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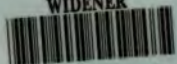
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The 66th  
Berkshire  
Regiment  
1758 - 1881

By J. Percy Groves

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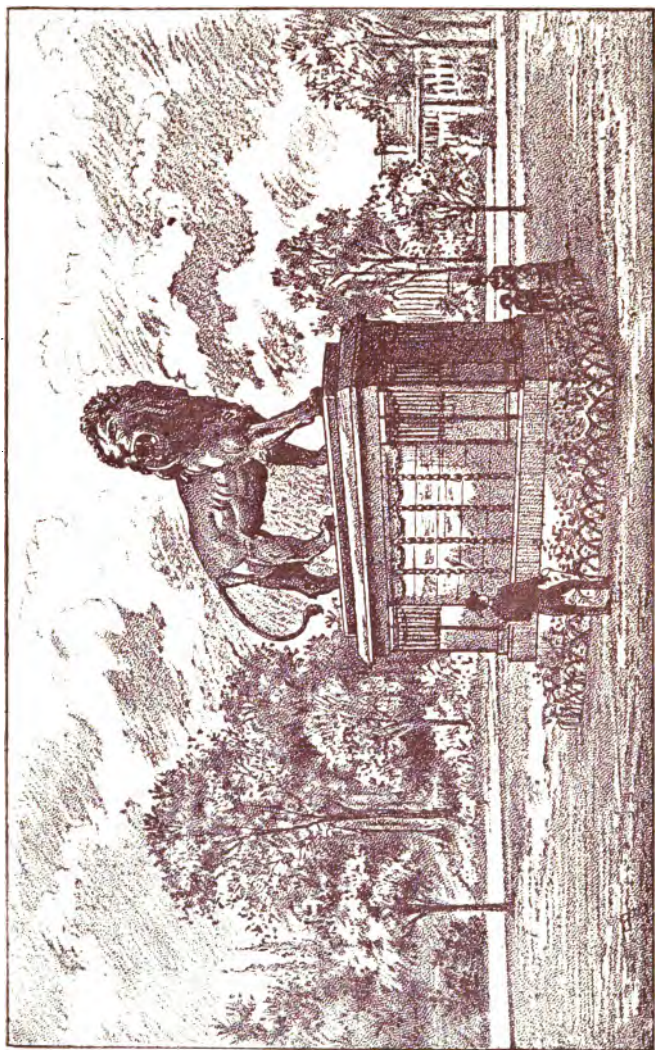
**THE 66TH**  
**BERKSHIRE REGIMENT.**

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MEMORIAL TO THE 60TH IN THE FORBURY, READING.

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# THE 66th BERKSHIRE REGIMENT.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ITS SERVICES AT HOME AND  
ABROAD, FROM 1758 TO 1881.

COMPILED FROM THE REGIMENTAL RECORDS, AND OTHER MSS.,

BY  
*J. Percy Groves*  
J. PERCY GROVES,

“RESERVE OF OFFICERS”; LATE XXVII. INNISKILLINGS.

AUTHOR OF:—

“FROM CADET TO CAPTAIN”; “A SOLDIER BORN”;  
“REEFER AND RIFLEMAN”; “THE WAR OF THE AXE”;  
“THE DUKE’S OWN,” &c., &c.



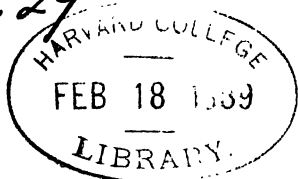
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*Mint fund.*

TO  
**Colonel John Tobin Ready,**

WHO SERVED IN THE BERKSHIRE REGIMENT

(FROM ENSIGN TO LIEUTENANT-COLONEL COMMANDING,)

FOR UPWARDS OF 32 YEARS, THIS LITTLE HISTORY IS DEDICATED

WITH THE CORDIAL RESPECT OF THE AUTHOR.





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# THE 66TH REGIMENT.

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## Chapter 1.

1758-1804.—Formation of the Regiment—Uniform—Early History—Embarks on foreign Service—Quartered in the Island of St. Vincent—Gibraltar—Ordered again to West Indies—Active Service in St. Domingo—Quartered in Jamaica, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland—Returns to England—Second Battalion raised.



In the middle of the last century, the exertions of Great Britain in the prosecution of that extensive and sanguinary struggle known as the "Seven Years' War," rendered an addition to her Land Forces imperative, and, Parliament having authorised the augmentation, several new corps (from the 61st to the 70th inclusive,) were ordered to be formed from the 2nd Battalions of existing regiments.

In accordance with this order—which was issued in the Spring of 1758—the 2nd Battalion of the 19th (or 1st North Riding of Yorkshire) Regiment was constituted a separate corps, and numbered the 66th of the Line.

Of the early history of the 66th but little is known,

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owing to the loss or destruction of the Regimental Records at the evacuation of Port au Prince, in 1797.

It must have been shortly after its formation that His Majesty, George II, approved of the new regiment being styled the "66th or *Berkshire* Regiment," by which title it has been known for nearly a century and a quarter.\*

According to a Royal Warrant, dated 19th December, 1758, the original uniform of the "Berkshire" Regiment was a red coat lined with white and faced with "yellow-green"; lace, gold for officers; and white, with one crimson and green and one green stripe for the men. Waistcoat and breeches, white. The 66th retained their green facings until the year 1880.

The first Colonel of the 66th was Edward Sandford, whose commission bears date of the 21st of April, 1758. This officer only had the regiment a few months, and was succeeded, on the 24th August, by Colonel John La Fausille.

La Fausille held the Coloneley until January, 1763, when he gave place to Lord Adam Gordon. On the 10th February, 1763, the Treaty of Paris was signed, and, a General Peace being proclaimed, the "Seven Years' War," and the War with Spain (commenced in January, 1762) came to an end. There is no record to show whether the 66th were employed on active or foreign service during these Wars, nor can we discover where the regiment was quartered for the first fifteen years of its existence.

We now come to the period when light infantry

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\* The first Army List in which the County Title appears, is that for 1783.

companies were permanently established in the British Army, and by a Royal Warrant, dated 25th December, 1770, a light company was added to the strength of the 66th, and sixteen other line regiments.

In the month of May, 1773, the regiment marched from Plymouth to Romsey, and while stationed at Romsey had the honour of being reviewed by His Majesty, George III., who expressed his approbation of its appearance and discipline.

Shortly after this memorable inspection, the 66th marched to Berwick, and from thence to Edinburgh Castle, where it remained until the autumn of 1775, when it embarked for Ireland.

On the 13th January, 1776, Joseph Gabbett was appointed Colonel, in succession to Lord Adam Gordon.

During the next nine years the regiment was stationed in various parts of Ireland, and was distinguished as an efficient and well-conducted corps.

On the 2nd April, 1785, the 66th embarked for the West Indies, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Forster; a captain and two subalterns remaining at home in recruiting service. Before the regiment sailed, the following complimentary General Order was issued at the Cove of Cork:—

“12th April, 1785. Colonel Crosby having obtained leave of absence, is extremely happy to have it in his power, before he resigns his command, to communicate to the 66th and 67th regiments the approbation and thanks of the Commander-in-Chief for the very honourable manner these regiments have left this country; and the spirit, good order and cheerfulness with which

they embarked, of which he will make a favourable report to the King. The Colonel sincerely wishes them a happy voyage, and a safe return to their native country,

*Signed, Charles Stuart, Adjutant 67th Regiment."*

The 66th was bound for the Island of St. Vincent, and on the 4th of June, 1785, after a two months' voyage, the transport dropped anchor in Kingston Bay; the regiment disembarked next morning.

In 1787, Lieutenant-Colonel Forster retired from the service, and the command of the regiment devolved upon Major Henry Roper, who was shortly afterwards promoted Lieutenant-Colonel.

Colonel Roper returned to England a few months later, and was succeeded in temporary command by Captain Urquhart, who was relieved on the 6th December, 1788, by Lieutenant-Colonel Bowyer.

During its stay in St. Vincent new colours were presented to the 66th.

In the winter of 1792, orders were received for the regiment to hold itself in readiness to proceed to Gibraltar at an early date.

In communicating this order to the Regiment, Major-General Cuyler, in command at St. Vincent, wrote as follows:—

"I cannot part with the 66th Regiment which has so constantly gone on well since my arrival in this country, without making known that I am sensible of their good conduct, which sentiment I have expressed in the enclosed letter to Sir Robert Boyd.

*Signed, C. Cuyler, Major-General."*

On hearing that the 66th was under orders for Gibraltar, the St. Vincent Government formally requested that the old colours might be deposited in the Court House at Kingstown—as “a memento of the services of the corps in the island.”

This request was readily granted, and on the 8th January, 1793, the old colours, which had been carried by the “Berkshire” regiment for upwards of thirty years, were placed with due ceremony in the Kingstown Court House.

The St. Vincent authorities acknowledged the receipt of these time-honoured ensigns in the following terms:—

“We receive these colours as a mark of attention from the Regiment to the Colony, and will preserve them as a memorial of their good conduct and discipline.”

Next morning (9th January, 1793) the 66th, under command of Major Hildebrand Oakes, embarked at Kingstown, and when the transport stood out to sea, the batteries overlooking the Bay fired a salute as a compliment to the regiment. The voyage to Gibraltar was of two months’ duration, and the 66th landed there on the 13th March.

In 1794, John, Earl of Clanricarde, was appointed Colonel.

After three years’ sojourn at the “Rock,” the 66th received orders to make up their strength to 1,200 of all ranks, prior to returning to the West Indies.

In order to complete the establishment with as little delay as possible, vacancies were filled up by drafts from the 2nd Battalion 82nd, the 108th, 128th, and 131st

Regiments. Early in 1796, the regiment left Gibraltar, and, on the 23rd February, disembarked at Port au Prince, in the island of St. Domingo.

St. Domingo was, at this period, in a state of complete anarchy owing to the internal dissensions of the negroes, into whose hands the decrees of the French Republic had thrown the greater portion of the unfortunate island.

Port au Prince had been taken from the Republicans by the British in the summer of '94, and was now held by a garrison, under Lieut-General Williamson. That officer had extended his posts in the island, and being short of troops had raised several negro corps, the command of which he gave to French Royalists. Between these black troops and the Republican negroes there was constant warfare.

Such was the state of affairs when the 66th arrived at Port au Prince.

On the 28th February, 1796, five days after disembarking, the regiment, consisting of eight companies, two of which were detached in conjunction with other corps, attacked and carried a post, at a place called Turgeau, not far from Port au Prince. In this affair (of which no details are given in the Records,) the 66th lost 3 men killed and 3 wounded.

The following General Order was issued on the occasion:—

“It is with the greatest satisfaction His Excellency the Governor saw yesterday the complete execution of the plan that had been concerted to possess the heights and drive the enemy to the other side of the mountains; from the judicious disposition that had

been made the enemy saw no safety but in flight. His Excellency returns his best thanks to Brigadier-General Bowyer, Baron Montalembert, Colonel Gardiner, the Commandant and the officers and men of the different corps who contributed to the success of the day."

The 66th remained in this unhealthy island for upwards of two years, during which time it was engaged in incessant warfare of an unusually harassing and fatiguing nature. No records remain to tell of its services, but it is probable that besides being present at many minor affairs, the regiment (or a portion of it) formed part of an expedition, commanded by General Forbes, sent against Léogane on the 21st March, 1796; and that it was present at the attack and capture of the fort of Bombarde, on which occasion the British lost thirty officers and men killed and wounded. (June 8th).

An original document, signed by Lieutenant and Adjutant David Gunn, shows that 15 officers\* and 690 non-commissioned officers and men of the 66th Foot died during their first year's service at St. Domingo—from February, 1796, to February, 1797.

This is sufficient to prove how severely the corps suffered, and that the dangers and hardships to which the men were exposed during this almost forgotten war were of no ordinary kind.

In the summer of 1798, arrangements were made by Brigadier-General, the Hon. Thomas Maitland, for the

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\* List of Officers mentioned. Brevet-Majors Burvill and Gabbitt; Captains Lipycatt and R. Gabbitt; Captain-Lieutenant Long; Lieutenants Simms, Peach, Swainson, Arbuckle, Best, and Harrison; Ensigns Ward and Carr (acting); Surgeons W. Long and Lander.

British to evacuate St. Domingo, and by the end of that year the French troops were also withdrawn, so that Toussaint L'Ouverture and his sable brethren were left in undisputed possession of the entire island.\*

On the 24th September, 1798, the regiment embarked at Cape St. Nicholas Mole, and sailed for Jamaica, where it arrived on the 4th October, and marched to Up Park Camp.

The 66th was not long in Jamaica, for early in 1799 we find it at Halifax, Nova Scotia. The casualties of war and the ravages of disease had by this time reduced the Corps almost to a skeleton battalion, and the gaps in its ranks were here filled up by 300 volunteers from the 7th Royal Fusiliers, and by a draft of recruits, which had come out from home in charge of Lieutenant-Colonel Hatton, who now assumed command of the regiment.

Early in November, 1799, the 66th marched to Annapolis Royal, and on the 2nd January, 1800, Lieutenant-Colonel Urquhart arrived from England, and relieved Hatton in command of the regiment.

While the 66th lay at Annapolis Royal, H.R.H. the Duke of Kent visited it, and remained for a few days as the guest of the officers.

On the 26th May, 1800, the regiment embarked at Halifax, on board the *John* transport, and, convoyed by H.M. Frigate *Cleopatra*, sailed for St. John's, Newfoundland.

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\* Bryan Edwards in his History of the West Indies, says "The attempts of reducing this island cost many lives . . . the number left alive and fit for service at the end of the year 1797, was not more than 3000 men. About 12,000 land forces, and 500 seamen, had in the space of three years fallen a sacrifice to that pestilential climate.

Here, on the 14th September, Lieutenant-Colonel George Urquhart died, and was succeeded by Lieutenant-Colonel John Hatton.

The 66th remained in Newfoundland until the 9th October, 1802, when it sailed for England, after seventeen years' continuous foreign service.

The following General Order was issued by Brigadier-General John Skerrett (Colonel of the Loyal Durham Fencibles) previous to the embarkation of the regiment:—

“6th October, 1802. The Brigadier-General feels much mortified in losing the services of H.M. 66th Regiment from under his command. The striking proof of loyalty, high discipline and obedience he has experienced from this corps, call for his most grateful acknowledgments to the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates. By their admirable conduct the tranquillity of this great settlement has been insured.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Hatton, who has assisted the native valour of the corps by every exertion of the most judicious and vigorous discipline, everything is due; and Brigadier-General Skerrett considers it a bounden duty to state the same to Lieutenant-General Bowyer, for the information of the Commander-in-Chief. On some future day he hopes to have the honour of serving with the “Berkshire”\* Regiment, being assured that the gallant conduct which has so often distinguished them in the field, will add resplendency to the British arms on whatever service they may be sent.”

The 66th arrived at Portsmouth on the 24th October,

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\* This is the first time the County title is mentioned in the Regimental Records.



1802, and, four days later, received orders to proceed to Jersey, where it landed on the 3rd November, and occupied Fort Henry and the Granville Barracks. At Jersey the regiment remained for eleven months, enjoying a well-earned rest after the vicissitudes and perils of a long tour of foreign service.

In the spring of 1803, the arrogance and duplicity of that military autocrat, Bonaparte, first Consul of the French Republic, brought about a rupture of the Peace of Amiens, and hostilities so lately interrupted broke out afresh; war with France being formally declared on the 18th May, 1803.

(Whatever reverses and humiliations other nations had suffered at the hands of victorious France, England, at all events, had more than held her own, both by sea and land; and the British were naturally exceedingly sensitive on the slightest supposition of inferiority to their ancient enemy; it is therefore not surprising that Bonaparte's insolent and contemptuous treatment of the British Ambassador, Lord Whitworth, aroused the indignation of the country. The most animated feelings of patriotism were now exhibited by the nation at large, and Parliament readily responded to the King's request that the army should be considerably increased. Recruiting was carried on with unexampled despatch, and many Line regiments were ordered to raise additional battalions.)

The 66th was one of the corps required to raise a second battalion, and a War Office letter (dated 18th August, 1803) to that effect was addressed to Lord Clanricarde, as Colonel of the regiment. A second battalion, 1,100

strong, was rapidly raised, chiefly by drafts from the army of Reserve, and Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Benson was placed in temporary command. The ten senior captains, twelve lieutenants and eight ensigns of the regiment remained with the 1st battalion, the rest of the officers joined the 2nd battalion.

On the 24th September, 1803, the 66th moved from Jersey to Winchester, arriving at that town on the 4th October.





## Chapter 2.

1804-1817.—Services of 1st Battalion—Embark for Ceylon—Services in that Island, and on the Madras Coast—Moved to Bengal—The Nepaulese War—Embark for St. Helena.



N January, 1804, it was intimated to the Regiment that the 1st Battalion was to be brought up to its full strength, by volunteers for unlimited service from the 2nd Battalion, prior to proceeding abroad.

The destination of the 1st Battalion was not, however, made known.

On the 3rd March, 1804, the 1st Battalion 66th Regiment left Winchester, to be billeted in the neighbouring towns during the Spring Assizes; but on the following day, orders were received at Bishop's Waltham—where the Headquarters had already arrived—for the Battalion to proceed to Portsmouth, and there embark for Ceylon, so soon as transport could be provided.

The 66th marched into Gosport—over 1000 bayonets strong—on the 6th March, and next morning, went on board the *Brunswick*, *Canton*, and *Marquis of Ely*, three merchantmen engaged in the China trade. Lieutenant-Colonel Hatton was in command of the Battalion, and Headquarters were on board the *Brunswick*.

On the 20th March, after laying off the Mother Bank for a fortnight, waiting for a fair wind, the three vessels weighed anchor, stood down Channel, and proceeded on their voyage to Trincomalee, where they arrived on the 16th July. On disembarking at Trincomalee, a portion of the Battalion was accommodated in Barracks, and the remaining companies went under canvas.

A rest of about six weeks followed the tedious voyage round the Cape, and then it was intimated to Colonel Hatton, that the Battalion must be broken up into detachments. In issuing this order, Major-General Wemyss—the commandant at Trincomalee—expressed his regret at having to separate the 66th, and also declared himself highly pleased with “the handsome and soldier-like appearance of the men.” For the next two-years-and-a-half, the Battalion was employed on detachment duty in various parts of the island of Ceylon, and also in the Madras Presidency. In the spring of 1807, Colonel Hatton returned home on leave, and Lieutenant-Colonel Blakeney took over the command.

On the 3rd September, 1807, the following Order was issued by Lieutenant-General Maitland, on the occasion of his visit of inspection at Trincomalee.

“Lieutenant-General Maitland felt great satisfaction at the whole state of the Garrison of Trincomalee and its dependencies, at his visit to that important post. His Majesty’s 66th Regiment, he is happy to observe, has not suffered by the temporary loss of that excellent officer, Colonel Hatton. The steadiness and appearance of the men is highly reputable to Lieutenant-Colonel Blakeney and the officers of the

Corps. The general character and good conduct of the officers does credit to the Regiment, and the whole state of the Regiment does honour to the Service."

In the year 1808, the history of the "Berkshire" Regiment was marked by two important events.

The 1st Battalion lost the valuable services of Lieutenant-Colonel Blakeney, who died on the 2nd July, and was succeeded in temporary command of the Battalion, by Major Charles Nicol.

Lieutenant-General Oliver Nicholls was appointed Colonel of the 66th, on the 18th July, vice Lord Clanricarde.

On the 28th July, 1809, an order was received from General Maitland, for a detachment of the 66th to embark immediately for Madras, in consequence of serious disturbances on the Coromandel coast.

In accordance with this order, Major Nicol, with 400 officers and men, went on board the H.E.I.C. ship, *Russell*, 74 guns, and sailed for Madras, touching at Jaffnapatam, en route, to pick up a company stationed there.

On arriving on the coast, the detachment was brigaded with other troops, under command of Colonel Conran, and marched towards Hyderabad. Conran advanced with his little force as far as Gooty, a distance of 350 miles, when he received intelligence of the suppression of the disturbances, and the "Ceylon Brigade" was ordered back to Madras.

Major Nicol and his detachment then returned to Ceylon, reaching Trincomalee on New Year's day, 1810.

Soon after they rejoined, General Maitland again visited Trincomalee, and was so much pleased with the appearance and conduct of the troops, but more especially with the detachment that had lately been employed in Madras, that he gave an entertainment to the Garrison; half the non-commissioned officers and men being kept off duty one day, and half the next.

The 66th remained in Ceylon until the spring of 1814, when, on the 12th April, it embarked, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel John Wardell, for Bengal.

A highly complimentary order was promulgated by the commandant of the Trincomalee Garrison, previous to their departure.

“Major-General Jackson has to express his high approbation and thanks to Lieutenant-Colonel Wardell, and the officers and men of his Regiment, for their military appearance, and exemplary conduct on all occasions. His hearty wishes for their prosperity are ensured by that steadiness and discipline which universally prevails amongst them.”

The Battalion arrived at Fort William, Bengal, on the 27th April, and there remained until the summer of 1815.

Since the autumn of 1814, the attention of the Indian Government had been engrossed by the Nepaulese war, which had been carried on more or less successfully,—but with heavy loss to the British troops—by Ochterlony, Marley, and the gallant Rollo Gillespie.

The hardy Ghoorkas fought with courage and determination, but were compelled to retire towards their

mountain fastnesses; and having been several times defeated, the Kadji Ameer Sing sued for peace. After much delay and prolonged discussion, Colonel Bradshaw on behalf of the Governor General, and Bam Sak Chantra, and a Brahmin, Gaj Raj Misr, acting for the Nepaulese, signed a treaty of peace, and every warlike preparation was thought to be at an end, but the Ghoorka Rajah's object had been to gain time, and he suddenly repudiated the treaty entered upon by Bam Sak Chantra and his brother envoy, and refused to be bound by its terms.

War was again declared, and active measures taken to bring the Nepaulese Potentate to reason.

On the 27th June, 1815, the 66th was ordered to march from Fort William to Cawnpore, so soon as it should be relieved by the 53rd Shropshire Regiment.

On the 30th an order was received changing its destination to Dinapore. The Battalion embarked at Fort William on the 9th August, and proceeded up the Hooghly in boats to Dinapore. The distance from Fort William to Dinapore by land is 400 miles, but by river, it is close upon 600 miles, and the 66th did not arrive there until the 19th September.

The next six weeks were spent in preparations for the expected campaign, and all ranks looked forward to the prospect of active service.

On the 1st November, the 66th, one battalion of Native Infantry, and a force of artillery, quitted Dinapore, and marched towards the Frontier.

Crossing the Ganges they proceeded to Mirzapore, and after an easy and pleasant march of ten days' duration,

arrived at Amowah, where the troops destined to force the mountain passes and penetrate to Katmandoo, the Nepaulese capital, were to rendezvous.

Colonel Kelly of H.M. 24th Regiment was in command at Amowah.

Amowah was about thirty-five miles from the great forest of Nepaul, in rear of which were the strong forts and stockades of the enemy, erected on hills whose summits were lost in the clouds. In the distance could be seen the lofty, snow-clad Himalayan mountains, towering above the hills. The camp was pitched in a healthy and picturesque spot; the regular rows of white tents standing in well-wooded glades, that sloped down to, and surrounded a magnificent lake, covered with wild fowl.

After a fortnight's rest in this beautiful place, the troops struck their tents, and continued the march. On the 25th November they crossed the Segouta river, and next day encamped near Alowne.

On the 28th they reached Bulwee, a desolate and uninteresting village, twenty-five miles from Amowah, when a halt was ordered to allow the 87th Royal Irish Fusiliers and some Native Infantry to come up.

On the 8th December, Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Nicol arrived from England, and resumed command of the Battalion.

General Sir David Ochterlony had now joined the army, and was ready to take the field. He had at his command close upon 17,000 men, including a strong force of artillery under Major George Mason, of the H.E.I. Company's service, and a few squadrons of



"Rohilla" irregular cavalry. Captain Watson was Assistant-Adjutant-General, and Lieutenant Joshua Pickersgill, Assistant-Quarter-master-General, and Chief of the Intelligence Department. The infantry, consisting of three British regiments of the line and 6000 native troops, was divided into four brigades, commanded respectively by Lieutenant-Colonels, W. Kelly, H.M. 24th, Charles Nicol, H.M. 66th, Francis Miller, H.M. 87th, and Brigadier Dick, a "Company's" officer.

Kelly, Nicol, and Miller, had each his own regiment, and two or more battalions of natives in their respective brigades. Dick commanded three battalions of Sepoys.

Sir David Ochterlony ("ould Maloney," as the Irish soldiers loved to call him,) soon arranged his preliminary movements, and Kelly's brigade moved on Bugwanpore, while the 3rd and 4th brigades remained with the General. The 2nd brigade, consisting of the 66th and five Sepoy battalions, under Brigadier Charles Nicol, left the camp on the 3rd February, 1816, and marched on Ramnuggur, where they arrived on the 6th.

Here Nicol halted for some days, in order to allow a commissariat train from Bettiah to join him.

The advance was continued on the 13th February, when the 66th and their Sepoy comrades marched to an old and very sacred pagoda, known as Maha Juggee, situated on a precipitous hill. Three days were spent in fortifying the pagoda, which was garrisoned by a force of 300 men with two guns, so that communications with Sir David might be kept up, and the commissariat convoys coming by that route, protected.

On the 17th, Nicol left Maha Juggee, and led his

brigade through the dense forest, entering the Bicknee Pass on the same day, without being opposed by the enemy.

The Bicknee Pass was simply a deep, stony, "nullah" or dry river bed, varying from fifty to one hundred yards in breadth; the banks were high and steep, covered with thick underwood, and topped on either side with well grown trees, whose trunks and dense foliage afforded excellent cover for hidden foes.

Colonel Nicol took every precaution to guard against a surprise, and ordered the light companies of battalions to feel their way along the wooded banks, whilst the main body of the brigade advanced slowly up the boulder-strewn pass.

In this order the brigade moved forward, every officer and man on the alert, expecting each minute to hear the hoarse war cries of the hardy Ghoorkas.

For three days Nicol and his men marched through a most difficult country, meeting with no opposition from the enemy, although "Dame Nature" threw almost insurmountable obstacles in their way; for as they went, the 66th and their brethren-in-arms had to widen and improve goat tracks, and make roads where roads had never before existed.

On the 20th February it was reported that the Ghoorkas were in force in a stockade not far distant. An advanced party was pushed forward to reconnoitre, when it was discovered that the enemy had abandoned their work and retired further into the country.

The fact was, that Sir David Ochterlony with the other columns had completely turned the Bicknee Pass,

which if properly defended could only have been forced with great difficulty and severe loss.

The brigade passed through the deserted stockade on the 23rd; it was judiciously placed and very strong, and would have proved a troublesome place to carry by assault.

