank of lieutenant, and subsequently served at the siege of Sebastopol, and was severely wounded in the attack on the Redan, on September the 8th, 1855. He also served through the Indian Mutiny campaign, in 1857 and 1858, including the operations at Cawnpore, from November the 26th to December the 6th, 1857, the affair at Bhognapore, the siege of Lucknow, and the siege of Calpee. For these services he received the Turkish and Crimean medals, and the Indian medal, with the clasp for "Central India." He became captain, by purchase, September the 20th, 1864. Captain Watson died on his passage home from India, September the 12th, 1865, and his remains lie interred in the cemetery at Point de Galle, in Ceylon. Lieutenant Robert Napoleon Surplice was gazetted as ensign in the 56th (West Essex) Regiment of Foot, July the 25th, 1855. He afterwards exchanged into the 24th (2nd Warwickshire) Regiment, and was promoted to lieutenant in 1858. He became captain, by purchase, March the 23rd, 1866, and continues to hold that commission.

On June the 11th, 1855, Nicholas Wrixon, late brevet-major in the 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment of Foot, was appointed paymaster of the Royal Sherwood Foresters. Major Wrixon served in Spain from April, 1812, until the end of the war; including the first siege of Tarragona, and the retreat therefrom; also the actions before Alcoy, the battle of Castalla, the second siege of Tarragona, the action at Ordal, and the investment of Barcelona, besides various other affairs. He also served at the siege and capture of Genoa, and with the expedition to Naples. He continued paymaster of the Royal Sherwood Foresters until his death, which occurred in the year 1863.

The Royal Sherwood Foresters remained in Newark for more than eight months after the embodiment, but, on August the 15th, an order was read upon parade for the regiment to hold itself in readiness to move to the camp at Aldershot, on the shortest notice. Accordingly, on August the 20th, the right wing, with the band and colours, left

Newark by special train at 6 a.m., the left wing following next morning at the same hour. No. 4 and No. 6 companies remained at Newark, under the command of Captain Gardiner, to form the regimental depôt. The regiment numbered about 690 of all ranks, on its arrival at Aldershot, and was the strongest regiment in the camp.

The Royal Sherwood Foresters were inspected on the Queen's Parade, at Aldershot, on November the 7th, by General Knollys, who paid the regiment a high compliment for steadiness and efficiency. After the inspection, the General and his staff, together with the Earl of Errol, and Brigadier-General Sir John Stuard, dined at the officers' mess.

The regimental orders of December the 22nd contained the following:—

“ Agreeably to routes received, and from divisional orders of this day, the regiment will hold itself in readiness to move to Ireland on Wednesday next, the 26th instant. To fall in at a quarter before six a.m.”

Three days later, the following Divisional Order, relative to the Royal Sherwood Foresters, was issued:—

“ Camp, Aldershot,

“ *December 25th, 1855.*

“ It is with much regret that the Lieutenant-General commanding sees the departure of the Royal Sherwood Foresters from his command. The excellent discipline, superior drill, and efficient appearance in the field, of this fine regiment, merits his warmest praise, and reflects the highest credit on all ranks.”

“ By order (signed),

“ F. P. HAINES, Colonel, A. A. General.”

On December the 26th, the left wing, with head-quarters, proceeded by rail to Litchfield; and the right wing, under the command of Captain Arthur S. H. Lowe, to Stafford; the men being billeted for the night at those towns. On the following morning both wings continued their journey to Liverpool, joining there, and embarking together for Dublin, on board the steam-ship “Niagara.” From Dublin, the regiment proceeded to Athlone, and was quartered in that town for several months.

Whilst at Athlone, Captain Alfred Coope died of fever, after a very

1856, and his remains were interred with military honours, in the vaulting attached to the church of St. Peter, in Athlone. As a token of respect to his memory, a marble tablet was placed in the vaulting by the officers of the regiment, bearing this inscription:—

" Sacred
 " to the memory of
 " ALFRED COOPE, Esq.,
 " Captain, Royal Sherwood Foresters,
 " who died at Athlone,
 " March 5th, 1856.
 " This tablet is erected by his brother officers."

Lieutenant Thomas Davies was gazetted as ensign in the 11th (North Devon) Regiment of Foot, May the 2nd, 1856, taking with him 100 men from the Royal Sherwood Foresters.

In May, orders were issued for the removal of the regiment from Athlone to Dublin; and, on May the 20th, the following address was presented to Colonel Rolleston:—

" Athlone,
 " May 20th, 1856.

" Dear Sir,

" Having heard of the contemplated removal of the Royal Sherwood Foresters from this garrison, we, the undersigned noblemen, clergymen, gentlemen and merchants, of Athlone and its vicinity, take the present opportunity of expressing our sincere regret at the removal of your excellent regiment from among us.

" We have with much pleasure witnessed the courteous and obliging demeanour of your officers, the efficient discipline and general good conduct of the regiment, in their intercourse with the inhabitants of the town; while we have been delighted by your excellent band, ready at all times to contribute to the gratification and amusement of the people.

" We therefore feel happy at being permitted to express our cordial approbation of the good behaviour of all ranks of the regiment, while they have been quartered here, and our own regret that we shall so soon be deprived of the friendly intercourse that has at all times existed between us and the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates of the Royal Sherwood Foresters.

“Wishing you, Sir, and the distinguished corps you have the honour to command, health, prosperity, and many happy days,

“We subscribe ourselves,

“Your faithful servants,

“(Signed)

“WESTMEATH, Lord-Lieutenant.

“CASTLEMALIN.

“EDWARD LARKAN, J.P.”

And one hundred and twenty-eight other signatures.

The regiment left Athlone, for Dublin, on May the 21st, by special train. At Dublin, three companies, under the command of Major Boddam, were quartered in the Linen Hall barracks; the remainder of the regiment, with head-quarters, occupied the Ship-street barracks.

On May the 22nd, the Royal Sherwood Foresters were inspected on the Esplanade, by Field-Marshal the Right Hon. Lord Seaton. His lordship's commendations were unqualified, and the regiment never received higher, or more gratifying expressions of approbation, than it did from the lips of this distinguished officer.

Having received orders to return to England, the regiment embarked at Kingstown, on board the steam-ship “Cleopatra,” at about ten o'clock on the morning of May the 23rd. The “Cleopatra,” having to wait some hours for tide, and then lay to for light, the regiment did not land at Liverpool until the following morning. When the Royal Sherwood Foresters embarked at Kingstown, their ultimate destination was unknown to them; but at Liverpool orders awaited them to proceed at once to Newark, where they arrived on the evening of May the 24th.

After the regiment had remained in Newark for about a month, orders for disembodiment were received; and on June the 29th the following appeared in regimental orders:—

“The Commanding Officer, having received intimation that the regiment will be disembodied on Thursday next, publishes the following extract from the War Department circular (addressed to the Commanding Officer of the Royal Sherwood Foresters), dated June the 25th, 1856;—

“Her Majesty is graciously pleased to allow the volunteers, on disembodiment, to receive the unissued portion of their annual bounty for this year, together with an instalment of fourteen days' pay. Such gratuity will be paid to the men in two instalments; one instalment,

equal to the bounty for the last two quarters of the year, to be kept back, and given on the reappearance of the volunteers at the next training; the other instalment, which will make up with the former an amount equal to fourteen days' pay, to be given at once.

"Should any of the volunteers stand in need of plain clothes, the same may be provided by you out of the sum payable to the men on disembodiment; and should any of them, after having been so provided, be left without cash to take home, there will be no objection to their receiving, for their immediate use, a sum not exceeding half of the amount of gratuity reserved till the next assembly of the corps for training."

"I cannot conclude this letter without expressing through you the satisfaction that I feel in having the honour of signifying, on the present occasion, Her Majesty's gracious approbation of the services of the officers, non-commissioned officers, drummers, and private men of the regiment under your command.

" Signed

PANMURE."

As soon as it became known that the Royal Sherwood Foresters were to be disembodied, a general subscription was raised by the county of Nottingham, to give a festival in Newark in honour of the regiment, in recognition of its long and approved services, and as a substantial token of appreciation of the reputation gained for the county by the "Sherwood Foresters."

