

had been well decorated for the occasion and the walls were covered with flowers, flags and seasonal garlands of evergreens bearing the mottoes 'Scotland for Ever', 'Dargai' and 'Welcome to the Gordons'. General Chapman was present at the dinner plus representatives from each squadron of the Royal Scots Greys. As the men left the Corn Exchange they were cheered by the citizens all the way up to their barracks at the Castle.

When the veterans of the campaign visited the Edinburgh pubs they were always asked the same question about the action at Dargai. The enquirers always wanted to know which tune had been played by the Gordons pipers on the Indian heights. Had it been the 'Cock 'o the North' or 'The Haughs o' Cromdale'? Pipe Major Brown when asked this question said it was 'anything you like. In the excitement of the moment there was no time to think. The fact that it ought to have been 'The Haughs o' Cromdale' seemd to have

been forgotten, and each man just struck up for himself. Nobody know what was being played. It was just piping'.

Piper Findlater who was awarded the Victoria Cross along with Private Lawson for their heroism at Dargai, found that he was now a celebrity when he returned to the United Kingdom. Journalists queued up to interview him and managers offered the piper of the Gordons fabulous sums to appear on the bills of their theatres. After being discharged from the army he played at the Military Tournament and the piper became the toast of Scottish capital.

The Gordon Highlanders garrisoned Edinburgh Castle for nearly a year before they were ordered on active service yet again, when they joined the second battalion fighting on the veldt in the campaign against the Boers in South Africa.

## Family Casualties in The Second Anglo-Boer War

by Meurig G.M. Jones

This article has been generated by work in progress on Anglo-Boer War memorials by Tony McCabe and myself. Many themes of the impact of the Second Anglo-Boer War on British Society are becoming apparent. The theme I shall highlight here is the number of fatalities that struck one family. The devastation to families and neighbourhoods caused by the slaughter of the First World War is well known. While the scale of those casualties is not even approached by that of the Anglo-Boer War there are a surprising number of families with multiple fatalities. For each person I have indicated the memorials they are commemorated on. Surprisingly only two families, Wilson and Rose, erected family memorials to their dead. All the others are only commemorated on association memorials; regiment, school, geographical and so on. The family would have been invited to subscribe to these memorials and perhaps this satisfied the need to commemorate their losses. Memorials in South Africa are not included.

### HUSBAND & WIFE

#### Wood

Colonel Oswald G., RAMC  
Nursing Sister Mrs (?) Wood, Army Nursing Service

Mrs Wood died after 'a long and painful illness' in Kroonstadt on October 14th, 1901. Colonel Wood died

six months later on January 3rd, 1902 of 'internal inflammation'. They were survived by two young sons.

Colonel Wood is commemorated on RAMC memorials in Saint George and Saint Michael Church and Gun Hill, Aldershot. There are no known memorials to Mrs Wood.

### BROTHERS (the elder is given first)

#### Pechell

Captain Mark H.K., 3rd Bttn KRRC  
Captain Charles A.K., 1st Bttn KRRC

After an active career in India Mark passed up secondment to the Egyptian Army to fight the Boers. He was killed in the first battles of the war at Talana, October 20th, 1899. Eleven days later Charles was killed at Canon Kopje, Mafeking on October 31st.

They are commemorated in Winchester Cathedral and Eton College.

#### Meeking

Captain Bertram C.C.S., 10th Hussars  
2-Lieutenant Kenneth C.E., 2nd Bttn Grenadier Guards

Bertram died of enteric in Bloemfontein on April 16th, 1900. Kenneth also died of enteric in Bethlehem on February 2nd, 1902.

They are commemorated on memorials in the Garrison Church, Windsor and the Royal Garrison Church, Aldershot as well as at Eton College.

#### **Buchanan-Riddell**

Lieut-Colonel Robert G., 3rd Bttn KRRC  
Major Henry E., 2nd Bttn KRRC

Robert died in the appalling battle of Spion Kop, 24th January, 1900. Henry died of enteric in Natal, March 16th, 1900.

They are commemorated in Winchester Cathedral.

#### **Keith-Falconer**

Bvt Lieut-Colonel Cecil E., 1st Bttn Northumberland Fusiliers  
Lieutenant Victor FA, 2nd Bttn Somerset Light Infantry

Cecil was killed near Belmont on November 10th, 1899  
Victor on Hussar Hill on the Tugela, February 21st, 1900.

They are both commemorated at Charterhouse school, the Staff College, Camberley and Cecil on the Northumbrian regiments memorial on the Haymarket, Newcastle Upon Tyne.