As the troops advanced the Ghoorkas retreated, but many of the peasantry returned to their homes, when they saw that their lives and property were respected by the invaders.

Having crossed the first range of hills skirting the Himalayas, Colonel Nicol descended into a well-cultivated valley, watered by the Rapte, a tributary of the Ganges.

The Fort of Eckore and several of the enemy's hill strongholds were now in sight; and two Native battalions with a few field-pieces, were detached from the brigade, and left to garrison Jowannie, a village not far from Eckore.

The remainder of the brigade then proceeded along the beautiful banks of the Rapte, whose sinuous course rendered it very often necessary for the troops to cross the stream during their march.

Nature here seemed to surpass herself, and the "Berkshire" men were greatly struck with the strange beauty of the country through which they were passing.

The magnificent fruit-laden trees, the variegated shrubs, the birds of gay plumage which darted amongst the rich foliage, and the bands of chattering monkeys clinging to the branches and swinging from bough to bough, combined to excite the surprise and admiration of the British soldiers, and even the Sepoys—accustomed as they were

to tropical profusion—appeared impressed with the grandeur of the scenery.

On the 1st March, the brigade encamped near Hettorah, where Colonel Nicol received a note from Sir David, giving a brief account of a sharp skirmish that had taken place on the previous day, in which the Ghoorkas were worsted, but not without loss to the British, who had Lieutenant Turrell of the 20th Native Infantry killed, and two other officers severely wounded. The General also requested Colonel Nicol to join him as soon as possible. The brigade marched at once, and arrived at Muckwanpore—where the army, with the exception of Colonel Kelly's command, was now assembled—on the 3rd March.

There had been another smart affair the day before, on a ridge of high hills close to the camp, when the Ghoorkas, who had fought with great bravery, were defeated and driven from part of their position by the Light Company of the 87th Fusiliers. In this skirmish, Ensign John Shipp, of the 87th, attacked and slew in single combat a distinguished "sobah," or chieftain, named Khissna Rhannah Bahador, who was said to be the identical personage who planned and executed the atrocious massacre at Summanpore and Persah, the previous season.

The 66th were much chagrined at being too late to participate in this affair, but as the enemy were still entrenched on the further and more inaccessible part of the heights, they hoped to have an opportunity of meeting them at closer quarters before long.

The arrival of Nicol's brigade was most opportune,

for the Ghoorkas had been preparing to attack the 87th, but the sight of fresh troops, who had pierced through their valleys, by roads and passes hitherto deemed impenetrable, perplexed and disconcerted them.

A road was now commenced up the steep side of the hill, and during the afternoon four companies of the 66th, a battalion of Native Grenadiers, and half-a-battery of 6-pounders, under Major Carlyon, were marched to the summit.

Next morning the remainder of the 66th was sent up, as there came a report that the enemy were approaching in force. The troops kept the ridge of the hills, marching cautiously in an easterly direction, until they reached a spot where the pioneers were throwing up some earth-works and a 4-gun battery. This battery appeared, at first sight, to be about 1,000 yards from the Ghoorkas first stockade, but it was presently discovered that the enemy had a second work some 500 yards more in advance.

In the evening a "Vakeel," or envoy, passed through on his way from the enemy's camp to the General, and in an hour or so he returned. Shortly after this, an order was issued forbidding the men to fire, except in retaliation, before 10 a.m. next day. The troops accordingly lay in the trenches during the night, fully accoutered, and with bayonets fixed.

The preparation for immediate action, and the sight of the Ghoorkas so close at hand, produced intense excitement amongst the troops of Nicol's brigade.

The 66th were especially anxious to have a brush with the enemy, and every man was on the *qui vive*; flints were carefully adjusted, cartridges arranged;

and in breathless expectation they waited for the morrow.

The Battalion—which mustered 900 bayonets, and was in splendid condition—had, since its arrival in India, been often tantalized with the prospect of a fight, but had hitherto been disappointed; but now the men felt certain that their hopes would be realized, for the enemy were within pistol-shot, and the first dawn of day would assuredly be the signal for an attack.

So ardently did the “Berkshires” long to meet the foe, that, during the night, several sick men stole away from the hospital tent, and, clambering up the hill, joined their comrades; only four invalids remained in the tent, and these were unable to rise to their feet.

But once again the Corps was doomed to be disappointed!

The Vakeel who had passed through the camp on the previous evening, was the bearer of the acceptance of the terms of peace offered by Sir David Ochterlony to the Nepaulese Government; and next morning the brigade retired from the hills, and marched into camp in the plain below.

On the 8th March, the return march to Dinapore was commenced.

The excitement had hitherto been so great and the desire to engage the enemy so absorbing, that the soldiers had scarcely felt the fatigue, privations and hardships they had undergone; in short their indomitable energy had made them almost proof against sickness and exposure.

But now a reaction took place, and the 66th had

barely turned their backs upon the hills of Nepaul, when severe disease broke out amongst the men. On the 16th March the brigade arrived at Bettiah, where it was broken up; and the regiment marched on to Dinapore, arriving there on the 28th.

The following is an extract from the Governor-General's Order in Council, published at the termination of the war:—

“The zeal, judgment, and energy of Major-General Sir David Ochterlony, have been brilliantly conspicuous in the late operations. . . . Brigadier Kelly, by the able and gallant manner in which he achieved the arduous task assigned him, and Brigadier Nicol, by the judicious and active management of his column, have entitled themselves to a distinction beyond the praise of this order, which they share in common with the rest of the army, and the Governor-General in Council assures them that he duly estimates their exertions.”

Sir David Ochterlony, too, was warm in his praise of Colonel Nicol and the 2nd Brigade. In a General Order, dated 5th April, 1816, he says:—

“In the conduct of the Western Column, firmness, decision, mildness and humanity were required, and these qualities were eminently shown, as occasion called for them, by Colonel Nicol. But the Major-General's thanks are more particularly due for the zeal and anxiety by which his long and fatiguing marches were conducted, to join the Headquarters at a moment when the services of his brigade were most useful and necessary.”

The above account, together with Sir David Ochterlony's remarks, tend to show, that, although Nicol's Brigade was never actually engaged with the Ghoorkas, their great exertions were not made in vain, for there can be little doubt that their advent at Headquarters at Muckwanpore, on the morning of 3rd March, had a great moral effect upon the enemy, and in no small degree influenced his decision to sue for peace.

We may remark, with reference to the Nepaulese towns, villages, and other places mentioned above, that no two accounts of the campaign agree in the manner of spelling their names.

The 66th remained at Dinapore until the 3rd July, when they embarked in boats on the river Ganges, for conveyance to Cawnpore.

At this season of the year, the Ganges is usually very low, and the stench from all manner of decaying matter—animal and vegetable—lying on its banks and in shallow water is simply unbearable.

The battalion was exposed to this unhealthy effluvia during the whole of the passage to Cawnpore.

On arriving at Cawnpore no barracks were ready, and the men had to remain on board the boats for nearly a fortnight. The result was that a deadly fever broke out and carried off numbers of the battalion.

The 66th was stationed at Cawnpore for nearly six months, during which period they suffered severely from sickness; and at one time upwards of 300 men were in hospital. On the 19th January, 1817, the battalion left Cawnpore and proceeded to Calcutta, orders having been received for its removal to the Island of St. Helena.



Calcutta was reached on the 15th March, and the battalion marched into Fort William, where it was to be quartered until embarkation.

On the 16th March, an order was issued, of which the following is an extract :—

“The Commander-in-Chief takes this occasion to record his fullest approbation and applause of the discipline and conduct of this highly distinguished and truly efficient corps, since its arrival in India, both in the field and in quarters; and although the stay of the regiment in this country has been but short—which His Excellency has reason to regret—yet it has been sufficient to afford the strongest assurance of its value in His Majesty’s army, and its loss to the general service of India.”

On the 24th March, 1817, the 66th marched out of Fort William, and proceeded down the river to Saugur, where the vessels, which were to convey it to St. Helena, were laying. The battalion embarked on the 1st April on board of the *Dora* (Hd. Qrs. ship), the *Moir*, and the *Catherine Griffiths*.

The *Moir* and *Catherine Griffiths* anchored at St. Helena towards the latter end of June, but the *Dorah* having run short of water, had to put into Port Louis, Isle of France, and did not reach her destination until the 5th July.

The disembarkation took place on the 18th, and the men marched into quarters; five companies going to \*Deadwood, three to Francis Plain, and two remaining in James Town.

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\* ? Longwood.

On the 24th July, an Order was issued at the Horse Guards to the effect that the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 66th should be incorporated.

The establishment of the Regiment at that date was 51 officers, 125 non-commissioned officers, 22 drummers, and 1,140 privates. By an Order dated 23rd November, 1818, the establishment was reduced to 39 officers, 65 non-commissioned officers, 22 drummers, and 620 privates.

This Order was notified to the Regiment at St. Helena, on the 16th March, 1819.





## Chapter 3.

1804-1809.—Services of 2nd Battalion—Stationed in Ireland until 1809—Embark on active Service—Arrival in Portugal—March from Lisbon to Coimbra—The advance on Oporto—The passage of the Douro—Anecdote.



URING the early spring of 1804, the 2nd Battalion of the 66th Regiment, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Peter, embarked for Ireland, and landing at Cork in the month of March, went into quarters at the Geneva Barracks.

During the years 1805-6-7, the battalion was stationed in the South of Ireland. In June 1808, it was encamped on the Curragh of Kildare; and when the Camp at the Curragh broke up, it marched to Dublin, and there remained until the spring of the following year.

About this time, the enthusiasm for the liberation of the Peninsula, then prevalent throughout Great Britain, was increased by the disasters that had befallen our forces in Spain, and the death of the gallant Sir John Moore at Corunna. There appeared to be a general desire that immediate steps should be taken to drive the French out of Spain, and avenge the losses that Moore's army had sustained during the terrible retreat from Sahagun.

This feeling was particularly strong amongst all ranks in the Service, and it was therefore with genuine satisfaction that the 66th received notice that it had been specially selected to form part of the Division, destined to embark for Lisbon, under Major-General Rowland Hill.

Though but lately raised, the 2nd Battalion was in a most efficient condition; the officers were young, active, high-spirited men; the non-commissioned-officers and privates, able-bodied, well disciplined, and fit for any service.

Under command of Major Murray, the 66th, mustering 720 bayonets, with a full complement of officers, left the Irish Metropolis and proceeded to Cork, from whence they were to sail for Portugal. During the march, a gloom was cast over the whole battalion, by the untimely death of Major Richard Lloyd, a very popular and able officer, who was accidentally drowned whilst bathing. On arrival at Cork, the battalion at once went on board ship, but the transports did not weigh anchor for some days.

The late Colonel Clark of the 66th, in his (manuscript) "Reminiscences of the Peninsula," describes the embarkation and subsequent march to Coimbra.

"In June, 1808, I got my ensigncy, and after spending seven months in Dublin garrison, the Regiment, with several others, got orders to march for Cork. We embarked at the Cove of Cork on the 10th of March, 1809, under command of Rowland Hill, our entire force being about 5000 men. On the 4th April, we entered the Tagus, disembarked at Belem on the 6th, and marched on the 8th, taking the northern route towards Oporto. Most of the officers carried a

small oil-skin knapsack, containing a couple of shirts, stockings, and a change of boots; as to dressing cases, but few of us required a *razor*! Our route lay over part of the ground on which the battle of Vimiera had been fought, and we passed through the old towns of Leira and Alcobasca. Our force was concentrated at Coimbra, where we remained until Sir Arthur Wellesley took command of the army."

By the end of the first week in May, Sir Arthur Wellesley had collected his forces upon the Mondego, near to Pombal and Coimbra, and found himself at the head of 13,000 British, 9000 Portuguese, and 3000 Hanoverians. On the 7th May he gave orders for the army to march on Oporto, which was held by the French, under Marshal Soult, Duke of Dalmatia.

General Hill's division,\* (to which the 66th was attached), advanced upon Aveiro, while Sir Arthur, with the rest of the army, marched by the direct road on Vouga. On the 10th May, Hill embarked his division at Aveiro in boats, to cross lake Ovarre, and at a place called Erigo, his advance guard encountered a body of the enemy's cavalry under Franceschi. A slight skirmish—in which the Light Company of the 66th took part—ensued, and the French retired, but were briskly pursued. Next day, after a long and fatiguing march over a sandy country, Hill's Division reached the left bank of the Douro, and, having taken up a position opposite to, and about 9 miles from Oporto, bivouacked for the night.

"During the night," writes Colonel Clark, "our

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\* General Hill was nominally Brigadier of the 1st Brigade, 3rd Division; but as a matter of fact he commanded the whole Division.

bivouac was disturbed by a tremendous noise accompanied by what some deemed a shock of earthquake. We marched soon after, and arrived early in the day, (12th,) at Villa Nuova, a suburb of Oporto, on the left bank of the Douro; it is a large place, and contains the chief stores of the Oporto Wine Company. We soon learnt the cause of the noise during the night; the French had blown up the bridge, and used a great quantity of powder in the operation."

Early next morning, the 66th entered Villa Nuova, and halted in the streets to await orders.

The opposing armies were now face to face, but having destroyed the bridge, Soult considered himself secure from any attack on his front and right. A deep, swift river, more than 300 yards wide, and guarded by a Corps d'Armée of Veterans, would have proved an impassable obstacle to most men, but Sir Arthur Wellesley determined to make the attempt, and set about to find means of crossing the Douro. By a fortunate chance Colonel Waters, of the Staff, discovered that a barber of Oporto had eluded the vigilance of the French, and come over in a skiff the previous night, and that his boat was concealed among the rushes. The little craft was dragged from its hiding place, and Waters, accompanied by the Prior of Amaranthe, rowed across to the opposite bank, and there found three barges, which he succeeded in bringing away without attracting attention.

At 10 a.m., (12th May, 1809), Colonel Waters reported that one boat was ready. "Well, let the men cross," was Sir Arthur's laconic order; and an officer and twenty-five men of the 3rd Buffs (which Regiment, together

with the 48th, was brigaded with the 66th,) silently entered the barge, were rowed across unperceived by the enemy, and immediately possessed themselves of a large detached building on the Vallonga road, called the "Seminary." This building was easily approached from the river, but on the land side, it was surrounded by a high wall, pierced with one gateway; the "Seminary" commanded all the country on the north bank of the Douro, but was itself commanded by the Sierra Rock on the Villa Nuova, or south side; and here, Sir Arthur had eighteen guns placed in battery.

The banks of the Douro being steep and precipitous, and the point of crossing concealed from the city by a bend of the river, the enemy remained in ignorance of the daring manœuvre for some little time; and the light companies of the 3rd, 48th and 66th regiments had crossed and occupied the Seminary before the alarm was given. But as the fourth boat—in which was Lieutenant General Paget—was making the passage, the alarm was given, and presently General Foy, with the 17th Voltigeurs, rushed from out the city to drive the British back. Foy was soon reinforced by Mermet's brigade, and the Seminary was furiously attacked.

General Paget fell badly wounded, and Rowland Hill assumed the command. More troops were ferried across to the assistance of their comrades, who were contending against terrible odds, and in a short time Hill had the whole of the three battalions of his brigade within the walls of the Seminary.

The ground to the west of the building was completely swept by the battery on the Sierra Rock, so the French

were forced to confine their attack to the face farthest removed from its fire, which Hill defended with obstinacy.

The arrival of fresh troops enabled a portion of the brigade to assume the offensive, and advance against a 7-gun battery, which they carried in the face of a withering fire of grape and musketry. Here the Light Company of the 66th captured and brought off a beautiful brass field-piece. Shortly after noon, the French evacuated the lower town of Oporto, and the inhabitants rushing down to the now unguarded quays, jumped into boats and rowed across to the south bank.

Sherbrooke's Brigade of Guards at once went over in these boats; and almost at the same time General Murray—who had crossed the river at the ferry at Avintas, three miles up stream—was seen advancing down the right bank with the German Brigade and the 14th Light Dragoons.

All was now over; the French broke and retired in confusion along the Vallonga road, and that afternoon the British troops entered Oporto, and were received with every manifestation of joy by the delighted citizens.

In this action the French lost 500 men and 5 guns, (one of which was taken by the 66th) in the field, besides leaving 50 guns, a quantity of military stores, and all their sick at Oporto. The British casualties numbered 115 killed and wounded; the 66th alone lost 35 men, or nearly one-third of the total. Three officers of the Regiment—Major Murray, Captain Benning and Lieutenant Farr—were amongst the wounded.\*

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\* The above account of the passage of the Douro is taken from the M.S. Records of the 66th, and Clarke's "Reminiscences"; Colonel Clarke was then a Subaltern in the Light Company.



Sir Arthur Wellesley thanked the Brigade on the spot for its conduct on this occasion, and that same evening issued the following Order:—

“G.O., Oporto, 12th May, 1809. The Commander of the Forces congratulates the troops upon the success that has attended the operations of the last four days; during which they have traversed above 80 miles of most difficult country, have carried some formidable positions, have beaten the enemy repeatedly, and have ended by forcing the passage of the Douro and defending the position so boldly taken, with a number far inferior to that by which they were attacked. In the course of this short expedition the Commander of the Forces has had repeated opportunities of witnessing and applauding the gallantry of the officers and men.”

Colonel Clarke, in his “Reminiscences,” relates a ludicrous incident that occurred during the march to Oporto. He says—

“From the time we left Lisbon we had experienced the greatest kindness from the Portuguese. In passing through the towns we were not allowed to halt, but the ladies would run out and fill our hands with cakes and sweetmeats. The day before entering Oporto, I carried the “King’s Colour,” my brother ensign being a young and very handsome lad. A number of good-looking girls were standing in the road-way with pitchers of water, ready to give a drink to our thirsty soldiers; as the colour-party passed, a fine, handsome woman suddenly pressed forward, and seizing my astonished comrade in her arms, kissed him on both cheeks. Her act seemed infectious, for in an instant the young

ensign was surrounded by a score of Portuguese lasses who embraced him again and again. The roars of laughter that greeted this extraordinary display of good feeling for the British troops, attracted the attention of our Commanding Officer, and he came galloping up to enquire the cause of the disturbance; a glance showed him the state of the case, and he too joined, good-humouredly, in the laugh against the embarrassed subaltern."





## Chapter 4.

1809-10—Services of 2nd Battalion continued—Pursuit of Soult—Return to Oporto—Encamped at Abrantes—Attached to the 2nd Division—Position of the French Army Corps—The Advance into Spain—Don Gregorio de Cuesta—The Battle of Talavera.



THE 66th marched with the rest of brigade in pursuit of the enemy, and entered the ancient city of Braga on the 15th. It was now known that Soult had succeeded in leading his demoralized forces into Spain, and joining Ney at Lugo. During his flight he abandoned nearly all his artillery, stores and baggage, and reached Lugo in a deplorable plight. In fact the retreat of Soult from Oporto was to the full as disastrous as that of Sir John Moore to Corunna, six months before, and it was generally felt that the honour of the British army had been vindicated, and Moore amply avenged. The Regiment was billeted at Braga for a few days, and then returned to Oporto. From Oporto the British forces marched to Coimbra, and from thence—over a wild, desolate country, covered with thick, resinous undergrowth—to Abrantes, a fortified town in Estramadura, on the banks of the Tagus. Here the army encamped on an extensive plain on the south bank of the river.

While at Abrantes, the different Brigades of the army were reformed into Divisions: the brigade to which the 66th belonged was attached to the 2nd Division, the command of which was given to Major-General Rowland Hill. The brigade was commanded by Brigadier Tilson.

At this period the several French Army Corps were distributed as follows:—Soult and Ney—who had been driven out of Portugal and Galicia—were in the north of Spain, with some 60,000 troops; Suchet and St. Cyr held Arragon and Catalonia, but were fully occupied in holding their own against the Spanish patriots of those provinces; Joseph Bonaparte and Marshal Jourdain were in the neighbourhood of Madrid; Sebastian held La Mancha; and Marshal Victor with 23,000 men, was at Merida, a fortified town situated at the confluence of the rivers Guadiana and Matachel, in the province of Estramadura. After much deliberation, Sir Arthur Wellesley resolved to co-operate with the Spanish forces under Cuesta, (then occupying the left bank of the Tagus, in the vicinity of Almaraz) and advance against Madrid.

The camp near Abrantes was broken up in June, 1809, and Sir Arthur Wellesley, at the head of 22,000 men, marched for the Spanish frontier.

The 66th, under Captain Kelly, left Abrantes with their brigade on the 27th, and traversing a rocky, barren tract of country, halted near the village of Garia. After a brief rest, the march was resumed, the Tagus was crossed—by means of a flying-bridge—at Villa Vilha, and the following day the army entered Spain.

On the 20th July, Sir Arthur effected a junction at Oropesa with the Spanish General, Cuesta, who had with

him 32,000 foot, 6,000 horse, and 46 guns. The Spaniards were half-clad, indifferently armed, and badly disciplined; their leader, Don Gregorio de Cuesta, possessed in no ordinary degree the worst characteristics of the typical Spanish Hidalgo—arrogance, obstinacy and indolence; moreover he was old and infirm, and not particularly scrupulous. From the very first de Cuesta threw every obstacle in Sir Arthur's way, and treated him with petulant insolence. A grand review of the British troops was held on the 22nd, on which occasion General Cuesta appeared in an odd-looking vehicle drawn by a team of Mules. After the review the combined armies moved to Talavera-de-la-Reyna, and encamped close to the town.

Marshal Victor had warned Joseph Bonaparte that Madrid would be probably threatened by the Allies, and the soi-disant King, alarmed for the safety of the capital, called in all his detached troops, placed Marshal Jourdain in command, and prepared to face the enemy.

Talavera stands on the right bank of the Tagus, and is surrounded by vineyards, cork plantations and enclosures. The Alberche, a tributary of the Tagus, flows near the town; and at a distance of about two miles a chain of steep hills runs parallel to the Tagus; beyond these hills, and separated from them by a deep and rugged valley, is a mountain range which divides the Alberche from the Tietar.

The Anglo-Spanish position extended from Talavera to the heights on the west. The Spanish troops were posted on the right, which rested on the town, their front being covered by a convent and some hastily-thrown-up entrenchments; their left was protected by a mound

upon which was a large redoubt; in rear of this mound a brigade of British cavalry was posted.

Campbell's Division touched the Spanish left, then came the Guards, and next to them Mackenzie's Division. The 2nd Division with two brigades of artillery, occupied an isolated hill, on the extreme left of the line; this point was deemed the key of the whole position.

The French advanced early on the morning of the 27th, and fording the Alberche, attacked Mackenzie's Division, which was posted at the Casa de Salinas, and had not yet got into line. Taken by surprise and hotly pressed, Mackenzie retired in some disorder. His retreat was covered by the 45th Regiment and some companies of the 5th, or Rifle, Battalion of the 60th, led by Sir Arthur Wellesley in person. Mackenzie's Division then took up its allotted place in the line. In the meantime the French light cavalry under Milhaud made a demonstration against the Spaniards, who fired one volley, broke their ranks and fled, headed by Don Gregorio de Cuesta himself. Sir Arthur brought up some British cavalry to flank them, and the fire of two or three batteries checked the enemy; Cuesta recovered his senses, succeeded in stopping the stampede and induced the fugitives to return to their position.

Observing the confusion which now existed on the right of the allied position, Marshal Victor—who had marched to the assistance of King Joseph—thought that a smart attack upon their left just before nightfall, might probably terminate the action, and gain him the exclusive glory of winning the day; he—without communicating with Joseph or his brother Marshal—accordingly gave

orders for an assault to be made upon Rowland Hill's position.

It was nearly dark, and the "Bufs," 48th and 66th, with the other regiments of the 2nd Division, were resting on the summit of the hill, ready for action, when the tramp of men ascending the hill was heard. The sentinels challenged, and a hoarse voice replied that the new-comers were some of the German Legion. Upon this Rowland Hill and his Brigade-Major, Fordyce, rode forward, only to find themselves in the midst of the French. Several shots were fired, Fordyce fell dead and the General's horse was wounded. A grenadier rushed forward and seized his bridle, but, putting spurs to his horse, General Hill rode over his would-be captor, and galloped off to the 29th Regiment.

A number of the enemy had now penetrated to the British lines, some of them crying out that they were Germans, others Spaniards. But the men of the 2nd Division were on the alert, and met their adversaries at the point of the bayonet. A fierce hand-to-hand fight ensued; muskets were clubbed, shots fired at close quarters, and the cold steel used with deadly effect. The British disputed every inch of ground, but, outnumbered by their assailants, were gradually giving way, when a loud cheer was heard, followed by a crashing volley, and Rowland Hill at the head of the gallant 29th, charged up the height and fell upon the enemy, who turned and fled down the hill in disorder.

The light companies of battalions were now extended along the front, and the troops sat down with their firelocks at hand, to wait for dawn of day. About

midnight, the Spaniards gave a false alarm, and kept up a musketry fire for some time, which had the effect of putting everyone on the *qui vive*, without doing much harm to the enemy. About 5 a.m. Victor resolved to renew the attack, and sent to Joseph to request that Sebastiani should be ordered to support him.

Colonel Clarke gives the following account of this second assault.

“Shortly before dawn on the morning of the 29th, we could distinguish the dark masses of the enemy stationed along our front, their guns in battery. The country was clear of wood, but broken by fissures, the bed of a small stream lay between the two armies. Suddenly, a gun was fired from the centre of the French line, the roar of artillery immediately followed, and their columns under cover of this fire, advanced to the attack. A few moments before the firing commenced, the covering-sergeants of our Brigade of Guards took up their distance in the line, and the companies moved on their coverers. But the march of the enemy was rapid, and the shells falling so thickly, caused the Guards to get into confusion. The French saw their advantage and rushed on cheering; but their triumph was short, for the 1st Battalion of the 48th charged, and drove them like dust before the wind. We had just time to witness this before our turn came. Our orders were to lie down behind the ridge until the enemy's column had gained the top, then to rise, deliver a volley, and charge. I was sent to the summit by the commanding officer to let him know where the enemy were, and returned with the



intelligence that a strong column was only fifty yards off. 'Ready men,' was scarcely uttered, when a shell fell at my feet; I threw myself on the ground, and it instantly exploded. The commanding officer was wounded in the arm, my brother subaltern had his right arm carried off, two men were killed, and several wounded. But there was no time to spare; the volley was delivered, and we rushed on them with the bayonet. At first, they appeared as if they would stand the charge, but when we closed, they wavered, then turned and ran down the hill in the wildest confusion. The Commander-in-Chief with his staff, was close to me; as the enemy's column advanced, a French officer rushed to the front, fired a pistol into the group, and fell himself, covered with wounds.

"After this affair, the enemy retired to their position of the morning, and we sat down amidst the dying and the dead; those who were so fortunate as to have a crust, and a little wine in their calabashes, took a little, and shared with those around."

