

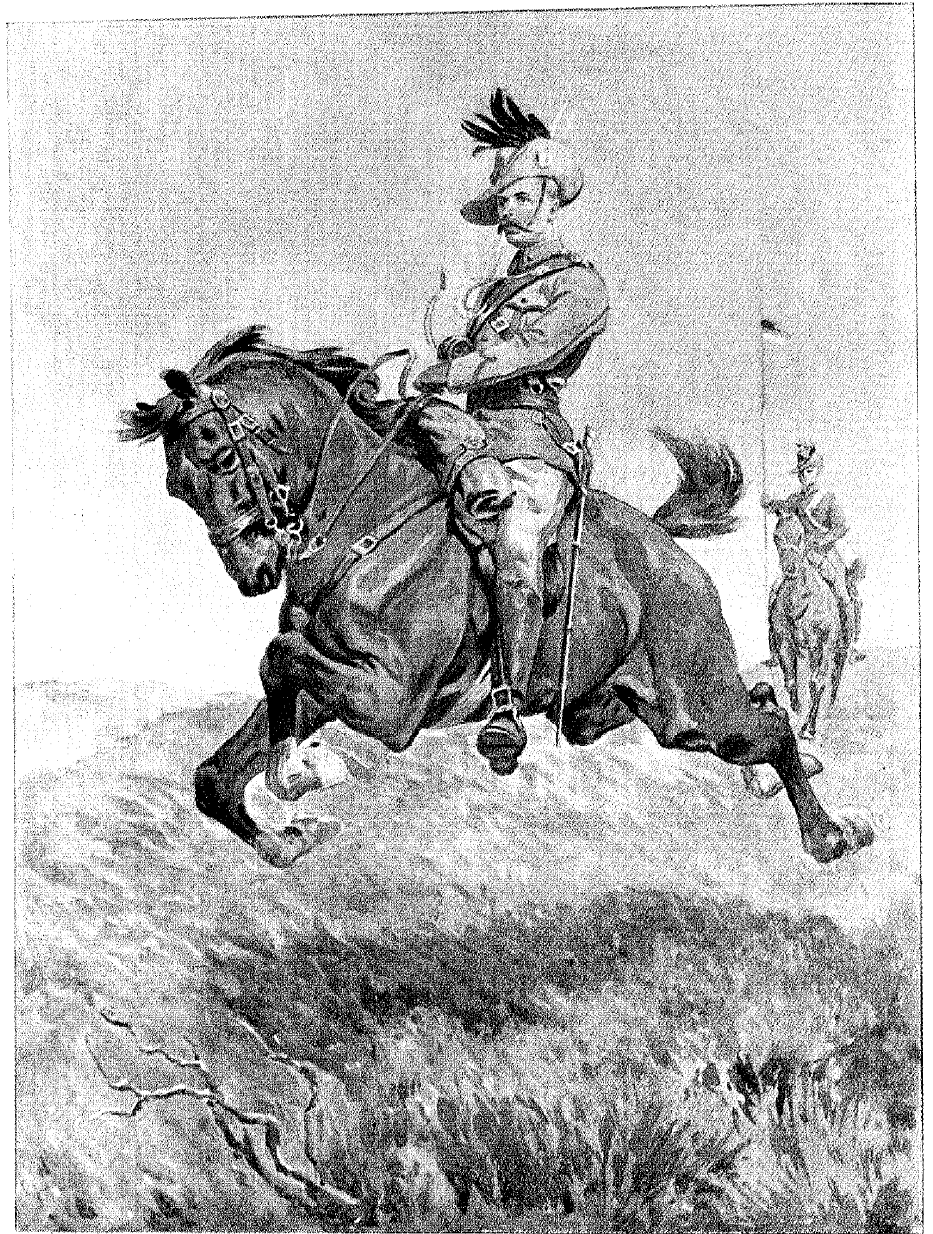
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THE NEW SOUTH
 WALES
 LANCER REGISTRATION
 IN
 THE
 FIRST AUSTRALIAN HURDLE
 RACE
 BANK BUILDING
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U S Army Military History Institute

AUSTRALIAN CAVALRY



Printed in three colors by W. C. Peasgood & Co., Sydney.

OFFICER AND ORDERLY, N.S.W. LANCERS.

After a Painting by W. T. Maud in the London Graphic.

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AUSTRALIAN CAVALRY

THE N.S.W. LANCER REGIMENT

AND

THE FIRST AUSTRALIAN HORSE

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Adjutant General's Office,

SEP 26 1902

MILITARY INFORMATION
DIVISION.

BY

FRANK WILKINSON

WAR CORRESPONDENT, SYDNEY "DAILY TELEGRAPH," AUTHOR OF "AUSTRALIA AT THE FRONT"

WITH A PREFACE BY MAJOR-GENERAL FRENCH, C.M.G., R.A.,
COMMANDANT N.S.W. FORCES

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PREFACE

FAR from there being no official objection to the publication of historical records of the various regiments composing the Defence Forces of these States, the project is one well worth encouragement, and I am pleased to find that the New South Wales Lancers, who were the pioneers of the Cavalry movement in the mother State, have taken the premier position in this matter also.

The operations of Australian troops, both at home and abroad, are, of course, published from time to time in public prints, but these records are more or less disjointed and ephemeral in character.

On the other hand, the perusal of connected historical sketches cannot but be useful to military men, besides affording information to the general public, particularly those who have served in the Defence Forces or have friends in the Service.

It is of no less importance that regimental records should be preserved in some permanent form, than that a healthy spirit of rivalry should be created between the different branches of the Force, and the publication of this historical sketch seems to meet both of these requirements.

G. A. French

Major-General

Comd^g N.S.W. Forces

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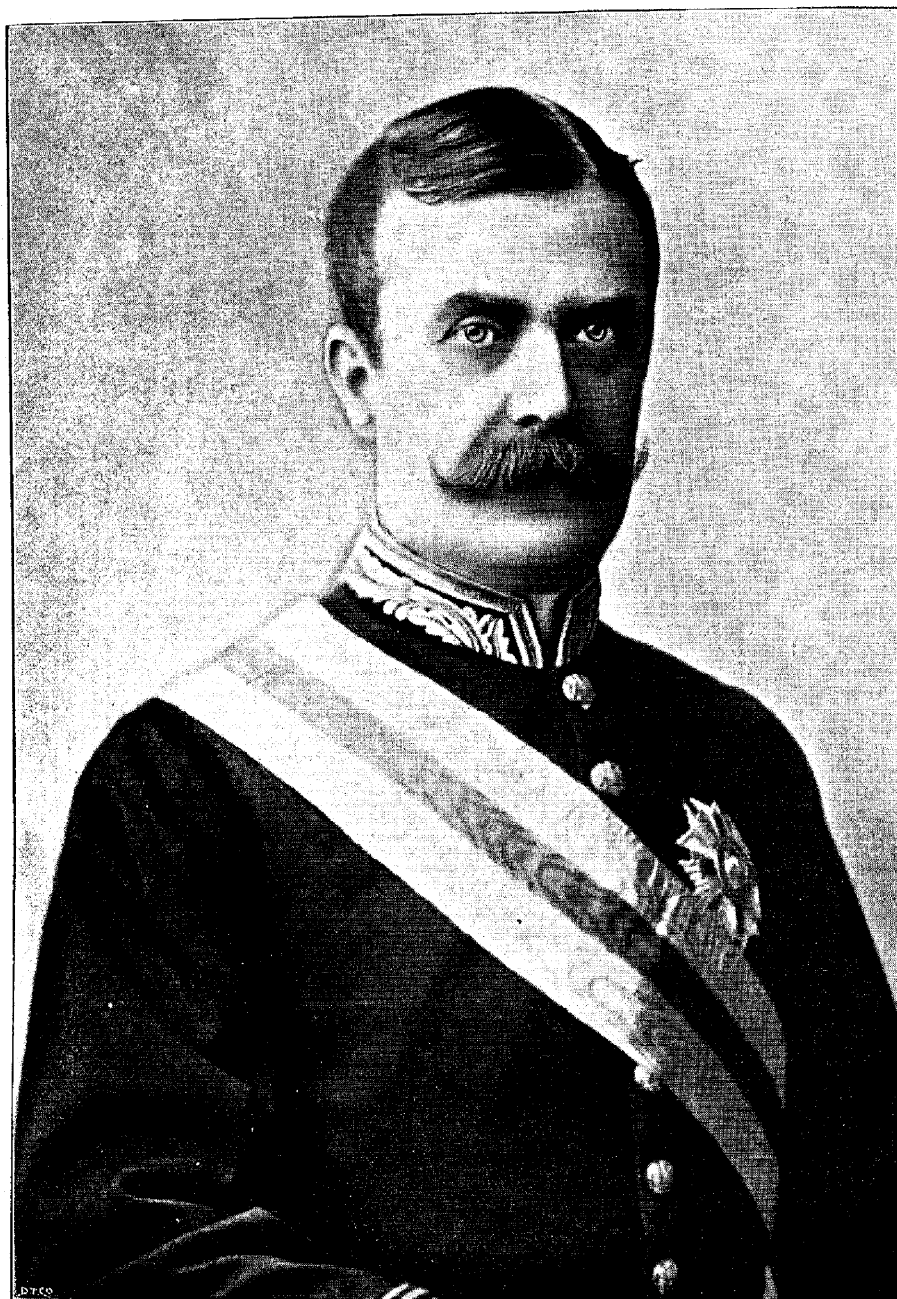
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FIRST AUSTRALIAN HORSE

DEDICATED
TO
EARL CARRINGTON
HONORARY COLONEL, NEW SOUTH WALES
LANCER REGIMENT



EARL CARRINGTON P.C., G.C.M.G.
HONORARY COLONEL, NEW SOUTH WALES LANCERS.

INTRODUCTION

FROM an actuarial standpoint, it is regarded as unsound to base a general rule upon less than eighty particular instances. Among the few million people who are not professional actuaries, however, there is an unreasonable tendency towards jumping at the most sweeping conclusions on the flimsiest of isolated experiences—and the more recent the experiences the more likely they are to warp the public judgment.

In most hand-cameras every object outside a range of, say, fifteen or twenty feet, is in perfect focus. So with most human concerns. Time is about the only automatic universal focuser yet invented. Further, in snap-shooting at short range you distort your perspective; a horse photographed head on at ten feet will possess a ridiculously diminutive hind-quarter.

Undoubtedly there are lessons to be learnt from this great Boer War—lessons which it would be well to get off by heart while the subject is fresh in the memory; lessons which even the feeblest intellect in the War Office may be expected to grasp; but there are lessons which will have to be unlearnt at infinite expense in years to come unless they are interpreted on broader grounds than the experiences of one campaign.

This is the pitfall ahead of the average Army Reformer.

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He is imperceptibly but surely falling into the habit of hasty generalisation. On the strength of what has happened during the last couple of years, he will perpetrate some such syllogistic fallacy as this :

Disciplined British troops were opposed to undisciplined burghers ;
Undisciplined burghers are hard to beat ; therefore
Discipline is a negligible quantity.

Reasoning such as this bears its refutation on its face. It violates every law ever yet formulated by the logician for the mystification of the illogical, and contains a self-evident fallacy in every line. It is no syllogism at all.

By a similar process one arrives at the equally unsound conclusion that because Cavalry—*qua* Cavalry—have not been a pronounced success in this campaign, therefore the days of Cavalry are numbered—as though, during the balance of her military history, British armies are to be pitted against forces composed entirely of Mounted Infantry, and as though one could transplant the kopjes of South Africa to all future battlefields. Disciplined British troops did not fare badly during this campaign because of their discipline but in spite of it. Their system of field training is at fault. Similarly with Cavalry. Other things being equal, the fact that a man carries a lance, in addition to carbine and sword, does not make him the less useful. If he can ride as well, and shoot as straight as his comrade who carries only a rifle, surely he has the advantage in the long run.

Undoubtedly for the style and warfare to which we have become accustomed in South Africa, the Mounted Rifles have proved the more suitable arm of the service, but, as Colonel Wyndham, who came to Australia recently in command of

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Imperial troops, said, when inspecting the N.S.W. Lancers, the nation that reduces its Cavalry as a result of this war will most probably go down in the next. The experience of hundreds of years cannot be thrown to the winds in favour of hastily-formed impressions. Nearly every European nation sent *attachés* to follow the fortunes of one side or the other in the present struggle, but so far there has been no tendency on the part of European powers to reduce their Cavalry strength. On the contrary, Russia is largely increasing hers.

Armed with some light, handy rifle, and allowing for a little extra target practice, Cavalry should, in spite of recently-developed prejudices, retain its position as the premier branch of the service, requiring as it does the very highest intelligence for patrol work, screening, &c., to say nothing of the ultimate great shock action which in so many historical cases has turned the scale in favour of the power with the rapid, mobile, and crushing Cavalry. For "crushing" power in Cavalry one now looks to rapidity and mobility, rather than sheer dead weight.

The fighting value of "ye ancient baron" or knight, who used to take the field completely encased in arrow—lance—and sword-proof armour, and mounted on a charger of colossal proportions, has been largely discounted by the introduction of modern long-range firearms of high penetrating power. Superiority in weight gave place to lightness, activity, and celerity of movement. The Duke of Cumberland's Light Dragoons were mounted on active nag-tailed horses from 14½ to 15 hands high, and gradually the utility of this stamp of mount on home and foreign service came to be recognised at its true value.

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Unfortunately, however, for the vindication of the principle in the South African campaign, the reduction in the size and weight of the Cavalry charger has not been attended by corresponding reductions in the avoirdupois and equipment of the trooper. The "light nag-tailed horses" used by the Duke of Cumberland's Light Dragoons on the battlefields of yore, gave way to an even lighter type of "Cape pony," used indiscriminately, owing to the exigencies of the situation, by stalwart Household Cavalrymen, "light" Dragoons and Lancers. In short, the Cavalry horses were ridiculously overweighted. Men of colossal proportions, standing over six feet in their stockings, were mounted on 14-hand weedy ponies, and stoutly-built troopers of 5ft. 10in. on little Burmese bantams, not more than 12 hands high. As if this handicap were not enough, the horses have been further penalised by pound upon pound of totally unnecessary "furniture."