Tuesday, July the 1st, was the date fixed for the festival, and on that day the whole of the town of Newark was profusely decorated with flags and trophies, and a general holiday was observed. The bells of the old parish church commenced ringing at an early hour in the morning, and continued to do so, with but little intermission, throughout the day. At ten o'clock, the regiment assembled in the market-place and marched from there to the parade ground on the Muskham-road, where some thousands of spectators were assembled; the ground being kept by a troop of the Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry Cavalry, under the command of Captain Manners-Sutton. The regiment was then unofficially inspected by Colonel Wildman, who was accompanied by His Grace the Duke of Newcastle and a large staff of officers. At the close of the review, Colonel Wildman addressed the men in unmeasured terms of approbation, concluding his remarks with regrets that a body of men in so perfect a state of discipline should be about to be dispersed. The regiment afterwards returned to Newark, and at two o'clock the privates sat down to a substantial dinner, spread upon

rows of tables within an enclosure in the centre of the market-place. The front of the Town Hall, and all four sides of the market-place, were tastefully decorated with groups of banners and military trophies; and in the centre, within the rows of tables, was a raised platform surmounted by arches of evergreens and flags. This platform was occupied by His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, the Mayors of Newark and Nottingham, and most of the principal gentry of the county. Dinner being concluded, Sir Thomas Wollaston White, Bart., commenced the proceedings by calling upon the men to give three times three cheers for Her Majesty the Queen, which were given with hearty acclamations, the band of the regiment playing the National Anthem. The Duke of Newcastle (who officiated on behalf of the Right Hon. the Earl of Scarborough, the Lord-Lieutenant) then addressed the men at some length, saying that after the praises they had that morning received from so experienced an officer as Colonel Wildman, and after the still more emphatic compliments which had been bestowed upon them in Ireland, by Lord Seaton, it might be considered presumptuous in him to give them, or the regiment, any words of commendation; but this much he would say—though he had heard of the splendid condition of the men, of the smartness of their appearance, and of their discipline in Aldershot and in Ireland; although he had heard compliments such as are rarely passed on any regiment, he must confess that they went far beyond any expectations he had formed. Not only was he delighted, but he was astonished; for this he was certain—that, having recently seen many veteran regiments of the Line in their highest order, there was not one among them that went beyond the “Sherwood Foresters,” or that would not be proud to stand by their side. His Grace having concluded his speech, proceeded to distribute rewards to the best conducted men in the regiment, selected upon the recommendation of the officers. The first presentation was to Sergeant-Major Abbott, and consisted of a silver cup thus inscribed:—

“Presented to Sergeant-Major William Abbott, of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, by the Lord-Lieutenant, Deputy Lieutenants, and gentry of Nottingham, July 1st, 1856.”

The Duke next gave the sum of £1 to each of the following sergeants: Thomas Ellis, George Garrett, George Johnson, Thomas Smith, and George Vicars, as being the five sergeants (never having served in the regular forces) who, in the opinion of the adjutant and sergeant-major, had most impartially and best performed their duty. Next, the sum of

15s. to each of the following five corporals: George Brown, Samuel Keetley, William Snowden, Joseph Taylor, and Thomas Tyler, who, in like manner, had best performed their duty. Next, the sum of 10s. to each of the following lance-corporals: Henry Brum, Frederick Fletcher, Daniel Parker, John Robinson, and Edward Woodcock. Next, the sum of 7s. 6d. each to the two bandsmen, Charles Hurst and George William Hales, who, in the opinion of Herr Kœnig, had been most attentive to their duty. Next, the sum of 7s. 6d. to the two drummers, Frederick Orm and William Morrison, who, in the opinion of the drum-major, were most deserving of the same, their names never having once appeared in the defaulters' book. And lastly, His Grace gave to the six best, cleanest, and smartest privates in each company, the sum of 5s. each.

After the distribution of the rewards was concluded, the officers and gentry adjourned to the Corn Exchange, where a banquet was given to the officers of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, by the county. The hall was elaborately decorated for the occasion with flags, banners, and devices formed in bayonets, ramrods and swords. In front of the gallery at the back of the chairman's seat, was a well-arranged trophy, having in the centre "R.S.F." in gold letters, upon a shield of royal blue—the colour of the regimental facings. Above the principal entrance was another trophy, composed of the kettle-drums, old serpent clarionet, trombones, side drums, and other musical instruments which had belonged to the regiment at the time of the Peninsular War, backed by a group of the flags of the allied powers of England, France, Turkey, and Sardinia. Small cannon and piles of arms were placed in various parts of the hall, interspersed with flowering plants and shrubs. The Lord-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire (the Right Hon. the Earl of Scarborough) presided, and there were altogether about two hundred and fifty persons present. A string band was in attendance. Athletic sports were provided for the men on the cricket-ground, which attracted an immense concourse of spectators. And, as a *finale* to the day's proceedings, a ball was given in the Town Hall.

The Royal Sherwood Foresters were disembodied on July the 3rd, having been on permanent duty for one year and seven months.

During the embodiment, the band of the regiment, under the able leadership of Mr. A. Kœnig,* attained such perfection as to be considered one of the finest military bands in Her Majesty's Service.

* The regimental march of the Royal Sherwood Foresters was arranged by Bandmaster Kœnig, at the suggestion of the present commanding-officer of the regiment, Lieut.-Colonel Lowe, from the old English glee, "Bold Robin Hood was a Forester good." Mr. A. Kœnig was afterwards bandmaster of the 65th Regiment, and died at Agra, in the East Indies, December the 24th, 1871.

On July the 31st, Captain Bromley, as the senior captain of the regiment, on behalf of his brother officers, presented a silver tea-service to Sergeant-Major William Abbott, as a mark of their appreciation of his active and untiring services during the recent embodiment, which had tended in no small degree towards bringing the regiment to the high state of efficiency which it attained. The presentation was made in presence of the permanent staff.

Captain Henry Holden resigned the adjutantcy in September, and, in his stead, John Francis Girardot, Esq. (late captain in the 43rd Light Infantry), was appointed adjutant, with the rank of captain. Captain Girardot served with the 43rd Regiment in South Africa, throughout the war of 1852 and 1853. He commanded a company during the expedition against the chief Mosheth in the Orange River district, and also at the Battle of Bareha, under General Cathcart. For this service he obtained the South African medal. He also commanded a detachment of his regiment on board the "Birkenhead," on the memorable occasion when that vessel was wrecked off Danger Point, Cape of Good Hope, on the night of February the 26th, 1852.

In consequence of the recent embodiment, the Royal Sherwood Foresters were not assembled for training in 1857.

Towards the end of January, 1857, the new regimental stores at Newark were completed, and the arms, clothing, and accoutrements were removed to them from the Corn Exchange, where they had previously been deposited.

In the month of May, in pursuance of an order received from Government, the adjutant issued a notice that a fortnight's pay would be issued to all men of the regiment who should apply for it, and who were enrolled before the 17th day of November, 1854, and joined the regiment on the 1st day of December following, when it was embodied for permanent duty. This order was in accordance with the War Department circular, dated June the 25th, 1856.

The Indian Mutiny caused the Royal Sherwood Foresters to be again embodied, and the regiment assembled at Newark, for permanent duty, on October the 1st, numbering about 920 of all ranks, including a considerable number of recruits.

On October the 16th, Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by the Prince Consort and several members of the Royal family, passed through Newark, on her way to Windsor Castle from the north. It being announced that the Royal train would stop at Newark, preparations were made for Her Majesty's reception. The Great Northern Railway Station was decorated for the occasion, and the platform was

thronged by a dense crowd of spectators. The Mayor and Corporation of Newark, in their robes, attended by their mace-bearers, and accompanied by the principal officers of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, received Her Majesty; and on the opposite side of the platform was stationed a guard of honour, consisting of one hundred rank and file of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, commanded by Captain Bromley. The band of the regiment, under the direction of Herr Hartmann, the newly appointed bandmaster, was also in attendance. The Royal party did not remain in Newark more than ten minutes, and proceeded on their journey southward.

On the evening of November the 27th, Kelham Hall, the seat of John Henry Manners-Sutton, Esq., situated about a mile and a half from Newark, was entirely destroyed by fire; and upon this occasion the men of the regiment, under the direction of Lieut.-Colonel Mellish, did good service in endeavouring to arrest the progress of the flames, and in saving the contents of the mansion.

The Royal Sherwood Foresters, having received orders to proceed to the camp at Aldershot, left Newark, by Midland Railway, on the evening of December the 1st, arriving at Aldershot at about half-past eight on the following morning. Upwards of 140 men, under the command of Captain Alfred Hurst Lowe, remained in Newark to form the regimental depôt.

The permanent infantry barracks in the South Camp, at Aldershot, having recently been completed, the right wing of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, commanded by Major Boddam, marched into the centre block of buildings on December the 8th—being the first soldiers to occupy these fine barracks. The 3rd Royal Lancashire Militia marched in shortly after the Royal Sherwood Foresters.

On December the 11th, the regiment was inspected by General Knollys, who expressed himself as highly satisfied to find that the men had lost none of their former discipline and steadiness under arms.

In the month of January, 1858, it was ordered that the "extra service muskets," originally served out to the regiment, should be returned to the Tower. They were replaced by a far superior weapon, known as the "Enfield Rifle," or "Rifle Musket, pattern 1853." The weight of this rifle, with the bayonet fixed, was 9 lbs. 12 oz.; the length of the barrel being 3-ft. 3-in., and the weight of the barrel alone was 4 lbs. 1½ oz. The diameter of the bore was .577-in., having three equidistant grooves. The charge of powder was 2½ drs., and the bullet weighed 530 grs., and was .568-in. in diameter.

About the middle of February, orders were received for the removal

of the Royal Sherwood Foresters from Aldershot to Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and on the 23rd of that month the regiment was inspected by Major-General Lawrence, who was at that time in command of the 3rd Brigade. At four o'clock on the following afternoon, the regiment, under the command of Major Boddam, left Farnborough Station by special train, arriving at Newcastle-upon-Tyne about ten o'clock the next morning. From Newcastle a detachment was sent to Tynemouth.