About 10 a.m., Marshal Victor held a council of war with his colleagues. The King and Jourdain wished to postpone any further operation until the arrival of Mortier with fresh troops, but the gallant Victor, undaunted by his double repulse, over-ruled them, and it was decided to make a general assault, from right to left, on the allied position.

During this brief cessation of hostilities, the tired soldiers of both armies rushed down to the stream to drink; and, separated only by the narrow brook, the men who had been engaged in mortal combat, now met

one another in perfect amity, and shared the contents of their canteens, and exchanged friendly (though probably unintelligible) greetings, until the roll of the drum, and shrill blast of the bugle recalled them to their respective regiments.

Sir Arthur had in the meanwhile occupied the ravine with his cavalry, and Bassecour's Spanish infantry.

Towards 4 o'clock the French renewed hostilities, and their columns of attack advanced in splendid style.

General Sebastiani with the Grenadiers of the Imperial Guard, Villatte's and Ruffin's Divisions, and two regiments of Chasseurs-à-Cheval, was seen advancing upon the British left. The 23rd Light Dragoons and 1st German Hussars went off at a canter, to charge the head of these columns, but suddenly came upon a deep dry water course. Arentschild, who led the Germans, halted his men on the very brink; but the 23rd continued their course, and rolled down the chasm in a confused mass. The survivors scrambled out, re-formed, charged right through Villatte's Division, and found themselves confronted by a brigade of Polish Lancers and Westphalian Light Horse. The gallant 23rd, unable to make any stand against this powerful body of cavalry, were forced to retreat in hot haste, leaving 207 officers and men on the field, victims of their glorious, but reckless charge.

Whilst Villatte engaged the British cavalry, Sebastiani with his Grenadiers advanced against Hill's position, covered by a cloud of tirailleurs and by a heavy artillery fire. But as the tall bearskins of these picked troops appeared above the crest of the hill, they were received with a withering volley; and then, cheering as only British

soldiers can cheer, the "Buffs," 48th, 66th and other regiments of Tilson's and Stewart's Brigades, charged down the slope with an impetuosity that carried everything before it; and the Imperial Grenadiers—the corps d'elite of the French army, victors in a hundred fights—found that they had met their match, and facing about fled down the hill into the valley. The enemy had now had enough of it; even Victor confessed himself beaten, for the French had been repulsed along the whole line. Marshal Jourdain—who had from the first opposed giving battle at all—countermanded all further attacks, and ordered the whole army to retire beyond the Alberche. A desultory artillery fire was kept up for a short time, but by 10 p.m., the allies remained in possession of the field.

The 66th had 16 officers and 83 men killed and wounded at Talavera. Captain and Brevet-Lieutenant-Colonel Adams, Lieutenants Dudgeon, Steel and Cottin\* subsequently died of their wounds; Captain Stevens, Lieutenants A. Morris and Morgan, were wounded and taken prisoners. The other wounded officers were, Captain Kelly (who commanded the battalion during the action) Lieutenants Harvey, Pardy, S. Morris, Farr, Mc'Carthy, Hand, Whitney, and Morris. The total loss of the British army was 767 killed and 3,718 wounded and missing; the French had 944 killed and 6,294 wounded.

Many of the wounded perished in the field of battle after the fight was over, owing to some smouldering

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\* ? R. B. Dobbin.

cartridge-cases igniting the long dry grass ; the unhappy men were suffocated or burnt to death before they could be removed. Talavera gained Sir Arthur Wellesley a peerage, with the title of Baron Douro and Viscount Wellington. It was decidedly the most important action that had hitherto been fought in the Peninsula.

Napier says, " Hard, honest, fighting distinguished the battle of Talavera, and proved the exceeding gallantry of the French and English soldiers. The latter owed much to their leader's skill, and something to fortune ; the French owed their commanders nothing ; but 30,000 of their infantry vainly strove for three hours on the 28th to force 16,000 British soldiers, who were for the most part so recently drafted from the Militia, that many of them still bore the distinctions of that force on their accoutrements."

On the day after the battle (29th) the Light Division under General Crauford arrived at Talavera. These splendid troops had just come out from England ; on halting at Malapartida de Placentia on the previous day, Crauford heard that Sir Arthur was hard pressed, he instantly ordered the " fall in " to sound, and leaving the weakly men behind him, he pushed on for Talavera, and actually marched 62 miles in 26 hours. Only 17 men fell out during the march.

The army remained encamped at Talavera until the 3rd August, when Sir Arthur decided to fall back on Truscillo and Montego in consequence of the appearance of Soult, with Mortier and Ney, and 34,000 men in his rear.

The army commenced to retire in September, but many

of the sick and wounded had to be left at Talavera, and fell into the hands of the French.

The 2nd Division was quartered at Montego until the end of the year; it was an exceedingly unhealthy town, and the 66th—which was considered a healthy corps—lost nearly 100 men in four months.

In the month of January, 1810, the French continuing to advance, Lord Wellington fell back across the frontier into Portugal.





## Chapter 5.

1801-1811.—Services of the 2nd Battalion continued—Massena invades Portugal—Busaco—Lines of Torres Vedras—Retreat of Massena—Forward movement of the Allies—Flying Column into Andulasia—The battle of Albuhera.



N the summer of 1810, the French had 360,000 men in the Peninsula; 80,000 of these, including the Corps of Ney, Junot and Regnier, were massed at Salamanca, and Napoleon ordered Marshal Massena to assume command of this force.

Massena declared his intention of invading Portugal and driving the English into the sea. To oppose the Marshal, Wellington had only 23,000 British and 30,000 Portuguese troops; so a retreat was ordered and the Allied army retired on Busaco.

On the 27th and 28th September, an action was fought on the Sierra Busaco, in which the Allies lost 1,300 men, and Massena 4,500. The 66th were only partially engaged, but one officer, Lieutenant Fox, was killed during the fight. Wellington continued his retreat, and on the 2nd October reached the famous lines of Torres Vedras, which had been commenced in the previous December.

The 2nd Division was posted on the right of the position, the 66th occupying Alhandra, a village on the Tagus; close to their lines H.M.S. "Growler" and several gunboats were moored. During the following month, the regiment was busily engaged on the entrenchments constructing and strengthening batteries and other field-works. The lines of Torres Vedras effectually barred the further advance of Massena—who had been ignorant of their existence, when he so rashly vowed to drive Wellington out of the Peninsula. For several weeks he watched these impregnable defences, in the hope of starving his enemy into surrender; but as the Allied Army were now plentifully supplied with provisions and munitions-of-war by sea, this hope was in vain. At length Massena ("*l'enfant gâté de la victoire*," as Bonaparte dubbed him, on account of his unvarying success in the field of battle) seeing that he had no chance of forcing the lines, and that his communications with his brother-marshals were threatened by the guerillas and armed peasantry under Julian Sanchez, the "Empecinado" and other Partida Chiefs, reluctantly retired to Santarem, where he went into winter-quarters.

When Lord Wellington discovered that the French were in full retreat, he summoned his divisional leaders to Pero Negro to consult upon a forward movement, and sent a message to Admiral Berkeley to request him to provide boats to convey the troops across the Tagus, if necessary.

On the 17th November (the day after the French retreated) the 2nd Division crossed the Tagus by a pontoon-bridge, and followed the enemy to Chamusca,

where the Brigade (which was now commanded by Brigadier Colborne, and consisted of the 3rd Buffs, 31st Huntingdonshire, 48th Northamptonshire and 66th Berkshire, regiments) took up its quarters until the Spring of the new year.

On the 6th March, 1811, Massena quitted Santarem and retreated up the valley of Mondego, towards Ciudad Rodrigo. His line of retreat was marked by blood and flame, and the treatment the unhappy Portuguese experienced at the hands of the French soldiery has—to quote Lord Wellington's own words—"been seldom equalled, and never surpassed." Early in April, Massena recrossed the frontier, having lost during the invasion and retreat, by sickness and other causes, no fewer than 30,000 men.

The 2nd Division—which was at this time commanded by Marshal Beresford, General Hill being away on leave—followed in pursuit of Massena, and hanging upon his rear caused him much loss and annoyance.

In April the Division marched on Campo-Mayor, which was occupied by the enemy. As the British approached the town, the French infantry defiled out, their flanks protected by cavalry. The 13th Light Dragoons charged and cut up the enemy's horse, but rashly attacking the infantry in square they were severely handled. On the following day the Division took up a position in sight of Olivenca, and Colborne's Brigade encamped on the slope of a barren ridge, opposite a small village where the staff had taken up their quarters for the night. During the night the French cavalry surprised the 13th picket, entered the village and captured the staff-officers' horses.



The alarm was given, but the enemy made off, and escaped without loss.

Beresford continued in pursuit, and crossing the Guadiana at Valverde, marched to Almendralejo, where he halted for a few days.

On the 2nd of May, a flying column, commanded by Brigadier Colborne, and consisting of his brigade, Murillo's Spanish brigade, 2 squadrons of the 13th Light Dragoons and 3 guns, was dispatched into Andalusia to feel the enemy and ascertain his force. Having accomplished his object, Colborne retired across the Sierra Morena, and rejoined the Division at Albuhera, after marching 250 miles in 11 days.

Marshal Beresford had taken up a position on the heights of Albuhera, to cover the siege of Badajos, information having been received that Soult was advancing from Seville, at the head of 23,000 veterans, to the relief of the beleaguered fortress. Beresford's force comprised the 2nd Division and a strong body of Spanish and Portuguese troops under Blake and Castanos; in all about 32,000 men, of which number only 7,000 were British soldiers.

The Albuhera range extends for about four miles, and, being of easy ascent, is practicable for artillery and cavalry; the Albuhera and its tributary the FERIA (a mere rivulet) flow along the eastern base of the hills; above the river is situated the village of Albuhera, at the junction of the roads to Badajos and Seville, Talavera and Valverde. Near the village, on the left of the line, Colborne's Brigade was stationed; the Spanish and Portuguese held the right.

Soult arrived on the evening of May 15th, and he soon perceived that Beresford had neglected to occupy a wooded range of hills between the Albuhera and Feria. The French Marshal at once made use of this range, posting behind it a force of 15,000 men and 30 guns; of the close proximity of this force to his right wing Beresford was entirely ignorant, and only reckoned on the enemy attacking his front. The French advanced on the position early on the morning of the 16th; Godinot, with the light cavalry and ten guns, made a feint of attacking the village; whilst Soult led a heavy column of infantry supported by artillery, against the Spaniards on the right. He soon drove them from the heights, and commenced to deploy his force along the position. Colborne's Brigade was hurried up to check this movement, and had almost succeeded in driving the French Infantry back, when a strong force of Polish Lancers, and Chasseurs (which had got round the right of the line unperceived) charged the brigade in rear, and threw it into confusion.

But we will here quote Colonel Clarke, who gives a graphic account of the part played by the 66th at—

“Albuhera, fatal field of Strife!”

“On the evening of the 15th May,” the Colonel writes, “We arrived at the heights of Albuhera. After we had been a couple of hours in line, I had to parade for picket. My picket was placed in front of the bridge Albuhera—a narrow stone bridge, wide enough for two horses to walk abreast. About 8 a.m. on the 16th, the enemy sent a brigade of guns and a force of cavalry towards the bridge. The guns commenced a smart

fire and the cavalry dashed forward, as if they were going to charge the bridge. Marshal Beresford, who had come down to my picket, asked me what remarks I had been able to make during the night. I told him.

"He then asked some questions of another officer. I said to a friend, 'This is a feint, they are going to turn our right.'

"The Marshal heard me, and quickly said, 'They are going to retreat, gentlemen. I expect to attack their rear-guard by 9 o'clock.'

"A few moments after, an aide-de-camp galloped up from the right, where the Spaniards under Blake and Castanos were stationed, and Colborne's Brigade was ordered to move to the right in open column of companies at the double. The fact was, *our right was turned*. The rain was falling fast and the ground was very heavy. When near the point on which we were to form, it was perceived that we were marching rear rank in front; we countermarched, on the march, under a tremendous cannonade, and I can safely say that the movement was never better performed by the 66th on its own parade ground. Fifty yards from us was an isolated hill, its summit enveloped in a heavy fog. We wheeled into line and opened a destructive fire upon the enemy, who were in close column. The order was given to 'charge'; when quite close to the enemy the 'halt' was sounded, followed by the 'retire'; then we were again ordered to advance. At this moment the French cavalry got round to our right flank under cover of the fog. The 'Buffs' had been ordered to reform column, their right wing to cover

the rear of the Brigade; to effect this they faced about, a very dangerous manœuvre when near an enemy. The enemy's cavalry suddenly appearing in their rear, great confusion ensued. We advanced again, but at that moment a crowd of Polish Lancers and Chasseurs-à-Cheval swept along the rear of the Brigade; our men now ran into groups of six or eight, to do as best they could; the officers snatched up muskets and joined them, determined to sell their lives dearly. Quarter was not asked, and rarely given. Poor Colonel Waller, of the Quarter-Master-General's staff, was cut down close to me; he put up his hands asking for quarter, but the ruffian cut his fingers off. My Ensign, Hay, was run through the lungs by a lance which came out of his back; he fell but got up again. The Lancer delivered another thrust, the lance striking Hay's breast-bone; down he went, and the Pole rolled over in the mud beside him. In the evening I went to seek my friend, and found him sitting up to his hips in mud and water. He was quite cool and collected, and said there were many worse than him.

"The Lancers had been promised a doubloon each, if they could break the British line. In the mêlée, when mixed up with the Lancers, Chasseurs-à-Cheval and French infantry, I came into collision with a Lancer, and being knocked over was taken prisoner; an officer ordered me to be conducted to the rear. Presently a charge was made by our Dragoon Guards in which I liberated myself, and ran to join the Fusilier Brigade at the foot of the hill. When I got

close to the 7th regiment, they knelt to receive cavalry, and I threw myself down to avoid their fire, I got up, and passing through the regiment met Lieutenant Anderson carrying a colour. He said, 'I thought, my dear fellow you must have been riddled, it was only presence of mind saved you.' I went a few paces to the rear, and fell exhausted." . . . . .

In this hand-to-hand encounter, Colborne's Brigade suffered terribly; of the four regiments composing it, the 31st alone was able to form square when attacked by the cavalry; the "Bufs," 48th and 66th were nearly annihilated.

At length Brigadier Lumley, who was in the plain below, saw the desperate state of affairs, and sent four squadrons of heavy cavalry against the lancers: at the same time the 29th Foot, Houghton's Brigade and some artillery under Major Julius Hartmann came up to the assistance of their well-nigh vanquished comrades.

The fight was now continued with redoubled fury, and the carnage on both sides was awful; the regiments present had lost more than two-thirds of their men.

Marshal Beresford tried all he could to induce the Spaniards to advance; he even seized a Spanish Ensign in his powerful grasp and literally carried him, colours and all, to the front, trusting that the regiment would follow. But the recreant Spaniards remained immovable, and the Ensign ran back as soon as he was released. The ammunition now began to fail, and the British fire slackened, while another French column was established in advance upon the right flank.

Beresford saw that a retreat was absolutely imperative,

and gave the unwelcome order. But at this critical moment, Colonel Hardinge, entirely on his own responsibility, rode off to the 4th Division, which had just come up from Badajos, and induced its leader, General Cole, to advance, supported by Colonel Abercrombie with the 3rd Brigade of the 2nd Division.

Cole mounted the hill, attacked the Lancers, who were galloping about the captured guns, drove them off, recaptured the guns, and then dashed up to the right of Houghton's Brigade, just as Abercrombie passed to the front on its left.

"Such a gallant line," writes Napier, "issuing from the midst of the smoke, and rapidly separating itself from the confused and broken multitude, startled the enemy's masses, which were increasing and pressing onward as to an assured victory. . . . In vain did Soult with voice and gesture animate his Frenchmen, in vain did the mass itself bear up, and, fiercely striving, fire indiscriminately upon friends and foes, while the horsemen hovering on the flank endeavoured to charge the advancing line. Nothing could stop that astonishing infantry. . . . In vain did the French reserves mix with the struggling multitude to sustain the fight, their efforts only increased the irremediable confusion, and the mighty mass, breaking like a loosened cliff went headlong down the steep. . . . Eighteen-hundred unwounded men, the remnant of 6,000 unconquerable British soldiers, stood triumphant on the fatal hill."

The fight was over, and by 3 o'clock all firing had ceased.

The Allies lost 7,000, and the French 8,000 killed and wounded on this bloody field. The 66th had 16 officers and 310 men killed, wounded, and missing. The regiment went into action 400 strong, and on the morrow only 53 bayonets mustered at parade. Captain Benning (commanding the regiment) Lieutenants Shrewbridge, Ensigns Walker and Colter were killed; Captain Ferns; Lieutenants St. George, Hicken, L'Estrange, Harvey, Mc Carthy, Codd, Hand and Chambers; Ensigns Hay, Mack and Warren, were wounded. When Benning fell, Captain Goldie assumed command, and was granted a medal and promoted to a majority for this action; a medal was also sent to the relatives of Captain Benning.

After the battle of Albuhera the 3rd, 29th, 31st, 48th, 57th and 66th regiments were so reduced in numbers that they were formed into a Provisional battalion. The 31st and 66th continued together until the termination of the war; Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Leith of the 31st taking command of the two corps.





## Chapter 6.

1811-1813.—Services of 2nd Battalion continued—Arroyo de Molinos—Changes in the Brigade—The 66th reinforced—Retreat to Coria—General Rowland Hill and the 66th—Campaign of 1813—The Battle of Vittoria.



IN October, General Rowland Hill—who had rejoined from leave; and now commanded in North Estramadura—received orders to drive General Girard from Caceres, so that the district might be opened to Murillo's foraging parties. Girard left Caceres in very wet and stormy weather, and was pursued by Hill who caught him up at Arroyo-de-Molinos. At 2 o'clock on the morning of 28th October, 1811, the British troops halted within half-a-mile of Arroyo; Hill at once formed three columns of attack, the infantry on the right and left, the cavalry in the centre.

The French were on the move, and one brigade had already marched. Girard was in total ignorance of the proximity of his foe, until a terrific shout arose above the noise of the elements—for there was a sharp storm at the time. The French General, who had not yet mounted, thought it was a mere guerrilla raid, when



suddenly he heard the bagpipes of the 71st and 92nd Highlanders playing "Hey, Johnny Cope!" and the next minute the left British column came charging down the street.

The French were taken by surprise; their cavalry was driven to the end of the town, while their infantry hastily formed squares and endeavoured to cover their retreat.

Girard who was badly wounded, strove to keep his men together and retreat in good order; but his force was entirely surrounded, and he only succeeded in bringing off 600 men. The French lost upwards of 2,000 killed, wounded, and taken prisoners, besides all their baggage and artillery. The Allies had very few men placed *hors de combat*. After this brilliant affair, Hill retired to Portalegre.

The new year 1812 found the 66th with their Brigade in Portugal; the Brigade remained in that country until March, when it once more advanced into Spain.

During the sieges of Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajos the regiment, with the rest of Hill's force, was quartered at Merida, on the banks of the Guadiana, covering the siege of Badajos. About this time a strong draft arrived from England, and the ranks of the 66th were once more filled.

Changes too had taken place in the Brigade, which was now commanded by Major-General Byng, and consisted of the 3rd, 31st, 57th, and 66th regiments.

In June, 1812, the 2nd Division was again posted at Albuhera, in expectation of an attack by a French force under Comte d'Erlon.

Every measure was taken to strengthen the position and give the enemy a warm reception, but no enemy appeared.

In September, Hill advanced on Truxillo, crossed the Tagus and arrived early in October, at Aranjuez, about 35 miles from Madrid.

The French having collected in great force in the neighbourhood of the capital, Hill deemed it advisable to retire on Ciudad Rodrigo and the northern Portuguese frontiers. He accordingly retreated to Alba de Tormos and from thence, by way of Salamanca and Ciudad Rodrigo, to Coria, where he established his head-quarters for the winter.

During this retreat, the French cavalry hanging upon the rear of the Division (which marched in solid columns and squares) caused some annoyance at different times, and in one of the skirmishes that took place, two 66th men were captured by the enemy. The retreat was long and fatiguing, and provisions not too plentiful; but thanks to the vigilance of the Brigadier and the excellent management of the Brigade-Commissary, the men of General Byng's Brigade were scarcely a single day without food.

The conduct of the 66th while on the line of march was admirable, and elicited the warm praise both of the General and Brigadier.

Rowland Hill had a great liking for the "Berkshire" regiment, and specially selected it to form part of his command when ordered to the Peninsula.

It is said, that at the time the officer commanding the Cork district asked General Hill why he chose a

battalion, the men of which, though stout built, were somewhat low-sized.

"Perhaps you may find my short fellows foremost in the advance some day," retorted Hill.

His opinion of the physical qualities of the "Berkshires" was justified on more than one occasion during the war; notably so at Talavera, when the quick, dashing movements of the battalion attracted the attention of the Commander-in-Chief.

"What regiment is that?" Wellesley asked, as he watched the 66th charge the enemy down hill, put them to flight, and then regain its position with unusual celerity.

"The 66th, Sir" replied General Hill; and turning to one of his staff, he added, "You see my short-legged fellows know how to advance."

The Winter of 1812-13 saw Lord Wellington on something like an equality with his adversaries in point of numbers; nearly half-a-million of the veterans of France had perished on the snow-clad steppes and hills of Russia, and large drafts had been drawn from the armies in Spain to reinforce Napoleon's shattered legions, and enable him to make one grand effort to retrieve his fallen fortunes. These reductions and the losses inflicted on the French troops by the guerrilleros, had brought Joseph Bonaparte's forces down to about 197,000 men; while the Allied armies had swelled to 200,000. Less than half this force, however, were British, Germans, or Portuguese, on whom alone reliance could safely be placed; the rest were Spaniards, but as Wellington had at last obtained from the Cortes the supreme command of all the Spanish troops, he had been able to train

“los Valerosos” into something like what soldiers should be.

Active operations were commenced about the middle of May, when the Allied forces were concentrated and put in motion against the enemy.

On the 19th May, 1813, Sir Rowland Hill broke up his quarters at Coria, and advanced through the Pass of Banos, on Salamanca. His force consisted of the 2nd Division, three regiments of Portuguese infantry, and five regiments of Cavalry, in all, about 17,000 men with 24 guns. The weather was beautifully fine, the roads unusually good, and the troops were in the highest spirits and confident of a successful campaign.

The column came in sight of Salamanca on the 28th, having marched nearly 200 miles in eight days, and a body of French troops was descried retiring on the heights to the eastward of the city. Hill at once ordered a brigade of cavalry and a battery of horse artillery to start off in pursuit; and this force came up with, and dispersed the enemy, taking between two and three hundred prisoners.

After this affair, Hill's corps and the Light Division encamped at La Urbada, fifteen miles from Salamanca, to await the arrival of Sir Thomas Graham with the other divisions.

The Allied army having assembled, a forward movement took place, the different columns marching, as far as possible, parallel to one another. Before this advance the enemy retired, breaking down the bridge that spanned the Douro at Toro.

Hill forded the river on the 4th June, and marched on

Duenos and Torquemada; on the 12th, the French showed themselves in considerable force on the heights of Burgos, and their tirailleurs and other light troops engaged the advanced-guard, but they made no real stand, and having blown up the Castle of Burgos fell back across the Ebro. The enemy's flank was turned, and he was compelled to abandon position after position.

Biscay was evacuated with the exception of the fortified towns of San Sebastian, Santona and Bilboa; the seaports were instantly seized by British war-ships, and Wellington was thus able to change his base of operations from Portugal to the northern coast of Spain.

Joseph Bonaparte, dreading lest he should be cut off from his friends in the north, retired hastily from Madrid, and fell back across the Ebro.

Sir Rowland Hill, after the destruction of the Castle of Burgos, pushed forward his corps to the Ebro, crossed that river at the strong defile of Puente d' Arenas, and and so turned the fortified bridge of Pancorvo, which was held by the French.

A long and fatiguing march brought the Allies in front of Vittoria (where Joseph Bonaparte had concentrated his forces), a small town in the Basque Provinces, 190 miles north-north-east of Madrid, and 70 miles west of the frontier fortress of Pampeluna.

Vittoria is situated on a gentle elevation over-looking a plain that stretches down to the river Zadora; this river—or rather stream—keeps a westerly course along the plain for two or three miles, and then sweeping round to the south, flows through a narrow gorge called the Puebla Pass, which separates the Morillo and

Puebla Mountains. The main road from Madrid to Bayonne enters the plain at the Puebla Pass, traverses it in a north-easterly direction, passes through Vittoria, and again touches the Zadora at Durana.

Joseph placed his 70,000 men in position, along the main road, from Durana on the extreme right to the heights of Puebla on the extreme left: Reille held the right of the French line; Gazan the centre, and Maransin the left; D'Erlon's division formed a second line, on the centre and left. Fifty guns were placed so as to command the bridges of Mendoza, Tres Puentes, Villodas, and Nanclares, by which the Allies must cross to attack the position. Joseph, however, neglected to break down any of these bridges, nor did he defend them with field-works; moreover he left Puebla un-entrenched, and the heights above insufficiently defended.

Wellington had with him 60,000 British and Portuguese troops, and 18,000 Spaniards; he disposed his forces as follows:—On the left, Sir Thomas Graham with 20,000 men was to attack Reille and force a passage at Gamara Mayor and Ariaga; Wellington himself, with the 3rd, 4th, 7th, and Light Divisions, the heavy cavalry and a strong force of artillery, was in the centre of the line, and purposed carrying the bridges at Mendoza, Tres Puentes, Villodas, and Nanclares; on the right was Sir Rowland Hill, with the 2nd Division, Murillo's Spaniards, Silveira's Portuguese, and some cavalry and guns; he was ordered to force the Puebla Pass, assail Maransin on the heights, and so turn and menace the enemy's left.

The morning of the 21st June dawned in thick mist and drizzling rain; at an early hour the three Allied

columns quitted their encampments on the Bayas Hills and advanced to the positions assigned to them. Sir Rowland Hill's corps was the first engaged.

About 10 a.m., Brigadier Byng was ordered to seize the village of Puebla, which was held by a battalion of Voltigeurs, but was not entrenched. Byng accordingly pushed forward the light companies of the 31st, 57th, and 66th to the attack. These companies moved out at the double, supported by the rest of the brigade, and after a brief, though sharp fight, gained possession of the village.

Hill then sent Murillo's Spanish division to climb the Puebla heights and attack Maransin: the 1st Brigade had nearly reached the summit when it was vigorously attacked, and Murillo received a severe wound. The 2nd Brigade came up and joined in the struggle, but the French General Gazan—aware of the importance of the position—despatched a fresh regiment to Maransin's assistance. The 50th or West Kent regiment, and the 71st and 92nd Highlanders then advanced to support the Spaniards, whereupon Gazan sent Villatte's division to reinforce Maransin. Hill seeing that his troops on the heights were out-numbered and hard pressed, ordered a Portuguese brigade to go to their assistance, while he himself, with Byng's brigade and the 28th, 34th, and 39th regiments, turned to the left, marched to the Puebla Pass, and about 1 p.m., carried the village of Subijana de Alava at the point of the bayonet; and thus he connected his own right with the troops on the mountains.