The wonder is, not that Cavalry have proved inconspicuously successful in South Africa, but that they have not been a source of positive weakness. However, on an insufficient working knowledge of the facts, there has lately arisen a popular prejudice against Cavalry, and it is my purpose in the pages which follow to show not only that regiments like the New South Wales Lancers have done equal yeoman service to the Empire in the South African struggle with their comrades in the other branches of the service, but that they have done infinitely more, as the pioneers of the Cavalry movement in Australia, to enhance the value of our defence force, and to show the world of what stuff our fighting men are made.



HEADQUARTERS, NEW SOUTH WALES LANCERS PARRAMATTA.

CHAPTER I

EARLY HISTORY

THE pre-Cavalry days are still within general recollection. As a mere matter of chronology, however, it may be interesting to observe that the keystone of the substantial structure which now rears its triple front to the world was laid only so far back as 1884.

The pioneer stages of the movement were not attended by any aggressive display of military enthusiasm, but the increasing usefulness and popularity of this branch of the service long ago placed beyond doubt the wisdom of the initial step. Commencing quite unpretentiously as most sound concerns do, it has developed into three highly efficient and effective mounted units, each of which has now made a permanent mark on the history of the Empire.

Some of us can remember the time when the Lancers were not Lancers—when, in fact, they were “Light Horse”—and a few who were connected at one time or another with these Light Horse regiments may recollect with what disappointment they learnt of the proposed disbandment of corps in the more inaccessible parts of the country. But the Sydney troop was not disbanded. It was converted into a Lancer squadron, and at that it has remained.

The beginnings of big things are always interesting. In this case the scene opens in Sydney about October in the year

of Grace 1884, when one R. R. Thompson, afterwards Sergt.-Instructor, and more recently Adjutant to the Australian Horse, is discovered canvassing the young men of the city with a view to the formation of a troop of Cavalry.

He seems to have collected something under a hundred names. At any rate, sufficient promises were secured to warrant the holding of a meeting at the Oxford Hotel soon after. The meeting took place, and Capt. Macdonald, an old and popular Cavalry officer, was asked to take the chair. At this meeting it was duly proposed by Mr. J. M. Purves, now Captain and Quartermaster of the regiment, and agreed *nem. con.* that a Cavalry troop should be formed. A mounted parade of those who had expressed their willingness to join was called for Moore Park a few days afterwards.

About 40 put in an appearance on this occasion, and the military authorities at once recommended the Government to accept their services. In January, 1885, they were duly enrolled under the style and title of the "Sydney Light Horse." Captain Macdonald was gazetted as Officer Commanding the corps, and Mr. R. R. Thompson as Warrant Officer and Instructor.

The uniform at this time consisted of blue tunic, overalls, and short boots, with box spurs, also white belts. The men were armed with old swords which had been discarded by the Mounted Police. They were very heavy and practically useless, but at that time there were no other Cavalry arms available in the country. Blue-peaked caps were worn with red bands, after the style of the Imperial Guards, but to the colonial eye they approached more nearly to the Salvation

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Army pattern. The horse gear consisted of ordinary saddles and obsolete military bridles, the latter being also obtained from the Police Department.

Thus equipped the corps made its first appearance in public on the occasion of the brilliant pageant which attended the departure of the Soudan Contingent. They were then detailed as escort to the Governor, Lord Loftus. This happened on the 3rd March, 1885, when Major-General Richardson was Commandant of the New South Wales Defence Forces.

Following closely upon this public display, troops of Cavalry were formed in some of the country districts, notably Illawarra, Mittagong, also Robertson, Casino, and the Hunter River. These, with the Sydney troop, constituted the New South Wales Cavalry brigade, with Capt. Macdonald as Major Commanding. The first officers appointed under this able Commander were Capt. A. J. Metcalfe, Lieut. A. J. Dodds, and Lieut. T. F. Knox, the latter now Major Knox, Hon. A.D.C. to the General.

Strange to relate, one of the first official acts of Major-General Richardson, on his return from the Soudan campaign, was to convert the Sydney Light Horse into Lancers! In announcing his determination, at a dinner on August 24th, 1885, he said:—"Nothing in my career as a soldier ever impressed me as much with this branch of the service. I am not speaking of the Lancers particularly, but of the Cavalry generally." He also remarked parenthetically that so far as he knew the Sydney Lancers were the only volunteer Lancer Corps in the world. Colonel Palmer, of the 9th Bengal

Lancers, had presented him with two lances as a memento of the campaign. The Right Hon. W. B. Dalley, then Minister for Defence, said of the corps :—" In the opinion of those best qualified to form an impartial judgment, your corps has been a marked success, as indeed it ought to be in a country where as good horses and as daring riders can be found as any in the world. Well mounted, thoroughly drilled, and ably commanded, there is nothing to prevent your being as serviceable as you are even now useful, and having the proud distinction of being the pioneers of a great Cavalry force which may be part of our defence of the Empire of the future." Captain Macdonald remarked in the course of an able speech, that when General Graham heard of the Colonial Cavalry he said it would be a serious consideration with him whether, in view of the prolonged hostilities, he would not apply for a detachment.

In view of General Richardson's decision, uniforms for the Sydney troop were ordered from London, and paid for by the members of the corps. The pattern chosen was similar to the Royal Irish Lancers, with silver braid instead of gold. The officers' full dress cost £60 and the men's £10. Lances were also placed on order in England, and in the meantime the Sydney troop commenced drilling with bamboo fishing rods, to the ends of which were tied pennants. As a matter of history the men turned out with these makeshift "weapons" to act as escort to Lord Carrington when he first landed in Sydney.

Lord Carrington's arrival in the colony as Governor is coincident with a marked impetus in the work of recruiting.

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He at once identified himself with the regiment and became its honorary Colonel—a position which he has held ever since. Additional Corps were organised at Grafton, the Upper Clarence, and the Murrumbidgee, but the attitude of the Government at this time was far from encouraging. Country recruits paraded for drill regularly month after month without arms of any kind, and on one occasion, it is related, a troop turned out as escort to the visiting Governor, carrying highly unorthodox stockwhips.

The Lancer regiment, however, rose superior to official rebuffs and steadily gained in efficiency. In 1886 they went into camp at National Park for their annual training. The following year the Sydney and Illawarra troops again turned out for their course of continuous instruction, and about this time the regiment was placed on the partially-paid establishment with its more complete organisation and stricter discipline. In 1888 the Sydney, Illawarra, Robertson, and Casino troops attended Easter Camp, and additional troops were organised at Maitland and Wagga. The following year various country corps of Light Horse were disbanded or converted into Mounted Rifles, and in their stead were raised half squadrons of Cavalry, all of whom were armed with lances. Also an Imperial officer was imported from England as adjutant and instructor. This was Capt. Malcolm McNeill, of the 4th Hussars, subsequently A.D.C. to the Duke of Connaught. He was specially selected to complete the organization of the regiment, and the appointment proved exceptionally successful.

In 1890 two troops of Cavalry and two companies of

Mounted Rifles were sworn in as special mounted police to assist the regular force in preserving law and order during the great Maritime Strike. The men were encamped at Dawes' Battery for about two months. During the same year the regiment also attended for the continuous training at National Park. In 1891 the Regimental Band was organised—that band which is at once the envy and despair of its more recently formed rivals. The horses, saddles, band instruments, &c., all belong to the officers—indeed the regiment now pays something like £200 per annum by way of maintaining this luxury. And the Government allows the bandsmen the ordinary troopers' pay for fixed parades!

In 1893 the Cavalry and Mounted Rifles were formed into a Brigade, styled the "Mounted Brigade," with Col. Macdonald as Commandant. Major A. J. Dodds commanded the Lancers and Major H. B. Lassetter the Mounted Rifles. Major Dodds retired in 1894 and Major J. J. Walters succeeded to the command, which he held for about three years.

Colonel Macdonald, who retired from the service in 1896, was really the father of cavalry soldiering in Australia. His fine soldierly qualities and appearance and his unbounded zeal for the regiment are among its most cherished traditions. A General Order, published on June 24th of that year, contains the following valedictory announcement:—

"The Major-General Commanding cannot allow such a distinguished officer as Colonel Macdonald to retire from active duty as Commandant of the Mounted Brigade of New South Wales without placing on record his entire concurrence

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in the high approval expressed of him by Major-General Hutton, C.B., A.D.C. to the Queen, and lately General Officer Commanding the local forces.

“Colonel Macdonald’s retirement at his own request, consequent upon advancing years and the general condition of his health, will be a distinct loss to the Mounted Brigade in particular and to the military forces of the colony in general. His influence and example of soldierly rectitude have been of enormous value in placing his especial branch of the service in this colony upon its present efficient basis.

“The Major-General feels sure that it will interest the military forces to read the following short extract of Colonel Macdonald’s services with the local forces, which should act as a stimulus to young officers :—

“In January, 1885, Colonel Macdonald (then Captain) undertook to raise a troop of Cavalry at Sydney, under the Reserve System, and was the first cavalryman sworn in. By great perseverance he succeeded in extending the movement to the country districts until eight efficient troops were raised, and they were then formed into the first New South Wales Regiment of Cavalry, subsequently re-named the ‘New South Wales Lancers.’

“In 1893 the Regiment of Mounted Infantry was brigaded with the Lancers and re-named ‘Mounted Rifles,’ and these two regiments formed the Mounted Brigade, of which Colonel Macdonald was appointed Commandant.

“Col. Macdonald served in the Scinde Campaign in 1839, was in command of the Poona Horse in Upper Scinde

and Beluchistan in 1847, and incessantly engaged against the Beluchee and Candaharee tribes infesting the frontier, and at the siege of Mooltan in 1848.

“Whilst in India, Col. Macdonald held the important Staff appointments of Assistant Adjutant-General, Assistant Quartermaster-General, Deputy Judge Advocate General, and Assistant Commissary General.

“On his retirement, after such long and distinguished services, the G.O.C. hopes that it will be no small satisfaction to Col. Macdonald to know that he retires with the esteem and respect of all the military comrades with whom he has been brought into contact in this colony.”

CHAPTER II

EXCURSIONS ABROAD

JUST as the New South Wales Lancers pioneered the Cavalry movement in the mother colony, so did they in 1893 at their own expense take the initiative in a scheme which has been fraught with world-wide significance—the despatch of a contingent to compete with the flower of the British army at the annual tournaments at Islington and Dublin. In this they did a national service, the value of which cannot be overestimated. From a brutally commercial point of view, it demonstrated to the investing British public that these colonies were well able to hold their own—that we had established in our midst security for life and property, and that the people of this country were determined to maintain a force beyond all question. The men, by their prowess in the tournament ring and their soldierlike bearing on parade, showed that they were able to live with the best that the old country could produce. Beyond and above this, the presence of the team in England evoked the strongest possible feelings of goodwill towards New South Wales at a time when these colonies were little more than geographical names to the British public. It stood as an object lesson to the world that when one spoke of Greater Britain and Empire one was not using mere empty terms. This bringing together of Australian troops and their brethren-in-arms in Great Britain

was good for Australia and perhaps better for Great Britain.

As I have said, the team went at the sole expense of the regiment. The official attitude towards the expedition barely stopped short of absolute prohibition, notwithstanding that the despatch of a rifle team two years previously was facilitated in every possible way by the Government. But the regiment had confidence in itself. As a result of local competitions and careful selection the team that finally left in the *Orizaba* on March 11th, 1893, was such as to carry with it public approval. The call for volunteers met with such a warm response that extraordinary methods of selection were resorted to, and this in face of the fact that most of the men were called upon to pay part of the cost of their trip.

The team was constituted as follows :—Sergt. Barracluff, of the Sydney troop; Troopers Catt, James, and Wood, of the Illawarra troop; Sergt. Blencowe, Corpl. Seery, and Trooper Charker, of the West Camden troop; Corpl. Cole and Corpl. Gollan, of the Hunter River troop; Sergt.-Trumpeter Crouch, Troopers Riley and Livingstone, of the Casino troop; Sergt. Daley and Corpl. Robson, of the Lismore troop; Troop Sergt.-Major Weston and Trooper O'Grady, of the Parramatta troop. Capt. A. J. Dodds went in command, and Warrant Officer Thompson as Instructor.

On arrival in England the team was placed in charge of its old Adjutant, Captain McNeill, and—well, everybody knows with what enthusiasm the men were received, and how brilliantly they acquitted themselves. With the Victorian Mounted Artillery and other colonial troops they formed the

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chief point of interest in the big functions. The Lancers formed part of the Queen's escort at the opening of the Imperial Institute.

Against all-comers the various members of the team secured the following prizes :—Sergt.-Major Weston, 1st at Islington for Riding and Jumping, 2nd at Dublin for the V.C. Race ; Sergt. Barracluff, 2nd and 3rd at Dublin for Tilting at the Ring ; Sergt. Blencowe, 4th at Islington for Sword *v.* Bayonet, 1st at Dublin for Cleaving Turk's Head over Jumps ; Sergt. Daly, 1st for Sword *v.* Sword, 2nd for Lance *v.* Bayonet, 3rd for Heads and Posts, and 4th for Lemon Cutting, all at Islington ; Corpl. Gollan, 1st for Lemon Cutting, and 1st for Tent-pegging at Islington, also 1st for the V.C. Race at Dublin ; Corpl. Cole, 3rd at Islington for Riding and Jumping, 1st for Lance *v.* Bayonet, and 3rd for Sword *v.* Sword at Dublin ; Corpl. Seery, 4th for Sword *v.* Lance, 2nd for Sword *v.* Bayonet at Islington, and 1st for Sword *v.* Lance at Dublin ; Trooper Charker, 6th for Sword *v.* Lance at Islington ; Trooper O'Grady, 6th for Sword *v.* Sword, and 5th for Sword *v.* Lance at Islington ; Trooper Riley, 4th for Sword *v.* Sword at Islington, and 3rd for V.C. Race at Dublin. Also at Dublin the team were awarded trophies for Bushranging display and Lance Exercise, and won 3rd prize for Section Jumping—altogether 26 prizes and trophies.