#### **Lambton**

Captain Alexander F, 1st Bttn Highland Light Infantry  
Lieutenant Ronald R., 1st Bttn Durham Light Infantry

Alexander was killed at the battle of Magersfontein, Decembe 1899. Ronald died of wounds received in action near Vryheid September 17th, 1901.

They are both commemorated at Wellington College and the Welsh national memorial in Cardiff. Ronald in Durham. Alexander in the Staff College, Camberley and in Glasgow.

#### **MacCartie**

Captain Charles F., Kitchener's Horse  
Captain Gerald deC., South African Constabulary

Charles was killed at Driefontein on March 10th, 1900. Gerald died of wounds on February 27th, 1902 received at Niekkul, near Hoopstad. Their father died in January 1902 and a third brother was killed in Burma in 1886.

Gerald is commemorated on the county memorial in York and apparently on the county memorial for Cork; Gildea lists his regiment as Kitchener's Horse and accredits him with the CIE, Charles' unit and award. There are no known memorials to Charles.

#### **Power**

Captain Sir John Elliott Cecil, Irish Yeomanry  
Captain Sir Elliott Derrick Le Poer, 1st Bttn RB

Sir John, the fourth Baronet of Kilfane, Kilkenny, was mortally wounded during the action near Lindley and died on June 1st, 1900. Sir Elliott succeeded to he baronetcy, but died of eneteric at Standerton on January 20th, 1902.

Elliott is commemorated in Wellington College and Winchester. John is commemorated in Clonmel (Eire).

#### **Rose**

Captain Charles E., Royal Horse Guards  
Lieutenant Bertram T., Thorneycroft's Mounted Infantry

Bertram survived the battle of Spion Kop only to be stricken down by enteric at Pietermaritzburg on March 30th, 1900. Charles was killed shortly after at Welow, May 4th.

Both are commemorated at Eton College and a family memorial in Mapledurham (Oxfordshire). A third brother, Captain Adrian, Royal Horse Guards is also mentioned, he does not appear to be a war casualty. Charles in the Garrison Chapel, Windsor and the Staff College, Camberley. Bertram in the Stock Exchange, London.

#### **Wilson**

Colonel John G., 3rd Bttn York and Lancaster  
Lieut-Col Richard B., 3rd Bttn Durham Light Infantry

Richard died of enteric at Kroonstad, March 21st, 1901. John died of wounds received at Palmietkuil, March 8th, 1902.

Both are commemorated on memorials in the family's estate village of Manfield, County Durham. The memorials include two cottages (still occupied by estate workers), a lych gate and plaques in the church. John is commemorated at Cheltenham College and on the York County memorial.

#### **FATHER & SON**

##### **Wilson**

Colonel John G., 3rd Bttn York and Lancaster  
Lieutenant Richard B., Yorkshire Hussars

Richard died of wounds at Rustenburg on July 26th, 1900 received in action at Oliphant's Nek. See Wilson above.

Richard is also commemorated in Manfield and on the York County memorial as well as Eton College and York Minster.

#### **FAMILIES**

##### **Lloyd**

Matron Mary Ann, Welsh Hospital (sister)  
Private Arthur P., Worcestershire Yeomanry (brother)  
Morsie Lloyd (Matthias), British Army (nephew)

Arthur died of disease at Bloemfontein on July 3rd, 1900. Mary Ann died of disease in Pretoria on December 17th, 1901. Morsie died of disease but it is not known when.

Maron is commemorated in St David's Cathedral, and St George and St Michael's Church, Aldershot.<sup>1</sup>

There are two other families connections that I have yet to prove.

##### **Luce**

Lieutenant Walter C., Wiltshire Regt

2-Lieutenant William S., RFA

Walter died of enteric at Springfontein, February 11th, 1901.

William was killed at Diamond Hill, June 11th, 1900.

Both are commemorated at Clifton College. Walter in Salisbury Cathedral and William in St James's Park, London.

### Mourilyan

Lieutenant Hubert M., 1st Bttn Warwickshire Regt  
Civilian Nurse Miss E.(?)

Hubert was killed at Pieter's Hill, February 27th, 1900.

Mis Mourilyan died in Kimberley on April 16th, 1900.

Hubert, a fellow of the Royal Colonial Institute, is commemorated in the Royal Commonwealth Society, London, Staff College, Camberley and in Warwick. Miss Mourilyan is commemorated at the RAMC College, London.