In the meanwhile the fighting on the hill-side was continued with unabated fury, and for some time the

result was doubtful. Cadogan the brave Colonel of the 71st fell mortally wounded; maddened by the death of their beloved chief, the Highlanders charged their foes with redoubled vigour, and gained a footing on the summit of the hill. They were well supported by the 50th and 92nd, and a battalion of Portuguese Caçadores; the enemy wavered; the Highlanders pressed their advantage, and at length remained in undisputed possession of the heights.

The attack on the French centre had been equally successful, and towards 6 p.m. Joseph ordered his troops to retire along the Salvatierra road. The French at first retired in good order, but the British followed hard on their heels, and soon a scene of indescribable confusion ensued. The artillery-drivers cut their traces and abandoned their guns, and the vanquished infantry fled in disordered masses towards Salvatierra; the cavalry alone maintained a semblance of order and covered the retreat of the fugitives.

General Reille on the right had made a vigorous defence against Graham's troops, but when the French centre and left were defeated, the Allied cavalry, passing through Vittoria, took him in rear and forced him to retreat to Betonio, and from thence to Metauco; it was not till he had passed that village, some hours after night-fall, that the last shot was fired.

So ended the battle of Vittoria, the crowning victory of the Peninsula War.

The trophies were innumerable. The French lost all their artillery, with the exception of two light field-pieces; all the parks and depôt from Madrid, Valladolid

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and Burgos, carriages, ammunition, treasure, everything fell into the hands of the Allies. Captain Wyndham of the 10th Hussars captured Joseph Bonaparte's private carriage, and found therein Jourdain's *Baton* of command and a valuable painting by Corregio. These trophies Wellington forwarded to the Prince Regent, who in return sent him his commission as Field-Marshal.

The Allies lost 5,176 in killed, wounded, and missing; the 66th regiment had 3 Officers\* and 51 men placed *hors de combat*. The French lost about 6,000 men, including several hundred prisoners.

Alison in writing of this victory, remarks that, "The campaign of Marlborough presents no example of so remarkable a triumph; the campaigns of Cressy and Agincourt were fruitless in comparison."

At one blow the French were driven from the Peninsula, and the soi-disant King's crown dropped from his head.



\* The names of these officers are not given in the Records.



## Chapter 7.

1813-1817.—Services of the 2nd Battalion concluded—Pursuit of the French—Marshal Soult reinstated—Attack on the heights of Roncesvalles—Fighting in the Pyrenees—Nivelle—Nive—Orthes—Toulouse—Termination of the Peninsular War—The 2nd Battalion return home—Embark for St. Helena—Incorporated with the 1st Battalion.



HE allied Army advanced, the day after the battle, in pursuit of the vanquished foe.

Hill led his column to Barrisplano, two leagues from the fortress of Pampeluna (which was still held by the French) and there encamped, on the 27th June.

The 66th, with the other regiments of Byng's Brigade, was now attached to the Spanish Division commanded by General Murillo, who received instructions from Sir Rowland Hill to take up a position on the top of the Pyrenees, and hold the Pass of Roncesvalles.

On receiving the news of the battle of Vittoria, Napoleon at once reinstated Marshal Soult in command of the Peninsular army, with the rank and style of *Lieutenant de l'Empereur*. Soult hastened to Bayonne, which he fortified, and there collected the remains of the beaten armies. By the 24th July he had 70,000 men

and 60 guns in position to force the passes of Roncesvalles and Maya.

On the morning of the 25th July, under cover of a dense fog, Soult's lieutenant, General Clausel, advanced with 18,000 troops against Murillo and Byng, who held the heights of Altobiscar in the Roncesvalles; the allied Generals could not muster more than 5,000 bayonets.

With this force they held their position from dawn to dusk, and repeatedly drove back their assailants, inflicting upon them severe loss. Towards evening Soult sent a strong column to reinforce Clausel, and the Allies found themselves surrounded by a force nearly six times their number. Byng's brigade was hotly engaged the whole day, but being well under cover the loss was comparatively trifling. The Spaniards fought with determination, and their leader Murillo exhibited great personal courage. Mounted on a fine Andalusian, the Spanish General, sabre in hand, encouraged his troops both by voice and gesture, and repeatedly exposed himself to the enemy's fire. At length an officer rode up, and informed him that his small force was surrounded and a retreat was inevitable.

"*Carajo!*" exclaimed the fiery Spaniard; "they will not dare to surround my Englishmen!" and with the well known war-cry *Mueran los Francescos!* he excited his soldiers to fresh efforts.

But Byng saw that if they did not retire, their force must either surrender or be annihilated, and he therefore induced Murillo to fall back.

The fighting was however continued, almost without intermission, from the 26th to the 30th July; the 66th

was in action every day; and during these operations lost 2 officers\* and 25 men killed and wounded.

On the 30th July, Soult received a severe check and was forced to retire in haste up the Pyrenean valleys, hotly pursued by the Allies. During the nine days fighting the French lost 15,000 men including 4,000 prisoners; and so dispirited were their soldiers by repeated defeats, that on the 2nd August, at the affairs of Echellar and Ivantelly, 6,000 veterans broke and fled before the attack of 1,500 British.

General Byng was four times mentioned in despatches, and his Brigade received the thanks of the Commander-in-Chief for its services in the various actions in the Pyrenees.

From the 2nd August to the 8th November, the column to which the 66th was attached remained in the Pyrenees, covering the siege of San Sebastian and the blockade of Pampeluna; when these fortresses fell it advanced into French territory.

Soult's efforts to carry the war into Spain had failed, and Wellington prepared to invade France; the nation which had inflicted the horrors of war upon nearly every European country, was now herself to feel the iron-hand of a conqueror.

On the 10th November the enemy's fortified position on the Nivelle, covering Bayonne was attacked. Byng was ordered to advance against one of the strongest points of the French line of defence; and the 31st and 66th were sent forward to storm a powerful redoubt. With loud cheers the two battalions crossed the

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\* See Appendix.

intervening ground, led by Lieutenants-Colonels Leith 31st and Nicol 66th. These officers leaped the ditch together and scrambling up the parapet, entered the work ahead of their men, who however quickly followed them, and drove the French out of the redoubt.

On this occasion the 66th had two officers mortally wounded, and 46 men killed and wounded.

The day after the passage of the Nivelle, Byng's brigade went into the cantonments at Espilette.

Soult's position in the entrenched camp at Bayonne—commanding as it did the bridges over the Nive and Adour—was very advantageous for foraging, while the Allies found it a matter of considerable difficulty to obtain supplies. Wellington, therefore, resolved to extend his cantonments by forcing the passage of the Nive, extending his line to the Adour, and driving Soult back under the cannon of Bayonne.

The attack was made on the morning of the 9th December.

Hill's corps forded the Nive at Cambo, and established itself between the Nive and Adour; Beresford, with the centre column, crossed by a pontoon bridge; and Hope and Allen, with the left column and Vandeleur's cavalry, drove in Soult's advanced posts in front of the entrenched camp.

The passage was forced, and the French left driven close under the walls of Bayonne, but the Allies found themselves divided (the right from the centre and left) by the Nive—an almost unfordable stream—with Beresford's pontoon bridge as their sole means of communication; while Soult was in a position to throw the

whole weight of his force on the one flank or the other at pleasure.

On the 10th, 11th, and 12th December, the French Marshal directed his attacks against the British left and centre, but was repulsed with considerable loss.

During the night of the 12th there was a heavy rainfall, and the swollen waters of the Nive carried away the pontoon bridge: Hill with the right column, was thus isolated on the right bank of the river, and Soult seized this favourable opportunity to attack him in force.

Early on the 13th December, Soult launched 35,000 men against Hill's front, while 7,000 more threatened his rear. To resist this attack Hill only had some 14,000 men with 14 guns.

He disposed his force as follows. The Left (28th, 38th, and 39th), under Brigadier Pringle, occupied a wooded, broken ridge, covering the shattered pontoon bridge, and separated from the centre by a stream and a chain of ponds in a deep, marshy valley. General Stewart commanded the centre, which was posted on a crescent-shaped height on both sides of the village of St. Pierre; the 71st Highlanders being on the left; the 50th and 92nd on the right; Ashworth's Portuguese in advance; 12 guns massed in front of the village to sweep the high road; and Le Cor's Portuguese with 2 guns, were placed in reserve, half-a-mile in rear. The right, under Byng, consisted of the 3rd Buffs, 57th and 31st and 66th; the two latter corps being formed into one battalion, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Leith of the 31st; the Buffs occupied a position in advance; the other regiments of the brigade were covered by an

extensive sheet of water, which nearly filled the valley. The nature of the ground and the state of the roads prevented the action of cavalry, and for the same reason Soult was unable to attack with large masses, but was forced to bring his troops into line in succession, and so fight in detail; this tended to counterbalance his immense superiority in numbers.

Shortly after 8 a.m., the attack commenced. Soult forced the British pickets to retire, and the noise of battle spread along the hill side. General Darican attacked Pringle, whilst Abbé assailed the village of St. Pierre; Byng's brigade was engaged with D'Armagnac's corps.

Abbé's attack on St. Pierre was vigorously delivered, and Ashworth's Portuguese were driven back; the 50th was terribly cut up, and the 71st Highlanders were withdrawn out of action by their Colonel, who was afterwards cashiered for his pusillanimous conduct. At this crisis the gallant 92nd charged the French and forced them to give way, but more French troops were brought up, and a battery of horse-artillery opened upon the 92nd at short range. The carnage was terrible, the ground was covered with the dead, and numbers of wounded men were seen crawling painfully to the rear. Byng's brigade, too, was hard pressed, for the "Buffs" were overwhelmed by numbers and forced to fall back upon the other regiments.

The situation of the Allies seemed desperate, and Hill had no resource but to bring his reserves into action. He rode up to the 71st, and ordered them back to their position; the brave Highlanders, burning to efface the

memory of their unhappy chief's weakness, rushed to the attack with such fury that the French centre was taken aback, and gave way; Da Costa's Portuguese brigade came up to support the 71st, and the 92nd having reformed in rear of St. Pierre, were led forth by Colonel Cameron—with pipes "skirling" and colours flying—to the charge; at the same time, Byng advanced with the "Buffs," 57th, 31st, and 66th, supported by Le Cor. At first the French seemed inclined to face their foes, but an officer at their head, suddenly turned his horse, and appeared to order a retreat, for they faced about and retired across the valley to their original position.

As the 66th advanced, they perceived directly in their front, two light guns, covered by a party of Chasseurs-à-Cheval. Captain Bulstrode (66th) at once placed himself at the head of his company, and rushed forward to capture these field-pieces. The French gunners opened fire, and the gallant Bulstrode fell, his jaw shattered by a grape-shot.

Lieutenant John Clarke (author of "Reminiscences of the Peninsula") took command of the company; a well-delivered volley knocked over half of the Chasseurs, and sent the rest to the right-about; before the French gunners could reload, the Berkshire men were upon them. Corporal Davis was the first man to reach the guns, and he called out, "I take these guns in the name of King George!"

The Frenchmen did not wait to dispute the corporal's right to the field-pieces, but retired precipitately. For his gallantry on this occasion, Corporal Davis was promoted.



The pontoon bridge over the Nive had been repaired, and Lord Wellington's roads reinforcements; but Sir Rowland Hill had his own victory, and "after a manner" writes Napier "in less eventful times would have made him the hero of a nation."

This action was one of the most desperate of the whole war; 5,000 men were killed or wounded in three hours, upon a space of one mile square. Lord Wellington remarked that he had never seen a field so thickly strewn with dead.

The British lost 1,500 men, out of which number, the 66th had 2 officers\* and 85 men killed and wounded.

Colonel Leith, 31st, who commanded the 31st and 66th, was severely wounded, and Lieutenant-Colonel Nicol, 66th, succeeded him in command of the two battalions.

Operations in the South of France were resumed towards the middle of February, 1814.

The right wing of the allied Army broke up from its cantonments in front of Bayonne on the 14th, and on the following day Sir Rowland Hill attacked the heights of Garris, near to St. Palais, and carried them after a sharp struggle, in which the 66th lost 2 officers and 27 men killed and wounded.

By the 26th, the investment of Bayonne was completed, and Soult, driven from the shelter of its guns, took up a strong position on the heights of Orthes, in rear of the Gave du Pau; his force numbered some 40,000 of all arms.

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\* Captain Bulstrode, and one other officer, whose name is not mentioned in the Records.

On the 27th, Wellington advanced to the attack with 37,000 Anglo-Portuguese veterans, including 4,000 cavalry and 48 guns. Beresford, with the left, was to turn the French right; Picton, with the "fighting 5th Division," was to attack their centre, and Hill, with the right, to force the passage of the Orthes, and turn the enemy's left.

The general movement commenced at 9 a.m. On the British left, General Cole carried the village of St. Boes, after a fierce and bloody fight; but on attempting to advance from the village to the open ground, his troops were met with a heavy concentric fire from Reille's artillery. Five times did Ross's Brigade and Vasconcello's Portuguese make the attempt without success, and after three hours hard fighting, Cole was forced to retire them.

Picton too, was roughly repulsed in his attack on the French centre; and it is said that Soult, in his exultation, exclaimed, "At last I have him!" But his triumph was short-lived, for Wellington—changing his plan of attack—sent the 7th Division and Vivian's cavalry to support the left at St. Boes, and the 3rd and 6th Divisions to Picton's assistance. These simultaneous attacks were perfectly successful, and the French were forced to retire in some confusion.

This movement opened up the Pass of St. Boes, and the 4th and 7th Divisions, Vivian's cavalry and two batteries of artillery, immediately pushed through and spread out beyond. By this time Sir Rowland Hill's Corps had forded the Gave d'Oleron, above the town of Orthes, and turned the enemy's left.

Soult ordered a general retreat, which was made in

good order at first; but Sir Stapylton Cotton and Lord Edward Somerset, with the British Dragoons, pressed the fugitives so hard, that their retreat became a rout.

The Allies lost 2,383 killed, wounded, and missing; amongst the wounded was Lord Wellington, who was shot in the thigh.

Soult lost about 4,000 men.

On the 2nd March, Sir Rowland Hill's corps attacked a French column, under General Harispe, which was posted near the town of Aire. In this affair the 66th was foremost in the fight, and the senior major, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Dodgin, received a severe wound.

During the advance of the Allied army, the 66th was engaged in several minor affairs, previous to the crowning victory at Toulouse, on the 10th April.

After the battle of Orthes, Soult retreated to Toulouse, a town surrounded by fortified suburbs, the great canal of Languedoc and strong walls. Here the final battle of the Peninsular War was fought, and Soult was defeated with a loss of 3,000 men, including five general officers. In this action, Byng's brigade was employed in a false attack on the *tête du pont* on the left bank of the Garonne, and being sheltered by the houses of the suburb of St. Cyprian, suffered very little loss.

On the 11th April the hostile armies remained on the same ground, but during the night Soult decamped leaving 1,600 wounded on the field. Next day Wellington entered Toulouse, and was warmly received by the citizens, many of whom had mounted the white cockade—the badge of the Bourbonists. That same afternoon

the news arrived that Napoleon Bonaparte had abdicated, and that Louis XVIII had been proclaimed King of the French.

Thus ended this long and arduous war, in which the armies of Great Britain and her Allies had given independence to Spain and Portugal, and had defeated in nineteen "stricken fields" the bravest troops and most experienced generals in Europe.

Major-General Sir John Byng publicly thanked the 2nd Battalion 66th, for its admirable and gallant behaviour, during the time it served under his command. The Prince Regent accorded the battalion his permission to emblazon on its colours the words, "Peninsula," "Douro," "Talavera," "Albuhera," "Vittoria," "Nivelle," "Nive," and "Orthes."

During its tour of service in the Peninsula, from the 6th April, 1809, to 6th July, 1814, the battalion lost 647 officers and men on the field of battle and by disease.

On the 6th July, 1814, the 2nd Battalion, 66th, embarked at Pouillac near Bordeaux, and sailed for the Cove of Cork, where it landed on the 15th.

The battalion was quartered in the United Kingdom until the 2nd January, 1816, when it sailed for St. Helena, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Dodgin.

Early in July, 1817, the 1st battalion arrived at St. Helena from Bengal, and the two battalions were then incorporated.



## Chapter 8.

1817-1827.—Death and funeral of Napoleon Bonaparte—The 66th leave St. Helena—Complimentary order—Home services—"Peninsular Honours" granted—Embark for Canada.



THE 66th remained in the island of St. Helena until the death of the ex-Emperor, Napoleon Bonaparte. It was the 5th May, 1821, towards 6 p.m., when the illustrious exile, who had been lingering in a delirious stupor for some days, pronounced the words, "*Tête d'armée*," and then, with a last sigh, passed for ever from his dreams of warfare.

On the following day, M. Antommarchi, assisted by Assistant-Surgeon Henry, 66th regiment, and four other medical officers, made a *post mortem* examination of the body, in the presence of Counts Bertrand and Montholon, and several British officers.

The body of the Emperor, clad in his favourite uniform of the Chasseurs of the Guard, lay in state during the 7th, and the officers and men of the garrison filed past the couch; each officer pausing to press respectfully the cold hand of the dead man, who, with all his faults, had been heart and soul a soldier.

On the 8th the members of the late Emperor's household, Sir Hudson Lowe, and the military and civil

authorities of the island attended the funeral. The road from Longwood being impassable for carriages, Napoleon was borne to his tomb (beneath a weeping willow in Slane's Valley) by a party of the Grenadier Company of the 66th; the pall that covered the coffin being the military cloak that Napoleon wore at the battle of Marengo. The flagship lying off James Town fired minute guns, while the priest, Vignali, read the service of his church; the coffin was then lowered into the grave amidst a discharge of three volleys from fifteen cannon, and a huge stone was placed to mark the spot where reposed the remains of one who needs no epitaph.

On the 26th May, 1821, the Grenadier and Light Companies, with the band, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Nicol, embarked in the *Camel* store-ship and sailed for England; Colonel Nicol had under his charge Counts Bertrand and Montholon, and several members of the suite of the late Emperor. Lieutenant-Colonel Lascelles and the head-quarters sailed a fortnight later in H.M. Store-ship *Abundance*; and the remaining companies were sent home as opportunities occurred.

The day before the *Camel* sailed from James Town, Lieutenant-General Sir Hudson Lowe, Governor of St. Helena, published a general order (dated 23rd May, 1821), highly complimentary to the 66th, from which we give the following extracts:—

“The 66th regiment will commence its embarkation after muster to-morrow. The regiment being on the point of departing, the Lieutenant-General Commanding desires to express his sense of the services they

have performed during the time they have been under his command. They have had the longest share of, and for a considerable time the execution almost solely, of the most important part of the public duty. . . . The Lieutenant-General Commanding begs Lieutenant-Colonel Nicol will himself accept, and convey to the officers and men of the regiment, his best thanks for the very correct and attentive manner in which the duty was always performed by them. . . . The 2nd battalion of the 66th regiment having arrived here in the first instance under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Dodgin, and that officer having retained command of the 2nd battalion when incorporated into one, for a long period subsequently, the Lieutenant-General desires that Colonel Nicol will assure him of the high sense entertained of his services during the above time. The Lieutenant-General Commanding desires Colonel Nicol will also express to Assistant-Surgeon Henry the high sense entertained of his very meritorious services in this island."

The 66th arrived in England in August, 1821, and was stationed at various towns until the end of July, 1822, when it proceeded to Edinburgh; and one company, under command of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Dunbar, was sent to Stirling Castle, and had the honour of doing duty to His Majesty George IV, during his sojourn in Scotland.

On the 21st February, 1823—the head-quarters being then quartered at Sunderland—the following letter was received by the commanding officer and published in orders:—

"Horse Guards, 14th February, 1823.

"Sir,

"I have the honour to acquaint you, by the direction of H.R.H. the Commander-in-Chief, that his Majesty has been pleased to approve of the 66th bearing on their colours and appointments, in addition to any other badges or devices which may have heretofore been granted to the regiment, the words—'Talavera,' 'Albuhera,' 'Vittoria,' 'Pyrenees,' 'Nivelle,' 'Nive,' 'Orthes,' in commemoration of the distinguished conduct of the late 2nd battalion at the battle of Talavera on the 27th and 28th July, 1809; at Albuhera on the 16th May, 1811; at Vittoria on the 21st June, 1813; in the Pyrenees, in July, 1813; in the passage of the Nive on the 9th, 10th, and 11th December, 1813; and at Orthes on the 27th February, 1814.

"I have, &c.,

"(Signed)

"HENRY TORRENS,

"Adjutant-General."

On the 24th March, 1823, the 66th sailed from Liverpool for Ireland, and reached Dublin on the 26th. The 66th was stationed in Ireland until the summer of 1827, when it was again ordered on foreign service. On the 1st June, 1827, the 1st Division of the 66th embarked at the Cove of Cork on board the *Arab* transport, under command of Major Baird, and sailed for Canada on the 10th. The head-quarters, under Colonel Nicol, sailed in H.M.S. *Romney* on the 20th June. The two vessels arrived at Quebec on the 21st July and the 13th August respectively.





## Chapter 9.

1827-1865.—Services in Canada—The Papineau Rebellion—Affair of St. Charles—Suppression of the Rebellion—The 66th return to England—Embark for Gibraltar—Sent to the West Indies—Severe outbreak of Yellow Fever—Canada—Presentation of New Colours at Quebec—Return to England and Embark for India—Grenadier and Light Companies abolished—Service in India—Embark for England—The Voyage Home.



FROM August, 1827, to November, 1837, the 66th was stationed in different cities and towns in the Dominion of Canada; and during the greater part of that long period the regiment was cut up into detachments.

In the autumn of 1837 the "Papineau" rebellion broke out at Montreal, and on the 25th November of that year a detachment of the 66th, commanded by Lieutenant Johnston, consisting of two subalterns and sixty non-commissioned officers and privates, formed part of a force under command of Colonel George Augustus Wetherall, which attacked the rebels at St. Charles. In this affair the 66th had one private (William Atkins) killed, and four privates wounded; Lieutenant Johnston was mentioned in General Orders for his gallantry on this occasion.

During the winter of 1837-8 four companies of the regiment were employed in active service on the river Richelieu.

In the spring of 1838 the insurgent leaders, Louert and Matthews, were captured and hanged as traitors, and the rebellion was thought to be crushed; but in the following November there was a fresh rising in Beauharnois, and the rebel forces concentrated at Napiersville. After a few sharp skirmishes—in which the 66th took some part—the insurgents laid down their arms; and Sir John Colborne, in despatches dated November 17th, 1838, informed the Home Government that the insurrection was at an end.

In October, 1840, after thirteen-and-a-half years' service in the Dominion; the 66th sailed for England in the transports *Sapphire* and *Athol*, and disembarked at Gosport on the 3rd December.

From Gosport the regiment was moved to Portsmouth, and from thence to Winchester, in which city it was stationed until November, 1841.

On the 15th, 16th, and 17th November, the 66th left Winchester for Manchester, where it remained until the spring of 1842, when it was ordered to Glasgow; one company proceeding on detachment to the Isle of Man.

On the 13th September, 1842, the "Berkshires" furnished a guard of honour to Her Majesty at Falkirk. This guard consisted of two companies under command of Major W. L. Dames, who on completion of the duty was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

From Glasgow the 66th moved to Edinburgh, and while stationed in Edinburgh Castle the old flint-locks were given into store, and the new pattern percussion muskets served out to the men.

In September, 1843, the 66th embarked for Ireland,  
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and the following complimentary order was issued by Major-General Sir Neil Douglas, K.C.B.

"Edinburgh, 12th September, 1843. Major-General Sir Neil Douglas cannot allow the 66th regiment to leave the district under his command, without expressing his sense of the meritorious conduct of the corps, which in discipline and every other soldier-like quality, has earned his entire approbation. . . . In parting with this regiment, the Major-General feels that he is parting with old friends; and he requests that they will accept his best and most sincere regards for their future welfare and prosperity."

After four years' home service, the regiment, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Johnston, sailed from the Cove of Cork in H.M.S. *Resistance* for Gibraltar, and landing there on the 22nd of July, 1845, occupied the South Barracks. About this period the Horse Guards authorities issued orders that the Grenadiers of line battalions should discontinue their bearskin caps.

The 66th remained at the "Rock" until the 25th of January, 1848, when it embarked on board the freight ship *Herefordshire*, and sailed for the West Indies. The *Herefordshire* anchored in Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes, on the 22nd of February, and the dis-embarkation took place next day. The Grenadier and D. Companies did not land at Carlisle Bay, but were transhipped to the *Princess Royal* for passage to Demerara, under command of Captain Turner.

The following garrison order was issued by General Sir Robert Wilson, K.C.B., on the departure of the 66th from Gibraltar.

"Gibraltar, January 24th, 1848. The 66th regiment being under orders to embark for Barbadoes to-morrow morning at eight o'clock, the General Commanding has much satisfaction in being enabled to put on the records of the garrison, his fullest commendation of this corps for its progressive military efficiency, attentive execution of its duties, zealous labour at the public works, and general propriety of conduct, which he feels confident will be maintained."

Extract from garrison orders, Gibraltar, January 25th, 1848:—

"Her Majesty's 66th regiment embarked this morning in the presence of the General Commanding, and his Excellency has the further satisfaction to notice the exemplary appearance of the corps under arms on this occasion; there could not be altogether a more creditable and soldier-like parade."

Shortly after the arrival of the 66th in the Island of Barbadoes a severe epidemic of yellow fever broke out, and the regiment suffered terribly.

In September, October, November, and December, 1848, six officers and fifty non-commissioned officers and men became victims of that fearful malady. The names of the officers were:—Lieutenant H. K. Holms, September 11th; Lieutenant W. R. Pyne, October 25th; and Captain F. W. Astley, November 13th. Paymaster K. T. Ross, Lieutenant and Adjutant J. H. Ross, Mrs. and Miss Ross (father, son, mother, and daughter) died respectively on November 24th, 25th, and 27th. Quartermaster Matthew Riley died on the 17th December; a few days before his death he was gazetted Adjutant,

vice Lieutenant Ross, but he did not live to hear of his promotion.

During the remainder of their services in Barbadoes the 66th lost two more officers (Captains Turner and Birch) and thirty-six non-commissioned officers and men by yellow fever.

On the 12th of July, 1850, Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Grubbe assumed command of the regiment, having exchanged from the reserve battalion 76th Foot, with Colonel Johnston.

On the 26th of May, 1851, the 66th sailed for Canada in the *Java* freight ship, and on landing at Quebec (June 24th) occupied the Jesuit Barracks.