In 1897, on the occasion of her late Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, a further detachment of 33 officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Lancer Regiment was despatched to England to take part, along with their comrades of the

Mounted Rifles, the Artillery, and the Submarine Miners—then undergoing a course of instruction at Woolwich and Shoeburyness—in the festivities.

Captain W. L. Vernon commanded this detachment, having with him First Lieutenant C. F. Cox, First Lieutenant F. H. King, and Second Lieutenant F. C. Timothy; also, Squadron Sergeant-Major R. C. McKenzie, Staff-Sergeant G. E. Morris, Sergeants J. McMahon, P. F. O'Grady, R. Waugh, C. J. Williams, J. C. McKenzie, Corporals E. H. Houston, H. E. Sparke, A. G. Brady, Trumpeter K. D. Mackenzie, and Troopers J. J. Anderson, J. W. Campbell, J. Daly, J. S. Dooley, R. E. Harkus, W. H. Hillis, W. Lumsden, F. S. D'A. MacQueen, A. J. Morton, P. Pritchard, W. Moffitt, J. J. Riley, H. A. Robinson, A. T. Sharpe, P. Sexton, F. W. Todhunter, J. Watts, and J. Wilson. The men were embarked on the R.M.S. *Ballaarat* on April 10th without expense to the Government. All the necessary funds were raised regimentally and by private subscription, Major Burns heading the list with a donation of £250; the Casino and Lismore Half Squadrons raised £225, and the Berry Half Squadron £205, besides which most of the men selected contributed substantially. It was largely to the generosity and energy of Major Burns, however, that the Regiment owed its inclusion among the Jubilee troops.

The men evoked much favourable criticism in England and again distinguished themselves in the tournament ring. At the Agricultural Hall Trooper Harkus won the cup and two medals (one the Empire medal) for Lemon Cutting; at Tottenham he won the cup for Tent-pegging, as well as

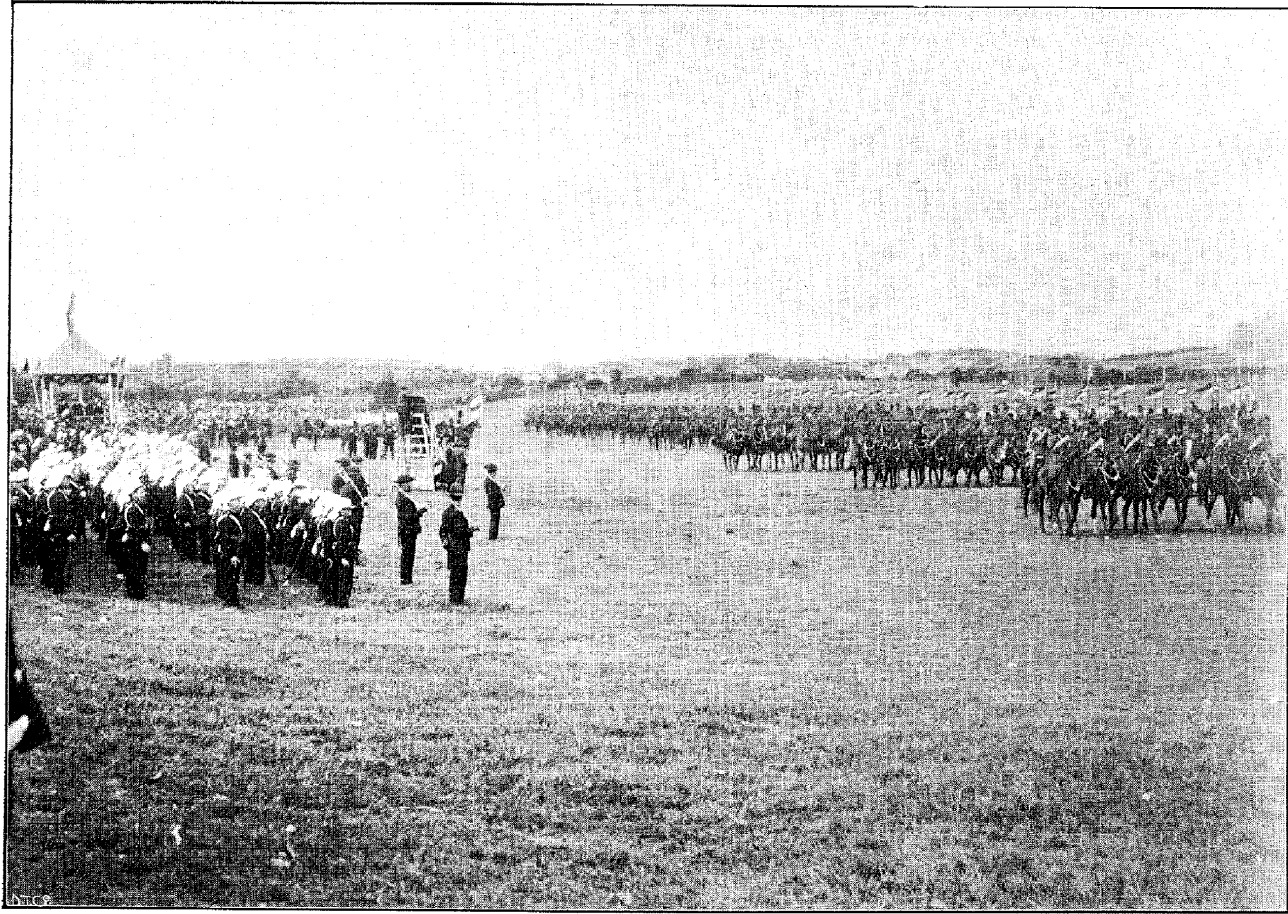


Photo. by Kerry and Co.

THREE

trophies for Sword *v.* Sword and Tilting at the Ring, and at the Crystal Palace he gained two £5 prizes for Tent-pegging and the Victoria Cross competition. Sergt. C. J. Williams secured the Empire medal for Tent-pegging, while Sergt. O'Grady lost the Sword *v.* Sword contest by one point only.

CHAPTER III

ALDERSHOT TO AFRICA

SUCCESSES in the Tournament Ring, however sweet, are more or less ephemeral, and the Lancers have always been keen enough about their profession to recognize that tent-pegging and lemon-cutting, no matter how skilfully performed, are not the alpha and omega of soldiering. They looked further ahead.

In September, 1897, Major Burns succeeded to the command of the Regiment, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and with this change began a new era of usefulness and activity. Colonel Burns, although a very busy city man, has always found a good deal of time to devote to the fine Regiment of which he is so justly proud. Few men in the military world of Australia have proved more unselfishly patriotic, where patriotism spells £ s. d. and loss of valuable time. The Regiment owes its present Commanding Officer more than it will be able to repay within the next decade or two.

His first official act of any historical importance was the offer of a squadron for India to take part in the Afridi campaign. The proposal was not warmly received in official quarters. Mr. Reid, the Premier of the day, "did not wish to see a spirit of unrest and military adventure" grow up in this country, and did not forward the offer to the Imperial

CHAPTER THREE

Government. He quite failed to grasp the spirit in which it was made. The Lancers were not animated by a wild desire to "go abroad and fight somewhere and somebody;" they realized the importance of making themselves efficient soldiers, and knew that efficiency was only obtainable by active service in the field. One hundred men who have seen service are worth four hundred without that experience, and one hundred trained men are more than a match for four hundred without training.

In anticipation of the offer being submitted to the proper quarter, a number of men made preparations for leaving the country, but other regiments came forward with similar proposals, and the Government finally declined to entertain them.

It was to make up in some measure for this disappointment to the men that a movement was set on foot to send a squadron to Aldershot for six months' training with Imperial Cavalry. The Regiment was eager to learn more of its business and willing to put its hand in its own pocket for the purpose. At the Easter Encampment the following year, 1898, the proposal was discussed by the officers, and finally submitted to Major-General French, who approved of an arrangement under which the Regiment agreed to pay half the cost on condition that the Government contributed the other moiety. Additional interest was given to the movement by the discussion which arose about this time between the Imperial and Colonial Governments as to the interchange of troops, but even with this adventitious aid the Lancer scheme would probably have fallen through had it not been

that Colonel Burns himself went to London and arranged personally with the Imperial authorities to horse and quarter a full squadron of the men for a six months' course of training at Aldershot. Lord Carrington, the Honorary Colonel, gave valuable assistance to the movement, and the Home Government was quite as enthusiastic about it as the Lancers themselves. Over £1000 was subscribed in England, but Colonel Burns returned to New South Wales to find that the Government had not provided on the estimates for the half share of the cost. Here again the project received a decided set-back—under other auspices it would probably have died a natural death. But the promoters faced the situation bravely, and decided to appeal to the patriotism of the men and the general public.

The sequel shows that they did not appeal in vain. Each of the hundred men selected found £20 regimentally towards his expenses. This accounted for £2000, which, with £1000 subscribed in England, totalled £3000. Another £2000 was raised by officers and friends of the Regiment.

At this stage some correspondence was received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies asking that the Imperial Government might be informed exactly as to the number of men it was proposed to send over for training, as well as the probable date of their departure. The New South Wales Government appears then to have receded from its original attitude of opposition to the movement and at last gave a qualified consent, the qualification being that the despatch and maintenance of the troops did not entail any expense to the public.



LIEUT.-COLONEL JAMES BURNS,
OFFICER COMMANDING NEW SOUTH WALES LANCERS.

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Consequently, on March 3rd—the anniversary of the despatch of the Soudan Contingent—106 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men embarked at Sydney on board the *Nineveh* for London. Each man signed a special agreement with the Officer Commanding, Lieutenant-Colonel Burns, which held good until the return of the detachment to Sydney.

Everything worked admirably. The men received useful training at Aldershot, and made a most favourable impression wherever they went. This was absolutely the first lot of colonial troops which ever visited England for educational purposes. They had a magnificent send-off, a magnificent reception in London, and a magnificent valedictory demonstration when they re-embarked.

From even the downright business point of view they afforded a huge advertisement to this State and without costing the State a single brass farthing. None of the three detachments, by the way, entailed any expense upon the Government of New South Wales.

Just here the regimental active service records have their beginning.

When the squadron sailed for London the South African War had not broken out. Captain Cox, who was in command, however, volunteered that if, when passing Capetown on the way home, hostilities had commenced as between the British and the Boers, he, with his men, would go to the front. Various allusions of a highly complimentary nature were made in the English press on the publication of this offer, and only one man—a sergeant—appears to have actually

advised Captain Cox that it would be impossible for him to go. Several said, subsequently, that they had never been asked explicitly as to whether they would volunteer, but it was generally understood that the squadron had volunteered, and there was no open disclaimer on the part of the men at the time.

Lieutenant-Colonel Burns endeavoured to obtain official authority to advise Captain Cox to disembark at Capetown with his detachment pending further instructions ; but as the Lyne Government was pledged not to incur any expenditure without Parliamentary approval, Captain Cox was finally instructed that he would receive further advices on reaching Capetown. For this reason the squadron left England without knowing whether its services at the front would be accepted or not.

It is interesting to note at this stage the strange combination of circumstances which led to the disembarkation in South Africa a very few days after war had been declared, of the first batch of colonial troops to fight for the Empire. For, of course, as all the world knows, the offer of the Lancers was accepted, despite the fact that they were Cavalry and not Infantry. The date of their departure from Australia, the duration of their stay in England, and the arrival of the *Nineveh* at Capetown in the nick of time—they all fitted in admirably. Originally it was intended that the men should return to their native land by the P. and O. route, through the Canal, but at the eleventh hour these orders were countermanded and passages taken *via* the Cape.

THREE

Thus it happened that within a few hours after the declaration of war a detachment of New South Wales Lancers was on its way to the front, and actually fought in the very first engagement on the Modder River side under General Lord Methuen. The spark of military patriotism thus generated was rapidly fanned into a flame which spread throughout the length and breadth of the Empire, and resulted in the despatch of no less than 15,000 Australian troops of various sorts, to say nothing of the volunteers from Canada and other parts of the British Dominion.

Some 29 men of the original hundred who went to Aldershot returned to Australia by the *Nineveh*. Of these eight were found to have been medically unfit for active service. Eight were minors who had volunteered for service at the front—several had taken their baggage ashore at Capetown—but owing to cables from the Premier of New South Wales and their friends, they re-embarked under the impression that they had no other option. The rest gave more or less satisfactory reasons for wishing to return to Sydney, and in the majority of cases these reasons were held to be sufficient excuse for their action, while the majority of those who did come back to Sydney returned to the front after attending to their affairs.

In all the circumstances it must be conceded that after nine months' absence from home, the 71 men who voluntarily decided to take up active service for a further indefinite period are deserving of every praise. Their subsequent performances on the now historic battle-fields of South Africa have shed additional lustre upon the regiment to which they belong.