On April the 21st, a very serious riot occurred amongst the English and Irish colliers, at Black Hill, near Shotley Bridge, and a strong detachment of the Royal Sherwood Foresters was sent from Newcastle, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Mellish, in aid of the civil power. The contending bodies of rioters were strongly armed with fire-arms and other weapons, and had even defended their positions with small cannon. The appearance of the military had, however, the desired effect, and immediately quelled the disturbance; but, as a precaution, one company, under the command of Captain John Clements, was stationed at Shotley Bridge for some days. Relative to this affair, the following letter was addressed to Colonel Rolleston by the chairman of the Shotley Bridge bench of magistrates:—

“Hamsterley Hall,

“April 27th, 1858.

“Dear Sir,

“I am deputed by the Shotley Bridge bench of magistrates to return you our best thanks for the prompt assistance you afforded us on the 21st instant, and to express our obligations to Lieut.-Colonel Mellish, and the officers and men under his command, for their conduct on the occasion.

“I have the honour to submit myself, dear Sir,

“Yours very obediently,

“R. S. SURTEES, Chairman.

“Colonel Rolleston,

“Royal Sherwood Foresters.”

Lieut.-General Sir Harry Smith, the general commanding the northern district, inspected the regiment on April the 28th, and bestowed commendations on the “Sherwood Foresters” such as but few regiments have either merited or received.* Sir Harry Smith inspected

* The *Newcastle Chronicle* thus commented upon the results of the inspection: “The report of the gallant general who inspected the Sherwood Foresters will be fully borne out by the opinions entertained by the inhabitants of Newcastle, on the merits

the Tynemouth Detachment on May the 5th, and expressed to Major Boddam who was in command his entire approbation.

In August, the regiment was called upon to furnish volunteers for the Line. A bounty of £3 was paid, in cash, upon attestation; and such men as volunteered were allowed to take with them their Militia necessaries, in addition to which they received a free kit. One half of their emceed Militia service was allowed to be counted as service with the colours if rendered over the age of eighteen years, and provided that at least six months should have been served. Volunteers were not to be attested for any particular battalion, but attested generally for service in any of the following: 2nd battalion 4th Foot, 8th Foot, 9th Foot, 13th Foot, 15th Foot, 22nd Foot, and 23rd Foot; and also in any one of the 20th Rifles, and the Rifle Brigade. The regiment, in accordance with the purpose of volunteering, on August the 26th, the sergeant-major of the 8th Foot, and other recruiting officers, being present. *Upwards of 100 men volunteered.*

On September the 20th a guard of honour, consisting of one field officer, one captain, four subalterns, five sergeants, and 100 rank and file, composed of picked men from the grenadier and light infantry companies, attended at the central railway station to receive Her Majesty the Queen. Lieut.-Colonel Mellish, Captain Arthur Bromley, Lieutenants Augustus Henry Augustine Durant, and Charles Frederick Simples, and Ensigns John Jameson and Jasper Burne, were the officers upon this duty.

Orders were received on September the 15th for the regiment to hold itself in readiness to march to Glasgow and Ayre, at the shortest notice. Accordingly, on September the 23rd, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4, No. 8, and No. 10 companies, left Newcastle for Glasgow at 6 30 a.m., arriving there at 4 30 p.m. At seven o'clock on the following morning, No. 1, No. 5, No. 6, No. 7, and No. 9, together with the grenadier and light infantry companies, left Newcastle; of these, No. 1, No. 5, No. 7, and No. 9 companies, proceeded to Ayre, under the command of Captain Charles James Barrow, and the three other companies went on to Glasgow.

On October the 10th, Major Alexander Boddam, Captain Arthur

of this distinguished corps. Their orderly behaviour throughout the whole of their sojourn here, both in billets and barracks, as well as the soldierlike, manly, and forbearing manner which they manifested at the recent unhappy affair at Black Hill, entitled the corps most fully to the respect and confidence of the inhabitants of this district. The disembodiment of this regiment would be a loss to the military service of the country."

Bromley, Captain Arthur S. H. Lowe, Captain G. G. Gilbert-Cooper-Gardiner, Lieutenant T. J. Walsh, Lieutenant Eyre Evans, Lieutenant Percy Charles Stanhope, and Ensign Loftus John Rolleston (with the Queen's colour) together with ten sergeants, and 240 rank and file, were sent from Glasgow to Edinburgh, on the occasion of Her Majesty the Queen's arrival in that city, from Balmoral. The detachment returned to Glasgow on the following day.

About this time the full dress uniform was again altered. The double-breasted tunic was abandoned, and a single-breasted tunic substituted. Felt shakoes, of a new pattern, were adopted at the same time.

Lieutenant Charles Frederick Surplice was gazetted an ensign in the 47th (Lancashire) Regiment of Foot, October the 8th, 1858, taking with him 100 men from the Royal Sherwood Foresters.

The regiment was inspected on Glasgow Green, on October the 28th, by Major-General Viscount Melville, K.C.B., the general commanding the troops in North Britain. After the inspection, his lordship was pleased to express his gratification at the general appearance of the regiment, and the steadiness of the men under arms. He was specially pleased with the marching past, the skirmishing, and the charge; and also with the laying out of the kits in the barrack square; and he desired Lieut.-Colonel Mellish to state to the regiment that he considered the very greatest praise was due to all ranks. The detachment at Ayre was inspected on the day following, and was equally praised. The following letter will show the result of these inspections:—

“ Horse Guards,

“ *November 29th, 1858.*

“ My Lord,

“ The confidential report and inspection returns of the regiment named in the margin (Royal Sherwood Foresters), having been laid before the General Commanding-in-Chief, I have the honour to request that you will be pleased to make known to Colonel Rolleston the remark made thereon by His Royal Highness—‘ Report most creditable in this regiment.’

“ I have the honour to be, my Lord,

“ Your most obedient Servant,

“ BROOK TAYLOR, Colonel A.A.G.

“ Major-General Viscount Melville.”

In December, 1858, the invalids of the 2nd battalion of the 21st Fusiliers were attached to the Royal Sherwood Foresters, until their recovery, on the occasion of the removal of that regiment from Paisley to Newport in Monmouthshire.

At this time the Royal Sherwood Foresters could boast of some of the finest shots in the army; and the Inspector-General of Musketry having handed over to His Royal Highness the General Commanding-in-Chief the reports of the annual course of rifle instruction for the year 1858, it was announced that the Royal Sherwood Foresters stood at the head of the whole British Army, having made better shooting than any other regiment in Her Majesty's Service. The number of points obtained by the regiment was as follows: First, or Battalion Prize, 1; Second, or Company Prizes, 12; Third, or Marksmen's Prizes, 66; making a total of 79. The 2nd battalion of the Scots Fusilier Guards came second on the list, and the 1st battalion of the Rifle Brigade, third. No other Militia regiment was within eighteen of the Royal Sherwood Foresters. An achievement such as this speaks for itself, and requires no comment.

For this proud distinction the regiment, doubtless, owed much to Captain William Elisha Smith, the musketry instructor, who spared no pains in bringing the shooting of the regiment up to the pitch of perfection which it attained.

In the month of March, 1859, orders were sent from His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, K.G. (the General Commanding-in-Chief), for Captain Smith and Sergeant Garrett to proceed immediately to Guernsey, for the purpose of instructing the Guernsey Militia in musketry. Relative to this, the following appeared in the regimental orders for March the 19th:—

“The Commanding Officer cannot allow Captain Smith to proceed on this duty without thanking him warmly for the zeal and ability with which he has conducted the duties of officer instructor of musketry to the regiment, and at the same time expressing his great satisfaction at the efficient manner in which Sergeant Garrett has performed the duties of non-commissioned officer instructor.”

Captain Smith was afterwards appointed Adjutant of the School of Musketry at Hythe, and Captain Alfred Hurst Lowe succeeded him as instructor of musketry to the Royal Sherwood Foresters.

The regiment, having received orders to return to England, proceeded to Newark in two divisions, on March the 23rd. The first division, which was commanded by Captain G. G. Gilbert-Cooper-Gardiner, consisted of the Ayre detachment, with No. 3, No. 7, and No. 10 companies;

the second division consisted of head-quarters, with the remainder of the regiment. The two divisions were respectively halted at Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Darlington, for refreshments.

On March the 27th, orders for disembodiment were received, and with them the following letter from the Lord-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, the most noble Henry Pelham Fiennes Pelham Clinton, Duke of Newcastle:—

“ Portman Square,

“ *March 26th, 1859.*

“ Sir,

“ In transmitting to you these orders I have the great gratification of informing you that Her Majesty has commanded the Secretary of State to communicate, through me, to the officers, non-commissioned officers, drummers, and private men, the high sense she entertains of their conduct, and of the zeal and spirit which they have manifested since they have been embodied.

“ I feel assured that this expression of approval by our Gracious Sovereign will be an encouragement to the whole regiment to maintain, whilst disembodied, that distinguished character which it has won for itself during a long period of service.

“ I have the honour to be, Sir,

“ Your obedient Servant,

“ NEWCASTLE.

“ The Officer Commanding Royal Sherwood Foresters.”

The following is an extract from the regimental orders of March the 29th, being the day previous to the disembodiment:—

“The Commanding Officer has received instructions from the Secretary of State for War, directing him to inform the volunteers that any Militiaman who may be willing to re-enlist at any time during the last twelve months of his term of engagement, when the regiment is disembodied, may, with the approval of his commanding officer—or, in his absence, of the adjutant—be discharged, and then re-engaged for another term of five years. Any such volunteer may, upon re-attestation, be settled with for the balance of bounty remaining due under the terms of his first engagement, in the same manner as if he had completed it; and may also receive the same bounty on enrolment, and throughout his second term of service, as that sanctioned by regulation for ordinary volunteers.