New colours were issued to the regiment in July, 1851, and handed over on parade by Lieutenant-Colonel Grubbe, without the usual ceremony of consecration being performed; the old colours were sent home to the depôt at Guernsey.

The 66th remained in Canada until September, 1854, when it embarked for England, and landed at Portsmouth on the 24th October. From Portsmouth the regiment proceeded to Preston, Lancashire, where the depôt companies, under Captain Benson, had already arrived. On the 1st November, two new companies ("K" and "M") were added to the strength of the regiment.

On the 23rd November, 1854, the service companies, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Grubbe, left Preston, were billeted one night at Reading, arrived at Southampton on the 24th, and there embarked for Gibraltar on board the steamer *Tamar*. A four-company depôt was left at Preston, under command of Brevet

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir William Gordon, Bart. The 66th landed at Gibraltar on the 30th November.

On the 9th January, 1855, Colonel Grubbe retired on half-pay, and Sir William Gordon succeeded him in command of the regiment. In June of the same year Gordon exchanged to the 3rd West India Regiment with Lieutenant-Colonel Law. The 66th was stationed at Gibraltar until June, 1856, when it returned to England, and went into quarters in Plymouth Citadel. In March, 1857, the regiment was moved to the North Camp Aldershot, and there remained until the following August, when it proceeded to Portsmouth and embarked (August 29th) on board the s.s. *Queen of the South*, for passage to India, Colonel C. E. Law being in command. After a voyage of one hundred and six days' duration, the regiment arrived at Cananore on the 13th December, 1857, and went into quarters in the European Barracks.

On the 26th January, 1858, an order was issued that the flank companies should no longer bear the designations "Grenadiers" and "Light," and that in future the companies of all line battalions should be "numbered" instead of "lettered." This order created universal dissatisfaction throughout the service, for the "Flankers" had always been considered the smartest men of a regiment, and highly prized their distinctions, titles, and appointments.

The 66th remained at Cananore until the commencement of the year 1863. While at that station it was repeatedly praised by the Brigadier commanding the provinces of Malabar and Canara, at the half-yearly inspections, and gained the enviable reputation of being

a smart, well-disciplined, well-educated corps. From Cananore the regiment moved to Bangalore, where it was stationed for two years.

On the 7th March, 1865, the head-quarters and right wing of the 66th, left Bangalore for Madras, and there embarked in the *Tyburnia* for passage to England; Lieutenant-Colonel Benson was in command. The *Tyburnia* sailed round the Cape, and touched at St. Helena on the 5th May, the anniversary of Bonaparte's death; the officers of the regiment visited the tomb to which the remains of the great warrior had been borne forty-four years before by the Grenadiers of the 66th.

The left wing of the regiment, under Major C. W. Aylmer, sailed from Madras on the 11th March, 1865, in the ship *Merchantman*. The *Tyburnia* anchored off Falmouth on the 24th June, and the right wing went into quarters in the Citadel, Plymouth; the *Merchantman* arrived four days later, and the left wing occupied the Raglan Barracks at Devonport.





## Chapter 10.

1870-1879.—Embark for India—Presentation of New Colours by Lord Northbrook—Old Colours deposited in St. Mary's Church, Reading—Camp of Exercise at Chinchured—Movements of the Depôt up to January, 1878.

**T**HE 66th remained at home until the spring of 1870, and was stationed at Plymouth, Aldershot, the Channel Islands, and in Ireland. On the 17th February, 1870, the left wing, under command of Major Galbraith, embarked in the troop-ship *Serapis*, and sailed for India. On the 24th February, the headquarters and right wing, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel George Vincent Watson, left the Curragh Camp for Queenstown, and there embarked in the troop-ship *Crocodile*.

A depôt, commanded by Captain J. T. Ready, was formed, proceeded to Portsmouth, and was attached to the 66th regiment.

On arrival in India, the 66th was stationed at Kurrachee, in the Sind district. On the 11th November, 1872, the regiment paraded at Kurrachee for the presentation of new colours by H.E. the Right Honorable Lord Northbrook, Governor-General of India. His excellency was received with a royal salute, and the old colours having been "trooped," the new colours were first consecrated,



and then handed over to the regiment by the Viceroy, who addressed the officers and men as follows :—

“Colonel Watson, officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the 66th Berkshire regiment; there is no duty that I could be called upon to perform, as the representative of her most gracious Majesty the Queen, which affords me greater honour or greater pleasure than this which I have to perform to-day, that of presenting you with new colours.

“From your regimental records I find that the regiment has been embodied more than a hundred years, and that during that time it has seen a greater proportion of foreign service, in all quarters of the globe, than has fallen to the lot of the majority of the regiments in the British army.

“We first find it on service in the West Indies, and, on its return home after being divided into two battalions, the 2nd battalion took a most distinguished part in the glorious operations in the Peninsula, during the years 1809 to 1814. It was prominent for its gallantry at the passage of the Douro; at Albuhera, which was one of the most fiercely contested battles in the Peninsula, it suffered the great loss of 17 officers and 310 rank and file, killed, wounded, and missing; and at Talavera it also lost heavily. In the year 1813 it was engaged and distinguished itself at the battle of Vittoria, in the passes of the Roncesvalles, at Nivelle, Nive, and Orthes; and the proud distinctions you carry on your colours commemorate your achievements on those great historic events. The 1st battalion also distinguished itself in this country,

taking a prominent part in the successful expedition against Nepaul.

“It is not alone on the field of battle that regiments of the British army suffer severe losses. There are times when a regiment is obliged for the public service to be quartered in deadly climates, and where officers and men are liable to be struck down by the fell hand of disease. Your regiment has upon two occasions suffered severely from this cause, and so long ago as the end of the last century, when, at St. Domingo, no less than 15 officers and 600 men died from the effects of the unhealthy climate in the short space of twelve months; and again, in later times, in the year 1848, at Barbadoes, the regiment sustained severe loss from fever.

“I am exceedingly glad to hear from Colonel Watson, that the regiment has, during the whole of its service, been distinguished for its good conduct and discipline. The steadiness and efficiency of the regiment have merited the approval of General Addison in the reports I have seen, and it has also on several occasions been favourably noticed by H.R.H. the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief. These marks of approval are most creditable to the regiment, as discipline and good conduct are especially necessary in a country like India, where it is the duty of every Englishman by his example and good behaviour to produce a favourable impression on the minds of the natives, and so gain respect and honour for the British name. It is, I say, a great public advantage that a distinguished regiment, such as yours,

should gain the approval of the superior authorities ; and it must be great satisfaction to Colonel Watson, who so worthily commands the regiment, and who alone of the officers was present on the last occasion when colours were given, to find that his exertions of many years have their reward.

“Colonel Watson, officers, non-commissioned officers, and men, this opportunity of bringing back to your recollection the stirring events of past years should not be thrown away and leave no trace behind. The officers and men of this regiment, who died in war and from disease in the service of their country, lie in their quiet graves in distant parts of the world, but their memories remain with you, and such is the admirable constitution of the regimental system of the British army, that the youngest recruit can take a pride in the glorious victories of his regiment in past times ; but while he feels that pride he also has a duty to perform, and there is not a man in the regiment, who cannot by self-sacrifice and prompt obedience to command—which is the root of all discipline, and which distinguishes the British army—help to maintain the honour of the corps to which he belongs.

“By the blessing of God, peace prevails throughout the British Empire, and in the domains of her Majesty in this country, not a breath of war or disturbance even to this remote portion whose bounds I see before me. But I am sure of this, that should the Queen require the services of the 66th—as expressed in that beautiful prayer which you have just heard, that ‘for just and righteous hands to defend the right and

punish the wrong-doer'—the colours which, as her Majesty's representative, I have now presented to you, will be borne in the front of victory. I am satisfied that they could not be confided to more loyal hearts or braver arms than those of the 66th Berkshire Regiment."

Colonel Watson replied in suitable terms, and the ceremony terminated. The old colours were retained in the regimental recreation room, but were subsequently sent home to the dépôt, and on the 27th February, 1877, were deposited in the church of St. Mary, Reading. On this occasion the time-honoured flags were escorted by a party of officers and men of the 66th dépôt, and the band of the Royal Berks Militia, and a strong guard of honour of the Berkshire Volunteers took part in the ceremony of handing them over to the Vicar and Churchwardens of St. Mary.

The 66th left Kurrachee in November, 1873, and joined the camp of exercise at Chinchured. The manœuvres commenced on the 8th December, and terminated on the 23rd, when the camp was broken up. The 66th was especially noticed by the Commander-in-Chief and his personal staff for its excellent drilling and general appearance during the manœuvres.

On the 29th December, 1873, the 66th commenced its march to Belgaum, where it arrived on the 22nd January, 1874. In July, 1875, Colonel Watson exchanged to the 24th Foot with Colonel F. d'Epinay Barclay. From Belgaum the regiment moved to Poonah (February, 1876) and took up its quarters at the Ghoorpoorie Barracks.

In March, 1876, Captain Murphy, 66th Foot, was appointed Adjutant of the Royal Berks Militia, and Captain John Quarry (late Ceylon Rifles) was transferred to the regiment from the 28th Foot, vice Murphy.

The headquarters of the 66th moved to Ahmednuggar in November, 1876, and the left half-battalion under Major Galbraith was ordered to Bombay. The headquarters, under Lieutenant-Colonel d'Epinay Barclay, proceeded to Bombay in January, 1878. On the 8th December, 1878, the companies at Bombay were inspected by Lieutenant-General Warre, C.B. (Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay Army) who expressed his satisfaction and congratulated the 66th on its chance of active service in Afghanistan. On the 7th of December Lieutenant-Colonel Galbraith, with four companies, embarked in the ship *Scotland* for Kurrachee, to relieve the 83rd, ordered on service.

MOVEMENTS OF THE DEPÔT 66TH FOOT, FROM  
FEBRUARY, 1870, TO JANUARY, 1878.

On the 26th February, 1870, embarked from Portsmouth under Captain J. T. Ready. Moved from Portsmouth to Winchester, and from thence to Aldershot in May and June, 1870; returned to Winchester in September, 1871. From the first of July, 1874, to the 28th of February, 1875, the depôt companies were attached to the 1st battalion 23rd Fusiliers. On the 1st of March, 1875, the depôt left Aldershot for Parkhurst, and was attached to the 49th, Princess Charlotte of Wales' (Hertfordshire) regiment, with which corps the

66th had been affiliated, under Mr. Cardwell's "linked battalion" system, 1876—The Lords Commissioners of H.M. Treasury awarded a sum of £10 to Private James Drury, 66th regiment, in recognition of his exemplary conduct at a fire which occurred at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, on the 9th of April, 1876.

On the 25th of January, 1878, the depôts of the 49th and 66th regiments proceeded to Reading and occupied the new barracks built for the "41st Brigade Depôt."





## Chapter 11.

1879-1880.—Arrival at Kurrachee—Inspected by Brigadier Brice—Death of Lieutenant Smallpiece—Colonel Barclay's Farewell Order—Colonel Galbraith succeeds to the Command of the 66th—Ordered to Afghanistan on Active Service—Movements of Detachments—Ayoub Khan's Advance—Mutiny of the Wali's troops—Girishk—Return to Kushki Nakud.



ON New Year's Day, 1879, the 66th regiment arrived at Kurrachee, and three companies (D, F, and G) under command of Captain John Quarry proceeded by train to Hyderabad. The regiment was inspected by Brigadier-General Brice, commanding the Sind District on the 11th and 12th, and that officer expressed his satisfaction in the following:—

“Colonel Barclay, I have just completed a very minute inspection of your regiment, and the result is most satisfactory, and bears out what I have always heard of the high character of the 66th. On parade the men were both steady under arms, and well turned out; especially, when it is taken into consideration, that the equipment is new, and the straps not yet set. In the barracks everything was very clean, and the kits exceptionally good and well laid out. The conduct of the regiment has been very good. . . .

I trust, 66th, that you will continue your present good behaviour, and thus sustain the high character I have always heard of you."

On the 29th April, the instructor of musketry, Lieutenant H. H. Smallpiece, died, and his death was thus announced in Regimental Orders:—

"It is with deep regret that the Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding has to notify the death of Lieutenant H. H. Smallpiece, the instructor-of-musketry to the battalion; and he feels sure that his loss will be sincerely felt by all with whom he has served, during the thirteen years he has been in the 66th: six of which have been in the capacity of musketry-instructor. The Lieutenant-Colonel cannot omit this occasion of recording his high sense of the zealous manner in which Lieutenant Smallpiece performed his duties; and fully appreciates the good results of his services to the regiment during his tenure of office on the regimental staff."

Lieutenant-Colonel T. C. D. E. Barclay left Kurrachee *en route* to England on the 10th November, 1879, on completion of his five years' command. The following address was published in Regimental Orders, by Lieutenant-Colonel Barclay on his quitting the battalion:—

"In relinquishing the command of the battalion, the Lieutenant-Colonel wishes to thank all the officers for the ready support he has at all times received from them, and to place on record his opinion as to the manner in which all ranks have performed their respective duties. He especially thanks the Adjutant (Captain Roberts) for the pains he has taken with the

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general instruction of the non-commissioned officers, particularly the younger ones; and he has kept this most essential branch of the battalion in a very efficient state. His thanks are due to Quartermaster Jones for his unremitting attention to the duties of that important branch of the regimental staff; also to the officiating Paymaster (Major Ready) for the satisfactory manner in which he has conducted the duties of that office. Amongst the non-commissioned officers, he desires to record the very high opinion he holds of Sergeant-Major Cuppage and Quartermaster-Sergeant Hollyer,\* both young non-commissioned officers of about eleven years' service, and who have gained their high positions through deserving good conduct and a thorough knowledge of their respective duties. The Lieutenant-Colonel sincerely wishes further promotion may be awaiting them. The general conduct of the battalion affords him the greatest satisfaction, and he feels sure that the 66th Berkshire regiment will ever maintain that high state of discipline he found it on joining four years ago, and in which he believes he now leaves it."

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. Galbraith assumed command of the regiment on the 15th of November, 1879.

The regiment was placed under orders for service in South Afghanistan, and proceeded to Sibi *en route* to Kandahar, as follows:—The detachment from Hydrabad (consisting of 15 officers, 12 sergeants, 12 corporals, 3 drummers, and 219 privates) under the command of Major

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\* Now Lieutenant Hollyer; Quartermaster 3rd (Militia) Battalion Royal Berks.

C. F. Oliver, left that station on the 9th February, 1880, by rail, arriving at Sibi on the 11th February, to await the arrival of the head-quarters. The head-quarters, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel J. Galbraith (consisting of 15 officers, 26 sergeants, 21 corporals, 9 drummers, 388 privates) left Kurrachee by rail on the 10th, arriving at Sibi on the morning of the 13th February, 1880. The regiment (with the exception of the D company) under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel J. Galbraith, marched from Sibi, *en route* to Kandahar, *via* Quetta, arriving at its destination on the 25th of March, 1880.

D company, which was left as an escort for C-2 Royal Artillery, was subsequently selected for the sole charge from Sibi of a battery of smooth-bore guns, a present from the Government of India to Sirdar Shere Ali Khan, Governor of Kandahar. The guns having been conducted over the Kojak Pass without mishap were handed over to Sirdar Shere Ali Khan's men at Chaman. For this service Captain Mac Math and his company received by telegram the thanks of Lieutenant-General Sir Donald Stewart, commanding Kandahar field forces.

The Indian depôt, consisting of the women and children and sickly men, under the command of Lieutenant A. J. Price (instructor-of-musketry) was located at Kurrachee on the departure of the head-quarters.

A detachment, consisting of G and H companies, under the command of Captain J. Quarry, was sent to the citadel of Kandahar on the 29th March, 1880. A detachment, consisting of A and E companies, under the command of Captain McKinnon, left Kandahar, *en*

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route for Khelat-i-Ghilzai on the 6th April in relief of two companies of the 59th Foot. A draft arrived at Kurrachee on the 15th February, 1880, from England, and left on the 2nd March, *en route* to Kandahar, to join the service companies arriving at the latter station—one detachment on the 7th, the other on the 10th April, 1880.

Early in July, 1880, Wali Shere Ali—who was encamped at Girishk—reported that Sirdar Mahomed Ayoub Khan, Governor of Herat, was marching on Kandahar at the head of a powerful army. In consequence of this report Brigadier-General Burrowes was ordered to proceed at once to Girishk to check Ayoub's advance, and accordingly he left Kandahar on the 5th July, with the 2nd infantry brigade, two regiments of native cavalry, and a battery of horse-artillery. The head-quarters and B, C, D, F, G and H, companies of the 66th, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Galbraith, formed part of Burrowes' force.

Burrowes marched as far as Kokeran on the 5th, where he found supplies scarce, but excellent water. At 6 a.m. on the following day, tents were struck, and the column pushed on towards the Argandab River, and halted at Ashoulkhan, where there was an abundance of fruit and water. Atta Karez was the next halting place, and on the 8th the column encamped at Kushki Nakud. From thence it proceeded to Mez Karez (a deserted town) and on the 10th arrived at the Helmund near to Girishk, which was on the opposite side of that river.

The Helmund is some thirty leagues from Kandahar.

On the 14th, Burrowes received intelligence that the Wali's troops had mutinied, whereupon he marched

against them with five companies of the 66th, three companies 30th native infantry, 400 cavalry, and the horse-artillery; the remainder of the column he left to guard the camp.

The mutineers numbered between four and five thousand men and had with them the smooth-bore battery, which the Indian Government had presented to the Wali. Towards 10 a.m. they opened fire on Burrowes' force, but the horse-artillery returned the fire with such good effect that in about an hour's time the mutineers had had enough of it, and retired from their position, leaving two guns behind them.

The cavalry and infantry pursued them, and after killing a considerable number, took the other four guns.

Burrowes returned to his camp about 4 p.m., with the captured guns escorted by a party of the 66th. In this affair the regiment had four men wounded.

On the 16th July, in consequence of the scarcity of supplies in the vicinity of the Helmund, Burrowes returned to Kushki Nakud, where he encamped on the 18th. Here a telegram was received from his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief thanking the troops for their gallant behaviour and the capture of the Wali's guns.

On the 20th one of the men wounded at Girishk died.

On the 21st the column went into laager at Kushki Nakud, where there was an enclosure in which the field-hospital and commissariat stores were placed.

At Kushki Nakud Burrowes' force was strengthened by a troop of the 3rd Sind horse; and at the same time horses were provided for the captured battery, which was then manned by a detachment of the 66th.



## Chapter 12.

**MAIWAND**—Lieutenant O'Donnell's Account of the Action—Extracts from Notes by Major Ready, Commanding the Baggage-guard—List of Officers, N.C. Officers and Privates who were killed—General Primrose's Letter to the Commander-in-Chief in India.



ON the 27th of July, the brigade marched to Maiwand, where it attacked the force of Ayoub Khan, which numbered about 25,000 men. The following account of this celebrated action is taken from a letter written by Lieutenant O'Donnell, 66th regiment:—

“The first whispers of the disaster reached us at Kelat on the 2nd of August. It was a native rumour, and spoke of annihilation, giving circumstantial details. Ayoub was also said to have detached a force to operate against us. Though scarcely able to credit the terrible news of the disaster, we made every preparation for defence, and sent out strong foraging parties through the neighbouring country.

“But our scepticism of the news was strengthened by finding the people more than usually quiet and willing to sell their grain. So passed ten days of doubt and anxiety; our belief that something must be wrong being gradually established by the absence of all news from Kandahar, to which we had despatched several

messengers. At last on the 12th, one of them returned with letters, and we learned the whole sad truth, so far as our losses were concerned. I feel pretty clear now as to how the whole thing happened; so I may as well tell you of it here.

"On the 26th of July, Colonel St. John informed General Burrowes, who was encamped with his force at Kushk-i-Nakud, that a Ghazi advanced-guard of Ayoub's army had got to Maiwand, some ten miles to the north. The next morning Burrowes marched off his force, with bands playing, and everyone rejoiced at the thought of having to turn the Ghazis out of the Maiwand Fort. He had an effective fighting force, numbering about, as follows:—E-B. Royal Horse Artillery, 6 guns, about 150 men; 6 smooth-bores, taken from the Wali's mutineers, supplied with horses and drivers by the E-B., and worked by trained men of the 66th; 6 companies of the 66th regiment, about 490 men; 1st Bombay Grenadiers N.I., about 550 men; 30th Bombay N.I. (Jacob's Rifles) about 550; 3rd Bombay Light Cavalry, about 300 sabres; 3rd Sind Horse, minus one squadron about 200 sabres; total 1,600 infantry, 500 cavalry, and 12 guns. This included men in hospital, about 3 per cent.

"This force, when nearing the village of Maiwand, about ten a.m., came upon—not a few hundred Ghazis, but—the *whole of Ayoub's army*, also on the march, and stretching for miles across the plain—horse and foot—as far as eye could reach. The bands stopped playing, and the General formed line of battle, having, I believe orders to stop Ayoub at all hazards.

"The fight began by two guns of the E brigade, under McLaine, dashing away to the left front and opening fire on Ayoub's people. Burrowes then advanced, leaving behind, unreconnoitered, a village with gardens, in front of which ran a deep nullah or water course, an admirable defensive position.

"Advancing a few hundred yards into the open, but undulating, plain, he halted about 150 yards in rear of another nullah, and prepared for action. Holding in support—and that only for a short time—two companies of Jacob's Rifles, he formed the remainder of his infantry into one solitary two-deep line, with the guns at intervals, five companies of the 66th on the right, then the Jacob's Rifles, and the 1st Grenadiers on the left. Quarry's company (G) was on baggage-guard; the cavalry was massed in columns in rear of the left, in a perfectly exposed position. The baggage was hidden from fire as much as possible in the deep nullah which had been left behind. Ayoub kept the mass of his force concealed from view behind some rising ground, while his cavalry, spreading out in clouds on both flanks, began gradually to over-lap our line. For half-an-hour the fire from our artillery was not replied to; then all at once, from five different points, thirty-six guns—six of them breech-loading Armstrong's—opened upon our line, and never ceased firing till the end of the battle. Our men were lying down, the marksmen being out a few paces to the front trying to pick off the enemy's gunners. Our guns meanwhile blazed away as fast as they could, but with only twelve against thirty-six it was an unequal fight.

This kind of work lasted till about one o'clock.

"In the meantime, no sooner had our people become engaged than it became evident that the village, which had been left in the rear of our right, was occupied by hostile villagers who opened fire against the back of our line, and Quarry had to detach half his company to act against them. This half-company was engaged in and near the gardens the greater part of the day; with the other half-company Quarry guarded the baggage against the enemy's cavalry, who hung in heavy clouds about our left flank, but contented themselves with threatening.

"All this time our cavalry was sitting idle under a heavy artillery fire, which was knocking over some men and many horses. In fact they were given over to the enemy to be pounded into demoralization.

"Our artillery horses were also suffering severely, but in the infantry line very few casualties had occurred. It was not till half-past six o'clock that Ayoub made any move with his infantry. Then there was a great advance along the whole line; swarms of the white-coated Ghazis came on, followed by the regular regiments in red and blue, and to meet them the whole of our infantry was allowed to open fire. The 66th took to firing volleys by companies. McMath's company (D) was moved by him to a short distance in front of the line, where a fold of the ground gave good cover.

"Among the Ghazis nearly every man seemed to be carrying a standard of some description. At the beginning of their advance, they made no rushes, but came



quietly on a few paces at a time, then halting they would plant their flags in the ground, fire, and again move on; but when they got nearer, and the volleys began to tell upon them, the slaughter was terrific; in some places they would be seen to fall three deep, and always as they went down, those behind would quietly step over them and come on with their gleaming knives. All along our line a tremendous fire was kept up.

"The men soon ran through their seventy rounds, and were working away on their reserve ammunition. The smooth-bore battery fired every round; retired, replenished, and came into action again.

"McMath was voiceless from shouting the word of command, so he stood apart from his company and raised his sword as a signal when the volley was to be delivered.

"One of Ayoub's regular regiments came up on the left, and exchanged volleys at a few hundred yards with the 1st Grenadiers, who sustained a roaring fire all the time. An attempt of the Ghazis to encircle our right was met by throwing back B and C companies, which, under Cullen and Roberts, fired some beautiful volleys; and two guns which the enemy rolled up to within a hundred-and-fifty yards, to ply the 66th with grape, had several successive gun-detachments swept away by D company. So great was the effect of the fire in front of the line, that at last it seemed as if all the assailants had been cleared off the face of the earth; and Major Blackwood, of the artillery, exclaimed to Peirse, who commanded our left company, 'By Jove! they are all gone.' But they had not. Finding the

fire in front of the line too intense to advance straight up against it, the great mass of the Ghazis, some of them carried up in rear of the horsemen, had inclined to the right and left, and entering the nullah, which crossed the ground in front of our line, spread themselves along it, and concentrated under cover for a rush at our centre.

"Up to that time, (except Surgeon-Major Preston, who was wounded while tending the first man hit among the 66th,) not an officer had been touched. But when the enemy emerged from the nullah, the only European officer with the two companies of Jacob's Rifles, between the guns and Peirse's company, was shot down. Then came the crash. As the Ghazis rushed on they were still met by the same steady volleys from our men—still by the heavy fire of the Grenadiers, and by case from the artillery. But Jacob's Rifles wavered, and when the enemy were within fifty yards the two companies broke and ran, not straight back, but behind the 66th—who were still standing firm—as if seeking for safety there.

"Rushing wildly along our line and carrying confusion everywhere, they came full against the rear of Cullen's company, which was thrown back and broke its formation to pieces.

"Into the gap they had left, the Ghazis rushed and captured the two guns before they could retire, only a few of the gunners cutting their way out. The Ghazis were then all round the line, both in front and rear, and the remainder of the native infantry, after attempting to form square, gave way and fell back in

disorder. But the rear rank of F and H companies, 66th, were turned about by word of command, and kept up the fire on both sides; and in the other companies many of the men did the same of their own accord.

"Then from somewhere or other the 'Retire' was sounded, but even after that, there is evidence that a portion at least of the regiment made a move, not *away from* but *towards* the enemy.

"However, the Colonel ordered those about him to retire to the gardens, and soon the whole regiment followed, in confusion of course, and still mixed up with the Jacob's Rifles. The smooth-bore battery, again out of ammunition, had retired just before the line broke; and the four remaining guns of E-B. fell back past the gardens, in rear of Quarry's baggage guard.

"There remained the cavalry. At the moment of the smash Burrowes ordered Nuttall, the cavalry Brigadier, to charge across the front, but (as I believe Burrowes put in his despatch) General Nuttall found himself unable to comply with this order, the fact being that the men could not be got to obey. Without a blow, the 500 sabres retired rapidly through Quarry's extended line. As the infantry made for the gardens the enemy followed them close, some of the Ghazis pressing round the flank, and reaching the enclosures even before our troops. Then the heavy losses began. The native infantry had become an unresisting mass: even the 1st Grenadiers who, before the panic spread, had fought so well. Among the Ghazis pressing on

their heels one would sometimes be seen to stretch out his arm, and drag a grenadier from the ranks, then with one hand he would knock off the man's turban, and with the other cut him down. The same game, when tried on with our 66th men, was a signal failure, and in the retreat to the gardens the enemy kept at such a respectful distance that our fellows had no need to use their bayonets. As each man retired he would be busy inserting a cartridge in his rifle, and then he would turn round, fire, and continue the retirement.