CHAPTER THREE

POSTSCRIPT.—It may be mentioned here that the original strength of the Regiment was four squadrons of 100 each. It remained at this figure until the outbreak of hostilities in South Africa, when the establishment was increased to present strength, viz. :—

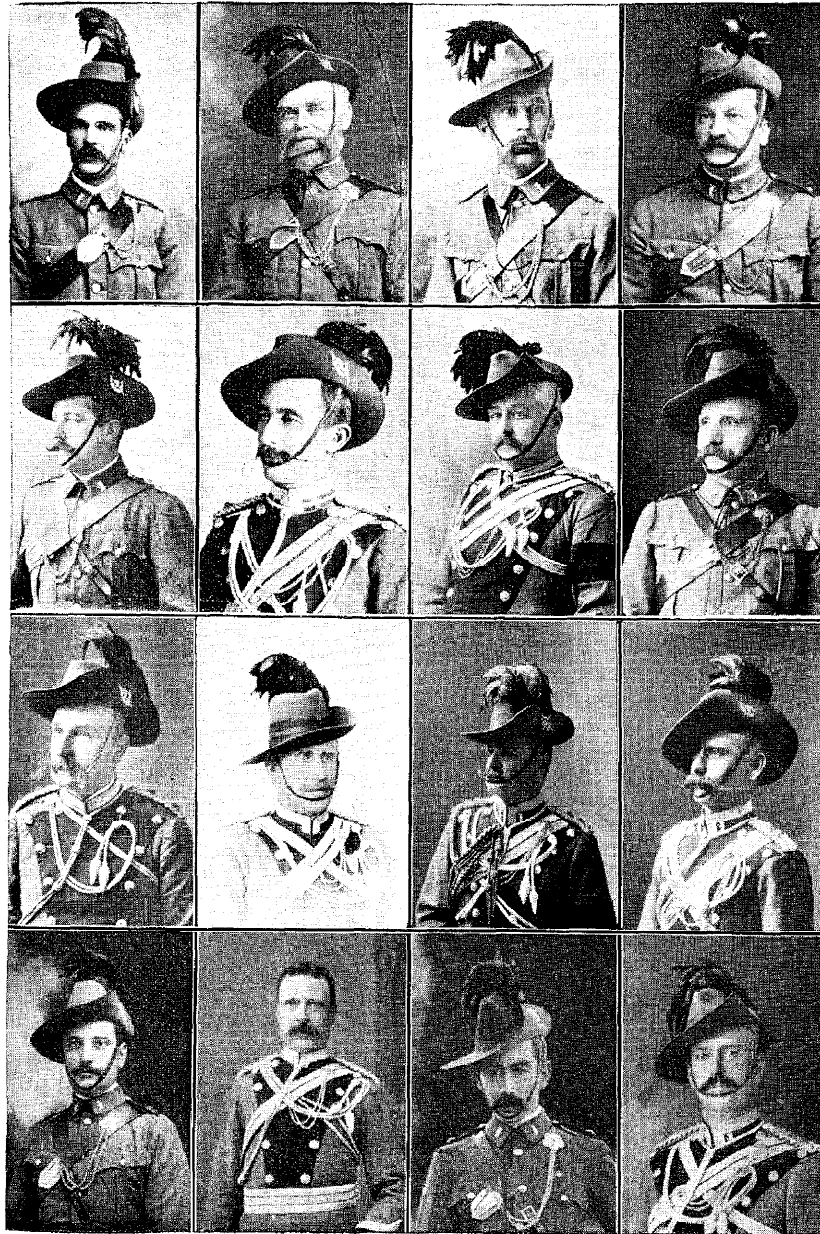
13 Half-squadrons of 50 men each	...	650
Mounted Band	... ..	30
Staff, &c.	... ..	10
Cadets	... ..	60
Supernumeraries (Drilled)	... ..	100
Total	... ..	850

About this time—the declaration of war—applications were sent in from all quarters for the establishment of additional squadrons or half-squadrons. In all, some 2000 men offered to join the Regiment, but it was not thought desirable to run the risk of making it unwieldy.

The Lancer headquarters are at Parramatta, strangely enough in the same buildings used by Imperial soldiers some 100 years ago. Many residents of Parramatta even now remember the time when these Imperial troops used to drill in the very barrack square now used by the Lancers.

“Gowan Brae,” the residence of Lieutenant-Colonel Burns, Officer Commanding the Regiment, is also at Parramatta. The Lancers have often been hospitably received there, and a rifle range for their use has been laid out in the grounds.

COMMANDING OFFICERS, NEW SOUTH WALES LANCERS.



FIRST ROW : CAPT. W. C. MARKWELL, CAPT. J. HARRIS, CAPT. F. G. FANNING, MAJOR G. L. LEE.
 SECOND ROW : CAPT. F. C. TIMOTHY, CAPT. B. HALL, CAPT. J. M. PURVES, CAPT. A. S. BOWMAN
 THIRD ROW : MAJOR C. E. TAYLOR, MAJOR W. L. VERNON, CAPT. H. S. DARLEY (A.D.C. TO
 THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR), CAPT. P. CHARLEY.
 FOURTH ROW : CAPT. A. HAY, CAPT. P. H. KING, CAPT. R. G. MACKENZIE, CAPT. J. S. BRUNTON.

CHAPTER IV

SOUTH AFRICAN SERVICES

THE Aldershot detachment disembarked at Capetown on November 2nd, 1899. It was split up into two sections, the larger, under Captain Cox, going round by way of Naauwpoort to Arundel, and the smaller, under Lieutenant S. F. Osborne, being attached for duty with Mounted Infantry through the keenly-fought encounters at Belmont on the 23rd November, Graspan on the 25th, Modder River on the 28th, and Magersfontein on December 11th.

With Lieutenant Osborne during this time of storm and stress were S.S.-Major H. Robson, Sergeant P. McDonald, Sergeant J. S. Dooley, Corporal C. Hoph, Lance-Corporal J. Ford, and Troopers F. Avar, D. Brady, P. Brew, J. J. Byrne, J. Clark, G. E. L. Doudney, C. Fenwick, B. J. M. Moylan, M. McGill, A. W. McManis, J. H. Peck, T. Pestell, J. A. Roberts, J. Rankin, J. Sproule, G. J. Stratford, F. Seccombe, A. Saville, E. B. Treatt, H. Thomas, W. Turner, W. W. Watts, and C. Webster.

This little detachment, known among the Imperial troops under Lord Methuen as the "Fighting Twenty-eight," fairly won their spurs in open competition with their more highly-disciplined comrades of the British Army. They were repeatedly complimented by Lord Methuen in person for

CHAPTER

proficiency in scouting and steadiness under very heavy fire. The writer saw them during the action before Magersfontein, and had opportunities for verifying the complimentary things said in their favour.

Towards the end of the year, about Christmas Day, they were sent round to rejoin their comrades under Captain Cox, who, in the meantime, had been doing useful reconnaissance work in the direction of Colesburg.

On December 1st, 1899, the S.S. *Kent* put into Capetown with the first detachment of Lancers from Sydney under Major G. L. Lee, the Adjutant to the Regiment. On board were also Lieutenant G. H. Allan, Lieutenant C. P. F. Roberts (son of Colonel Roberts, C.M.G., Military Secretary, New South Wales), Lieutenant R. M. Heron, and Veterinary-Lieutenant F. W. Melhuish. One hundred and sixty horses—the finest mounts to be obtained in New South Wales, and obtained largely from the Police Force—were also discharged *ex* S.S. *Kent* for the use of the Squadron. Major Lee took over 36 non-commissioned officers and men, which, with the Aldershot detachment, brought the strength up to 6 officers, 105 non-commissioned officers and men. The whole concentrated at Naauwpoort, and were placed under the command of Major Lee.

The squadron took part in the series of actions at Arundel about the middle of January, 1900, and accompanied General French's column on the expedition which relieved Kimberley, being present at Riet River on February 12th; Klip Drift, February 13th; and the relief of Kimberley, February 15th. In fact, the subsequent history of the

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squadron is the history of General French's 1st Cavalry Brigade. The Lancers were attached to the Inniskillings, and fought alongside this famous Regiment all through.

Corporal Harkus and 16 men were subsequently despatched from Sydney in the S.S. *Moravian* as a further draft to bring the squadron up to full strength by replacing men who had either succumbed to wounds or enteric fever. This detachment landed in Capetown on February 16th, 1900, and at once went to the front to join the squadron, which was then outside Cronje's laager at Paardeberg. Corporal Harkus himself was present during this protracted engagement, also at Poplar Grove on March 7th, Driefontein, or Abraham's Kraal, on March 10th, and the taking of Bloemfontein on the 12th. Here he was invalided with enteric fever, and died in the New South Wales Army Medical Corps Hospital, being buried in the cemetery adjoining.

The last Lancer detachment to leave this State for the seat of war was disembarked at Capetown from the S.S. *Australasian*, on March 19th, 1900. Captain C. E. Nicholson was in command of 40 non-commissioned officers and men. He joined his comrades in Bloemfontein the day before the general advance towards Pretoria, on May 1st, and with his men was present at Ventersburg Road on the 10th, also all subsequent engagements in which the squadron participated.

In addition to the Aldershot detachment and the three drafts from Sydney, three men joined the squadron in Capetown, so that the Regiment had at the front during the

principal part of the campaign no less than 7 officers and 165 non-commissioned officers and men. Eight were taken prisoners on the occasion of the ambuscade at Slingsfontein, of whom six rejoined the regiment on the release of prisoners at Waterval, on June 6th, 1900, and two—Troopers M. Ford and G. Whittington—escaped to Delagoa Bay.

With the exceptions of the four big fights on the Modder River side in November and December, 1899, which took place before his arrival, and the taking of Brandfort, Major Lee is credited with having been present at every engagement, both general and minor, from Arundel on January 13th, 1900, to Witkop on October 25th, 1900—no less than forty-four altogether, and reckoning the Colesburg operations as one. Captain Cox was present at the same engagements, including Brandfort, up to Barberton, on September 13th, 1900. Lieutenant Allan was at Arundel on January 13th, 1900, and from Ventersburg Road on May 10th at each one to the end of the list. Lieutenant Osborne is credited with having been at every engagement, not excluding the first four, on the Modder River side. Lieutenant Roberts took part in each one from Arundel to Bloemfontein, but here he was invalided with enteric. Lieutenant Heron's record covers everything outside Belmont, Grasspan, Modder River, and Magersfontein, and the same list, with the additional exceptions of Poplar Grove, Driefontein, and Bloemfontein, applies to Veterinary-Lieutenant Melhuish.

Warrant-Officer C. Fisher fought at Arundel, was taken prisoner at Slingsfontein, rejoined his regiment after

FOUR

Waterval, and was present at each engagement from Olifantsfontein, on 11th and 12th July, to Witkop, on October 25th, 1900. Staff-Sergeant Read, who was at Aldershot, fought with the squadron from Arundel to Bloemfontein, where he was detained by the authorities for military police duty. Staff-Sergeant Winch is credited for actions at Arundel, Poplar Grove, Driefontein, and Bloemfontein, and then from Langkloof on August 26th, 1900, to the end. Staff-Sergeant Morris, who was with Captain Nicholson, began his record at Ventersburg Road, and fought all through from that date. Squadron-Sergeant-Major Robson distinguished himself in the four early engagements under Lord Methuen ; he was present at each fight from Arundel to Doonfield, and then from Driefontein right on to Diamond Hill.

Major Lee has been specially mentioned for distinction by Lord Roberts, Field-Marshal, Commanding-in-Chief, also Staff Sergeant-Major G. E. Morris and Sergeant E. A. E. Houston. Both of these non-commissioned officers distinguished themselves by dashing work during the operations round Strathrae between August 2nd and August 22nd, also at Ermelo on October 18th, 1900.

Among others who may be mentioned for deeds of gallantry on the field are Sergeant G. Gould, Troopers C. Fiaschi and J. Macpherson. The two latter were highly complimented by Major Allanby, commanding the Inniskillings, for bringing a wounded officer of the 7th Dragoon Guards—Captain Jackson—off the field under heavy fire. Trooper Fiaschi, who is a son of Major Fiaschi, of the New

CHAPTER FOUR

South Wales Army Medical Corps—himself a prominent figure in the campaign history of the medical branch of the Australian Contingents—dressed the officer's wounds while within range of the enemy's rifles.

The squadron returned to Sydney by the troopships *Harlech Castle* and *Orient*, disembarking on December 6th, 1900, and January 8th, 1901. Trooper H. H. Johnson and Trooper L. Smith, both of the Lancer Regiment, were on active service in South Africa, but served with other troops.

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICES PERFORMED BY THE LANCER REGIMENT

Three expeditions to England undertaken at the sole expense of the Regiment.

Offer of troops for service in India.

Despatch of first contingent to South Africa, at regimental expense.

Supplying horses from New South Wales to mount the Lancer detachment in South Africa, free of cost to the Government.

Mounting Imperial Cavalry while in Sydney.

Maintaining the finest Mounted Band in Australia.

Visit of Squadron to Melbourne to take part in reception of Duke and Duchess of York in May, 1901.

CHAPTER V

THE FIRST AUSTRALIAN HORSE



COLONEL J. A. K. MACKAY, C.B.

MILKMAN'S HILL on a hot summer's morning in April, 1898. There is a military camp in process of habilitation; staff officers are cantering up and down the lines with orders, and Adjutants are worrying over marching-in states. Out of chaos order is being gradually established.

For several hours there has been a constant inflow of civilian horsemen mounted on country-bred animals of rough but serviceable appearance.

They ride like experienced bushmen, and one can see at a glance that they are not mere sightseers. By noon there are something like four hundred of them on the ground, and Quartermasters are beginning to issue uniforms. They are



EARL BEAUCHAMP, K.C.M.G.
HONORARY COLONEL-IN-CHIEF, FIRST AUSTRALIAN HORSE.

CHAPTER FIVE

the First Australian Horse—the new Cavalry Volunteers raised by Colonel Mackay—a Regiment of real Bushmen, which in twenty-four hours from now will be seen marching past the saluting base in myrtle-green uniform, with all the steadiness and assurance of trained soldiers.

This was the regimental débüt. In June of the previous year permission was given to raise a regiment of bush volunteers, and in August it was gazetted. The movement was taken up with boundless enthusiasm all over the colony; even Queenslanders applied to be enrolled in the new organisation. Only the Government gave a tardy approval to the scheme, and this largely because there was money to be found. Finally, however, sanction was given to raise four hundred men on the basis of a capitation allowance of £5 per man, with permission to the Officer Commanding, Colonel Mackay, to spend three or four years' in advance.

