

SECOND (MOUNTED INFANTRY) CONTINGENT.

ON 20th December, 1899, the formation of a second Company of Mounted Infantry for service in the war, was sanctioned by the Western Australian Government. Period of engagement, one year, but subsequently extended (Western Australian *Government Gazette*, 8th March, 1901). Establishment—One captain, 3 subalterns, and 50 other ranks. Clothing, kit, etc., as before, but adapted to mounted men; also rates of pay, except that there was an addition of staff sergeants, 10s. per diem, and warrant officers, 11s. 6d. per diem. It was further notified that pensions to widows of officers and warrant officers, and compassionate allowance to their children, pensions for wounded, etc., would be such as might be considered and allowed by the Imperial Government from Imperial funds; and that officers, warrant officers, N.C.O.'s, and privates had no claim on the Western Australian Government in such respect.

An increase in the establishment to 125 of all ranks was sanctioned on 8th January, 1900. Men between the ages of 20 and 34 were qualified for enlistment.

DEPARTURE AND RETURN.

The Company departed on 3rd February, 1900, comprising—6 officers and 97 others, with 125 horses, 1 spring cart, and 1 wagon. Five officers, 21 others, were struck off in South Africa; 5 officers, 72 others, returned to Australia. (Four officers promoted from ranks.)

PROMOTIONS, ETC.

Captain H. L. Pilkington to Major, 21st December, 1899; to Lieut.-Colonel, (local in South Africa), 15th August, 1900.

Lieutenant R. T. McMasters, to Captain, 1st March, 1900.

Lieutenant S. Harris, to Captain (local in South Africa), 1st March, 1900.

Lieutenant S. A. Oliver, to Lieutenant, 1st March, 1900; to Captain, 25th February, 1901. Joined South African Constabulary, 12th April, 1901.

Lieutenant L. D. P. Potter, Sergeant, ———; Lieutenant, 1st March, 1900. Joined South African Constabulary.

Sergeant A. H. Barclay, to Lieutenant, 29th May, 1900.

Sergeant J. S. Duffy, to Lieutenant, 25th March, 1901.

Corporal P. C. Collins obtained a Lieutenancy in South African Constabulary, 7th March, 1901.

Corporal J. A. Bullock, promoted Lieutenant, Bush Veldt Carbineers, 7th March, 1901.

Private C. W. Williams, to Lieutenant, 11th December, 1900; served in 5th Contingent.

Private S. S. Reid, to Lieutenant, 8th March, 1901; served in 6th Contingent.

Quartermaster-Sergeant G. St. G. R. Beresford became Lieutenant, 8th Australian Commonwealth Horse, 5th May, 1902.

Private R. D. W. Esdaile became Lieutenant, 4th Australian Commonwealth Horse.

For promotions of N.C.O.'s and men, *vide* nominal roll.

SERVICE.

This Contingent embarked in the transport *Surrey* on 3rd February, 1900, at Fremantle, and arrived at Cape Town on the 24th. They proceeded to the Prieska district in March, and were amongst the troops engaged in dealing with an organized disaffection. The rising having been put down, some of the Western Australian force continued to operate in that district during part of April.

The 2nd Western Australians were with General Pole-Carew's Column from the advance from Bloemfontein to the engagement at Belfast; and with Colonel De Lisle's Column after engagement at Belfast during the remainder of their term. It is rather difficult in some respects to disassociate their service from that of the 1st.

The Company arrived at Bloemfontein in time to take part in the advance to Pretoria in May. At Bloemfontein they were attached to General Pole-Carew's 11th Division, in which they served from 1st May to the end of October, with the exception of a few weeks about the end of June and beginning of July, when they were detached to assist on the lines of communication in the Orange River Colony. The 2nd were in action at Brandfort, 3rd May; Vet River, 4th; Zand River, 9th and 10th; Vaal, 26th; Johannesburg, 28th, 29th, 30th; 6-Mile Spruit, 4th June; Silverton, 8th; Diamond Hill, 11th and 12th June; and Belfast, 27th August.

The Westralians were heavily engaged at Diamond Hill. In his telegram of the 16th June, Lord Roberts said:—"Botha's army has retired, believed to Middelburg. His rearguard was surprised and thoroughly routed by Ian Hamilton's Mounted Infantry, chiefly Western Australians, and the 6th Battalion."

On the 16th July, a party of the 2nd Western Australians at Pienaar's Pont, on the left of General Pole-Carew's position east of Pretoria, successfully repelled a Boer attack.

The 2nd took part, under General Pole-Carew, in the advance from Pretoria to Komati Poort, starting about the 23rd July. They had fighting in the Belfast district on 27th August, and frequently thereafter. In his telegram of 13th September, Lord Roberts remarked that the Western Australian had been scouting in front of Pole-Carew's Division. They were said to have been the first to discover much railway material and other valuable stores near the Poort. They were present at a review on a large scale held there on 28th September. After their stay in that neighbourhood, they were employed about Machadodorp, where they suffered some casualties throughout October.

On the 7th November the Company left Cape Town in the transport *Wooloomooloo*, and arrived, on the 8th December, at Fremantle. Disbanded on 7th March, 1901.

Note :—Although the bulk of the Company left as stated, some remained and were employed in Cape Colony, assisting to drive out the invaders. At Klipplaat, on 5th February, 1901, Lieutenant Oliver had been sent in command of a small force of twelve of the 7th Dragoon Guards, twelve Western Australians, and three Cape Police, to carry despatches from Colonel Haig to another leader. The little party was surprised by several hundred of the enemy. They kept up a steady fire, as occasion served, from 11 a.m. until sundown, but eventually were all overpowered. Four dragoons were killed, and Lieutenant Oliver and several others wounded.