"The confusion was great from the commencement, but when the retreating line reached the deep nullah, a considerable obstacle at the best of times, it became a regular chaos.

"Into it they all tumbled pell-mell, and such was the rush that McMath's colour-sergeant fell upon his own sword and was killed; of the officers many were wounded before reaching the gardens; Garrett was shot through the legs, and after trying in vain to struggle on fell down. McMath was wounded in the hand just before the line gave way, and shortly after he was seen on his horse slowly retiring with his company, his right arm shattered and hanging by a shred of flesh, but after that he must have been hit again, for he never reached the gardens, though his horse came into Kandahar.

"The Colonel was also wounded when he reached the gardens, and poor Rayner, our Adjutant, had his shoulder shattered. Honeywood, Olivey, Barr, and Lynch all entered the gardens unwounded, and so I believe did Roberts, but I am not sure about that.

Cullen was shot dead at an early period of the retirement. Of four youngsters who joined us at Kandahar, only the other day, only one came out of the battle.

"At the beginning of the fight the colours were carried by Olivey and Honeywood, both of whom clung to them after they were wounded; Olivey, it is said, angrily refusing to give them up. Honeywood, badly hurt in the legs and unable to stand, was holding his colour up high, and calling on the men to rally round it, when the death-shot struck him. Barr and Sergeant-Major Cuppage, who took them next, were killed almost at once; and the Colonel when last seen, was on his knees, clinging to one. It soon became evident that the attempt to stand in the garden was hopeless. The General could do nothing without his staff, and Heath, his Brigade-Major, had had his head taken off with a round shot, and Harris, of our regiment, Deputy-Assistant-Quarter-Master-General, was wounded. In our regiment, of eighteen officers who went into action, eleven were killed or wounded either before, or shortly after, entering the gardens.

"Of the remainder, Ready was Field Officer of the day, and had charge of the baggage of the brigade; Quarry and Bray were with the baggage of the regiment; Melliss and the regular transport officer were also with the baggage. Peirse got a bullet through his helmet, which partially stunned him, and when he recovered he was sent to the back of the gardens by Colonel Mainwaring, of Jacob's Rifles, to prevent any men leaving it. Faunce had retired with the smooth-bore battery, whose left division he com-

manded, so of all our officers only two were left unhurt with the men in the gardens. The native infantry regiments had lost nearly as many in proportion to their numbers. Broken up, and scattered, and crowded upon by the panic-stricken Sepoys, the 66th continued to fight in knots and groups. Many who tried to rally to the colours were carried away by the stream of fugitives—'in the lost battle borne down by the flying.' So utterly cowed were the men of Jacob's Rifles that when Peirse, standing with his cocked revolver at the rear entrance of one of the gardens, forbade them to leave it, they crouched down by the back wall, until they were killed like a flock of unresisting sheep. At last the General saw it was of no use, so he ordered the 'retire' to be sounded, and told the men to make the best of their way to Kandahar, some five-and-forty miles away. Then most of the men that could extricate themselves withdrew from the garden, though some would not retire, and stood to the last where the colours, or some disabled officer, offered a point of attraction. Many a V.C. was gained that day by those who are beyond the reach of all reward!

"Of all the 66th officers who entered the garden, only Olivey, Roberts, Peirse, Lynch, and Lonergan left it. Roberts, who was mortally wounded, was carried off on the general's horse—his third—two having been killed under him.

"Lynch was also wounded, though able to walk. As the men came out of the enclosures, they were at one point pressed rather closely by some of the enemy's cavalry; but a few of our fellows, chiefly belonging to

my old company F, rushed at the horsemen with the bayonet and drove them off. The enemy's infantry and Ghazis did not press the retreat far beyond the gardens. In the meantime Quarry's company was successfully guarding the baggage against the enemy's cavalry, though our own squadrons in retreating had thrown the camels into confusion, and nearly ridden over some of his men; but soon the camel drivers took to their heels, and the animals scattered hopelessly. Quarry, abandoning the hopeless attempt to guard the baggage, then betook himself to the task of covering the guns, already well started on the line of retreat. Falling back slowly, but steadily, he crossed the fatal nullah in good order, and, from behind it, delivered some telling volleys. The enemy's cavalry were hovering all round him, but his men's steady shooting kept them at a respectful distance; and so fighting for every yard of ground, and preserving something of the nature of a well ordered rear-guard, G company of the 66th regiment, the last remnant of Burrowes' brigade, left the battle-field of Maiwand.

"It was now past four o'clock; the prospect of plunder offered by the baggage, stopped anything like a vigorous pursuit on the part of the enemy, otherwise not a man—not an infantry man at any rate—would have got into Kandahar. Still, the retreat was terrible business, though not so disastrous as some of the telegrams reported. Of the 276 killed and missing in our own regiment, only about 20 men were lost in the line of retreat, and some of those were killed by villagers, who turned out in arms all along the road. No

attempt was made by the General to rally the scattered brigade and get them into something like formation ; but the remnant of our own regiment was moved in two collected bodies, one going ahead with Ready and Peirse, and the other, under Quarry, bringing up the rear.

“No food or drink had passed the men’s lips since they left camp in the early morning, and the road was known to be waterless for the first twenty miles ; and when at last they came to the spot where they expected water the spring was dried up.

“No attempt was made to ‘turn the fugitives from the waterless main road.’ All through the night they struggled on, the men taking it in turns to ride on camels and on the guns and waggons.

“The gunners of the E.B. behaved nobly, and were always ready to give up their seats to wounded or over-wearied men.

“The smooth-bore battery stuck in the Argandab river, the horses being utterly done, so the guns were spiked and abandoned.

“At Kokeran, part of the 2nd Brigade, who had been sent to bring in the fugitives, met them and drove off the tribesmen, who had collected to intercept them.

“The last of the force with Quarry entered Kandahar about three o’clock on the afternoon of the 28th. In our regiment two wounded officers and thirty wounded men were brought in. I am not certain of the number of wounded in the other regiments, but the killed and missing were about as follows (N.B.—The terms are synonymous for



Europeans, but not necessarily so for natives):—E Battery, Royal Horse Artillery, 3 officers and 40 men; 66th Regiment, 10 officers and 276 men; 1st Grenadiers, 2 officers and 360 men (about); Jacob's Rifles, 3 officers and 230 men; sappers, 1 officer and 20 men; cavalry brigade, 1 officer and 60 men; staff, 1 officer. Total, killed and missing, about 20 officers and 980 men. This does not include followers. I am proud to say that not one unwounded man of ours threw away his rifle.

"I need not speak of what I feel for the loss of all those fine fellows. Except two or three, all my greatest friends in the regiment have been swept away. The Colonel was as fine, honest, straightforward a gentleman as ever commanded a regiment.

"McMath, Cullen, Roberts, and Rayner were as fine fellows as there are in the army.

"Honeywood, Olivey, and Barr were, I believe, as promising young fellows as one could wish for in one's regiment, and they all died nobly and as soldiers ought to die.

"But it is for poor Chute that I grieve most of all. There is no satisfactory evidence about what became of him. He was acting Quarter-Master, and very busy during the day bringing up and serving out reserve ammunition; but after the line broke no one appears to have noticed him; no one saw him fall, and I am afraid the exact manner of his death will never be known."

Extracts from notes by Major Ready, 66th regiment, dated 10th November, 1880.

"On the 27th July last, I was in charge of the baggage-guards of Brigadier-General Burrowes' force. The guards consisted of—1 company 66th regiment under command of Captain John Quarry; 1 company 1st Bombay Native Infantry; 1 company 30th Bombay Native Infantry; a small guard of 1st N.I. with the treasure, and one of the 30th N.I. with the Commissariat Stores.

"Marching from the camp near Kushk-i-Nakud, *en route* for Maiwand, we proceeded about eight miles, when we halted for about an hour near a village. Shortly after leaving this village, I descried the enemy, away to our left front, marching on a line converging towards our route to Maiwand; there was a good deal of mirage, and it was difficult to see clearly, but, at the time, I estimated their strength at about 15,000 men.

"Our force changing direction towards the left, apparently to attack the enemy, I wheeled the baggage column to the left and followed on, until I reached a wide nullah; which I entered, halting the baggage on its sheltered slope. In this nullah the field-hospital was placed.

"Towards 11 a.m. our artillery opened on the enemy, who soon replied with 30 guns; these guns kept up a vigorous fire throughout the action. Finding that Ayoub's cavalry threatened our left flank, I extended Captain Quarry's company, so as to cover the left front of the baggage, and keep them off by their fire; and

this they did most effectually. I continued the line of Captain Quarry's skirmishers with half the company of the Bombay Grenadiers, and made a similar disposition across our right front with the remaining half-company, and the company of Jacob's Rifles.

"A number of the enemy—horsemen, Ghazis and villagers—making repeated attempts to push down the nullah, I found it necessary to call on Captain Quarry for 20 men, under 2nd-lieutenant Bray; and this party I posted on the left bank of the nullah, so that they commanded the nullah, and thus prevented any of the enemy getting round to our rear. As some of the enemy's shells fell amongst the baggage, Colonel Malcolmson, who commanded the rear-guard, requested me to withdraw the camels a little distance; this was done, but the baggage-guards continued to hold their positions.

"About 3 p.m., I observed some of our cavalry in the nullah, and presently E-B. battery R. H. Artillery, and some more cavalry crossed over (the smooth-bore guns, manned by the 66th, had crossed some time before); whereupon Captain Quarry withdrew his company to the left bank of the nullah, and joined Lieutenant Bray's party; with whom I had remained since 2 o'clock. I now saw numbers of men—mostly sepoys—passing to our rear in twos and threes; having crossed the nullah higher up. Some of these men joined the baggage, which was then retiring; but the majority made for the hills, looking, I presume, for water.

"Captain Quarry's company covered the retreat in

skirmishing order; and a few of the 1st and 30th Native Infantry, with some other men whom I was able to collect, also formed part of the general line. Captain Slade, R.H.A., now called upon us to support him, and came into action firing several rounds with excellent effect. The enemy did not maintain a vigorous pursuit. At about 5-30 p.m. their guns ceased firing, and after that, I consider that the pursuit ended.

"2nd-lieutenant Melliss, 66th regiment (the Regimental-Transport-Officer), joined the baggage-guard during the action, and assisted Captain Quarry and 2nd-lieutenant Bray. These three officers showed great coolness and judgment and did excellent service. As we retired from the field, I saw Lieutenants Melliss and Bray carrying a box of ammunition, the contents of which they served out to all who had space for more. The men were greatly exhausted from want of food, as well as from the intense heat; and we were obliged to mount them (after providing for the sick and wounded) on baggage animals. As our field-hospital was for a time exposed to a heavy fire, I fear many of our sick and wounded perished. Towards the evening a squadron fell back and covered the retreat. About 9 p.m., I rode along the line of retreat, and endeavoured to restore some sort of order; collecting men and baggage animals in parties, as far as was possible.

"I reached the Argandab river, near Kokeran, at 5 a.m. on the 28th, having with me a number of sepoy and camp followers; also artillery waggons and baggage animals. Shortly afterwards I was met by Brigadier-

General Brooke, to whom I reported myself, and requested that doolies and spare horses might be sent to the Argandab ford, to bring on the wounded, and help the guns across. I also reported that bodies of villagers were collecting, but that the pursuit had ceased. After this I proceeded to cantonments, and from thence went on to Kandahar."



The undermentioned officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the 66th Foot, fell at Maiwand.

Lieutenant Colonel	Galbraith, J.
Captain	Garratt, E. S.
"	McMath, W. H.
"	Cullen, T. J.
"	Roberts, W.
Lieutenant	Rayner, M. E. (Acting Adjutant)
"	Chute, R. Trevor
2nd Lieutenant	Honywood, A.
"	Barr, H. J. O.
"	Olivey, W. R.
Surgeon Major Preston, and Lieutenant Lynch were wounded.	

Regimental No.	Rank.	Names.
1171	Sergt. Major	Cuppage, A.
245	Arm Sergeant	Colley, Robert
1410	Colour-Sergeant	Apthorpe, John
640	"	Bayne, James
1011	"	Gover, Frederick
1340	"	Scadding, Samuel
1436	Sergeant	Cosgrave, John
770	"	Cruise, John
726	"	Davis, Thomas
1615	"	Fitzgerald, Richard
1485	"	Guntripp, William
1466	"	Rice, George
1416	"	Rollings, Jesse
672	"	Spencer, Isaac (Pioneer-Sergeant)
1635	"	Symonds, William
1072	"	Walker, James
1185	Lance-Sergeant	Ireland, Robert (Acting Drum-Major)
1010	Corporal	Ayling, William
1495	"	Bolton, George
200	"	Brennan, Michael
4146	"	Connolly, Richard
725	"	Davis, Eli
1493	"	Hanks, Charles (Acting Pay-Master-Sergeant)
1621	"	Mahoney, Eugene
1643	"	Milsome, William

Regimental No.	Rank.	Names.
677	Corporal	Morecroft, Enoch (Band- Corporal)
1476	"	Smith, William
1423	"	Travers, Hugh
1644	Drummer	Cohen, Henry
1497	"	Darby, Michael
1639	"	Groves, John
941	"	Goddard, George
175	"	Johnstone, James
1253	Private	Acott, John
678	"	Adams, John
591	"	Allen, Edward
520	"	Ambrose, Thomas
688	"	Ashton, Samuel
147	"	Adams, Patrick
1437	"	Allen, Edwin
1519	"	Anderson, George
3381	"	Almond, Robert
1440	"	Ackins, John
114	"	Barratt, Crispin
1175	"	Beard, John
147	"	Burton, James
1310	"	Basden, Alfred
1096	"	Beech, David
966	"	Beggs, Edward
392	"	Belcher, Abraham
312	"	Bennett, James
833	"	Bentley, George
850	"	Beard, John

Regimental No.	Rank.	Names.
1632	Private	Biffin, George
1129	"	Blake, Francis
577	"	Bolton, Edwin
1387	"	Boon, Samuel
29	"	Boucher, Henry
1408	"	Bracken, Michael
1646	"	Brown, James
1474	"	Brown, Thomas
488	"	Brown, William
1380	"	Brown, Henry
1071	"	Bryant, Benjamin
644	"	Bullock, David
77	"	Burgess, John
419	"	Burke, Edmund
1438	"	Burling, William
1395	"	Butler, Joseph
1327	"	Capel, Charles
187	"	Campbell, John
651	"	Cannings, John
473	"	Carter, George
639	"	Casey, Patrick
1277	"	Castle, Alfred
81	"	Chamberlain, Charles
315	"	Charman, John
1361	"	Clarke, James
1672	"	Churcher, George
1213	"	Cheeseman, William
616	"	Cobern, William
828	"	Collins, William



Regimental No.	Rank.	Names.
1544	Private	Coleman, John
1155	"	Connolly, Richard
349	"	Cooke, Charles
1304	"	Cooke, William
405	"	Cope, Joseph
1460	"	Cooney, John
1486	"	Cooper, Joshua
1075	"	Corke, James
274	"	Croft, Charles
1241	"	Daniels, William
1421	"	Davis, George
159	"	Davis, John
1531	"	Dawson, Frederick
1229	"	Dawson, John
615	"	Dewe, Albert
1347	"	Diamond, Martin
1433	"	Didcock, Job
1499	"	Diningan, Peter
845	"	Donnon, Robert
1471	"	Donoghue, Charles
1279	"	Doran, Edward
1434	"	Downes, Patrick
1273	"	Downey, Owen
1567	"	Doyle, James
1262	"	Drewitt, Philip
301	"	Drew, Albert
1645	"	Dudman, James
1487	"	Duffy, Edward
420	"	Dunne, Andrew

Regimental No.	Rank.	Names.
1203	Private	Dunn, Andrew
1714	"	Durrant, Daniel
216	"	Eaton, John
1401	"	Edwards, John
886	"	Elvidge, Mark
1364	"	Evans, John
566	"	Evans, John
1495	"	Evars, David
3452	"	Fahey, Edward
1494	"	Faulkner, Joseph
109	"	Feeney, John
1159	"	Fields, John
288	"	Fisher, Frederick
1660	"	Fitzgerald, John
1320	"	Fitzpatrick, James
1630	"	Fleming, William
1491	"	Foley, Patrick
1512	"	Ford, John
429	"	Fraher, Michael
260	"	Froude, Henry
1561	"	Gibson, William
1243	"	Gilbert, Frederick
1508	"	Gunney, George
1493	"	Gray, Jacob
687	"	Green, William
1403	"	Green, Henry
430	"	Greenstock, John
318	"	Grimshaw, Joseph
163	"	Grist, Levi

Regimental No.	Rank.	Names.
1461	Private	Hanson, Joseph
1330	,,	Harmsworth, Thomas
352	,,	Harding, Henry
1407	,,	Hazzell, William
1097	,,	Healey, James
1381	,,	Hill, Charles
291	,,	Hines, Robert
816	,,	Hinton, George
1413	,,	Hoare, John
1479	,,	Holloway, Thomas
665	,,	Holmes, Jesse
925	,,	Hoskins, William
1223	,,	Houlehan, Edward
1206	,,	Hughes, Thomas
1273	,,	Hume, Benjamin
691	,,	Huzzey, Andrew
686	,,	Ingerfield, George
1449	,,	Jackson, Joseph
607	,,	Jackson, William
407	,,	Jacobs, Edward
498	,,	James, William
275	,,	James, Isaac
1268	,,	Jenkins, John
1550	,,	Jefferies, Alfred
1667	,,	Jones, George
831	,,	Jones, Joseph
166	,,	Jones, William
1407	,,	Kelly, James
1510	,,	Kelley, Thomas

Regimental No.	Rank.	Names.
905	Private	Kent, John
1066	"	King, John
1506	"	King, Thomas
468	"	Knight, Daniel
1381	"	Lambert, Reuben
1329	"	Laing, Henry
1480	"	Lawrence, George
1031	"	Leach, Robert Daniel
1583	"	Lennon, William
1378	"	Lewis, Henry
1319	"	Lennard, Henry
706	"	Lee, Richard
1391	"	Lock, John
1596	"	McCaffery, Owen
1257	"	McDermott, John
433	"	McGinley, John
1404	"	McLaren, James
1637	"	McManus, William
1380	"	Maloney, Cornelius
654	"	Mannons, John
701	"	Martin, Henry
141	"	Martin, John
580	"	Masterson, John
1294	"	Mathews, David
219	"	Meadhurst, Frederick
261	"	Mead, William
306	"	Merritt, James
1298	"	Morgan, Joseph
373	"	Munday, Walter

Regimental No.	Rank.	Names.
1555	Private	Murrell, Henry
1616	"	Neal, Martin
492	"	Newton, Thomas
973	"	Northcott, Alfred
1411	"	Olley, Joseph
1464	"	O'Niel, Thomas
1529	"	Orris, Arthur
1339	"	O'Rielly, Michael
970	"	Palmer, John
123	"	Partington, Matthew
341	"	Perkins, William
326	"	Perris, Frederick
1673	"	Pettit, Oscar
1546	"	Pooley, Philip
181	"	Pound, John
680	"	Proctor, John
974	"	Ravenscroft, Joseph
206	"	Richardson, James
1638	"	Riechall, John
1231	"	Ritchie, John
470	"	Roach, Joseph
1419	"	Rolf, Charles
1787	"	Ryan, Alfred
416	"	Seery, Patrick
1488	"	Sharp, Richard
1426	"	Shelly, Shadrack
590	"	Sherville, Herbert
640	"	Shiner, Henry
968	"	Shute, Edwin

Regimental No.	Rank.	Names.
461	Private	Sibson, George
448	"	Sims, Thomas
1604	"	Slevin, John
367	"	Staymaker, Charles
436	"	Smith, James
444	"	Smith, Edwin
1254	"	Smith, John
434	"	Smith, Daniel
400	"	Smith, John
1670	"	Stacey, Thomas
447	"	Stallard, William
1295	"	Stevens, George
1513	"	Stephens, Joseph
411	"	Stroud, John
1248	"	Sutton, James
1224	"	Thompson, Charles
1655	"	Thorne, Enos
1322	"	Tippin, Emanuel
1409	"	Townsend, John
205	"	Trewenhard, William
1642	"	Tuttle, George
439	"	Veeney, William
531	"	Vernum, Alfred
1660	"	Vigors, Harry
410	"	Waight, Harry
555	"	Wakefield, James
1496	"	Walsh, John
1509	"	Ward, Patrick
568	"	Watts, Joshua

Regimental No.	Rank.	Names.
1123	Private	Webb, Harry
391	,,	Welsh, Samuel
179	,,	Werrell, Frederick
1523	,,	Weston, Lester
128	,,	Willett, James
1362	,,	Williams, Edward
210	,,	Wilson, William
1593	,,	Wilson, Henry
332	,,	Winter, Isaac
1451	,,	Wood, William
1262	,,	Wayne, John
1315	,,	Webb, William
824	,,	West, George
1536	,,	White, Henry
1550	,,	Whiting, Charles
1280	,,	Wiggins, Thomas
25	,,	Wolstenholme, Richard
1641	,,	Wilson, James
1370	,,	Yandall, George

The 66th lost both their Colours, and most of the regimental papers.

In conclusion, we will quote at length, a letter (dated 1st October, 1880,) written by Lieutenant-General Primrose, C. S. I.

“To His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India.

“SIR,

“In forwarding the accompanying documents, I would most respectfully wish to bring to H. E. the Commander-in-Chief's notice the gallant and deter-

mined stand made by the officers and men of the 66th Regiment at Maiwand.

"The disposition of the Regiment was as follows:—

"Fighting line, 15 officers, 364 men all ranks.

"Baggage guard, 4        63        "

"Smooth-bore battery, 1 officer, 42 men.

"Sick, 32 men.

"Of this number, 10 officers and 275 men were killed, and 2 officers and 30 N.C.O. and men wounded.

"These officers and men nearly all fell fighting for the honor of their Queen and Country.

"I have it on authority of a Colonel of Artillery of Ayoub Khan's Army, who was present at the time, that a party of the 66th Regiment which he estimated at 100 officers and men, made a most determined stand. They were surrounded by the whole of the Afghan Army, and fought on until only 11 men were left, inflicting enormous loss upon the enemy. These 11 men charged out of the garden and died with their faces to the foe, fighting to the death; such was the nature of their charge and the grandeur of their bearing, that, although the whole of the Ghazis were assembled around them, not one dared approach to cut them down.

"Thus standing in the open, back to back, firing steadily and truly, every shot telling, surrounded by thousands, these eleven officers and men died; and it was not until the last man had been shot down that the Ghazis dared advance upon them.

"He further adds that the conduct of these men was the admiration of all who witnessed it; this is



the testimony of a man who witnessed the scene, and who gave the information before Brigadier-General Daubeney proceeded to Maiwand.

“From an examination of the ground, from corroborative evidence, and from the position in which the bodies were found, I have not the least hesitation in stating that this account is true; and I think that His Excellency will agree with me when I say that history does not afford any grander or finer instance of gallantry and devotion to Queen and Country than that displayed by the 66th Regiment on the 27th of July, 1880.

“A nominal roll of the officers and men who fought and died thus nobly has been already forwarded to you, and inquiries from survivors elicit the following facts:—

“Lieutenant-Colonel Galbraith was last seen on the nullah bank kneeling on one knee with a Colour in his hand, officers and men rallying around him, and on this spot his body was found; here too, fell Captain McMath a gallant soldier, and one who would, had his life been spared, have risen to distinction in H.M.’s Service: close by, 2nd Lieutenant Barr was shot dead over one of the Colours.

“Captains Garrett and Cullen were both killed on the field in front of the nullah, up to the last moment commanding their companies and giving their orders with as much coolness as if on an ordinary regimental parade.

“Captain Roberts was mortally wounded in the garden, where the last stand was made, and here also

fell Lieutenants Rayner and Chute, 2nd Lieutenants Olivey and Barr; the two latter officers were seen holding up the colours, the pole of which was shattered to pieces, as rallying points; and Lieutenant Honeywood was shot down whilst holding a Colour high above his head, shouting, 'Men what shall we do to save this?'

"Sergeant-Major Cuppage was shot dead outside the garden whilst carrying a colour, and many other N.C. Officers and men laid down their lives in the attempt to save the Colours of their Regiment on that day.

"With the gallant band who made this last grand effort, fought and died Major Blackwood, R.H.A., Lieutenant Henn, R.E., and Lieutenant Hinde, 1st Grenadiers with some of his men.

"The men of the 66th Regiment on baggage guard under the command of Captain Quarry, did excellent service during the retreat.

"The party told off to man the smooth-bore battery under Lieutenant Faunce, worked their guns steadily and well during the fight.

"I have, &c.,

(Signed) J. M. PRIMROSE, Lieutenant-General."





## Chapter 18.

29th July, 1880, to 1st July, 1881.—Siege of Kandahar—Attack on Deh Kojah—Relief of Kandahar by General Sir Frederick Roberts—Burial of the dead at Maiwand—Return of the regiment to England—Numerical distinctions abolished—Finis.



**A**FTER the return of the survivors of Brigadier-General Burrowes' ill-fated column to Kandahar, the whole of the troops in cantonments were moved into the citadel, where was stored an abundant supply of provisions and ammunition, and here they were besieged by the Afghans until the 31st of August.

For some days there were comparatively few shots exchanged, but on the 16th August a portion of the garrison attacked the village of Deh Kojah, which was held by a strong body of the enemy.

The force engaged in this sortie consisted of the 7th Royal Fusiliers, and the 19th and 28th Native Infantry, under command of General Brooke. The remainder of the troops in the citadel, including the 66th, manned the ramparts, from whence the artillery poured a destructive fire of shell into Deh Kojah.

Three companies of the Fusiliers fought their way into the village, but being greatly out-numbered by the enemy

—who kept running in from all sides—had a desperate struggle to get clear again. They captured three guns, which, however, they were forced to abandon, having no means of bringing them into the citadel. The attack was made shortly after five o'clock, and the fighting continued until between nine and ten. The British lost 8 officers and 82 men killed; 7 officers and 97 men wounded. Amongst the former was General Brooke.

The enemy's losses were estimated at 2000 killed, and a great number wounded, including several of Ayoub's principal officers.

The following telegrams were received on this occasion:—

From the Queen Empress of India to the Viceroy—

“My heart bleeds for the loss of so many officers and men; pray express my sympathy and anxiety for the wounded.”