As soon as the men enlisted they were measured for their uniforms and an order was sent to London for four hundred separate outfits, at a total cost of £7,000. Capt. Ferguson, of the 2nd Life Guards, then acting as Private Secretary to the Governor, accepted the position of Second in Command with the rank of Major, and Sergt. Thompson, of the New South Wales Lancers, was made Adjutant with a Lieutenant's Commission. Instructors of more or less fitness for the position were appointed and drills inaugurated in the country districts. Neither officers nor men knew the first thing about soldiering, but they had an unbounded enthusiasm for their work and a good seat in the saddle. With these advantages they made rapid strides towards

proficiency. Some of them rode forty miles to parade and another forty back again, after three or four hours' drill. But the Easter encampment was coming on, and the Officer Commanding had promised that they should be there. Ship after ship arrived without the necessary uniform, without swords and carbines, and still worse, without the Instructors who had been cabled for.

Things looked far from encouraging as the time drew near. The wonder is that the men did not lose heart entirely. They had nothing to go to camp in except their civilian clothes, and they were to be brigaded with the older regiments of Lancers and Mounted Rifles.

At last, on the Monday before Easter, a ship carrying three tons of uniforms and accoutrements put into port, and the Staff were enabled to telegraph to their scattered units that their clothing had arrived. There was no possible chance of issuing it locally, so Colonel Mackay, relying on the loyalty of his men, asked them to come into camp as they were and as lightly equipped as possible. At 4 a.m. on Good Friday the first lot arrived—a motley crew, in every variety of costume known to an Australian midsummer. By midday four hundred and two out of a total strength of four hundred and ten had reported themselves for duty. And then the fun began—at least for the Quartermaster. How he got through his work even he is at a loss to comprehend, but the fact remains that by daylight next morning the Regiment turned out for review purposes.

Here was a body of men who knew nothing of military camp routine; many had never handled a sword, and none

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knew how to use one. In no case had more than forty been drilled together. The staff of instructors was a borrowed one, consisting of artillery men and mounted rifles. The whole of the uniforms, equipment, sword-frogs, carbine buckets, and one hundred and fifty swords had just been issued, and still the regiment had to be put together, squadron and troop leaders appointed, and the men were asked to walk, trot, and canter past the saluting base alongside their trained comrades within twenty-four hours!

This was an ordeal which very few regiments could have survived. The Australian Horse not only accomplished it, but remained in camp the whole nine days with their partially-paid comrades, without a penny of remuneration and without so much as a grumble. They at once jumped into public favour, and kept there. It was a sporting thing to do, and everyone admired the pluck and spirit which prompted it.

Colonel Mackay had promised two squadrons for the camp: he marched past with four squadrons and a band! They were not, perhaps, as steady as a brick wall, but they earned warm praise from the General Officer Commanding, and they deserved it.

In subsequent manœuvres they showed a quick-wittedness and grasp of details, so long as they were conveyed in everyday language, which was quite surprising. How can one praise sufficiently the spirit which brought this Regiment into existence under such unfavourable conditions? It is still one of the most popular Corps in the Service and one of the most useful.

In 1900 it was placed on the partially-paid establishment, and is now 638 strong. The original four squadrons have been increased to five, and qualified instructors have been imported to deal with the raw material. It should be remembered, however, that the Regiment worked on the purely volunteer basis from its inception up to this point, and sent a contingent of purely volunteer Cavalry to South Africa.

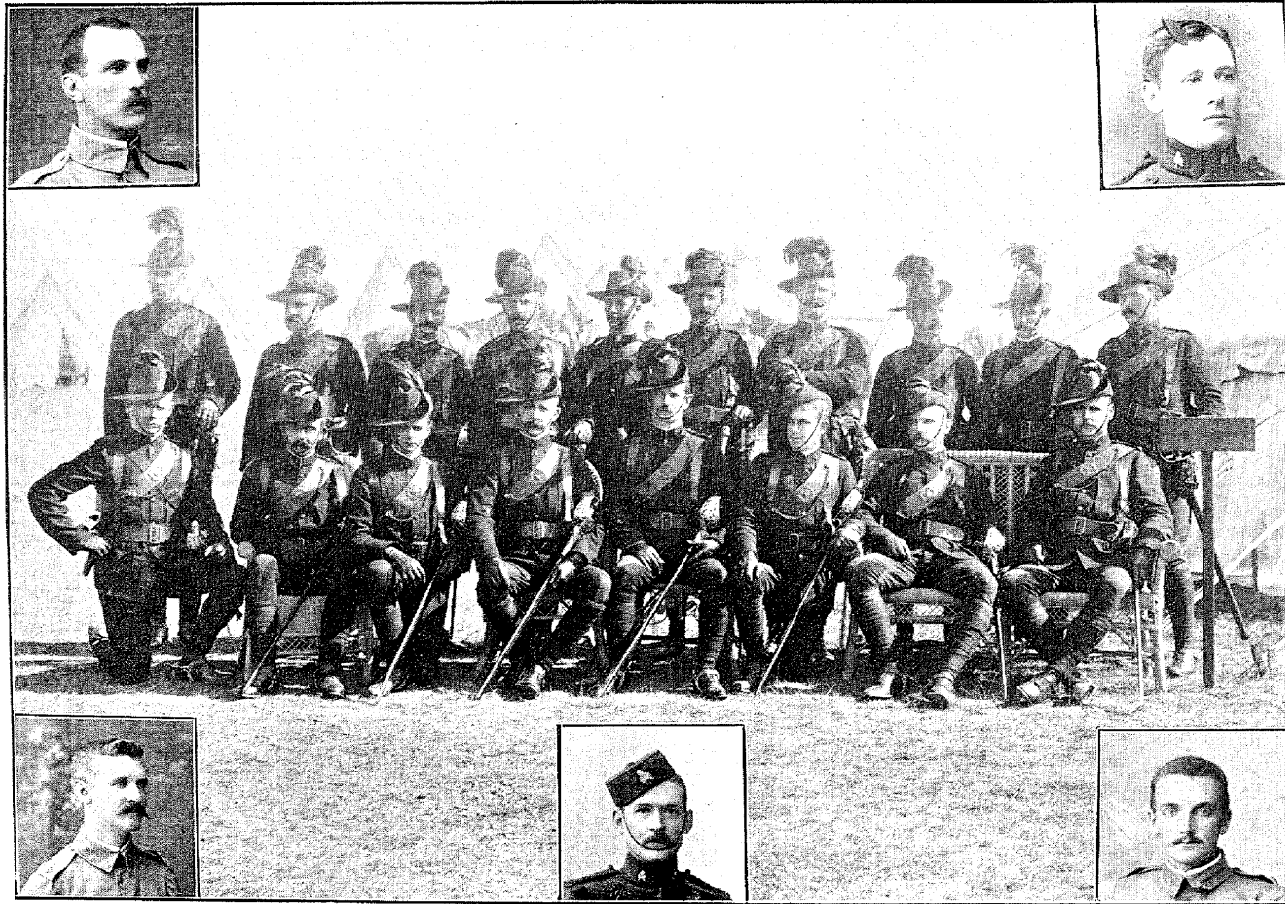
The Southern or "A" Squadron is recruited from Murrumburrah, Cootamundra, and Gundagai; its strength is 120. The South-Eastern or "B" Squadron includes men from Goulburn (which also provides the band), Braidwood-Araluen, Michelago-Bredbow, and Bungendore, and numbers 145 of all ranks. The Western or "C" Squadron comes from Mudgee, Rylstone, and Lue, numbering 90; and the Scone or "D" Squadron, from the township of the same name, also Beltrees and Muswellbrook, to the number of 100. The Northern or "E" Squadron is drawn from Gunnedah, Boggabri, Tamworth, and Armidale; this numbers 145, or a total of 600 officers and men, exclusive of Staff and band.

Of course, when it came to a question of sending troops from New South Wales to South Africa, it was inevitable that some of the Australian Horse should be included. No contingent would have been representative without men from this Corps, and the sequel shows that the Regiment, although the most recently formed of any in the State, justified its inclusion in the selection made for active service.

At first only thirty-four officers and men were sent out, and these went with Mounted Rifles on the transport *Langton Grange*, which carried a big cargo of horses.

LIEUT. ALFRED EDSWORTH (*killed in action*).

CAPT. J. F. M. WILKINSON.



LIEUT. P. W. VAUGHAN.

LIEUT. A. J. COX.

LIEUT. K. K. MACKELLAR
(*killed in action*).

TOP ROW: CAPT. WRAY (ACTING ADJUTANT), LIEUT. GRIFFIN, LIEUT. BROWN, LIEUT. C. MACKELLAR, LIEUT. IRVING, LIEUT. MILLER,
MAJOR FERGUSON, CAPT. DOWLING, LIEUT. RUSSELL, LIEUT. BOURKE.
BOTTOM ROW: LIEUT. W. KYRIE, CAPT. UPTON, LIEUT. WILLS-ALLEN, CAPT. THOMPSON, COL. MACKAY, C.B., LIEUT. J. OSBORNE, MAJOR G.
KYRIE, LIEUT. GOODWIN.

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Lieutenant W. V. Dowling was in charge when the vessel sailed on November 13th. His little detachment was sent up *via* Naauwpoort to Arundel, and operated under General French's command during the whole of the running fights in the vicinity of Colesburg. They were attached to the New South Wales Lancers when the second detachment under Captain Thompson arrived by the *Surrey*. This lot included 104 officers and men. They landed on February 25th, 1900, at Capetown, and on the 27th they were marching through the streets to the accompaniment of ringing cheers from the public, on their way to the railway station and the front. At Modder River they were placed in charge of a convoy for Lord Roberts' column, and marched across country to Klip Drift, where they had their first brush with the enemy. On March 7th the detachment arrived at Paardeberg, and the following day pushed forward to Poplar Grove to take part with the main army in the pitched battle now memorable under this title. From here on to Bloemfontein they were actively engaged with the Cavalry Brigade under General French, and fairly won their spurs.

At Bloemfontein they found Lieutenant Dowling, who had been wounded and taken prisoner at Slingersfontein some weeks earlier, when the Lancer patrol was ambushed and forced to surrender. In this connection, it is interesting to note that Sergeant-Major Griffin, of the Australian Horse, was the first of the Australians to fall in the service of the Empire. He was killed when Lieutenant Dowling was taken prisoner.

The official report, written by Major Lee, Officer Com-

manding New South Wales Lancers, on this mishap, runs as follows :—

“Slingersfontein, 17-1-1900.—In reference to the patrol of New South Wales Lancers and First Australian Horse that left camp at 3 a.m. yesterday under Lieutenant W. V. Dowling, of the First Australian Horse, the following is notified for record: The patrol after leaving camp was attended by Major Lee as far as Pleese’s farm. After a short halt Lieutenant Dowling moved on with patrol. At 3.30 p.m. Warrant Officer Duncan reported his return to camp, also that he had been with Lieutenant Dowling’s patrol up till 1 p.m. The patrol had reconnoitred according to instructions, and was about returning to camp when Warrant Officer Duncan, with two men, was detached to examine Mr. Foster’s farm. After doing so, he went in search of Lieutenant Dowling’s party, and failing to find them concluded they had returned to camp. At 4.30 p.m. Major Lee received a message from Colonel Porter to see him at once in reference to the patrol, and rode round immediately with Warrant Officer Duncan and Private Buchholtz, and was informed that a New South Wales Lancer patrol had been cut up. Colonel Porter proceeded to the top of an adjacent hill, where Warrant Officer Duncan and Private Buchholtz explained all particulars. The Colonel considered the unfortunate occurrence could not be classed otherwise than as an accident, and that no one was to blame. It was decided after hearing the verbal evidence of the Rimington Scouts (Bennett and two others) that we would wait developments and see if any came in after dark. At 11.30 p.m. Private Artlett, Parra-

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matta Half-squadron, returned to camp in an exhausted condition.

“The position of the occurrence was located by the Lancer scouts, some distance away on our left front. Upon examination it was found that T. S. M. Griffin, No. 367, First Australian Horse, had been killed from bullet wounds, one being through the head. Corporal F. Kilpatrick, No. 755, New South Wales Lancers, was found severely wounded—one bullet wound through the lungs, and the lower jaw smashed as if by an explosive bullet. Owing to the Boers appearing on our left front in strength I withdrew all combatants from the front, and sent on the ambulance. On return the medical officer reported that he had buried T. S. M. Griffin on the spot where he had fallen, and that Corporal Kilpatrick was in the ambulance expiring. Corporal Kilpatrick died, and at 5.10 p.m. was buried next to the two New Zealanders on the slope above Slingersfontein Farm. The New South Wales and New Zealand troops attended the burial. The following are still missing :—

Lieutenant W. V. Dowling, First Australian Horse.

New South Wales Lancers.

Warrant Officer Fisher, C. E.	Private Ford, M.
304 Sergeant M'Donald, P.	574 Private Roberts, J. A.
742 Corporal Hopf, C.	866 Private Taylor, A. V.
763 Private Daley, A.	881 Private Whittington, G. B.
880 Private Johnson, R. M.	

First Australian Horse.

323 Corporal Wilson, R.	680 Private Lynne, R.
812 Private Eames, W.	

“Warrant Officer Duncan will take on all duties of Regi-

mental Sergeant-Major from this date." [Subsequent advices show that the six members of the Lancer patrol who returned to camp are Warrant Officer G. L. Duncan, Troopers Buchholtz, E. Thomas, H. Artlett, H. Thomas, and W. Brady.]

For the remainder of the campaign the Australian Horse were attached to the Scots Greys, and in the appendix will be found a list of the engagements in which they took part, together with the casualty and honour roll for these services.