ROYAL SHERWOOD FORESTERS

The first of the regiments of the Royal Sherwood Foresters was formed in 1789, and was known as the 1st Regiment of the Royal Sherwood Foresters. It was formed by the amalgamation of the 1st and 2nd Regiments of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, which were formed in 1789 and 1790 respectively.

The second of the regiments of the Royal Sherwood Foresters was formed in 1790, and was known as the 2nd Regiment of the Royal Sherwood Foresters. It was formed by the amalgamation of the 3rd and 4th Regiments of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, which were formed in 1790 and 1791 respectively.

The third of the regiments of the Royal Sherwood Foresters was formed in 1791, and was known as the 3rd Regiment of the Royal Sherwood Foresters. It was formed by the amalgamation of the 5th and 6th Regiments of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, which were formed in 1791 and 1792 respectively.

The fourth of the regiments of the Royal Sherwood Foresters was formed in 1792, and was known as the 4th Regiment of the Royal Sherwood Foresters. It was formed by the amalgamation of the 7th and 8th Regiments of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, which were formed in 1792 and 1793 respectively. The 4th Regiment of the Royal Sherwood Foresters was the first of the regiments to be formed in the year 1792. It was formed by the amalgamation of the 7th and 8th Regiments of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, which were formed in 1792 and 1793 respectively. The 4th Regiment of the Royal Sherwood Foresters was the first of the regiments to be formed in the year 1792. It was formed by the amalgamation of the 7th and 8th Regiments of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, which were formed in 1792 and 1793 respectively.

By the 1st of January, 1801, the permanent staff was augmented to 100 men.

In the year 1801, the Royal Sherwood Foresters had 114 men enrolled, 95 re-attested, and 195 discharged.

In 1801, the recruits which had been enlisted since the last training were drilled at Newark, on May the 6th, for twenty-one days' preliminary drill. The remainder of the regiment, making a total number of 635 in all, assembled at Newark for twenty-one days' training, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Mellish, on May the 27th, and was inspected by General the Right Hon. Lord Paulet, on June the 14th.

During this year, 317 men were enlisted, 73 re-attested, and 21 discharged.

In 1802, the recruits assembled at Newark, on April the 7th, for fourteen days' preliminary drill; and the remainder of the regiment, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Mellish, assembled for twenty-one days' training, on April the 21st. At this training the Royal Sherwood

Foresters numbered 1014 of all ranks. On May the 8th, the regiment was inspected by Lieut.-Colonel Bingham, C.B., Assistant Adjutant-General; and on May the 10th the men were dismissed to their homes.

Colonel Lancelot Rolleston died at Brighton, on May the 18th, 1862, aged seventy-six years. He was the representative of an ancient Nottinghamshire family, and was the eldest son of Christopher Rolleston, Esq., of Watnall Hall, in the county of Nottingham, by Anne, his wife, daughter of Captain Nicholas, R.N., and was twice married. First, to Caroline, only daughter of Sir George Chetwynd, Bart., by whom he had several children; and secondly to Eleanor Charlotte, daughter of Robert Fraser, Esq., of Torbreck, in the county of Inverness, by whom he also had issue. His remains were interred in the parish church at Greasley, in the county of Nottingham. Colonel Rolleston was gazetted to the command of the Royal Sherwood Foresters April the 11th, 1833, and held the appointment for more than twenty-nine years—a considerably longer period than had been enjoyed by any other commanding officer of the regiment. After his death, the colonelcy was left vacant, and the regiment was commanded by Lieut.-Colonel William Leigh Mellish.

During the year 1862, 125 men were enlisted, 101 re-attested, and 102 discharged. This year, the further appointment of ensigns in regiments of Militia was suspended.

In 1863, the recruits assembled at Newark for fourteen days' preliminary drill, on April the 6th, and the remainder of the regiment, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Mellish, assembled for twenty-one days' training on April the 20th, the total number of all ranks being 1038. On May the 8th, the regiment was inspected by Colonel Pipon, Inspector-General of Militia.

On April the 28th, Surgeon James Anders completed the fiftieth year of his service as surgeon of the Royal Sherwood Foresters; and a complimentary dinner was given to the "veteran" by his brother-officers.

During this year 136 men were enlisted, 62 were re-attested, and 36 discharged.

In 1864, the recruits assembled at Newark, on April the 4th, for fourteen days' preliminary drill; and the remainder of the regiment, under the command of Major Boddam, assembled for twenty-one days' training, on April the 18th, numbering 926 of all ranks. On May the 6th, the regiment was inspected by Colonel Hinde, of the 8th Foot.

On the morning of April the 18th, Lieut.-Colonel William Leigh

Mellish died at his residence at Hodsock, after a very short illness. He was the eldest son of the very Rev. Edward Mellish, D.D., Dean of Hereford, and had succeeded to the Hodsock estate by the will of his cousin, Mrs. Anne Chambers. He was born in the year 1814, and commenced his military career as an ensign in the Rifle Brigade. After attaining the rank of captain in that corps, he resigned, and, on November the 9th, 1852, became Lieut.-Colonel of the Royal Sherwood Foresters. Lieut.-Colonel Mellish was married in 1843, to Margaret Anne, second daughter of Sir Samuel Cunard, Bart., the eminent merchant, by whom he had several children. His remains were interred in the parish church at Blythe, in the county of Nottingham.

Major Alexander Boddam was promoted to the lieut.-colonelcy, and subsequently Captain Arthur Bromley and Captain Arthur Swann Howard Lowe were both promoted to the rank of major—two majors being at this time appointed to the regiment, instead of one, as heretofore.

In the month of August, the establishment of all regiments of Militia, of over 600 privates, was reduced. This order was cancelled in October, 1867.

During the year 1864, 106 men were enlisted, 117 re-attested, and 104 discharged.

In 1865, the recruits assembled at Newark for fourteen days' preliminary drill, on April the 3rd, being joined by the remainder of the regiment, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Boddam, on April the 17th. This year, the period of training was extended to twenty-eight days. Colonel Bingham, C.B., was to have inspected the regiment on May the 12th; but, owing to the inclemency of the weather, no inspection could be made. The total number of all ranks of the Royal Sherwood Foresters present at this training was 843.

During this year, 84 men were enlisted, 100 re-attested, and 135 discharged.

In 1866, the recruits assembled at Newark for fourteen days' preliminary drill, on April the 2nd; and the remainder of the regiment, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Boddam, assembled for twenty-eight days' training on April the 16th, numbering in all 868 men. Colonel Ralph Budd, of the 14th Regiment of Foot, inspected the Royal Sherwood Foresters on May the 11th.

In April, 1866, Surgeon James Anders, M.D., retired from the Royal Sherwood Foresters with a pension, having served in the regiment for upwards of fifty-six years. Dr. Anders joined the regiment in 1810, as assistant surgeon under Dr. Hazeldine, and became

surgeon in April, 1813. He died January the 2nd, 1869, aged eighty years, at Shelton Manor, near Newark (the residence of his son-in-law, Robert Hall, Esq.), and was buried in the churchyard at Shelton. A stained window in the chancel of Shelton Church perpetuates his memory. Assistant-Surgeon Foottit was appointed Surgeon, *vice* Anders.

By War Office authority, A/Militia/911, dated February the 8th, 1866, it was ordered that if a Militiaman be found to have enlisted fraudulently into the regular forces, he was to be put under stoppages of one penny daily for eighteen months. It was also ordered that a Militiaman might purchase his discharge on payment of 18s. 6d., unless he happened to be a re-enrolled man, in which case he must pay £2 4s. 6d., and provide a substitute.

This year, several changes were made in the uniform. The officers' blue undress frock coat was abandoned, and a short, braided jacket (known as the patrol jacket) substituted. Steel scabbards, previously worn only by instructors of musketry and adjutants, were adopted throughout the entire service by all officers under the rank of major. For the men, stitched blue cloth shakoes were substituted for felt, and black serge trousers substituted for blue in the fatigue clothing.

During this year, 189 men were enlisted, 85 re-attested, and 95 discharged.

In 1867, the recruits assembled at Newark for fourteen days' preliminary drill, on April the 1st; and the remainder of the regiment, numbering in all 838 men, assembled for twenty-eight days' training, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Boddam, on April the 15th. The regiment was inspected on May the 10th, by Lieut.-Colonel Gildea, of the 81st Regiment of Foot.

This year, General Peel created a new Army Reserve, by giving a bounty and extra pay to those Militiamen who would volunteer for it; in return, they are to be liable to serve anywhere with the standing Army whenever war is declared. The quota was fixed at 20,000 men; but, at the first Militia training after the bill had been passed (in 1868), only 2,524 men volunteered. The utility of this scheme is fairly open to question, for the Militia has always been ready to volunteer for foreign service whenever the exigencies of war rendered it necessary; and it would be an injustice to the force to suppose that such will not always be the case.

During the year 1867, 169 men were enlisted, 67 re-attested, and 96 discharged.

In 1868, the recruits assembled at Newark for fourteen days' preliminary drill, on March the 30th; the remainder of the regiment,

making a total of 937 of all ranks, assembled for twenty-eight days' training, under Lieut.-Colonel Boddam, on April the 13th. The regiment was inspected on May the 7th, by Lieut.-Colonel Wombwell, Inspector of Reserve forces.