From the Commander-in-Chief in India—

“I sympathise with you and the troops in the losses sustained at Maiwand and on the 16th instant, greatly regretting General Brooke and the brave fellows who have fallen.”

On the 27th August the beleaguered garrison sighted the force which was marching to their relief, under Major-General Sir Frederick Roberts.

Roberts reached Kandahar on the 31st, and that same evening his cavalry brigade, when making a reconnaissance, was fired upon by the enemy, and had to retire.

Next morning (1st September) General Roberts, at the head of 11,000 men, with 32 guns, attacked Ayoub Khan's army, which was strongly entrenched near Baba

Wali. The action commenced about 8 a.m.; soon the enemy were forced to abandon their position, and flying in confusion, they allowed their camp and nearly all their artillery to fall into the hands of the British. Thirty-two guns were captured, amongst them the two field-pieces taken from the Horse Artillery at Maiwand.

The relief of Kandahar was thus successfully accomplished.

A few days—9th September—after this brilliant victory, Lieutenant Beresford Pierse was ordered to proceed to Maiwand with a party (consisting of Lieutenant Bruce, 1 sergeant, 1 corporal, and 18 privates,) for the purpose of burying the dead, who fell on the fatal 27th July.

This mournful task completed, the party returned to Kandahar, arriving there on the 23rd September. The previous day, Lieutenant-Colonel S. G. C. Hogge had joined Head-quarters—from command of the Deolali Dépôt—and on assuming command of the regiment, he published the following order:—

“ Captain Pierse having reported most favourably of the men who accompanied him to Maiwand, the commanding-officer takes the opportunity of thanking Captain Pierse, Lieutenant Bruce, and the non-commissioned-officers and men for the manner in which they performed the painful and arduous duty of burying the dead who fell at Maiwand. He is proud to inform the regiment that on all sides he hears admiration expressed of the gallant conduct of the regiment on the fatal field of Maiwand; and that during the siege, the officers, non-commissioned officers,

and men, were conspicuous for the cheerful and willing way in which they performed continuous and harassing duties. Such conduct reflects the greatest credit on all concerned, and he ventures to hope it will not be un-recognised by higher authority."

Lieutenant Beresford Pierse was promoted to a company on the 31st May; vice E. M. Hall retired on half-pay, the notification of his promotion being received during his absence at Maiwand.

The 66th marched from Kandahar on the 1st October, 1880, *en route* for India, and arrived at Quetta on the 13th. After a fortnight's rest at Quetta, the march was resumed; Pir Chowki was reached on the 3rd November, and from thence the regiment proceeded by rail to Kurrachee, where it arrived on the 7th November.

Major C. V. Oliver, who had been left at Kandahar to bring down a convoy of sick and wounded, died of small-pox, on the 10th October. He had served in the 66th for upwards of five-and-twenty years, and his death was thus referred to in orders:—

"The Lieutenant-Colonel feels sure that the loss of this officer will be deeply regretted by all who knew him."

On the 19th January, 1881, the 66th under command of Lieutenant-Colonel S. G. C. Hogge, proceeded to Bombay, and sailed for England next day in H.M. troopship, *Malabar*.

The *Malabar* reached Portsmouth on the 18th February, and on the 19th the regiment disembarked, and proceeded to the Isle of Wight, to be stationed at Parkhurst.

On the 24th February, the regiment was inspected by H.S.H. Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar, commanding the Southern District; and a second inspection took place on the 11th March, when the Inspecting Officer—H.R.H. Duke of Cambridge, Field-Marshal-Commanding-in-Chief—complimented the 66th on their soldierly appearance on parade, and their admirable conduct during the time they were in active service in Afghanistan.

Early in April, a detachment of the regiment, under command of Captain Murphy, with Lieutenant Williams as his subaltern, proceeded to Cowes, and were there stationed during the time Her Majesty the Queen remained at Osborne.

We must now bring these brief records of the 66th to a conclusion; for we have reached that period in its history when—the territorial system of organization being introduced—the regiment ceased to be designated by its time-honoured number.

On the 1st July, 1881, the 66th Foot became the "2nd Battalion, Princess Charlotte of Wales' Berkshire Regiment"; at the same time, the green facings, which had been worn for upwards of 120 years, were changed to white.\*

Loyalty, courage, and obedience, have ever been the characteristics of this good old corps. Whenever engaged on active service—whether in the pestilential island of St. Domingo—on the "stricken fields" of the Peninsula—amongst the jungles and mountain-passes of

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\* In 1886, in recognition of the gallantry displayed by the 1st Battalion (late 49th foot,) during the Soudan War, the "Berkshires" were made a "Royal" regiment, and blue facings were then substituted for white.

Nepaul—or at the glorious, though fatal, fight of Maiwand—the officers and soldiers of the 66th have proved themselves worthy of the confidence of their Sovereign, and of their country; and by their gallant bearing and steadiness in action have helped to add lustre to the British arms and exalt the military reputation of the Empire.

THE END.







## APPENDIX I.

### SUCCESSION OF COLONELS 66TH REGIMENT.

*EDWARD SANDFORD	21st April, 1758.
*JOHN LA FAUSSILE,	24th August, 1758.
*LORD ADAM GORDON,	19th January, 1763.
*JOSEPH GABBETT,	13th January, 1776.
*JOHN, EARL OF CLANRICARDE,	27th November, 1794.
OLIVER NICHOLLS,	18th July, 1808.

This officer was the second son of Jaspar Nicolls, and was born at Duncannon Fort, County Wexford, on the 1st October, 1742. On the 4th February, 1750, he was appointed a Mattross in the Corps of Artillery, and on the 17th of the same month a Gunner. He received his commission as Ensign in the "Royals" on 22nd November, 1756. Became Lieutenant in that Regiment, 4th March, 1760, and Adjutant on 30th May, 1767. In 1768, the Regiment went to Gibraltar. He became Captain, 25th June, 1773, and in 1775, returned to England. In 1780, went to the West Indies, and served on board the Fleet till the capture of St. Eustatius. Became Major on 14th March, 1781, still retaining the Adjutancy of the Regiment. In 1785, when quartered in Londonderry as Major of the "Royals," he received the freedom of that city. On the 5th February, 1787, became Lieutenant-Colonel, and in June of that year, was posted to the 45th Regiment, then in the West Indies. Commanded the troops in Grenada from 1789 to 1792. The Regiment then returned home to Guernsey, when he acted as Brigadier. When on leave in Wexford in July, 1793, he received the thanks of the inhabitants of that town, and a gold medal, in recognition of the services he rendered to them in their defence against an armed mob. Became Colonel in the Army on the 1st March, 1794, and in December, 1794, went again to West Indies as Brigadier-General, and Quarter-Master-General. Was

\* We have not been able to obtain any record of the services of these officers.

sent to Grenada—then in a state of insurrection—which he succeeded in restoring to order. On the 20th May, 1795, was appointed Colonel of the 4th West India Regiment, which he was empowered to raise. He commanded the troops in Grenada till May, 1796, when he was appointed Major-General to the Staff of the Lancashire (N. West) District, and in 1798, succeeded to the command of that district—Head-quarters, Liverpool. On 2nd October, 1799, was presented with Freedom of Liverpool. Early in 1802, was appointed Commander-in-Chief, Bombay Presidency, becoming Lieutenant-General, 25th September, 1803. Left Bombay, 26th February, 1807, in the "*Ganges*." When to S.E. of Madagascar, this vessel sprang a leak, and went down head foremost. The passengers and crew were saved by the "*St. Vincent*," one of the fleet of Indiamen, among which the "*Ganges*" was sailing, and continued the voyage in that ship. On the 6th September, 1809, went to Canterbury in command of the Kent District, which command terminated on the 24th June, 1812. In 1808, he was senior member of the Court of Inquiry into the Convention of Cintra—Sir Hugh Dalrymple, Sir Harry Burrard, and Sir Arthur Wellesley, (afterwards Duke of Wellington,) being the three Generals whose conduct of that affair was examined into. General Nicholls died at Chichester, Sussex, on the 3rd of December, 1829.

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SIR WILLIAM ANSON, K.C.B., 7th December, 1829.

Ensign, 1st Foot Guards, 13th June, 1739; Lieutenant and Captain, 25th April, 1793; Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel, 28th November, 1797; Colonel, 13th October, 1806; Major-General, 4th June, 1811; Lieutenant-General, 12th August, 1819. Sir W. Anson served on the Continent, 1793-95, in Sicily, 1806-8. On the 9th September, 1808, he embarked for Spain, and was present at the battle of Corunna. He fought in the subsequent campaigns in the Peninsula, and was present at Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelle, Orthes, and Toulouse. His name was mentioned in the vote of thanks from Parliament, for Salamanca, the Pyrenees, and Orthes, and he was made a K.C.B., and awarded a cross, with three clasps, for his services in the Peninsular War.

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RICHARD BLUNT, 25th March, 1835.

Ensign, 3rd Foot, 31st January, 1787; Lieutenant, 23rd February, 1791; Captain, 12th July, 1793; Major, 17th May, 1796; Lieutenant-Colonel, 23rd August, 1799; Colonel, 25th October, 1807; Major-General, 1st January, 1812; Lieutenant-General, 29th May, 1825; General, 23rd November, 1841. General Blunt served in Lord Moira's expedition, and in Flanders in 1794-5. He was actively employed under Sir Ralph Abercromby, in the West Indies, 1795-1802; and he also served in Hanover, Madeira, and in the Peninsular War. General Blunt was a Knight Commander of the "Tower and Sword of Portugal."

**EDWARD WELLS BELL, 26th December, 1859.**

Lieutenant, 16th May, 1811; Captain, 20th June, 1822; Major, 19th December, 1826; Lieutenant-Colonel, 29th June, 1830; Colonel, 9th November, 1846; Major-General, 20th June, 1854; Lieutenant-General, 27th December, 1860. Lieutenant-General Bell joined the 7th Royal Fusiliers in the Peninsula, in 1811, and served there until the end of the war. In 1841, he embarked with the Fusiliers, to join the force before New Orleans. He subsequently joined the army of occupation in Paris, and remained there until its withdrawal. War Medal and three clasps.

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**THOMAS HENRY JOHNSTON, 10th October, 1870.**

Ensign, 66th Foot, 21st February, 1822; Lieutenant, 1st October, 1825; Captain, 24th October, 1826; Major, 20th May, 1836; Lieutenant-Colonel, 28th December, 1838; Colonel, 11th November, 1851; Major-General, 4th June, 1857; Lieutenant-General, 31st January, 1864; General, 5th December, 1871. General Johnston served with the 66th in Canada during the rebellion of 1837-8, (see page 86.) and afterwards commanded the regiment for many years on foreign service.





## APPENDIX II.

### WAR SERVICES OF OFFICERS OF THE 66TH REGIMENT.

**ADAMS, CAPTAIN and BREVET LIEUTENANT-COLONEL**.—Died of wounds received at the battle of Talavera. See page 44.

**BARLOW, PAYMASTER CUTHBERT**.—Ensign, 7th January, 1810; Lieutenant, 13th January, 1814; Paymaster, 22nd Regiment, 3rd January, 1828. Mr. Barlow, previous to entering the army, served three years as a Midshipman in the Royal Navy. He served afterwards with the 66th Foot in the Peninsular War, from August, 1810, to April, 1812; also in the campaign in Nepal, in 1815. Subsequently he served against the Mahrattas, in 1817-18; also with the 10th Foot at the battle of Sobraon, (Medal); and with the 9th Lancers at the passage of the Chenab, at Ramnuggur, and the battles of Chillianwallah, and Goozerat. (Medal and clasps).

**BARR, 2nd LIEUTENANT HARRY J. O.**—2nd Lieutenant, 14th January, 1880. Killed at Maiwand. See p. 114.

**BENNING, CAPTAIN C.**—Wounded at the passage of the Douro. Killed at Albuhera, when commanding the regiment. A medal was sent to his relatives. See p.p. 33 and 56.

**BERRSFORD-PIERSE, MAJOR WILLIAM J. DE LA POER**.—Sub-Lieutenant, 14th August, 1872; Lieutenant, 14th August, 1873; Captain, 31st May, 1880; Major, 16th October, 1884. Served with the 66th in the Afghan War of 1879-80, and was present at Maiwand. Mentioned in despatches. Medal with clasp. See p. 111.

**BLAKENEY, MAJOR HENRY PEARSE**.—Ensign, 66th Foot, 9th July, 1803; Lieutenant, 24th March, 1804; Captain, 25th April, 1806; Brevet-Major, 12th August, 1809. Major Blakeney served with the 66th in Spain and Portugal; and in 1814, as Brigade-Major, on the Staff of Major-General Lord Aylmer.

**BOWYER, LIEUT.-GENERAL HENRY.**—Commanded the 66th, 1788-94. Served as Brigadier-General in St. Domingo, (see page 7). Major-General 26th February, 1795; Lieutenant-General, (local; West Indies) 8th May, 1798. Colonel 16th Regiment of Foot, 15th December, 1797.

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**BRAY, CAPTAIN REGINALD EDWARD TRAHERNE.**—2nd Lieutenant, 14th January, 1880; Lieutenant, 28th July, 1880; Captain, 13th February, 1886. Captain Bray served with the 66th in the Afghan War of 1880, and was present in the affair with the Wali's Mutineers, (16th July), at Maiwand, and at the subsequent defence and battle of Kandahar. Mentioned in despatches. Medal with clasp. (see pp. 116-17.) Captain Bray served also in the Soudan Expedition of 1884-5. Medal with clasp.

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**BRUCE, CAPTAIN F. MC CRAE.**—Ensign, 24th December, 1870; Lieutenant, 28th October, 1871; Captain, 28th July, 1880. Captain Bruce served with the 66th Regiment during the Afghan War, 1879-80; march from Khelat-i-Ghilzai to relief of Kandahar; battle of 1st September. Medal with clasp, and bronze star.

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**BULSTRODE, CAPTAIN AUGUSTUS.**—Served with the 66th in the Peninsula, and was severely wounded at the Nive, 13th December. See p. 71.

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**BUNNY, CAPTAIN F. MC TIER.**—2nd Lieutenant, 14th January, 1880; Lieutenant, 29th September, 1880; Captain, 16th November, 1886. Served in Southern Afghanistan in 1879-80. Medal.

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**CAMPBELL, MAJOR THOMAS BUCHELEY.**—Quarter-Master, 66th Foot, 21st December, 1785; Lieutenant, 16th October, 1792; Captain, 2nd June, 1796; Brevet-Major, 13th May, 1804; Major, 62nd Foot, 1st September, 1804. Retired full pay, (rank stationary) in 1807. This officer served with the 66th in St. Domingo, and was present at the attack on Turgeau, and other affairs. See page 6-7.

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**CARLYON, MAJOR EDWARD.**—Ensign, 24th March, 1803; Lieutenant, 9th February, 1804; Captain, 25th July, 1805; Major, 4th June, 1813. Served with 1st Battalion 66th in Jersey when arrangements of defence against invasion were being concerted. Served as Fort Major at Trincomalee, and as commandant of Batticaloa, a fortress in the island of Poclantove. Served with his regiment throughout Nepaulese War, 1815-16, (see page 22) and accompanied it to Saint Helena. Was transferred to 2nd Battalion on 24th July, 1817, and placed on half pay when that battalion was reduced, 24th November, 1817.

**CAULFEILD, LIEUTENANT ALGERNON MONTGOMERIE.**—Lieutenant, 17th December, 1881. Served with the 66th in the Afghan War of 1879-80. Medal. Mr. Caulfeild was also awarded the Medal for "Meritorious Service in the Field."

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**CHUTE, 2nd LIEUTENANT TREVOR.**—Killed at Maiwand. See p. 114.

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**CLARKE, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL JOHN.**—(Military Knight of Windsor). Ensign, 14th July, 1808; Lieutenant, 3rd October, 1809; Captain, 13th January, 1825; Major, 28th June, 1838; Lieutenant-Colonel, 28th November, 1854. This gallant officer served in the Peninsula with the 2nd Battalion 66th, from March, 1809, to the end of the war in 1814; including the passage of the Douro, the battle of Talavera, lines of Torres Vedras, actions of Arroyos dos Molinos and Campo Mayor, battle of Albuhera, siege of Badajoz, battle of Vittoria, the Pyrenees, Nivelle, Nive, Orthes, actions of St. Palais and Aire, and battle of Toulouse; besides numerous skirmishes. At Albuhera, when commanding a company of flankers, he was struck down and taken prisoner, but made his escape (see pp. 52-4) in a charge of cavalry. Colonel Clarke received the War Medal with 8 clasps. He also served with the 66th during the Canadian Rebellion of 1837-8.

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**COATES, GENERAL JAMES.**—This officer entered the service in the year 1755, as an Ensign in the 19th Foot. In 1757, the 19th was augmented to two battalions, the second of which subsequently became the 66th Foot (Colonel La Fausille's). Ensign Coates was attached to the new corps. On the 24th August, 1761, he succeeded to the rank of Captain-Lieutenant, (see list for 1761,) and on 2nd April, 1762, obtained his company. Up to this date, Coates had been employed on the Recruiting Service; but he now embarked with his regiment for Ireland, and from thence sailed for the West Indies. In 1766, he purchased the Majority of his regiment, and after remaining ten years in the West Indies, brought it home.\*

Major Coates had been appointed Brevet-Lieutenant-Colonel in September, 1765, and on 25th October, 1775, he purchased the Lieutenant-Colonelcy of his old corps, the 19th. A brigade was subsequently formed; consisting of the 3rd, 19th, and 30th Regiments, under Colonel Gould, which sailed for America, and landed at Charlestown; where Lieutenant-Colonel Coates was appointed Brigadier-General. He was slightly wounded in America.

When the American War was drawing to a conclusion, this Brigade was sent to the West Indies, and Colonel Coates was with the 19th at Jamaica, almost the whole time it was stationed there.

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\* The M.S. Records of the 66th do not mention this tour of foreign service (see page 2) and unfortunately, we obtained the information too late to make the necessary alteration in the body of the work.

This officer's subsequent commissions bear date as follows:—  
Colonel, 16th May, 1781; Major-General, 28th April, 1790;  
Lieutenant-General, 26th January, 1797; General, 29th April,  
1802.

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CODD, LIEUTENANT JOHN.—Wounded at Albuhera. See page 56.

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COLTER, LIEUTENANT.—Wounded at Talavera, and fell into the hands of the French when they entered the town after the Allied Armies retired to Truscillo and Mondego. Colonel Clark relates that Lieutenant Colter was carried prisoner to Madrid, but died suddenly on the road, from drinking cold water when heated. See page 44.

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COULTER, ENSIGN.—Killed at the battle of Albuhera. See page 56.

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CUFFE, MAJOR SIR CHARLES WHEELER, BART.—Ensign, 16th May, 1851; Lieutenant, 21st April, 1854; Major on retired list, 26th April, 1859. Served as 2nd A.A. General on Lord Clyde's staff during the campaign in Oude, 1858-9, and was present at the actions of Uoondiaakeria, Magedia, and the Raptée. Medal with clasp, and Brevet of Major.

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CULLEN, CAPTAIN F. J.—Ensign, 21st February, 1865; Lieutenant, 31st August, 1869; Captain, 18th October, 1879; Killed at Maiwand. See pp. 106 and 114.

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DAVENPORT, CAPTAIN EDWARD MONTAGU.—Ensign, 24th April, 1835; Lieutenant, 6th August, 1838; Captain, 31st December, 1844. Served with the 66th in Canada during the rebellion of 1837-8, and was present at the action of St. Denis.

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DODGIN, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL DANIEL, C.B.—Appointed Cornet in the 2nd Dragoon Guards, 3rd September, 1794; he joined, the 7th December following, and was in the action of Burin, on the Rhine, 8th January, 1795. He was promoted Lieutenant, 26th May, 1795, and returned with the Regiment to England in 1796; promoted 3rd May, 1800, to the Captain-Lieutenancy, and exchanged April, 1801, into the 54th Regiment, which he joined in the latter part of the Campaign of 1801, in Egypt. He was placed on half-pay in Gibraltar, in September, 1802, and appointed to the 60th Regiment, May, 1803, and to the 66th Regiment, 9th July, 1803. He left the 2nd Battalion in 1806, and joined 1st Battalion in Ceylon. He was appointed Major, 29th June, 1809, and exchanged into the 69th Regiment, in April, 1810: he was at

the taking of the Isles of Bourbon, in June, 1810, and France, in November and December, 1810; but his exchange not being approved, he returned to England in May, 1811; and embarked in June, and joined the 2nd Battalion 66th, in the Peninsula. He commanded a battalion of Light Companies, in Major-General Byng's Division, from 1811 to 1814; and was with it at the action of Arroyo dos Molinos, 28th October, 1811; with the advance to and retreat from Madrid and Salamanca, in 1812; at the battle of Vittoria, (see p. 66), for which he obtained a medal, and the brevet of Lieutenant-Colonel; at the actions of the Pyrenees, for which he received a clasp; at St. Pallas, 15th February, 1814; at Orthes, for which he received another clasp; and at Aire, 2nd March, 1814, where he was severely wounded, (see p. 69) Lieutenant-Colonel Dodgin was engaged with the Light Companies eleven times, exclusive of the above.

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DUDGEON, LIEUTENANT.—Died of wounds received at Talavera. Page 47.

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DUFF, QUARTER-MASTER PATRICK.—Mr. Duff served with the 66th during the Canadian Rebellion of 1837-8, and was present at the affairs of St. Denis and St. Charles. Mr. Duff was appointed Quarter-Master of the Cavan Militia, in 1855.

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DUNBAR, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL WILLIAM.—Ensign, 31st March, 1802; Lieutenant, 8th August, 1803; Captain, 66th Foot, 4th August, 1808; Brevet-Major, 21st April, 1813; Lieutenant-Colonel, 21st June, 1817. After serving with the 78th Highlanders in the Mahratta Campaigns of 1803-4, this officer changed to the 19th Light Dragoons, and was subsequently promoted into the 66th. He embarked with the 66th for Portugal, in 1809, and commanded his company at the passage of the Douro. Shortly after this he was appointed to the Staff, and continued to serve in the Peninsula until the conclusion of the war in 1814. He was present at the battles of Talavera, Vittoria, the Pyrenees, and Toulouse, and also at Arroyo dos Molinos, Almaraz, and St. Guadens; and was favourably mentioned in despatches. In 1815, he joined the Staff of the Army in France; and in 1818 returned home for the purpose of commanding the 66th Depot.

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EDMONDS, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL H.—(Barrack-master at Hounslow and Hampton Court, in 1856). Served with the 66th Regiment during the Peninsular War, from March, 1802 to 1814, and was slightly wounded at Talavera.

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EDWARDS, CAPTAIN CHARLES MCKENZIE.—2nd Lieutenant, 22nd January, 1879; Lieutenant, 14th November, 1879; Captain, 28th January, 1884. Captain Edwards served in the Afghan War of 1879-80. Defence of Kandahar, and battle of September 1st.



(Medal and clasp). Also with the 1st Battalion Royal Berks Regiment in the Soudan Expeditions of 1885-6, including reconnaissance to Hasheen; actions at Hasheen and Tofrek; operations at and destruction of Tamia; and action at Ginnis. (Medal with 2 clasps.)

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FAUNCE, CAPTAIN G. DE LA MOTTE.—Lieutenant, 29th November, 1876; Captain, 30th October, 1883; Paymaster, 2nd Battalion Royal Berks. Served with the 66th in the Afghan War of 1879-80; including action at Girishk, battle of Maiwand, and retreat to Kandahar; defence of Kandahar, and battle of the 1st September. Mentioned in despatches, *London Gazette*, 19th November and 31st December, 1880. Medal and clasp. See page 131.

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FARR, LIEUTENANT GERALD.—Wounded at the passage of the Douro, at Talavera, and at Vittoria. See pp. 33, 44, and 66.

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FERN, CAPTAIN WILLIAM.—Wounded at Albuhera. Page 56.

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FOX, LIEUTENANT CHARLES.—Killed on 27th September, 1810, at an action fought on the Sierra Busaco. See page 47.

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GALBRAITH, COLONEL JAMES.—Ensign, 12th December, 1851; Lieutenant, 6th June, 1854; Captain, 29th February, 1856; Major, 18th August, 1869; Lieutenant-Colonel commanding 66th Foot, 14th November, 1879. Lieutenant-Colonel Galbraith was killed at Maiwand. See pp. 109, 110-114.

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GARRATT, CAPTAIN E. STEPHEN.—Ensign, 2nd June, 1865; Lieutenant, 6th July, 1867; Captain, 5th March, 1870. Killed at Maiwand. See p. 109.

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GOLDIE, LIEUTENANT-GENERAL GEORGE LEIGH, C.B.—Cornet, 6th Dragoon Guards, 1803; Lieutenant, 1805; Captain, 66th Foot, 21st January, 1808; Brevet-Major, 20th June, 1811; Lieutenant-Colonel, 12th August, 1819; Colonel, 10th January, 1837; Major-General, 9th November, 1846; Lieutenant-General, 20th June, 1854; Colonel, 77th Regiment, 22nd December, 1854. This officer served with the 66th in the Peninsula, from March, 1809, to November, 1813, including the passage of the Douro, battles of Talavera, Busaco, Albuhera, Vittoria, and the Pyrenees; besides many other minor actions and skirmishes. He was severely wounded in the Pyrenees, on the 30th July, 1813, and was reported "mortally wounded" (see pages 68-69.) For his distinguished service, General Goldie received the Gold Medal for Albuhera, and the Silver War Medal with four clasps; he was also made a C.B.

**GORDON, MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JAMES WILLOUGHBY, BARONET, K.C.B.**—Ensign, 66th, 17th October, 1783; Lieutenant, 5th March, 1789; Captain, 2nd September, 1795; Major, 9th November, 1797; Lieutenant-Colonel, 21st May, 1801; Colonel, (Royal African Corps), 25th July, 1810; Major-General, 4th June, 1813. After serving for four years with the 66th in the West Indies, this officer joined Lord Hood's fleet as volunteer, and proceeded to Toulon. He rejoined his regiment at Gibraltar, and was, in 1795, employed on the Staff in Ireland. In March, 1793, he rejoined the 66th at Halifax, and commanded the regiment until early the following year, when he was appointed Military Secretary to H.R.H. Duke of Kent, who was at that time Commander-in-Chief in British North America; and returned with His Royal Highness, to England, in 1800. In the spring of 1801, Major Gordon was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel in the 85th. He subsequently held various Staff appointments, and in October, 1818, was created a Baronet. Before a Committee of the House of Commons, in 1809, Colonel Gordon thus stated his services:—"I have served His Majesty very nearly twenty-six years; for the last twenty-four of which, I have been employed in every part of the world, (the East Indies excepted), where His Majesty's troops have been stationed. I have been four times to the West Indies; twice to America; and all over the Mediterranean. It has been my fortune, very undeservedly perhaps, to have a sword voted for my services, and to have been repeatedly thanked by General Officers under whom I have been placed. It is perhaps a singular part of my service, that I not only served in every situation in the Army, from an Ensign up to my present rank, but I have also served in every situation upon the Staff of the Army, without one single exception."