The success of the Regiment all through is largely due to the untiring energy and enthusiasm of Colonel Mackay, in whose brain the idea of bush volunteers originated. In the early days of the New South Wales Lancers he had been an exceptionally zealous officer, but he left that Corps when he entered Parliament. Subsequently, when the idea of Imperial Bushmen for South Africa took hold of New South Wales, he resigned his portfolio as Vice-President to the Executive Council under the Lyne administration, and assumed command. For services in this connection he has been made a Commander of the Order of the Bath.

In dealing with the services of both Lancers and Australian Horse, it may fairly be stated, without prejudice to the excellent work done by their comrades of the Mounted Rifles, that all through the Campaign the identity of the New South Wales Cavalry Contingents was overshadowed by the personality of the larger units to which they were attached—the Inniskillings and the Scots Greys. For this reason their work was not so prominently brought into the limelight as that of the Mounted Rifles, who, from the time of their disembarkation at Capetown, operated independently as a New South Wales unit.

Captain

May 21: 1901

Dear Colonel Mackay

I enclose the Photo

As per your desire -

I wonder that the General &
Archibald have ~~not~~ ~~not~~ ~~not~~
did excellent work with the Cavalry
Division and I shall always remember
it with gratitude

Yours very truly

Col Mackay Esq.
The Castle
Cape Town

W. H. French

FACSIMILE LETTER FROM LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR J. D. P. FRENCH
TO COLONEL MACKAY, C.B.

CHAPTER VI

IN DEFENCE OF CAVALRY

WHAT are the inferences to be drawn from this Campaign, particularly with regard to Cavalry? In some quarters it is held to have demonstrated the uselessness of this arm for modern war. I have already said something about the flimsiness of this contention: it is hard to explain, except on the supposition that the modern tendency is to extravagantly magnify the virtues of the New and Experimental to the detriment of most things which have stood the test of time.

That the Boers have given Cavalry few opportunities for the display of what are known as "shock tactics" is a matter of common knowledge; nor, indeed, does South Africa lend itself to this style of warfare. This much must be conceded by the most rabid anti-cavalry experts. Still, when the opportunity did arise, as at Elandslaagte, the moral effect of the charge was as marked as on the battlefields of old, in the terror it inspired, and the consequent demoralisation in the ranks of the enemy.

In other respects, too, the Cavalry Division has done excellent work in South Africa, despite the worst that its detractors have to say. The one General who has practically never suffered a reverse during the whole of the Campaign, and who, by relieving Kimberley, changed possible defeat

into certain victory, is a Cavalry man, the backbone of whose command has always been Cavalry. No one recognises the value of Mounted Infantry more fully than General French—that is, as an adjunct to Cavalry. Indeed, he has given it as his official opinion, for purposes of publication, that he would like to see the Mounted Infantry arm increased—but not at the expense of *one* Cavalry soldier. As to the relative value of the two arms, the opinion of this distinguished General who has commanded both has deep significance at the present juncture, particularly for Australians.

On this point he said, in reply to a question:—"If I were ordered to relieve a town or form the screen of an advance, and were offered the choice between 2,000 Mounted Infantry, and 1,000 properly horsed and equipped Cavalry, I would take the Cavalry every time." The obvious retort to this, of course, is:—"An *ex parte* statement; the word of a Cavalry officer, biassed in favour of his own arm." But the deliberate opinion of the most successful leader the South African War has evolved, apart from its personal value, should surely be as convincing as the less responsible dicta of authorities belonging to the other arms of the service. To the impartial critic it will probably be more satisfying.

One of the main objections to Cavalry in South Africa is that they have fallen short of what was expected of them in the matter of scouting and reconnoitring. At first blush one is inclined to say that they have failed signally in both these departments; but on examining the proposition, it becomes apparent, first, that the failure was largely due to the fact that the British Cavalry consisted mainly of men

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born and trained in a country where bushcraft, as practised in South Africa, is unknown ; and secondly, that the criticism applies equally to the whole of the Imperial mounted troops, including Mounted Infantry. Making due allowance for the want of natural opportunities, one comes back to the old conclusion that the system is to be blamed rather than the troops who suffer by its shortcomings. But on this very point it is worth remembering that in a European Campaign, where the necessity for elaborate bushcraft would be absent, Imperial Cavalrymen, as at present constituted, would probably do infinitely better work than the half-trained irregulars, who undoubtedly proved themselves their superiors as scouts in South Africa.

But Australian Cavalry failed neither in scouting nor in reconnoitring, consequently the chief practical reason urged against Imperial Cavalry can hardly be said to hold good with regard to them.

Again, there is a good deal of the Cavalryman's curriculum and training which it would be useful for a Mounted Infantryman to know. That Cavalry drill pure and simple is no disqualification, even in an abnormal war such as the one now in progress, is shown by the attitude of Generals like Lord Methuen, Douglas, and Babington, towards the first New South Wales Imperial Bushmen—a Regiment which was handled from first to last as Cavalry, and which received no instruction save that supplied by the '98 Cavalry Drill Book. Indeed one may fairly assume that Cavalry equipped with firearms of equal effectiveness could do all that is claimed for Mounted Infantry under any possible conditions

—and a trifle more : all of which goes to prove the weakness of the anti-cavalry case. Why do away with men who can perform all the functions of the other arm, and in addition have the necessary training for fighting on horseback? Their particular value is that they can be utilised either to meet the opposing Cavalry of other European nations, or by shock tactics turn a disorganised enemy into a hopeless rabble.

If there were the faintest indication to show that the great military Powers of Europe had any intention of substituting Mounted Infantry for Cavalry, as a result of the Boer War, there might be some argument in favour of following their example. But, on the contrary, the whole of these Powers, recognising the folly of basing military calculations on conditions which are unlikely to arise in future wars, are showing an opposite tendency : Russia, as I have said before, is increasing her Cavalry. This being so, other Powers cannot afford to place themselves in the position of having to oppose an aggressive Cavalry screen with Mounted Infantry, who, splendidly useful as they undoubtedly must be in their proper position, are not equipped or trained to fight on horseback ; and who would, consequently, be particularly liable to be driven in on the main body, with this result, that the enemy would be constantly in full possession of the knowledge of our movements. Also our convoys would be in constant danger of capture, through sudden dashes of determined and well-led hostile Cavalry.

On the other hand, a screen composed of Cavalry and Mounted Infantry combined would be practically irresistible ; the Mounted Infantry, being able to move at the same rate as

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the Cavalry, could occupy each position as the opposing force was driven in, allowing the Cavalry to press home their attack in perfect safety, with the knowledge that if they suffered a reverse their supports would be well up—not miles behind, as would happen if the supports consisted entirely of Infantry.

In Australia there is ample room for both Cavalry and Mounted Infantry, or “Mounted Rifles,” as we prefer to call them here. They will be necessary to each other, and therefore ought each to be encouraged. It is absurd to suppose that two fine Regiments like the Lancers and Australian Horse, which have kept up their efficiency under circumstances of exceptional difficulty, and proved their prowess on the field of battle, are going to be sacrificed because a few faddists have said that the days of Cavalry are over. The days of Cavalry are not over ; rather the day has arrived, and the time is opportune for the formation of a Cavalry Brigade in New South Wales, as an integral portion of our Federal Defence Scheme. This is the only State in the Commonwealth possessing an efficient Cavalry nucleus. We have two fine Regiments already in existence, well equipped, well drilled, and possessing complete organising machinery. Thousands of young men all over the country are waiting to be taken on the establishments—quite enough to form a new Regiment among themselves. If the Commonwealth Government gave permission to the Lancers and Australian Horse to accept the many offers which are made to them from time to time, they could easily and cheaply, by adding this new raw material, form a splendid Cavalry Brigade of four workable regiments, worthy alike of Australia and the Empire.

APPENDIX

Succession of Officers Commanding N.S.W. Lancers

	APPOINTED.	RETIRED.
Colonel Macdonald, M.M. ...	January 1st, 1885 ...	*November 20th, 1893
Major Dodds, A.J.... ...	November 20th, 1893 ...	April 27th, 1894
Major Walters, J.J. ...	April 27th, 1894 ...	September 7th, 1897
Lieut.-Col. Burns, J. ...	September 7th, 1897 ...	.....

* After November 20th, 1893, he took over command of the Mounted Brigade until resignation on June 18th, 1896.

Succession of Majors, N.S.W. Lancers

Major Dodds, A.J. ...	25/9/93
Major Sloane Stanley, V. ...	13/5/98
Major Vernon, W.L. ...	26/10/99
Hon. Major Taylor, C.E. ...	26/10/99

New South Wales Lancers

Nominal Roll of Officers who have passed through the Regiment since inception.

Staff

Name.	Joined as	Date Joined.	Second Lieut.	First Lieut.	Capt.	Major.	Remarks.
Macdonald, M. M. ..	Captain	10/2/85	..	..	..	In Comm'nd 29/9/85	In Command Lieut.-Col. 1/7/91.
Dodds, A. J. ..	Sergeant	13/2/85	..	29/9/85	16/3/86	17/7/93	Transferred June, 1894
Knox, T. F. ..	Corporal	18/2/86	29/9/85	16/3/86	30/7/86	..	In Command 1/1/94. Res'd 27/4/94
Purves, J. M. ..	Trooper	4/3/85	Q. M.	1/1/90	27/11/93	..	A.D.C. to G.O.C. 1/4/91
Vernon, W. L. ..	Trooper	13/2/85	16/3/86	11/2/91	17/7/93	26/10/99	Second in Command
Lee, G. L. ..	Trooper	8/7/89	4/10/89	..	19/12/92	..	General Staff (Adjutant)
Burns, J. ..	Trooper	6/6/91	..	..	23/7/91	9/1/96	Lieut.-Col. 17/9/97. In Command 2/9/97
Sloane-Stanley, C.V.	Major	13/5/98	..	..	..	13/5/95	Resigned 28/2/89
Fiaschi, T. H. ...	Surgn. Capt.	24/8/91	..	..	..	24/8/91	..
Darley, H. S. ..	Supv. 2nd Lt.	9/4/00	..	..	10/5/00	..	A.D.C. to Lieut.-Governor
Ash, Rev. G. N. ..	Chaplain	12/1/95	..	..	..	..	..
Melhuish, F. W. ..	Hon. Vet. Lt.	30/6/96	..	..	..	..	..
Walters, J. J. ...	Trooper	5/8/85	..	..	8/12/86	In Comm'nd 28/4/94	To Reserve 7/9/97
Newmarch, B. ...	Trooper	20/6/85	Hon. Surgn.	14/4/88	..	..	Resigned 31/12/89
Harris, J. ..	Sergeant	10/1/87	Hon. Surgn.	17/2/88	..	..	Resigned 30/6/89
Alcorn, G. R. ...	Surgn. Capt.	26/2/91	..	..	..	..	..
Semple, M. ..	Hon. Surgn.	23/1/88	..	..	..	..	Corps Disbanded 31/8/88
Cohen, A. A. ...	Trooper	2/12/85	Hon. Surgn.	22/3/87	..	..	Corps Disbanded 31/8/88

Sydney Squadron (late Sydney Light Horse)

Name.	Joined as	Date Joined.	Second Lieut.	First Lieut.	Capt.	Remarks.
Metcalf, A. J. ..	Sergeant	13/2/85	..	..	29/9/85	Reverted to Trooper 1/7/86. Resigned 18/3/87
Doyle, H. C. ..	Trooper	11/3/85	16/3/86	..	..	Reverted to Trooper 3/7/86. Does not appear after 31/3/89
Clarke, J. H. ..	Trooper	13/2/85	26/2/91	17/7/93	..	Transferred 15/1/97
Timothy, F. C. ..	Trooper	12/2/91	15/1/97	11/8/00	1/5/01	..
King, F. H. ..	Trooper	14/3/91	17/7/93	15/1/97	21/12/00	..
McMahon, J. ..	Trooper	12/5/91	9/3/91	11/8/00	..	..
Hudson, E. A. K. ..	Trooper	2/7/94	Supern.	1/7/01	..	..
Roberts, C. W. F. P. ..	2nd Lieut.	21/7/99	11/8/00	..	..	To 4th Hussars 4/1/01
Fiaschi, C. ..	Trooper	1/2/99	1/7/01	..	..	..
See, J. C. M. ..	2nd Lieut.	30/4/00	..	..	..	..
Lynne, J. ..	2nd Lieut.	30/4/00	..	..	..	..

APPENDIX

Illawarra Light Horse

Name.	Joined as	Date Joined	Second Lieut.	First Lieut.	Captain.	Remarks
Weston, E. H.	Trooper	4/6/85	..	..	19/11/85	Resigned 11/11/01
Marks, E.	Trooper	19/1/86	16/4/86	..	..	Resigned 15/12/86
Hilliard, M. A. (from West Camden L.H.)	Trooper	89/0/85	22/7/86	..	..	Resigned 3/6/87
James, G. C.	Trooper	2/4/86	6/5/87	..	..	Resigned 28/2/88
Ashie, W. C. (from Maitland L.H.)	1st Lieut.	20/4/86	13/9/87	13/9/87	..	Resigned 28/2/88
Perry, F.	Trooper	13/9/87	25/1/89	..	..	Resigned 28/6/90
Pringle, H. A.	2nd Lieut.	4/6/85	1/7/90	27/10/90	22/12/91	Resigned 1/7/94
Weston, A. H.	T.S.M.	27/1/90	27/10/90	..	..	Resigned 11/11/91
Eglese, C. E.	Lieut.	23/8/92	..	..	16/5/95	Resigned 31/1/96
Hay, A.	Trooper	25/6/96	..	..	..	Trnsfrd. to Berry 4-Sqd. 5/8/96
Osborne, H. M.	Trooper	25/6/96	..	..	..
Morton, H. D.	Trooper	25/6/96	..	..	..