During this year, 269 men were enlisted, 110 re-attested, and 82 discharged.

In 1869, the recruits assembled at Newark for fourteen days' preliminary drill, on March the 29th; and the remainder of the regiment, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Boddam, assembled for twenty-eight days' training, on April the 12th, the total number of men present at this training being 1079. The regiment was inspected on May the 5th and 6th, by Colonel E. W. C. Wright, Deputy Inspector of Reserve forces.

At the commencement of this training, the Enfield rifles (issued to the regiment in 1858) were replaced by Enfield rifles converted into breech-loaders, after Snider's patent. This arm has the breech closed with a steel block fitting into a shoe at the end of the barrel, and working on a hinge in front of the hammer. The weight of the arm and ammunition remains practically unaltered. The Royal Sherwood Foresters were distinguished by being one of the first regiments of Militia to which the Snider rifles were issued—a distinction which was accorded partly on account of the regiment having, in 1858, stood at the head of the whole British Army in musketry practice.

In the early part of this year, a bill was passed by which several important changes were effected in the Militia force. It consisted of four clauses, the first of which enables Her Majesty to place any regiment, battalion, or corps, called out for training, under the command of general officers of the regular forces, which before could only be done when embodied for actual service; by the second, an officer of the Line may be attached to any regiment for the purpose of training, during which time he must obey his superior officers of the Militia; the third abolishes the property qualification for officers; and the fourth provides that no Militia volunteer shall be entitled to claim his discharge, on the ground of error or illegality in his enrolment, after he has served for one training.

This year, tunics of a new pattern were issued to a portion of the men, and corresponding alterations were made in the arrangement of the lace on the officers' tunics. Silver lace sashes, sword-belts, and stripes for the trouser seams were sanctioned to be worn by officers at levees, balls, and other similar occasions.

During the year 1869, 236 men were enlisted, 51 re-attested, and 61 discharged.

In January, 1870, Major Arthur Bromley resigned his commission, on account of ill-health; and, on February the 26th, he died at Sunbury, in the county of Middlesex. William Shepherd Milner, Esq., of Mansfield Woodhouse, in the county of Nottingham—late Captain in the 10th (North Lincoln) Regiment of Foot—was afterwards gazetted Major of the Royal Sherwood Foresters.

In the month of March, Captain Alfred Hurst Lowe, Instructor of Musketry, and senior Captain of the regiment, retired with the rank of Major; but, on March the 27th, before his retirement could be notified in the Gazette, he died at Merton, in the county of Surrey, in the 56th year of his age. Captain John Thomas Pountain subsequently acted as instructor of musketry.

In April, Captain George Davis and Captain Godfrey Gardiner Gilbert-Cooper-Gardiner both retired from the Royal Sherwood Foresters with the rank of Major. Major Davis had previously held a captain's commission in the Honourable East India Company's service. Major Cooper-Gardiner served in the Spanish Legion, under General Sir de Lacy Evans, with the rank of Captain, in the years 1835, 1836, and 1837. He was in charge of the depôt of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, at Newark, in 1855, and was in command of the detachment at Tynemouth, in 1858, and also in command of the detachment, at Ayr, in 1859.

This year, the recruits assembled at Newark for fourteen days' preliminary drill, on April the 4th; and the remainder of the regiment, numbering in all 960 men, assembled for twenty-eight days' training on April the 18th. The Royal Sherwood Foresters being at this time exceedingly short of officers, two subalterns of the 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment of Foot, and one of the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers, were attached to the regiment, to assist during the training. On May the 13th, the regiment was inspected by Colonel Roche.

Upon the declaration of war between France and Prussia, the aspect of Continental affairs rendered it not improbable that England might be involved in the struggle. Immediate steps were taken to augment the Army; and, it being expected that a certain number of Militia regiments would be embodied, the Commanding Officer of the Royal Sherwood Foresters intimated to Her Majesty's Government the readiness of the regiment for service. In reply to this, the following official letter was received by the Lord-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire (the Right Hon. Lord Belper):—

"A./Notts./288.

Pall Mall,

"August 20th, 1870.

"My Lord,

"With reference to your Lordship's letter of the 13th instant, I have the honour to request that you will have the goodness to convey to the officers and men of the Nottingham (Sherwood Foresters) Militia, the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the offer of services therein made by them, through your Lordship.

"I have the honour to be, my Lord,

"Your Lordship's obedient Servant,

"(Signed)

EDWARD CARDWELL.

"The Lord Belper."

During the year 1870, 144 men were enlisted, 90 re-attested, and 58 discharged.

In March, 1871, Lieut.-Colonel Alexander Boddam-Whetham retired from the command of the Royal Sherwood Foresters; and, in consideration of his long service, Her Majesty was pleased to appoint him Honorary Colonel of the regiment. The command devolved upon Major Arthur Swann Howard Lowe, who was promoted to the rank of Lieut.-Colonel. Lieut.-Colonel Lowe is the third son of Alfred Lowe, Esq., of Highfield, in the county of Nottingham, by Charlotte Octavia, his wife, the daughter of Edward Swann, Esq. He became Captain in the Royal Sherwood Foresters in November, 1852, and was promoted to the rank of Major in March, 1865. Captain Anthony Henderson Fowke was promoted to the vacant Majority.

In 1871, the recruits assembled at Newark for twenty-eight days' preliminary drill, on April the 24th; the remainder of the regiment, making a total, of all ranks, of 1022, assembled for twenty-eight days' training, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Lowe, on May the 22nd. The regiment was inspected, on June the 15th, by Colonel Maydwell, but owing to the unfavourable weather but few manœuvres could be performed.

About this time, military schools of instruction were established for officers of the Reserve forces. Captain Alfred Edward Lawson Lowe, Captain George Gawthern, and Captain Charles Bateman Prust, having gone through a course of instruction at Aldershot, each received a certificate of proficiency; being the first officers of the Royal Sherwood Foresters to avail themselves of these schools.

During the year 1871, 209 men were enlisted, 65 re-attested, and 55 discharged.

On the 29th of March, 1872, Colonel Alexander Boddam-Whetham died of fever, at Rome, in the 65th year of his age. He was the youngest son of Rawson Hart Boddam, Esq., formerly Governor of Bombay, by Eliza Maria, his wife, daughter of William Tudor, Esq., of Monmouth. He obtained a commission as ensign in the 18th (Royal Irish) Regiment of Foot, in 1827, and was a captain in the 58th (Rutlandshire) Regiment of Foot when he retired from the Army. In November, 1852, he was appointed Major of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, and succeeded to the command of the regiment on the death of Lieut.-Colonel Mellish, in April, 1864. In March, 1871, he retired, and was appointed Honorary Colonel. In the year 1841, he married Maria Agatha, only daughter and heiress of Major-General John Whetham, of Kirklington Hall, in the county of Nottingham, and assumed the additional name and arms of Whetham in 1870.

This year, the recruits assembled at Newark for twenty-eight days' preliminary drill, on April the 1st; the remainder of the regiment, numbering in all 903 men, assembled for twenty-eight days' training, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Lowe, on April the 15th. The regiment was inspected on May the 9th and 10th, by Colonel H. L. Maydwell, Assistant Quartermaster-General.

The officers of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, at the present time (June, 1872), are as follows: Lieut.-Colonel, Arthur Swann Howard Lowe; Majors, William Shepherd Milner, and Anthony Henderson Fowke; Captains, John Stephens, Augustus Mark Hammond, John Thomas Pountain, Alfred Edward Lawson Lowe, Richard Upton, the Hon. Percy Charles Stanhope, George Gawthorn, Hugh Augustus Crofton, Thomas John Buchanan, Charles Bateman Prust, Harvey Charles Tryon, and Arthur Steffe Crisp; Lieutenants, Thomas Dudley Fosbroke, George Redmond Prior, David Archibald Dalton Kennedy, Thomas Charles Watson, Robert Ashby Hall, Philip Francis Tallents, George Evelyn Mackarness, Benjamin Wentworth Darley, and James Melvill Davidson; Adjutant, Captain John Francis Girardot; Quartermaster, Captain Donald Sinclair; Surgeon, William Falkingham Foottit; and Assistant Surgeon, Thomas Frederick Greenwood.

Of these officers, besides Captain Girardot and Captain Sinclair (whose services have already been detailed), three others have seen active service, and are decorated with medals. Captain Crofton served in the 6th (Royal 1st Warwickshire) Regiment of Foot during the Kaffir War, in 1850 and 1851, and was engaged in most of the operations against the enemy. He was present at the action in the Boma Pass, against Sandilli's tribe, on December the 24th, 1850, upon which

occasion his horse was shot under him. He was mentioned in General Orders for his conduct in command of a rear-guard, when on patrol, under Major Wilmot, in the Amatola Mountains, and was present at the combined attack on the Amatolas, on June the 28th, 1851. After leaving the Line, and previous to his joining the Royal Sherwood Foresters, Captain Crofton was for nearly five years adjutant of the Monaghan Militia. Captain Prust served in the 2nd battalion of the 60th Rifles, through the campaign in China, in 1860; and Lieutenant Fosbroke served in the 2nd (Queen's Royal) Regiment of Foot, through the same campaign; both these officers having the China medal, with clasps for "Pekin," and the "Taku Forts."