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**HALL, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL GEORGE WILLIAM MONK.**—Ensign, 31st May, 1859; Major, 1st July, 1881; Honorary-Lieutenant-Colonel, 5th September, 1883. Colonel Hall served with the 66th in Southern Afghanistan, in 1879-80.

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**HAND, LIEUTENANT F.**—Wounded at Talavera and Albuhera. See pp. 44 and 56.

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**HARVEY, LIEUTENANT THOMAS J.**—Wounded at Talavera and Albuhera. See pp. 44 and 56.

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**HAY, ENSIGN.**—Severely wounded at Albuhera by a Polish Lancer. (See pp. 53). He recovered from his wound, but died of consumption a few years later.

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**HICKEN, LIEUTENANT T. B.**—Wounded at Albuhera. See p. 56.

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**HONEYWOOD, 2nd LIEUTENANT ARTHUR.**—2nd Lieutenant, 14th January, 1880. Killed at Maiwand. See pp. 109, 10-14, and 131.

**HARRIS, MAJOR THOMAS.**—Ensign, 18th December, 1863; Lieutenant, 7th January, 1868; Captain, 10th October, 1874; Major, 8th January, 1883. Served in the Afghan War of 1879-80, as D.A.Q.M. General Kandahar Field Force, and was present in the engagements at Girishk, (wounded), and on the Helmund (mentioned in despatches), at Maiwand, (wounded), and in the defence of Kandahar, (Medal). Major Harris is now serving as D.A.A. General, Madras. p. 110.

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**HATTON, LIEUTENANT-GENERAL JOHN.**—Ensign, 66th Foot, 29th June, 1780; Lieutenant, 16th July, 1782; Captain, 21st July, 1783; Major, 2nd September, 1795; Lieutenant-Colonel, 17th August, 1797; Colonel, 30th October, 1805; Major-General, 4th June, 1811; Lieutenant-General, 12th August, 1819. This officer served with the 66th in the West Indies for eight years, and at Gibraltar for three years. As Major, he commanded the regiment at the attack on Leogane, St. Domingo (see page 7), and subsequently, as Lieutenant-Colonel in North America, and India, (see pp. 9 and 13). In 1807, he returned from India, and was appointed to the Staff in Alderney; in 1811, he was serving on the Staff at Perth, with the rank of Major-General.

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**HEALEY, LIEUTENANT JOHN.**—Ensign, 4th December, 1857; Lieutenant, 21st April, 1860. Served in the 83rd Foot during the Indian Campaign; was present at the reduction of the fort of Arrah, January, 1858, siege and assault of Kotah, defeat of Gwalior rebels at Kotaria, and attack on rebels at Seckur. Medal.

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**HENRY, INSPECTOR-GENERAL-OF-HOSPITALS WALTER.**—Hospital Assistant, 11th April, 1811; Assistant Surgeon, 19th December, 1811; Surgeon, 8th June, 1826; Staff Surgeon, 4th January, 1839; Deputy-Inspector-General, 16th December, 1848; Inspector-General, 3rd December, 1818. Mr. Henry served with the 66th in the Peninsula, from May, 1811, to the close of the war. (War Medal with three clasps). He served with the 1st Battalion during the Nepaulese War of 1816-7; and in the Canadian Rebellion of 1837-8. Mr. Henry was present in St. Helena during the last four years of Napoleon Bonaparte's life; and after his death was charged with the duty of preparing the bulletin of the post-mortem appearance of the body, which was published by the British Government. See pp. 78 and 80.

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**HOLLYER, LIEUTENANT AND QUARTER-MASTER WALTER.**—Quarter-Master, 18th June, 1881. Served with the 66th in the Afghan War of 1879-80, and took part in the defence of Kandahar, and was present at the battle of Kandahar. Medal with clasp. page 98.

**JACKSON, MAJOR-GENERAL ALEXANDER COSBY.**--Major-General Jackson entered the Army as an Ensign in the 40th Foot, in July, 1799. He embarked with that corps for Toulon, in 1793, but a fever breaking out on board the transports, they returned to Plymouth, where the 40th disembarked. In March, 1794, Jackson was promoted to a company in the old 94th, (Lord Hutchinson's regiment), and in the following year he obtained his Majority. In March, 1798, the 94th was reduced, and the officers placed on half-pay. Major Jackson was, however, reappointed to the 40th, and served with that regiment during the Helder expedition; also in Minorca; and in Sir Ralph Abercrombie's unsuccessful attack on Cadiz. In July, 1803, Major Jackson was appointed to the 67th, and served in India until 1810, when he obtained the Lieutenant-Colonelcy of the 66th. Colonel Jackson joined the 66th in Ceylon, and then held several important commands. In June, 1813, he was appointed Major-General, and was subsequently employed in Canada.

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**KELLY, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL RICHARD.**--Lieutenant, 41st Foot, 12th January, 1799; Captain, 66th Foot, 6th March, 1806; Major, 4th Ceylon Regiment, 6th December, 1810; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, 3rd August, 1815; Major, 83rd Foot, 1st January, 1818. This officer, while serving as a Lieutenant in the 41st, was placed on half-pay on the reduction of the Army after the peace of Amiens. On war again breaking out, he was posted to the 67th, and shortly afterwards he obtained permission to raise a company. Having obtained the required number of men—chiefly from amongst his father's tenantry in Ireland—he was gazetted Captain, and posted to the 2nd Battalion 66th. When the battalion embarked for Portugal in March, 1809, Captain Kelly was senior Captain; and the Lieutenant-Colonel (Sir Charles Wale) being employed on the Staff in the West Indies, the battalion was commanded by Major Murray; Major Richard Lloyd being the junior Major. Lloyd was drowned on the march to Cork, (page 29) so the battalion landed in Portugal with only one Field officer, and thus Captain Kelly had to perform the duties of Major. At the passage of the Douro the battalion was taken into action by Major Murray, and he being severely wounded, the command devolved upon Captain Kelly. Captain Kelly retained the command for nearly two years, and took the 66th into action at Talavera, where he was wounded by the fragment of a shell, but did not quit the field (pages 37 and 44). For his services at Talavera, Captain Kelly was specially recommended for a Majority, (not a *brevet* but a *substantive* Majority,) but was, to his great regret, posted to the 4th Ceylon Regiment. Though his commission as Major bore date of 6th December, 1810, he did not relinquish command of the 2nd Battalion 66th, until early in the following year, and so was present at the battle of Busaco, and also in the lines of Torres Vedras. On his leaving the 66th, the officers of the 2nd Battalion

presented Major Kelly with a silver mounted Sword, as "*a mark of their high esteem and regard, and to return their acknowledgements for his kindness to them while they had the happiness of serving under his command.*" Major Kelly received the Gold Medal for Talavera, but died before the issue of the Peninsular War Medal—to which he would have been entitled, together with three clasps for the Douro, Talavera, and Busaco.

Major Kelly subsequently distinguished himself in Ceylon, during the suppression of the Kandyan rebellion, for which he received a highly complimentary letter from Sir Edward Barnes.

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**KELLY, ENSIGN.**—This officer, who was the youngest brother of Lieutenant-Colonel Kelly, (see above) joined the 66th shortly before Talavera. At the battle of Talavera, Ensign Kelly carried the Regimental-Colour; which was shot through, though he escaped without a wound. Mr. Kelly, being of a delicate constitution, could not stand the hardships of the campaign, and being left behind in hospital, he fell into the hands of the French, and died a prisoner of war.

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**LYNCH, CAPTAIN HYACINTH.**—2nd Lieutenant, 9th July, 1879; Lieutenant, 10th April, 1880; Captain, 15th December, 1884. Served on the Afghan War of 1879-80; including action at Girishk; battle of Maiwand, (wounded, see page 111,) defence of Kandahar. Mentioned in despatches, (*London Gazette*, 19th November, 1880). Medal. Also with the 1st Battalion Royal Berks in Soudan Expedition, 1885, and fought in the action of Tofrek. Medal and 2 clasps.

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**L'ESTRANGE, LIEUTENANT.**—Wounded at Albuhera. (p. 56.)

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**MC MATH, CAPTAIN W. H.**—Ensign, 22nd August, 1865; Lieutenant, 1st August, 1868; Captain, 14th April, 1877. Killed at Maiwand. See pp. 109-14.

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**MACK, ENSIGN.**—Wounded at Albuhera. See p. 56.

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**MC CARTHY, LIEUTENANT CHARLES.**—Wounded at Talavera and Albuhera. See pp. 44-56.

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**MACKINNON, MAJOR W. A. DANIEL.**—Ensign, 29th May, 1867; Lieutenant, 29th May, 1869; Captain, 13th April, 1879; Major, 14th April, 1883. Served in the Afghan War, 1879-80, march from Khelati-i-Ghilzai to Kandahar, relief of Kandahar, and battle of 1st September. Medal with clasp; and bronze star.

**MELLISS, LIEUTENANT G. LAURENCE.** (Bombay Staff Corps).—2nd Lieutenant, January, 1879; Lieutenant, 28th July, 1880. Served with the 66th Foot in the Afghan War, 1879-80, and was present at the battle of Maiwand and retreat to Kandahar. See pp. 116, 17.

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**MORGAN, LIEUTENANT H.**—Wounded and taken prisoner at Talavera. See p. 44.

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**MORRIS, LIEUTENANT APOLLOS.**—Wounded and taken prisoner at Talavera. See p. 44.

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**MORRIS, LIEUTENANT S. C.**—Wounded at Talavera. See p. 44.

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**MORRIS, MAJOR ARTHUR.**—After serving as a subaltern with the 73rd in India, from 1798 to 1803, this officer was promoted to a company in the 2nd Ceylon Regiment. Exchanging back to the 73rd, he brought it home in 1806. In 1809, he exchanged to the 2nd battalion 66th and accompanied it to Portugal, but the fatigue and hardships of the campaign so impaired his health that he was compelled to return to England. He then exchanged to the 2nd Garrison Battalion, and was for some years employed on the Staff as Major of Brigade. In 1814, he received a Brevet Majority, and was subsequently placed on half-pay.

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**MURPHY, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL THOMAS.**—Lieutenant, 8th January, 1856; Captain, 5th August, 1870; Major, 1st July, 1881; Hon. Lieutenant-Colonel, 8th January, 1883. Served in the Royal Artillery throughout the Eastern Campaign, from June, 1854 to January, 1856. Was present at Inkerman, and engaged in the six bombardments of Sebastopol, and was not absent from regular trench duty for a single day from first breaking ground to the end of the siege, (recommended for distinguished conduct). Served in the Turkish Contingent at Kertch, from January, 1856, to end of war. Medal with two clasps, and Turkish Medal. Lieutenant-Colonel Murphy is on retired pay. See page 94.

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**MURRAY, COLONEL JAMES PATRICK, C.B.**—Obtained an Ensigny in the 44th regiment, 1796, and a Lieutenantcy in 1797. He was employed on regimental duty until May, 1798, when he was appointed Aide-de-camp to General Don, with whom he continued until June, 1799, when he joined Lieutenant-General Sir James Pulteney, and served as Aide-de-camp to that officer during the campaign in North Holland. He was present in the actions of the 27th August, 10th and 19th September, 2nd and 6th of October. On the 26th December, 1799, he obtained a company in the 9th Foot. He next served in the expedition to Ferrol. At the peace of 1802, he was

placed on half-pay, and after studying for some time at the Royal Military College, was appointed to a company in the 66th Foot. The 9th February, 1804, he obtained a Majority in the latter corps: the 25th May, 1809, he received the Brevet of Lieutenant-Colonel, and was appointed Assistant-Quarter-Master-General in Ireland; and in November, 1809, Lieutenant-Colonel, 5th Garrison Battalion. He also served in Portugal, and received a severe wound at the passage of the Douro (see page 33); in 1813, 14 he was Assistant Adjutant-General in Ireland. The 12th August, 1812, he received the Brevet of Colonel.

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**NICHOLLS, CAPTAIN AUGUSTUS.**—Ensign, 5th October, 1809; Lieutenant, 1st September, 1813; Captain, 17th March, 1837; Placed on half-pay, 17th March, 1837. Captain Nicholls served in the Peninsula with the 66th, from February, 1810, to the end of the war in 1814; including the battles of Busaco, Albuhera, Vittoria, Orthes, and Toulouse; also the actions of Arroyo dos Molinos, Garris, and Aire. War Medal with clasps.

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**NICHOLLS, MAJOR-GENERAL GEORGE.**—Ensign, 26th June, 1799; Lieutenant, 25th May, 1803; Captain, 23rd February, 1809; Major, 5th July, 1821; Lieutenant-Colonel, 10th January, 1837; Colonel, 11th November, 1851; Major-General, 31st August, 1855. Joined 2nd Battalion 66th Regiment, in Spain, 1811, and was severely wounded at Vittoria (see page 66), in skirmishing with the enemy as Captain of the Light Company, (Medal with clasp). Subsequently he joined the 1st Battalion at St. Helena, and was appointed Orderly Officer to Napoleon, and had charge of the Longwood Establishment during seventeen months. (Hart's Army List, 1856.)

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**NICOL, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL CHARLES.**—Captain, 66th Foot, 26th June, 1799; Major, 3rd April, 1806; Lieutenant-Colonel, 13th June, 1811. This officer served with the 66th in Spain and Portugal, and after the battle of the Nive, succeeded to the command of the provisional battalion, composed of the 31st and 66th, (pages 70 and 74). Commanded a Brigade during the Nepaulese War of 1816-17. (See p. 22). He subsequently commanded the 66th at St. Helena, (page 79) and took the regiment home in 1821. In 1827, Colonel Nicol proceeded to Canada in command of the 66th. Page 81.

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**OLIVEY, 2ND LIEUTENANT, WALTER R.**—2nd Lieutenant, 14th January, 1880. Killed at Maiwand. (See pp. 109, 10-14.)

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**OLIVER, MAJOR CHARLES VALENTINE.**—Ensign, 8th September, 1854; Lieutenant, 29th February, 1856; Captain, 21st April, 1863; Major, 24th February, 1878. Died at Kandahar. See p. 135.

**PARKE, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL WILLIAM.**—Ensign, 1791; Lieutenant, 1793; Captain, 1797; Major, 1811; Brevet-Lieutenant-Colonel, 12th August, 1719. Colonel Parke first saw service with the 53rd Foot, in the West Indies; from whence he returned home in time to take part in the suppression of the Irish rebellion of 1798. After serving in the Helder expedition; in the Duke of York's campaign in North Holland; and in Egypt, under Sir Ralph Abercrombie; Parke accompanied his regiment to Portugal, and was present at the battle of Vimiera; also during Moore's retreat through Spain, and was wounded at Corunna. He subsequently served in the Walcheren expedition, and again accompanied the 53rd to the Peninsula, in 1811. In 1812, he exchanged—as Major—into the 2nd Battalion 66th, and proceeded with the battalion to St. Helena, where he served until the reduction of the battalion in 1817, when he was placed on half-pay.

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**PARDY, LIEUTENANT T.**—Wounded at Talavera. (See p. 44.)

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**PRESTON, SURGEON-MAJOR ALEXANDER FRANCOIS, M.B.**—Assistant-Surgeon, 30th September, 1863; Surgeon, 1st March, 1873; Surgeon-Major, 28th April, 1876. Mr. Preston served with the 66th in the Afghan War of 1879-80, and was present at the battle of Maiwand, (severely wounded), the action of Girishk, and siege of Kandahar. Mentioned in despatches. Medal. See page 107.

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**QUARRY, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL JOHN.**—Ensign, 29th October, 1861; Lieutenant, 4th March, 1868; Captain, 15th August, 1875; Brevet-Major, 2nd March, 1881; Major 1st July, 1881; Hon-Lieutenant-Colonel, 16th October, 1884. Served with the 66th in the Afghan War, in 1879-80, and was present at the affairs on the Helmund against the Wali's mutineers, and at Girishk; at the battle of Maiwand and retreat to Kandahar; the defence of Kandahar; including the sortie of the 16th August; and at the battle of Kandahar. Mentioned in three despatches, Brevet of Major, Medal with clasp. See pp. 112, 13, and 115, 16, and 131.

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**RAYNER, LIEUTENANT MAURICE E.**—Lieutenant, 11th February, 1875. Killed at Maiwand, when Acting-Adjutant of the 66th. See p. 109-14.

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**READY, COLONEL JOHN TOBIN.**—Ensign, 9th September, 1854; Lieutenant, 28th August, 1857; Captain, 28th August, 1863; Brevet-Major, 1st October, 1877; Major, 14th November, 1879; Lieutenant-Colonel, 1st July, 1881; Colonel, 1st July, 1885. Served with the 66th in the Afghan War of 1880, and was present in the engagements at Girishk and Maiwand, and in the defence of Kandahar, (Medal) (pp. 113, 114, &c.) Retired from command of regiment, April, 1887.



**ROBERTS, CAPTAIN WALTER.**—Ensign, 8th February, 1865; Lieutenant, 19th December, 1865; Captain, 14th November, 1879. Killed at Maiwand. See p. 111-14.

**ROSS, COLONEL JOHN, C.B.**—Appointed Lieutenant in the 52nd Foot the 8th May, 1796; Captain, the 14th of January, 1800; Major, the 15th of August, 1804; Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army, the 28th of January, 1808; Lieutenant-Colonel in the 52nd Foot, the 18th of February, 1801; Lieutenant-Colonel in the 66th Foot, the 18th July, 1814; Colonel the 4th of June, 1814. This officer commanded the 52nd Regiment at the battle of Vimiera, and his name was mentioned in the Duke of Wellington's despatch. He was appointed the 20th of August, 1811, Deputy Adjutant-General in Ireland; and on the 12th of August, 1819, Commandant of the Depot at the Isle of Wight.

**SEATON, GENERAL LORD (SIR JOHN COLBORNE,)** G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.H.—Appointed Ensign, 20th Foot, 10th July, 1794; Lieutenant, 20th Foot, 4th September, 1795; Captain-Lieutenant, 11th August, 1799; Captain, 12th January, 1800; Lieutenant-Colonel, 5th Garrison Battalion, 2nd February, 1809; Lieutenant-Colonel, 66th Foot, 2nd November, 1809; Lieutenant-Colonel, 52nd Foot, 18th July, 1811; Colonel by Brevet, 4th June, 1814; Major-General, 27th March, 1825; Lieutenant-General, 28th June, 1858; General, 20th June, 1854; Colonel, 2nd Life Guards, 24th March, 1854. This officer served with the army in Spain and Portugal; in the first campaign he served on the staff of Sir John Moore, whose distinguished opinion of him is recorded in Major-General Anderson's letter. He was present at the battles of Corunna and Albuhera; siege of Ciudad Rodrigo; battles of Nivelle, Nive, Orthes and Toulouse. At Corunna he was Military Secretary to the Commander-in-Chief. He also served in Flanders, and was present at the battle of Waterloo. For his distinguished services Sir John Colborne was created a Peer, under the title of Baron Seaton, in 1839. Lord Seaton was decorated with the Gold Cross and three clasps for Corunna, Albuhera, Ciudad Rodrigo, (where he was severely wounded) Nivelle, Nive, Orthes, Toulouse.

**SHREWBURGE, LIEUTENANT L.**—Killed at Albuhera. (Page 56.)

**ST. GEORGE, LIEUTENANT S.**—Wounded at Albuhera. (p. 56.)

**STEEL, CAPTAIN.**—Died of wounds received at Talavera. (p. 44.)

**STEVENS, CAPTAIN H. WILLIAM.**—Ensign, 31st August, 1804; Lieutenant, 13th June, 1805; Captain, 26th February, 1807; placed on half-pay, 25th February, 1816. Served in the Peninsula with the 66th, and was present at the passage of the Douro; when, after

Major Murray was wounded, he acted as field officer. This he continued to do until the battle of Talavera, where his horse was shot under him and he himself was severely wounded. (See p. 44). He afterwards fell into the hands of the French, and was taken to France, and there detained until the peace of 1814. Medal and clasp.

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USSHER, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL.—Served with the 66th in the Nepaul Campaign of 1816, 17.

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VERNON, LIEUTENANT GENERAL, HENRY CHARLES EDWARD, C.B.—Ensign, 8th November, 1798; Lieutenant, 26th September, 1799; Captain, 17th July, 1801; Major, 13th June, 1811; Lieutenant-Colonel, 4th June, 1813; Colonel, 22nd July, 1830; Major-General, 23rd November, 1841; Lieutenant-General, 11th November, 1851. Served in the Peninsula in 1808, 9 as D.A.A.G. Subsequently in the same capacity until June, 1811, and was present at Talavera. Served with the 2nd Battalion 66th at the surprise of a French Division at Arroyo dos Molinos, and other operations until the capture of Badajoz. With the "Queen's" at the reduction of the Forts and battle of Salamanca, (severely wounded). Served, in command of his regiment, preceding, during, and subsequent, to the siege of Burgos. Gold Medal for Salamanca, and Silver war Medal, with one clasp, for Talavera. (Hart's Army List, 1856.)

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VINCENT, MAJOR-GENERAL JOHN.—Ensign, 66th Foot, 1782; Lieutenant, August, 1782; Captain, 49th Foot, 15th December, 1783; Major, 1st September, 1795; Lieutenant-Colonel, 1st January, 1800; Colonel, 25th July, 1810; Major-General, 4th June, 1813. This officer served with the 49th at the taking of St. Domingo; also in the expedition to the Helder, and subsequently in the expedition to Copenhagen. He afterwards served for many years in Canada.

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WALE, MAJOR-GENERAL SIR CHARLES, K.C.B.—Ensign, June, 1779; Lieutenant, 1780; Captain, 1786; Brevet-Major, 1st January, 1794; Brevet-Lieutenant-Colonel, 1st January, 1798; Colonel, 25th April, 1808; Major-General, 4th June, 1811. Sir Charles Wale first saw service with the 97th, during the defence of Gibraltar, in 1782. In 1799, he served a campaign in Holland, and in the spring of 1801, took command of the 67th at Jamaica. In June, 1808, he exchanged to the 66th, and commanded the 2nd Battalion until appointed Brigadier-General on the Staff of the Windward Islands, (March, 1809). As Brigadier-General, he commanded the reserve of Sir G. Beckwith's army at Guadaloupe, and with his brigade, stormed the heights of Matauba, on the 3rd

February, 1810 ; when he received a severe wound. (Medal). On recovering from his wound, he was appointed to the command of Grande Terre, in Guadeloupe ; and subsequently succeeded to the sole command of that island. In 1812, he was appointed Governor of Martinique, which appointment he held until the island was surrendered so Louis xviii.

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**WALKER, ENSIGN.**—Killed at Albuhera. Page 56.

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**WHITNEY, LIEUTENANT NICHOLAS.**—Wounded at Talavera and Albuhera. pp. 44 and 56

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### APPENDIX III.

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#### LIST OF OFFICERS IN 1761.

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RANK.	NAMES.
Colonel	John La Faussille <sup>1</sup>
Lieut.-Col.	Hans Musgrave
Major	Charles Beaucherk
Captain	George Daniel
„	Thomas Crosby
„	John Gillan
„	William Ross
„	Robert Drew
Capt.-Lieut.	James Coates*
Lieutenant	Robert St. Clair
„	Andrew Agnew <sup>2</sup>
„	Henry Goddard

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<sup>1</sup> Colonel from 24th August, 1753, to 19th January, 1763.

<sup>2</sup> Placed on half-pay, 1763. Appears on half-pay list of 66th Foot in 1800.

\* Those marked with an asterisk see Appendices I. and II.

RANK.	NAMES.
Lieutenant	R. Wigmore Knight <sup>3</sup>
„	Algernon Warren
„	George Dansey
„	George Reynolds
„	John Barcas
„	William Grierson
„	William Gregory
„	William Hepburn
„	David Scott <sup>4</sup>
„	Isaac Smith
„	Jocelyn Shawford
„	Richard Ellis
„	David Ferguson
„	William Catherwood
„	Samuel Barker
Ensign	Francis Bindon
„	Marshall Wright <sup>5</sup>
„	Andrew Parker
„	John Gardiner
„	John Beardsley <sup>6</sup>
„	Archer Pearson
„	Hawtrey Humphries

<sup>3</sup> Appears on half-pay list 24th Foot in 1800. Placed on half-pay as Lieutenant, 1783.

<sup>4</sup> A Major David Scott was Captain of an Invalid Company in Jersey, in 1800.

<sup>5</sup> Fort Major of Dartmouth in 1800. (Rank of Lieutenant).

<sup>6</sup> Placed on half-pay as Lieutenant in 1763. Appears on half-pay list 66th Foot in 1800.

RANK.	NAMES.
Ensign	John Parke <sup>7</sup>
Chaplain	Nathaniel Bristed <sup>8</sup>
Adjutant	John Barcas
Quar.-Master	William Hanson
Surgeon	James Douglas

## LIST OF OFFICERS, JULY, 1881.

## (LAST OFFICIAL LIST OF THE 66TH FOOT.)

RANK.	NAMES.
Colonel	Tho. Henry Johnston, (General) <sup>9</sup>
Lieut.-Col.	Somerville C. Hogge
Major	John Tobin Ready*
„	Robert J. J. Stewart <sup>10</sup>
Captains	Thomas Murphy*
„	Thomas Harris*
„	John Quarry (Major)*
„	W. A. D. Mackinnon*
„	John C. M. Pigott, P.S.C. <sup>11</sup>
„	Adolphus J. Price*
„	W. J. de la P. Beresford Pierse*

<sup>7</sup> A Lieutenant John Parke appears on half-pay list of 107th Foot in 1800.

<sup>8</sup> Mr. Bristed held the appointment of Chaplain of the 66th until 1792.

<sup>9</sup> See list of Colonels.

<sup>10</sup> Retired with Honorary rank of Major-General.

<sup>11</sup> Staff.

\* Those marked with an asterisk see Appendices I. and II.

RANK.	NAMES.
„	Henry S. Hassard*
„	F. McCrae Bruce*
„	William F. Marriott
Lieutenant	Charles Bury Adams
Lieutenant	Hon. Carnegie P. Jervis (I. of M.) <sup>12</sup>
„	Granville de la M. Faunce*
„	James W. H. Fitzgerald
„	Charles Mackenzie Edwards*
„	Hyacinth Lynch*
„	William A. Lonergan
„	George Laurence Melliss*
„	Reginald Bray*
„	Frank McTier Bunny*
„	Fred. S. Marsham (Adjutant)
„	G. D. R. Williams
2nd Lieutenant	Sudlow Harrison
„	Frederick A. Deare
Quar.-Master	Walter Hollyer*

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<sup>12</sup> Viscount St. Vincent ; retired 1886.

\* Those marked with an asterisk see Appendices I. and II.



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