West Camden Half-Squadron (late West Camden Light Horse)

Name.	Joined as	Date Joined.	Second Lieut.	First Lieut.	Captain.	Remarks.
Graham, T.	Trooper	6/6/85	..	29/9/85	..	Resigned 18/11/88
Mackay, K.	Trooper	6/6/85	..	..	14/8/85	Resigned 5/11/98
Oxley, H. M.	Trooper	6/6/85	29/9/85	..	..	Resigned 18/11/88
McEvilley, K.	Trooper	31/10/85	..	22/1/89	16/5/95	Resigned 2/4/95
Graham, R. M.	Trooper	20/8/87	18/3/89	..	..	Resigned 2/4/95
Wood, J. D.	Trooper	20/8/87	1/9/95	13/5/96	..	Resigned 26/2/96
De Mestre, E. G.	Trooper	12/3/95	13/6/95	..	..	Resigned 26/2/96
Brunton, J. S.	2nd Lieut.	11/5/97	..	..	..	Trnsfrd. to Parramatta 11/11/97
Wilson, J. B.	2nd Lieut.	18/11/98	18/11/98	..	..

Berry Half-Squadron

Name.	Joined as	Date Joined.	Second Lieut.	First Lieut.	Captain.	Remarks.
Hay, A. (from Illawarra Half-Sqd.)	Trooper	5/8/96	..	1/7/96	11/8/00	Resigned 1/7/91
Osborne, H. M.	Trooper	5/8/96	..	1/7/96	..	Resigned 28/2/99
Morton, H. D.	Trooper	5/8/96	1/7/96	..	..
Blow, E. A.	Trooper	27/1/97	28/12/00	..	..
Osborne, S. F.	2nd Lieut.	28/2/99	28/2/99	..	..

APPENDIX

Maitland Half-Squadron (late Hunter River Light Horse)

Name.	Joined as	Date Joined.	Second Lieut.	First Lieut.	Captain.	Remarks.
Trenchard, H.	Trooper	18/9/85	..	..	10/1/87	Resigned 1/8/88.
Markwell, W. C.	Trooper	2/8/85	..	12/6/91	16/5/95	
Cracknell, W.	Trooper	2/7/85	14/9/87	..	13/4/88	Resigned 17/11/94
McDougall, L. S.	Lieut.	10/1/87	..	..	..	Resigned 4/5/87
Ashe, W. C.	Trooper	25/2/87	22/1/87	..	..	To Illawarra L.H., 14/9/87
Shaw, W. H.	Sergt.	10/1/87	14/3/88	23/5/88	..	Resigned 17/8/89
Tuck, H. G.	Trooper	20/4/87	10/7/88	..	..	Resigned 17/4/89
Montegresti, M. S.	Trooper	2/3/89	14/5/89	4/10/89	..	Resigned 18/5/91
Nicholson, C. E.	Trooper	24/2/91	12/6/91	1/7/95	{ Hon. 25/2/01	
Clarke, W.	2nd Lieut.	25/3/96	25/3/96	..	..	To Reserve, 1/2/88
Rundle, W. J. S.	2nd Lieut.	28/2/99	28/2/99	..	..	To Imperial Army, 31/12/00
Welch, W. G.	2nd Lieut.	18/2/00	19/2/00	..	..

Singleton Half-Squadron

Name.	Joined as	Date Joined.	Second Lieut.	First Lieut.	Captain.	Remarks.
Bowman, A. S.	Trooper	23/1/94	..	1/1/94	16/5/95	
Allan, G. H.	Trooper	20/1/94	..	1/1/94	..	
Dangar, R. H.	Trooper	20/1/94	1/1/94	..	..

Ullmarra Light Horse

Name.	Joined as	Date Joined.	Second Lieut.	First Lieut.	Captain.	Remarks.
Goodger, W.	Trooper	7/9/85	..	..	15/3/85	Corps Disbanded 31/8/88
Halliday, F. A.	Trooper	1/8/85	..	7/6/86	..	Resigned 6/2/88
Flanders, A.	Trooper	1/8/85	7/6/86	..	..	Corps Disbanded 31/8/88

Grafton Light Horse

Name.	Joined as	Date Joined.	Second Lieut.	First Lieut.	Captain.	Remarks.
Munro, J. H.	Trooper	2/12/85	..	..	15/3/86	Corps Disbanded 31/8/88
Rutledge, E. L.	Trooper	2/12/85	..	1/6/86	..	Resigned 26/5/87
North, C. F.	Trooper	2/12/85	1/6/86	11/7/87	..	Corps Disbanded 31/8/88
Donaldson, R. R.	Trooper	2/12/85	11/7/87	..	..	Corps Disbanded 31/8/88

APPENDIX

Murrumbidgee Light Horse

Name.	Joined as	Date Joined.	Second Lieut.	First Lieut.	Captain.	Remarks.
Taylor, W. G.	Trooper	10/3/88	..	..	7/5/88	Resigned 10/7/88
Egan, J.	Trooper	16/3/88	..	7/5/88	..	Resigned 29/10/91
Coleman, G.	Trooper	16/3/88	7/5/88	..	18/9/88	Resigned 26/3/90
Lorimer, P. W.	Trooper	16/3/88	19/11/88	..	27/7/91	Resigned 22/11/92

Casino Half-Squadron (late Upper Clarence Light Horse, Casino Troop, and Richmond River Light Horse)

Name.	Joined as	Date joined	Second Lieut.	First Lieut.	Captain.	Remarks.
Smith, J. D.	Trooper	21/11/86	..	..	16/3/86	Resigned 21/2/87
Hutchison, K.	Trooper	21/11/86	..	16/3/86	..	Resigned 16/3/87
Chauvel, H. G.	2nd Lieut.	21/11/86	16/3/86	..	..	Resigned 21/3/89
Fanning, W. J.	Trooper	23/2/87	..	..	Acting 23/2/87	Resigned 10/6/92
Hindmarsh, W.	Trooper	26/2/87	..	Acting 26/2/87	..	Resigned 12/2/91
Chauvel, C. H. C.	Trooper	14/1/86	..	..	16/3/86	} Do not appear after 31/12/87
Chauvel, C. A. C.	Trooper	1/1/86	..	16/3/86	..	
Spring, E. M. D.	Trooper	22/3/88	3/4/89	..	..	Resigned 22/5/90
Fanning, F. G.	2nd Lieut.	4/5/91	4/5/91	..	15/8/92	Resigned 4/5/91
Kelly, P. J.	Trooper	27/3/91	26/2/91	..	..	..
McRae, C. J.	Lieut.	11/11/92	..	11/11/92	..	To Mounted Rifles 29/9/97
O'Brien, W. E.	Trooper	21/11/92	22/5/93	..	..	Resigned 21/7/99
North, C. F.	Trooper	16/3/97	23/5/97	..	..	..
Spencer, T. W. L.	Trooper	1/11/00	21/12/00	..	..	Trans. to Lismore 4-Sqd. 10/1/91
Cameron, J.	Trooper	11/1/90	..	..	..	..

Lismore Half-Squadron

Name.	Joined as	Date joined	Second Lieut.	First Lieut.	Captain.	Remarks.
Taylor, C. E.	Trooper	25/6/90	..	13/9/90	17/3/91	Hon. Major 26/10/99
McDougall, J. B.	Trooper	25/6/90	..	..	13/9/90	Resigned 16/3/91
Allman, E. M.	Trooper	25/6/00	8/11/90	29/6/91	..	Resigned 1/7/92
Berry, J.	Trooper	25/6/90	21/7/91	..	..	Resigned 1/11/91
Hindmarsh, G. T.	Trooper	25/6/90	..	24/9/92	..	Resigned 5/9/94
Cameron, J. (from Casino Half-Squadron)	Trooper	16/1/91	24/9/92	..	..	Resigned 1/7/94
Osborne, T.	Trooper	2/7/94	27/1/98	11/8/00	..	Resigned 1/11/96
Hewitt, T. M.	Trooper	25/6/90	13/6/95	..	..	To Reserve 21/7/99
Daley, J. A.	Trooper	25/6/90	13/11/95	..	..	..
Heron, R. M.	Trooper	25/11/98	21/7/99	..	..	..

Parramatta Squadron

Name.	Joined as	Date Joined.	Second Lieut.	First Lieut.	Captain.	Remarks.
Subman, J.	Trooper	6/6/91	..	8/10/91	..	Seconded 1/6/94
Houison, J.	Trooper	6/6/91	28/3/92	..	..	Resigned 13/12/93
Weston, F.	Trooper	6/6/91	1/3/94	..	..	To Reserve 17/1/96
Cox, C. F.	Trooper	8/6/91	11/8/94	18/5/96	11/11/97	
Lamb, C. J.	Trooper	6/6/91	17/1/96	11/11/97	..	To Reserve 21/7/99
McKenzie, R. C.	Trooper	6/6/91	21/7/99	11/8/00	..	
Macqueen, F. S. D.A.	Trooper	7/12/94	} Cadets } 31/5/98	Second	..	
To Cadets . . . . .	..	1/7/96		11/8/00	..	
Re-enrolled . . . . .	..	1/4/97		..	..
Laing, J. G.	Trooper	1/8/92	Cadets 1/7/96	..	..	To Reserve 30/7/98
Branton, J. S.	} 2nd Lt.	11/11/97	..	21/7/99	22/9/00	
From West Camden
Stowe, F. E.	Trooper	12/1/99	Cadets 21/12/00	..	..
Burns, J.	2nd Lieut.	30/4/00	30/4/00	..	..

Richmond Half-Squadron

Name.	Joined as	Date Joined.	Second Lieut.	First Lieut.	Captain.	Remarks.
Charley, P.	Captain	1/10/00	..	..	1/10/00	
Charley, W. T.	2nd Lieut.	21/12/00	21/12/00	..	..
Skuthorp, H.	Trooper	1/1/01	1/3/01	..	..

Windsor Half-Squadron

Name.	Joined as	Date Joined.	Second Lieut.	First Lieut.	Captain.	Remarks.
Hall, R.	Lieut.	21/12/00	..	21/12/00	..	
Walker, B. B.	2nd Lieut.	21/12/00	21/12/00	..	..

Newcastle Half-Squadron

Name.	Joined as	Date Joined.	Second Lieut.	First Lieut.	Captain.	Remarks.
Harris, J.	Sp. 2nd Lt.	11/10/00	11/10/00	..	..
Wood, J. A.	Lieut.	1/3/01	..	1/3/01	..	
Ireland G.	2nd Lieut.	1/3/01	1/3/01	..	..

APPENDIX

N.S.W. Lancers Shooting Returns

Table showing shooting results and comparison in Order of Merit with other Regiments of New South Wales.

Year.	Number of Regiments Exercised.	Regiment, and Order of Merit.		Remarks.
1890-1	}	Records kept by old Musketry Dept. not published
1891-2				
1892-3				
1893-4				
1894-5	8	Lancers	6th	Not yet published. Regimental Return shows improvement on last year.
1895-6	11	Lancers	6th	
1896-7	10	Lancers	3rd	
1897-8	9	Lancers	5th	
1898-9	11	Lancers	5th	
1899-00	11	Lancers	4th	
1900-01	...	Lancers		

Number of men exercised through musketry for year ending June 30th, 1901, was 506, classified as follows :—

	Marksman.	1st Class Shots.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.				
Trained men	...	106	...	72	...	78	...	9 = 265
Recruits	92	...	109	...	40 = 241

The following Summary of Individual Target Practices for the three last years is published for comparison :—

Aggregate of Averages.	Sydney	Parramatta	W. Camden	Berry	Maitland	Singleton	Casino	Lismore	Regimental Aggregate.
1898-99	97	114	96	103	135	130	142	139	122
1899-00	112	121	123	115	131	140	125	143	121
1900-01	110	89	126	114	116	150	135	164	125

APPENDIX

Summary of Collective Practices for last three years for comparison :—

Musketry Year.	Sydney	Parramatta	W. Camden	Berry	Maitland	Singleton	Casino	Lismore	Regimental percentage
1898-99 ...	30	54	31	39	38	47	65	63	45
1899-00 P.C. }	26	43	29	24	48	47	66	66	42
1900-01 ...	38	35	43	29	39	35	54	68	42

Regimental Figure of Merit for last three years :—

Musketry Year.	Aggregate of Averages Range Practices.	Percentage Collective Practices.	Number Exercised.
1898-99	122	45	293
1899-00	121	42	206
1900-01	125	42	265

N.B.—In all cases the Lee-Enfield Carbine is used.