The entire reorganisation of the British Army (now in progress) must necessarily involve many important changes in every branch of Her Majesty's land forces, and the year 1872 will be marked by great alterations in the Militia. Not the least of these is the removal of the force from the control of the Lords-Lieutenant of counties, whose power to sign the commissions of Militia officers ceased on the 31st day of March. The impending changes consequent upon Mr. Cardwell's scheme, render this a fitting period to conclude this regimental record. The object of this book will have been attained, if, in addition to perpetuating the history of the regiment, sufficient has been recorded of the past services of the Royal Sherwood Foresters to show that whatever part they may be called upon, in the future, to fulfil, or, in whatever trying circumstances they may be placed, they will ever continue to do their duty as true British soldiers—mindful of their reputation, faithful to their country, and, above all, steadfast to their motto—

“LOYALTÉ.”

INDEX OF NAMES.

NOTE.—All Officers of the Royal Sherwood Foresters are distinguished in this Index by the highest rank which they attained in the regiment.

A	PAGE	C	PAGE
Abbott, Sergeant-Major William	59, 61	Calvert, Adjutant-General Sir Harry	
Abercrombie, Sir Ralph	29		[40, 42
Albermarle, His Grace the Duke of	10	Calvert, Ensign Campion	50
Anders, Surgeon James	49, 50, 69, 70	Cambridge, H.R.H. The Duke of	66
Arbuthnot, Major-General	54	Cardwell, The Right Hon. Edward	74, 76
Auchmuty, Brigadier-General Sir		Carlton, Lieut.-Colonel	27
Samuel	32	Cartwright, Major John 12, 13, 15, 16,	
			[19, 21, 23, 81, 82
B		Cartwright, George, Esq.	22
Ballard, General	6	Cartwright, William, Esq.	81
Barker, Major Samuel	49, 50	Castlemaine, The Right Hon. Viscount	
Barrow, Captain Charles James	53, 64		[57, 82
Barth, Captain Jacob	39, 47, 49, 50, 52	Cathcart, General	61
Baudin, Captain Harrington	19	Champion, Lieut. William	20
Beardsley, Lieutenant Francis	83	Chaplin, Thomas, Esq.	20
Bellasis, The Right Hon. John, Lord	9	Charlton, Lieut.-Colonel Thomas	24,
Belper, the Right Hon. Lord	73, 74		[26, 27, 35, 49
Bennett, Captain Richard Bayliss	53	Chaworth, Lieut.-Colonel John	34
Berks, Lieutenant Richard	12, 20, 31	Chetwynd, Sir George, Bart.	69
Bigsby, Lieutenant Robert	50	Churchill, Colonel	22
Bingham, Colonel	69, 70	Clare, the Right Hon. the Earl of	4
Bird, Captain	12	Clarence, H.R.H. The Duke of	33
Blackstone, Sir William	1	Clarina, General, The Right Hon. Lord	82
Boddam, Rawson Hart, Esq.	75	Claye, Major Richard	36
Boddam (<i>see</i> Whetham).		Clements, Captain John	63
Bodill, Lieutenant Joseph	49, 50	Clifton, Sir John	3
Boileau, Captain Simon P.	31, 39, 52	Clifton, Sir Gervase, Bart.	5, 6
Boulton, Captain George E.	42, 83	Clinton, Lieut.-Colonel The Right	
Boyd, Captain	12, 14	Hon. Lord John	15, 19, 20
Bradshaw, Lieut.-Colonel Thomas	35	Coape, Colonel Henry	35, 39, 48, 49,
Bright, Surgeon	22		[50, 83
Brock, Lieut.-General	82	Coape, William, Esq.	49
Bromley, Major Arthur	53, 61, 62, 64,	Colley, Lieutenant Richard Jones	83
	[65, 70, 73	Collins, Quarter-Master James	49, 50
Browne, Major	35	Collishaw, Lieut. John	19
Brown, Corporal George	60	Cood, Lieut. Thomas	20
Buchanan, Captain Thomas John	75	Coope, Captain Alfred	55, 56
Budd, Colonel Ralph	70	Cooper, Sir Roger	8, 50
Brum, Lance-Corporal Henry	60	Cooper, Captain John Gilbert	12, 13, 50
Burdon, Sir Nicholas	3	Cooper (<i>see</i> Gardiner).	
Burne, Lieutenant Jasper	64	Cresswell, Mr. Samuel	17
Byron, Sir John	6	Crisp, Captain Arthur Steffe	75
Byron, Sir Richard	7, 8	Crofton, Captain Hugh Augustus	75, 76
Byron, Admiral	81	Cromwell, Richard	9
Byron, Lieutenant Frederick George		Crowder, Private William	34
	[15, 20	Cunard, Sir Samuel	70

D	PAGE	E	PAGE
Darley, Lieutenant Benjamin Wentworth	73	Hacker, Captain	9
Davidson, Lieutenant James Melville	73	Haines, Colonel F. P.	55
Daves, Lieutenant Thomas	56	Hales, Bandsman William	60
Dava, Major George	73	Hall, Major Thomas Dickinson	50, 51
Dorner, the Right Hon. Lord	43	Hall, Lieut. Robert Ashby	75
Douglas, General	58	Hall, Robert, Esq.	71
Duncan, Admiral	28	Hamilton, Ensign William	20
Durant, Captain Anguish Honor Augustine	64	Hammond, Captain Augustus Mark	75
Dury, Captain Theodore Henry	53	Hartmann, Bandmaster	62
E		Haseidine, Surgeon James	70
Edge, Captain James Thomas	53	Head, Ensign Thomas	20
Elliot, Colonel	52	Hawke, Sir Edward	81
Ellis, Lieut. Philip	20	Haysted, Major	39
Ellis, Sergeant Thomas	59	Hemsley, Captain John Draper	53
Elrington, Lieut. John Francis	49	Henderson, Sir John	6
Eise, Paymaster Stephen	49	Hepburn, Lieut.-Colonel	27
England, Lieut.-General	36	Hervey, Colonel	18
Errol, The Right Hon. the Earl of	55	Hewett, Lieut. Robert Thomas	50
Evans, General Sir de Lacy	73	Hewett, Lieut. Thomas George	50
Evans, Lieut. Nicholas	49	Hewett, Lieut. Robert John George Henry	53
Evans, Lieut. Eyre	65	Hinde, Colonel	69
F		Holden, Captain Henry	52, 61
Fellows, John, Esq.	14	Hoovey, Sergeant George	28
Fletcher, Lance Corporal Frederick	60	Hope, General Sir John	38, 39
Footitt, Surgeon William Fellingham	[71, 75]	Howe, the Right Hon. Earl	81
Forbes, Lieutenant Hugh	83	Huish, Major Mark	34
Fosbroke, Lieut. Thomas Dudley	75, 76	Hurst, Bandsman Charles	60
Fowke, Major Anthony Henderson	74, 75	Hutchinson, Colonel John	5, 6, 7, 8
Francklin, Captain John	50, 53	Hutchinson, Major George	5
Fraser, Major-General	33	Hutchinson, Mrs. Lucy	5
Frazer, Robert, Esq.	69	J	
G		Jameson, Ensign John	64
Gardiner, Colonel John Gilbert-Cooper	[36, 37, 39, 49, 50, 83]	Johnson, Captain William	12, 20
Gardiner, Major Godfrey G. Gilbert-Cooper	50, 53, 55, 65, 66, 73	Johnson, Sergeant George	59
Garrett, Sergeant George	59, 66	Johnston, General James	25
Gawthorn, Captain George	74, 75	K	
Gell, Sir John, Bart.	6	Keetly, Corporal Samuel	60
Gildea, Lieut.-Colonel	71	Kennedy, Lieutenant David Archibald Dalton	75
Girardot, Captain John Francis	61, 75	Kent, H.R.H. The Duke of	33
Gordon, Captain George Tomline	53	Kingston, His Grace the Duke of	43
Gould, Colonel Edward Thornton	[20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 33, 37, 38, 39, 42, 44, 47, 48, 83]	Kinsale, The Right Hon. Lord	83
Gould, Captain Charles Edward	83	Kirke, Lieut.-Colonel John	35
Greenwood, Assistant-Surgeon Thos. Frederick	75	Kirkby, Ensign George	49
Grey, The Right Hon. Lord	5	Knollys, General	55, 62
		Koenig, Bandmaster	60
		L	
		Langley, Sir Marmaduke	9
		Larkan, Edward, Esq.	57
		Lawley, Sir Robert, Bart.	22
		Lawrence, Major-General	63

	PAGE
Lexington, The Right Hon. Lord	6, 20
Lincoln, Lieut.-Colonel The Right Hon. the Earl of	12, 15
Littlewood, Lieut. Thomas	20
Lowe, Lieut.-Colonel Arthur Swann Howard	53, 55, 60, 65, 70, 74, 75, 83
Lowe, Major Alfred Hurst	53, 62, 66, 73
Lowe, Captain Alfred Edward Lawson [74, 75	
Lowe, Captain Henry Porter	50
Lowe, Joseph, Esq.	21
Lowe, Alfred, Esq.	74
Lucas, Sir Charles	8