But to conclude, having more than one family member at the War did not necessarily increase the chances of them dying. Three brothers from the Riall family fought and survived the War. All lieutenants, they are: Claude, East Yorkshire Regt. Malcolm, West Yorkshire Regt and Bertram, Leinster Regt. Incidentally they also survived the rigours of WW1 which included service in France and Flanders, Gallipoli and the Middle East. Being an Irish family they had all the luck, of course.<sup>2</sup>

### Notes

<sup>1</sup> 'The Lloyd Family At War, 1899-1902', MGM Jones *SOTQ* 64, March 1991.

<sup>2</sup> Nicholas Riall, grandson of Malcolm Riall.

Supplementary details have been taken from: *The Last Post*, Mildred Dooner, J.B. Hayward & Son, 1980. *For Remembrance*, Colonel Sir James Gildea, Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1991.

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# Restoration of The Anglo-Boer War Memorial The Haymarket, Newcastle Upon Tyne

by Stephen Dance

The memorial portrayed on the front cover of this issue, was unveiled in June 1908 and commemorates men of the Northumbrian regiments who lost their lives in the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902). Regular regiments such as the Northumberland Fusiliers are commemorated, as are local volunteers such as the Northumberland and Durham Imperial Yeomanry. Designed by T. Eyre Machlin, the memorial (a Grade II listed structure) consists of a column surmounted by a bronze figure representing Victory, laurel wreath in one hand, sword in the other. At the base of the memorial is a second female figure representing Northumbria. She holds a (regimental?) standard in one hand and offers a palm in memory of her fallen sons in the other. Around the base are shields bearing the names of those who died and battle scenes.

Concern had been expressed for some years by local associations about the deteriorating condition of one of Newcastle's best-known landmarks but, although some repairs had been effected to the winged Victory figure at the time of the construction of the nearby Haymarket Metro (Underground) Station, it was only relatively recently that a proper survey was undertaken with a view to restoration. Considerable deterioration was discovered and hidden damage to the stone and support structure was suspected. The bronze and copper work around the plinth had suffered from vandalism and fixtures were breaking

away from their fixings. When the writer visited the memorial one evening during a business trip to Newcastle, pieces of the memorial could clearly be heard flapping in the wind!

Happily, funding became available from City and Government sources and work was able to begin. The restoration has been managed by Sustrans, a Bristol based company with offices in Stanley, Co. Durham, and a number of local artists (including the retired head of sculpture at Newcastle Polytechnic) have participated in the project. The aim has been to restore the memorial to its original appearance as far as possible whilst avoiding some of the pitfalls which had resulted from its original design. Inevitably, as with all such projects, a degree of compromise has been necessary in order to ensure the long-term survival of the structure.

The Anglo-Boer War Study Group of the Society has taken an active interest in the project from its inception and was able to step in a critical moment by providing photographic evidence of the original appearance of missing sections of the memorial. Group member Paul Dunn was able to assist by drawing on his extensive collection of contemporary postcards of Anglo-Boer War memorials. A photographic enlargement and modern negative were made of one of the clearest views (see photograph on front cover – note the Oyster Saloon in the background!) and passed to the con-

# Soldiers of the Queen

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## 'The Adjutant inspecting the Guard': SOTQ's December cover

by George Dibley

Major Sir Torquhil Matheson Bt DL, late Coldstream Guards, son of the officer in the picture, and Mr J. R. St Aubyn, Woolcott Books, Kingston House, Higher Kingston, Nr Dorchester, DT2 8QE, have given details of the individuals illustrated in the print reproduced on the cover of SOTQ 71. We are grateful to them for the information.

The original of the picture, 'The Adjutant inspecting the Guard', now hangs in the Sergeants' Mess at the Guards Depot, Pirbright. It depicts Lieutenant and Adjutant T. G. Matheson, who later became a full General and commanded the Guards Division in the First World War, inspecting the guard at the Tower of London in late summer 1897 or 1898. It can be dated from the Diamond Jubilee Medal ribbon worn by the Sergeant-Major (Sergeant-Major Best) and the fact that

T. G. Matheson was Adjutant of the 1st Bn. Coldstream Guards during those years. The Guard Commander is Colour Sergeant Dyble of Number 1 Company, 1st Coldstream Guards: he was well known in his time with many anecdotes told about him. The battalion went to Gibraltar in 1899 and "little Miss Dyble", daughter of the Colour Sergeant, and John Codrington, one of the then Commanding Officer, played together as children. John Codrington, who died in 1991, also served in the regiment and retired after the Second World War as a Lieutenant Colonel.

The grandson of Sergeant Major Best served in the regiment and is now the Hon. Secretary of the Old Comrades Association at Newcastle. The (pictured) Adjutant's grandson is still serving.