**Engagements in which the New
South Wales Lancers took
part**

GENERAL ENGAGEMENTS

Belmont, Nov. 23, 1899	Doornkop, May 29
Grasspan, Nov. 25	Valkheuvel Poort, June 3
Modder River, Nov. 28	Diamond Hills, June 11 and 12
Magersfontein, Dec. 11	Olifantsfontein, July 11 and 12
Arundel, Jan. 13, 1900	Langkloof (near Belfast), Aug. 26
Riet River, Feb. 12	Swartzkop (near Belfast), Aug. 27
Klipdrift, Feb. 13	Wartburg Hills, Sept. 12
Relief of Kimberley, Feb. 15	Barberton, Sept. 13
Dronfield, Feb. 16	Lako Chrissie, Oct. 16
Paardeberg, Feb. 18 to March 5	Mooiplaats, Oct. 17
Poplar Grove, March 7	Ermelo, Oct. 18
Driefontein, March 10	Rietvlei, Oct. 19
Bloemfontein, March 12	Bethell, Oct. 20
Brandfort, March 29	Rooipoort, Oct. 22
Ventersburg Road, May 10	Winkelladt, Oct. 23
Yanwyksrust, May 27	Kaffirskuil, Oct. 24
Klipriversberg, May 28	Witkop, Oct. 25

MINOR ENGAGEMENTS

Colesberg operations (including Arundel, Rensburg and Slingersfontein), Nov. 19, 1899, to Feb. 6, 1900	Sterkwater, July 26
Waterval (release of prisoners), June 6, 1900	Operations round Strathrae, Aug. 2 to 22
Wilge River, July 23	Elandskloof, Aug. 28
Zaaiwater, July 24	Waterval Onder, Aug. 30
Olifant's River, July 25	Zevenfontein, Sept. 2
	Welgelegen, Sept. 4
	Goedwerwatkt, Sept. 9

APPENDIX

Casualties, N.S.W. Lancers

- Lieut. C. W. F. P. Roberts, invalided at Bloemfontein.
- Warrant Officer C. Fisher, taken prisoner Slingsfontein, rejoined after release at Waterval.
- Sergt. P. M'Donald, taken prisoner, Slingsfontein, rejoined after release at Waterval.
- Sergt. W. M. Moffitt, fever, Doornkop.
- Sergt. J. W. Campbell, enteric fever, Kameel's Drift.
- Sergt. Farrier E. A. Rose, wounded, Ermelo.
- Corpl. F. I. Kilpatrick, died of wounds, buried at Slingsfontein.
- Corpl. R. E. Harkus, died of enteric and buried in Bloemfontein cemetery.
- Trumpeter A. V. Taylor, taken prisoner at Slingsfontein, rejoined at Waterval.
- Trooper F. Avar, died of wounds and buried at Carolina.
- Trooper S. Akers, enteric fever, Bloemfontein.
- Trooper W. Brady, enteric fever, Bloemfontein.
- Trooper G. Cummings, enteric fever, Kimberley.
- Trooper W. B. Carter, enteric fever, Doornkop.
- Trooper A. Daley, taken prisoner Slingsfontein, rejoined at Waterval.
- Trooper G. E. L. Doudney, taken prisoner Slingsfontein, rejoined at Waterval.
- Trooper B. F. Evans, enteric fever, Middleberg.
- Trooper W. M. Ellis, died on troopship *Harlech Castle*, buried at sea.
- Trooper F. Fetting, died of enteric and buried at Bloemfontein.
- Trooper M. Ford, taken prisoner at Slingsfontein, escaped from Waterval to Delagoa Bay.
- Trooper G. Haken, enteric fever, Bloemfontein.
- Trooper E. F. Hopkinson, wounded at Brandfort.
- Trooper J. S. Knight, enteric fever, Bloemfontein.
- Trooper A. H. King, wounded Ermelo.
- Trooper E. Lee, enteric fever, Bloemfontein.
- Trooper T. Morris, enteric fever, Bloemfontein.
- Trooper O. L. Milling, enteric fever, Bloemfontein.
- Trooper J. M'Pherson, enteric fever, Kimberley.
- Trooper K. K. M'Pherson, enteric fever, Bloemfontein.
- Trooper T. Pestell, enteric fever, Kroonstadt.
- Trooper J. A. Roberts, taken prisoner at Slingsfontein, rejoined at Waterval.

APPEN

Trooper G. E. L. Ramsay, invalided from Oliphantsfontein.
Trooper G. J. Stratford, enteric fever, Bloemfontein.
Trooper L. D. Tunks, died of enteric fever, buried at Kroonstadt.
Trooper H. V. Vernon, enteric fever, Bloemfontein.
Trooper J. Wilks, enteric fever, Bloemfontein.
Trooper H. Waddell, invalided from Bloemfontein.
Trooper C. Webster, enteric fever, Arundel.
Trooper A. Whitney, enteric fever, Bloemfontein.
Trooper J. W. Watts, invalided Bloemfontein.
Trooper G. Whittington, taken prisoner Slingsfontein, escaped from Waterval
Delagoa Bay.

APPENDIX

First Australian Horse

NOMINAL ROLL OF SOUTH AFRICAN CONTINGENTS

Private Thompson, R. R.	Trooper Ellis, W. J.
Private Dowling, W. V.	Trooper Eames, W.
Private Osborne, J. E. N.	Trooper Fogarty, T.
Private Mackellar, K. K.	Trooper Fuller, S. C.
Private Wilkinson, J. F. M.	Trooper Gilchrist, H. W.
Second-Lieut. Vaughan, P. W.	Trooper Gowland, R. H.
Second-Lieut. Elsworth, A.	Trooper Granville, C. H.
Private O. Duncan, G.	Trooper Grenenger, W.
Private S.M. Arnold, H.	Trooper Hall, E.
Private M.S. Dowson, L. A.	Trooper Harnett, H. L.
Private S.M. Griffin, G. A.	Trooper Hartney, J. P.
Private S.M. Hargreave, C.	Trooper Harmer, J. A.
Private M.S. Barnes, S. C.	Trooper Harris, G. H.
Sergeant Mills, H. A.	Trooper Heaney, A.
Sergeant Doyle, H.	Trooper Heydon, J.
Sergeant Vaughan, D. D.	Trooper Hockley, C. E.
Sergeant Thomas, G. A.	Trooper Hopkins, R. A.
Sergeant Williams, A.	Trooper Huxley, A. E.
Sergeant Woods, H. D. L.	Trooper James, W. J.
Sergeant O'Brien, H.	Trooper Jones, J.
Lance-Sergeant Juleff, J. M.	Trooper Langsford, W.
Lance-Sergeant Legge, W. G.	Trooper Lewis, C.
Sergeant-Farrier Gray, W.	Trooper Luff, W.
Sergeant-Farrier Hanson, G.	Trooper Lynn
Corporal Wilson, R. R.	Trooper Malartic, A. E.
Corporal Strike, S.	Trooper Marshall, J. B.
Corporal Peard, W. E.	Trooper Martin, H.
Corporal Pulsford, H. S.	Trooper Master, C.
Corporal Ferguson, A. R. L.	Trooper Mecham, J. W.
Corporal Staepoole, G. W. J.	Trooper Mecham, M. R.
Lance-Corporal Hill, A.	Trooper Meehan, W.
Lance-Corporal Kirkpatrick, H. J.	Trooper Mettam, A. A.
Lance-Corporal Stewart, J.	Trumpeter Minch, T.
Lance-Corporal Firman, G.	Trooper Moody, E. I.
Lance-Corporal Cumming, G.	Trooper McDonald, R.
Lance-Corporal Andrew, J. A. S.	Trooper McJannett, W. V.
Lance-Corporal Priddle, W.	Trooper McMin, H.
Lance-Corporal Abbott, J. H. M.	Trooper McWilliams, C.
Corporal-Trumpeter Booth, D. H. T.	Trooper North, G. C.

APPENDIX

**Engagements in which the First
Australian Horse took part**

January	13th, 1900—Arundel and Colesburg Districts.
February	12th, 1900—Reit River.
„	13th, 1900—Klip Drift, Modder River.
„	15th, 1900—Relief of Kimberley.
„	16th, 1900—Dornfield.
„	18th, 1900—Paardeberg.
March	8th, 1900—Poplar Grove.
„	10th, 1900—Abraham's Kraal and Driefontein.
„	13th, 1900—Surrender of Bloemfontein.
„	29th, 1900—The Glen, or Brandford.
„	31st, 1900—Koorn Spruit, or Sannas Post.
May	10th, 1900—Zand River (Ventersburg-road).
„	12th, 1900—Kroonstadt.
„	26th, 1900—Hartebeestefontein.
„	27th, 1900—Hartebeestefontein.
„	28th, 1900—Olifants-Vlei.
„	30th, 1900—Doornkop.
June	2nd, 1900—Johannesburg.
„	3rd, 1900—Johannesburg.
„	5th, 1900—Fall of Pretoria.
„	6th, 1900—Waterval (Release of Prisoners).
„	11th, 1900—Diamond Hills.
July	11th, 1900—Mazillacets, or Nitrel's Nek.
„	16th, 1900—Kameel Drift.
„	20th, 1900—Olifantsfontein.
„	23rd, 1900—Olifant's River.
„	24th, 1900—Kromdraai.
„	27th, 1900—Near Middleburg.
„	31st, 1900—Wonderfontein.
August	24th, 1900—Geluk's Farm, near Belfast.
„	25th, 1900—Geluk's Farm, near Belfast.
„	26th, 1900—Geluk's Farm, near Belfast.
„	27th, 1900—Belfast.
„	29th, 1900—Helvetia.
„	31st, 1900—Waterval—Onder.
September	4th, 1900—Bonnefoot, or Bonnefoi.
„	6th, 1900—Carolina.

September 9th, 1900—Rooi Kop (Red Hill).
 „ 13th, 1900—Surrender of Barberton.
 October 18th, 1900—Ermelo.
 „ 19th, 1900—Ermelo.
 „ 22nd, 1900—Bethel.
 „ 23rd, 1900—Lake Chrissie.
 „ 25th, 1900—Nigel.
 „ 26th, 1900—Heidelberg.

N.B.—The engagements from 18th January to 18th February were only taken part in by 1st Contingent.

First Australian Horse Casualty Roll

*Major G. de L. Ryrie, wounded at Wonderfontein, 11/9/00.
 Capt. W. V. Dowling, wounded and taken prisoner at Slingersfontein, 16/1/00.
 Lieut. K. K. Mackellar, killed in action, Derdepoort, 11/7/00.
 Lieut. A. Ebsworth, killed in action, Bronckhurst Spruit, 24/7/00.
 *Lieut. R. J. L. White, killed in action, Manana, 12/9/00.
 *Warrt. Officer R. W. J. Messenger, wounded, Malmani, 27/8/00.
 Troop Sergt.-Major G. A. Griffin, killed in action, Slingersfontein, 16/1/00.
 Lance-Corpl. J. A. Andrew, died of enteric, Capetown, 5/3/00.
 Trumpeter C. A. Gilchrist, died of enteric, Bloemfontein, 13/3/00.
 Trooper W. T. Bonnor, killed in action, Glen Siding, 29/3/00.
 Trooper R. B. Cox, died of enteric on returning transport at Adelaide, 24/1/00.
 Trooper M. Cummins, died of enteric, Capetown, 27/6/00.
 Trooper A. E. Darcey, wounded at Kroonstadt, 10/5/00.
 Trooper W. J. James, died of enteric, Bloemfontein.
 Trooper H. Martin, wounded at Glen Siding, 29/3/00.
 Trooper J. W. Mecham, wounded at Zand River, 10/5/00.
 Trooper, M. R. Mecham, wounded at Zand River, 10/5/00.
 Trooper W. P. Meehan, died of enteric at Adelaide on returning, 24/1/00.
 Trooper L. A. Palmer, wounded at Poplar Grove, 8/3/00.
 Trooper O. A. Taylor, wounded at Driefontein, 10/3/00.
 Trooper T. V. Wessell, wounded at Glen Siding, 29/3/00.
 Trooper R. F. Wilson, died of enteric.

N.B.—Those marked with an asterisk served with the Imperial Bushmen's Contingent.

APPENDIX

First Australian Horse

SOUTH AFRICAN CONTINGENT HONOUR AND PROMOTION ROLL

RANK.	NAME.	REMARKS.
Colonel	Mackay, J. A. K.	Companion of the Bath, Military Division, 29/11/00
Captain	Ryrie, G. de L.	Promoted Major in Imperial Bushmen's Contingent
*Captain	Wray, K. M.	Mentioned in despatches by Lord Roberts for meritorious service whilst officer commanding "C" Squadron, Imperial Bushmen. Final despatch
Lieutenant	Wilkinson, J. F. M.	Promoted Captain in First Australian Horse, South African Contingent
Lieutenant	Vaughan, P. W.	Mentioned in despatches by Lord Roberts for meritorious service whilst serving with First Australian Horse Contingent. Final despatch
Lieutenant	Osborne, J. N.	Appointed Second Lieutenant in 16th Lancers
Warrant-Officer	Duncan, G.	Appointed Lieutenant and Quartermaster in Imperial Army
S. Sergt.-Major	Arnold, H.	Promoted Regimental Sergeant-Major in First Australian Horse, South African Contingent. Awarded Distinguished Service Medal
S. Sergt.-Major	Messenger, R. W. J.	Promoted Regimental Sergeant-Major in Imperial Bushmen of New South Wales, 11/5/00
*S. Sergt.-Major	Butler, W.	Promoted Lieutenant and Adjutant in Imperial Bushmen of New South Wales, 11/5/00. Promoted Captain 10/11/00. To be Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, 29/11/00
*S. Sergt.-Major	Helbert, G. H.	Appointed Captain and Quartermaster in South African Constabulary, 30/12/00
S. Sergt.-Major	Wearne, A. E.	Appointed Lieutenant in the Third Mounted Rifles, South African Contingent

* Those marked with an asterisk served with the Imperial Bushmen's Contingent.

APPENDIX

RANK.	NAME.	REMARKS.
T. Sergt.-Major	Hargreaves, C.	Mentioned in despatches by Lord Roberts for meritorious service whilst serving with the First Australian Horse Contingent. Final despatch.
Sergeant	Thomas, G. A.	Appointed Captain in the Marquis of Tullibardines Scottish Horse
Lance-Corporal	Kirkpatrick, H. J.	Appointed Second Lieutenant in Sixth Dragoon Guards
Lance-Corporal	Stewart, J.	Appointed Second Lieutenant in Fourth Dragoon Guards
Lance-Corporal	Abbott, J. H. M.	Appointed Second Lieutenant in Royal Field Artillery
Trooper	Mecham, M. R.	Appointed Lieutenant in Second Mounted Rifles Contingent
Trooper	Darcey, A. E.	Appointed Lieutenant in Imperial Draft Contingent
Trooper	Cameron, D.	Appointed Lieutenant in Imperial Draft Contingent
*Trooper	Fewkes, W. N.	Mentioned in despatches by Lord Kitchener for conspicuous gallantry in the field, and promoted Corporal 24/5/01
Trooper	Black, W. H.	Appointed Squadron Sergeant-Major in Second Mounted Rifles Contingent.

* Those marked with an asterisk served with the Imperial Bushmen's Contingent.