M

Macauley, The Right Hon. Lord	10
Mackarness, Lieut. George Evelyn	75
Manners, Surgeon John	20
Mapother, Lieut. John Edward	49
Markham, Sir John	3
Martin, Captain William Bennett	49
Martin, Lieutenant John (1)	83
Martin, Lieutenant John (2)	49, 50
Matthews, Captain Thomas	49, 50
Maughan, Ensign John	49, 50
Maydwell, Colonel H. L.	74, 75
Meldrum, Sir John	8
Mellish, Lieut.-Colonel William Leigh [52, 62, 63 64, 65, 68, 69, 70, 75, 83	
Mellish, The Very Rev. Edward D.D. 70	
Melville, Major-General The Right Hon. Viscount	65
Merry, William, Esq.	42
Middleton, The Right Hon. Lord 21, 22	
Millhouse, Corporal Robert	37
Milner, Major William Shepherd 73, 75	
Moira, The Right Hon. the Earl of	33
Molyneux, Sir Francis, Bart.	5
Monckton, General	18
Montresor, Captain	38
Morley, Ensign	49
Morrison, Drummer William	60

N

Neville, Captain George	12, 13
Newcastle, His Grace the Duke of [12, 15, 20, 21, 58, 59, 67	
Nicholas, Captain	69

O

Orange, H.R.H. The Prince of	82
Orme, Drummer Frederick	60
Overend, Captain John	49, 50

P

Padley, Major Robert	34
--------------------------------	----

	PAGE
Palgrave, Sir Francis	1
Palliser, Sir Hugh	81
Panmure, The Right Hon. Lord	58
Parker, Lance-Corporal Daniel	60
Parkyns, Captain George Isham 12, 19	
Parkyns, Captain Augustus	19
Parkyns, Captain Mansfield	53
Patterson, Lieutenant	49
Paulet, General The Right Hon. Lord 68	
Peart, Joshua, Esq.	20
Peel, General	71
Peveler, William de	2
Pierrepoint, Francis, Esq.	5
Pigot, Lieut.-General	35
Pipon, Colonel	69
Pocklington, Lieut.-Colonel Roger [39, 49, 50	
Pocklington, Joseph, Esq.	18
Portland, His Grace the Duke of	15
Pountain, Captain John Thomas 73, 75	
Price, Ensign William	49, 50
Prior, Lieut. George Redmond	75
Pritchard, Ensign William	20
Prust, Captain Charles Bateman [74, 75, 76	

R

Rawson, Lieut. Francis George	53
Raymond, Major-General	39
Reeves, Sergeant	19
Rein, Ensign Squire	20
Richmond, His Grace the Duke of	38
Robinson, Lance-Corporal John	60
Roche, Colonel	73
Roe, John, Esq.	50
Rolleston, Colonel Lancelot	50, 52, [56, 63, 65, 69, 83
Rolleston, Christopher, Esq.	69
Rolleston, Lieut. Loftus John	65
Rupert, H.R.H. Prince	8
Rutherford, Mr. Gawern	9
Rutland, His Grace the Duke of	20

S

Salmon, Lieutenant	49
Sampson, Ensign William	20
Savile, Sir George, Bart.	11
Scarborough, The Right Hon the Earl of	59, 60
Seaton, Field-Marshal The Right Hon. Lord	57, 59
Sherbrooke, General Sir John Coape, G.C.B.	49
Sherbrooke, Lieut.-Colonel William	34
Sherbrooke, Captain William Coape	19
Sherbrooke, Henry, Esq.	49

	PAGE		PAGE
Shergold, Major John	35	Tryon, Captain Harvey Charles	75
Sherwin, Major John Sherwin	50, 51	Tudor, William Esq.	75
Shute, Sir Hugh	3	Turner, Dr. Francis	10
Shrewsbury, The Right Hon. the Earl of	4	Tyler, Corporal Thomas	60
Sidmouth, The Right Hon. Lord	46	U	
Simon, Lambert	3	Upton, Captain Richard	75
Sinclair, Captain Donald	68, 75	V	
Slade, Colonel	53	Vicars, Sergeant George	59
Smith, Brigadier-General	27	Vise, General	30
Smith, Lieut.-General Sir Harry	63	W	
Smith, Captain William Elisha	60	Wakefield, Lieut. Edward	49, 50
Smith, Lieutenant John	19	Wallace, William	3
Smith, Sergeant Thomas	50	Wales, H.R.H. The Prince of	20, 33
Snowden, Corporal William	60	Walker, Captain George	50
Stanhope, The Right Hon. the Earl of	5	Walsh, Lieut. T. J.	65
Stanhope, Captain Percy Charles	65, 75	Walter, Captain Edward	53
Stanton, Major Henry	31	Ward, Major-General	15
Sturphens, Captain John	75	Watson, Lieut. George Stretton	53, 54
Stephenson, Francis William	19	Watson, Lieut. Thomas Charles	75
Stewart, Hugh Daniel	83	Wellist, Major Samuel	53
Stretton, Hugh Severus William	80, 82, 83	Wellington, The Right Hon. Lord	35, 82
Leitham	39, 83	Westmeath, The Most Hon. the Marquess of	57
Stretton, William, Esq.	82	Westwood, Ensign Lyttleton	83
Strait, Sir John	55	Wheatley, Major J. H.	35, 36
Stubbs, Lieutenant William	40, 50	Wetherham, Colonel Alexander Boddam [51, 57, 62, 63, 64, 69, 70, 71, 72, 74, 75, 83	
Sutcliffe, Lieut. Robert Napoleon	53, 54	Wetherham, Major-General John	75
Sutcliffe, Lieut. Charles Frederick	64, 65	White, Lieut.-Colonel Sir Thomas Wollaston	34, 50, 52, 59
Suttees, R. S., Esq.	63	White, Captain	5
Sussex, H.R.H. The Duke of	33	Wildman, Colonel Thomas	58, 59
Sussex, The Right Hon. the Earl of	48	Williams, Major William Gregory	34
Sutton, Colonel The Right Hon. Lord	6	Willoughby, Colonel The Hon. Henry [21, 22, 24, 48, 83	
George	12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 83	Wilmot, Major	76
Sutton, Captain	12, 19	Wolfe, General	31
Sutton, Sir Robert	6, 16	Wolsey, Sir Charles, Bart.	82
Sutton, Robert, Esq.	6	Wombwell, Lieut.-Colonel	72
Sutton, John Henry Manners, Esq.	58, 62	Woodcock, Lance-Corporal Edward	60
Sutton, Ensign	15	Wright, Colonel E. W. C.	72
Swann, Edward, Esq.	74	Wright, Major John Smith	34
T		Wright, Colonel Ichabod	34
Tallents, Lieut. Philip Francis	75	Wrixon, Major Nicholas	54
Tallents, William Edward, Esq.	48	Wylde, Lieut.-Colonel William	34
Taylor, Colonel Brook	65	Y	
Taylor, Captain John Bagshaw	50, 53	Yates and Peel, Messrs.	29
Taylor, Captain William	50	York, H.R.H. The Duke of	29, 33
Taylor, Corporal Joseph	60		
Terrewest, Major James Tomlinson	35		
Thomas, General	36		
Thornbaugh, Sir Francis	5		
Thoroton, Robert, Esq.	47		
Thoroton, Lieut.-Colonel Thomas	35		
Tracy, Captain-Lieut. John	19		
Trevor, Lieutenant John Evans	83		

A P P E N D I X .



MAJOR JOHN CARTWRIGHT (*vide* page 23). The family of Cartwright is one of great antiquity, and once occupied a prominent position amongst the leading proprietary of Nottinghamshire. In the civil wars of the seventeenth century the Cartwrights were conspicuous for their loyalty, and, like many other families which suffered by their exertions in the cause of King Charles I., its possessions became diminished to a small portion of their original extent. Major Cartwright was of the Marnham branch of the family, and was born at that place in 1740, being the third of the five sons of William Cartwright, Esq., of Marnham Hall. In 1758 he entered the Royal Navy as a midshipman, under Lord Howe; and, at the age of eighteen, was present at the siege of Cherbourg, and in the following year shared in the glorious victory gained by Sir Edward Hawke over the French fleet in Quiberon Bay. About this time he gave a striking instance, alike of his courage and humanity, in leaping overboard from the deck of a ninety-gun frigate, under full sail, to save the life of a seaman who had fallen into the sea. In 1762 he obtained the rank of lieutenant, under Sir Hugh Palliser and Admiral Byron, and sailed in the "Guernsey" to the coast of Newfoundland, where he was entrusted for five years with the settlement of the various questions affecting the maritime rights of the seamen engaged in the fisheries on that coast. In 1770 he was compelled to leave the Navy on account of ill health, and retired to his seat at Marnham. In 1775, at the reorganisation of the regiment, he was appointed Major of the Nottinghamshire Militia, a position which he occupied for some years with credit to himself and advantage to the regiment. Although a loyal subject to his Sovereign, and a firm supporter of the military renown of his country, he was an advanced Whig in politics, and employed much of his time (not occupied by military duties) in writing political tracts and pamphlets, which at all events evinced that his capabilities as an author were by no means inferior. On account of his extreme and undisguised political principles, his right of succession to the vacant lieutenant-colonelcy of his regiment was on several occasions set aside by the Lord-Lieutenant; and, in 1791, having celebrated at an hotel in London the fall of the Bastille, and, what he termed, the triumph of liberty over despotism in France, his commission in the Nottinghamshire Militia was withdrawn, and he was dismissed from His Majesty's Service.

In the organisation and training of the Nottinghamshire Militia, Major Cartwright took indefatigable pains. During two years of his service the colonel was frequently absent, and the lieutenant-colonel never once joined, so that almost the whole conduct of the regiment depended upon him; and it appears that by a system which excluded all unnecessary severity, but which in the mode of administration was undeviatingly strict, it attained to a degree of discipline which commanded universal admiration. Of this undeviating strictness one anecdote may be told in illustration. Perceiving that at the first setting out on the march of the Nottinghamshire Militia from Hull to Portsmouth, the men were somewhat inclined to loiter in a manner inconsistent with military discipline, the Major assured them that he should find means to prevent such irregularity for the future. The offence was, nevertheless, repeated the next day, and was passed without comment from the Major; but, just as the regiment came in view of their quarters for the night, he gave the order to turn about, and, without making any remark, marched the men three miles back, thus adding six miles to the fatigues of the day. It need hardly be added that the punishment had due effect.

In October, 1779, Major Cartwright drew out a plan for the defence of Portsmouth, which met with general approval; and some of the most important of his suggestions were at once carried out. The Major also deserves remembering as being one of the first officers who procured great coats to be issued to the British soldiery—a comfort which he obtained for them after repeated applications. Even after his commission in the Nottinghamshire Militia was withdrawn he occupied considerable time in drawing plans of fortifications, and schemes for simplifying military manœuvres.

About the time of the State trials, in 1794, he wrote his principal work, entitled "The Commonwealth in Danger," which attracted considerable notice at the time. In August, 1820, he was committed for trial at Warwick; and, being found guilty, was fined £100 for the part he took in fictitiously electing (as a political experiment) Sir Charles Wolsey, Bart., as a member of Parliament for the borough of Birmingham, at a great public meeting. Major Cartwright's death occurred in 1824, and his remains lie interred in a vault in the old parish church at Finchley, in Middlesex.

Ensign SEMPRONIUS STRETTON (*vide* page 30). This distinguished officer was the eldest son of William Stretton, Esq., of Lenton Priory, in the county of Nottingham, and was born in Nottingham in the year 1751. He obtained a commission as ensign in the Nottinghamshire Militia in 1800, joining the head-quarters of the regiment at Dumfries. He afterwards became an ensign in the 6th (Royal First Warwickshire) Regiment of Foot, and in about a year was promoted to the rank of lieutenant in the 49th (Hertfordshire) Regiment. He accompanied the 49th to Canada, and had the good fortune to serve under the command of Lieut.-General Brock, who afterwards fell, fighting gallantly, at the brilliant action of Queenstown Heights, in Upper Canada. Lieutenant Stretton benefitted much by the experience which he gained from this distinguished officer, who frequently selected him to act as his aide-de-camp in his visits to the upper country, to meet the Indian chiefs in council. Having obtained a captaincy in the 40th (2d Somersetshire) Regiment, he was employed for some time on recruiting service in England. In 1812 he proceeded with his regiment to Lisbon, and joined the army of the Peninsula, under Wellington. His first encounter with the enemy was at the glorious victory at Vittoria, on June the 21st, 1813. His regiment afterwards took part in the investment of Pampeluna, and the numerous brilliant actions which followed during the passage of the Pyrenees. On July the 28th of that same year, Captain Stretton received the special thanks of Lord Wellington, conveyed to him through His Royal Highness the Prince of Orange, for the gallant defence made by the 40th under his command, supported by Portuguese troops, in defending the key of the position on the heights before Pampeluna. For this service he obtained the brevet rank of major, and a gold medal. He was present in the numerous actions with the French which terminated in the Battle of Toulouse, and the abdication of Napoleon. After returning to England, he accompanied the 40th in the expedition to New Orleans, in 1814, and narrowly escaped death, being shipwrecked with a detachment of his regiment in the "Baring" transport, in Bantry Bay. He took part in the disastrous Mississippi expedition; and, having returned to England, accompanied the 40th to Flanders, and joined the army assembled near Brussels just in time to participate in the ever memorable victory of Waterloo. On the arrival of the allies into Paris, Lord Wellington, in acknowledgment of Major Stretton's services, appointed him commandant of the 5th Arrondissement of that city, a post he held for some considerable time. He obtained also the brevet rank of lieutenant-colonel. For some years he commanded the 40th Regiment, but, on that corps being ordered to New South Wales, he retired upon half-pay. He attained the rank of colonel in the Army, and was made one of the military Companions of the Order of the Bath. He received the Waterloo medal, as well as the gold medal for distinguished service; but, his death occurring before the distribution of the Peninsula medal, prevented him from participating in that tardy reward. Colonel Stretton was twice married; first to the Hon. Catherine Jane Massey, daughter of General the Right Hon. Lord Clarina; and secondly to the Hon. Anne Handcock, daughter of the Right Hon. Viscount Castlemaine, but left no issue. He died at Croydon, February the 6th, 1842, in the 62nd year of his age; and lies buried in the churchyard of Bromley, in Kent, where a plain monument marks his last earthly resting-place. In Salter's celebrated painting of the Waterloo banquet, Colonel Stretton is represented as occupying a prominent position amongst the assembled heroes. Through the various actions in which he was engaged Colonel Stretton escaped unscathed; but he had many narrow escapes. In the Pyrenees he had one of his epaulettes shot away, and his charger was shot in the head whilst he was engaged in storming and taking a bridge from the enemy at

Toulouse. At Waterloo, also, his charger was killed under him. In allusion to this, the inscription upon a cenotaph to his memory in the old churchyard at Lenton, in Nottinghamshire, thus appropriately terminates:—"O God, my Lord, the strength of my salvation, Thou hast covered my head in the day of battle. Glory be to Thee, O Lord."

Ensign SEVERUS WILLIAM LYNHAM STRETTON (*vide* page 39). Ensign Stretton, the only brother of the above-mentioned officer, entered the Nottinghamshire Militia in 1810, joining the regiment at Plymouth a short time before it was ordered for service in Ireland. In 1812 he became an ensign in the 68th (Durham) Regiment of Light Infantry, and joined that regiment in Portugal. At the Battle of Vittoria he was very severely wounded by two musket balls lodged in the body. He was removed to England in a very precarious state, and his wounds have ever since been a source of great trouble and bodily pain. He was unable to rejoin his regiment until after the conclusion of the war. Having obtained a captaincy, he exchanged into the 64th (2nd Staffordshire) Regiment, of which he became lieutenant-colonel in 1842. In 1848 he exchanged into his brother's old regiment, the 40th, and continued in command of that corps until 1852, when he retired upon half-pay. He was afterwards for some years lieutenant-colonel of the Hampshire Regiment of Militia. Lieutenant-Colonel Stretton was awarded the Peninsula medal, and he is also in receipt of a pension for his wounds. In 1851 he married the Hon. Catherine Adela de Courcy, daughter of the Right Hon. Lord Kinsale.

A complete list of those officers who passed from the Royal Sherwood Foresters into regiments of the Line, and served against the French, previous to the disembodiment of the regiment, in the year 1814, should be appended to this Regimental Record; but, unfortunately, the regiment possesses no documents from which such a list could be compiled. The following very imperfect list is all that can be obtained from available sources:—

Ensign Sempronius Stretton . . .	became Ensign (6th Foot)	in 1800.
Lieutenant Richard Jones Colley . . .	„ Lieutenant (45th Foot)	„ 1807.
Ensign George Raynes	„ Ensign (40th Foot)	„ 1807.
Lieutenant Hugh Forbes	„ Lieutenant (45th Foot)	„ 1809.
Lieutenant John Evans Trevor . . .	„ Ensign (45th Foot)	„ 1809.
Ensign Daniel Stewart	„ Ensign (45th Foot)	„ 1809.
Lieutenant John Martin	„ Lieutenant (1st Foot)	„ 1811.
Ensign Severus W. L. Stretton . . .	„ Ensign (68th Foot)	„ 1812.
Lieutenant Francis Beardsley . . .	„ Ensign (45th Foot)	„ 1813.
Captain Charles Edward Gould . . .	„ Captain (Foot Guards)	„ 1813.
Ensign Lyttleton Westwood	„ Ensign (14th Foot)	„ 1813.
Captain George E. Boulton	„ Captain (14th Foot)	„ 1813.

SUCCESSION OF COMMANDING OFFICERS.

Colonel the Right Hon. Lord George Sutton . . .	appointed 1775 .	died 1783.
Colonel the Hon. Henry Willoughby	„ 1783 .	resigned 1791.
Colonel Edward Thoroton Gould	promoted 1791 .	„ 1819.
Colonel Henry Coape	„ 1819 .	„ 1825.
Colonel John Gilbert-Cooper-Gardiner	„ 1825 .	died 1833.
Colonel Lancelot Rolleston	appointed 1833 .	„ 1862.
Lieut.-Colonel William Leigh Mellish	succeeded 1862 .	„ 1864.
Lieut.-Colonel Alexander Boddam-Whetham . . .	promoted 1864 .	retired 1871.
Lieut.-Colonel Arthur Swann Howard Lowe . . .	„ 1871 .	now in comd.

FINIS.

W. Mitchell & Co., Printers, 39, Charing Cross.