The last of the Contingent appear to have steamed for Australia, under Lieutenant Duffy, on 31st March.

WAR SERVICES AND HONOURS.

Pilkington, Lieut.-Colonel H. L.—Operations in Orange Free State, Transvaal, and Cape Colony, between March and October, 1900, including actions at Vet River, Zand River, Johannesburg, Diamond Hill, and Belfast. Despatches, *London Gazette*, 19th April, 1901. C.B. Queen's Medal with four clasps.

McMasters, Captain R. T.—Operations and actions as stated. Queen's Medal with clasps.

Harris, Captain S.—Operations and actions as stated. Despatches, *London Gazette*, 16th April, 1901. Queen's Medal with clasps.

Inglis, Lieutenant S.—Operations and actions as stated. Queen's Medal with clasps.

De Castilla, Lieutenant J.—Operations and actions as stated. Served until the end of war. Despatches, *London Gazette*, 19th April, 1901. D.S.O. Queen's Medal with five clasps. King's Medal with two clasps.

Oliver, Lieutenant S. A.—Operations and actions as stated. Despatches, *London Gazette*, 19th April, 1901. D.S.O. Queen's Medal with clasps.

Lieutenants L. D. P. *Potter*, A. H. *Barclay*, and J. S. *Duffy*, and Captain J. M. Y. *Stewart* (Medical Staff) served through the various operations and obtained the Queen's Medal with clasps.

Nominal Roll.

No. and Name.	Rank.	Remarks.
<i>Pilkington</i> , H. L.	Major Commanding	
<i>McMasters</i> , Robert Thomas	Lieutenant	
<i>Harris</i> , Samuel	"	
<i>Inglis</i> , S.	"	
<i>De Castilla</i> , John	"	
<i>Oliver</i> , Spencer Alwyne	"	
<i>Potter</i> , Lewis Dudley Paul	"	Slightly wounded, Johannesburg, 29.5.00. <i>Vide</i> "Promotions"
<i>Barclay</i> , Archibald Henry	"	<i>Vide</i> "Promotions"
<i>Duffy</i> , Jarlath Stephen	"	<i>Vide</i> "Promotions"
<i>Stewart</i> , John Mitchel Young	Captain (M.S.)	
<i>Comrie</i> , Alexander N.	Sergeant-Major (W.O.)	

N.C.O.'s AND MEN.

27. <i>Draper</i> , Edward Henry	Corporal	Sergeant, 3.3.00; Sergeant-Major, 19.12.00. C.-in-C.'s despatches, 2.4.01
46. <i>Beresford</i> , George St. George R.	Lance-Corporal	Quartermaster-Sergeant, 18.12.00. <i>Vide</i> "Promotions"
94. <i>Campbell</i> , Henry Alexander	Quartermaster-Sergeant	
93. <i>Bishop</i> , Archibald	Farrier Sergeant-Major	
55. <i>Robertson</i> , James Huntley	Corporal	Sergeant, 3.3.00
6. <i>Clarkson</i> , Henry Wilberforce	Private	Corporal, 3.3.00; Sergeant, 15.3.01. Mentioned in C.-in-C.'s despatches, 2.4.01
52. <i>Mills</i> , John Brien	"	Corporal, 3.3.00; sergeant, 30.3.01
74. <i>Brown</i> , Maitland Howard	"	Corporal, 3.3.00; sergeant, 18.7.00
51. <i>Connolly</i> , John Richard Arthur	"	Corporal, 3.3.00; sergeant, 16.5.00
31. <i>Northcott</i> , Cecil	"	Corporal, 3.3.00

Nominal Roll—*continued.*

No. and Name.	Rank.	Remarks.
N.C.O.'s AND MEN— <i>continued.</i>		
17. O'Mara, John Joseph ..	Corporal ..	Wounded at Vet River, 4.5.00
63. Kyle, John Austin Joseph ..	Lance-Corporal	
95. Abbott, Charles Edgar ..	"	
54. Ayre, William Webster ..	" ..	Corporal, 22.3.00
61. Andrews, Edward Rupertsberger	Private	
28. Arthur, George ..	"	
14. Barlee, Alan Haynes ..	"	
82. Birch, Harold ..	"	
79. Bretag, Frederick William ..	"	
45. Bunny, Bryce Victor Eric ..	" ..	Lance-Corporal, 22.3.00
57. Bullock, John Aiton ..	" ..	Corporal, 30.3.01. <i>Vide</i> "Promotions"
59. Buttermer, Ernest Archdall ..	" ..	Slightly wounded at Waterval Onder, 3.9.00
96. Campbell, John Bruce Stewart	" ..	Reported missing at Rhenoster, 28.7.00; rejoined, 9.8.00
83. Chase, Richard Henry ..	"	
67. Collins, Percy Carpendale ..	" ..	Lance-Corporal, 22.3.00; Corporal, 6.7.00. <i>Vide</i> "Promotions"
48. Cornish, Gordon Anthony Robinson	"	
84. Cramond, James Dickson ..	" ..	Corporal, 30.3.01
80. Crawford, Angus ..	"	
5. Curtis, Richard ..	"	
69. Dawson, Eric Blakeney ..	"	
8. Doig, Frederick John ..	" ..	Severely wounded at Belfast, 2.8.00
49. Esdaile, Ronald Douglas Walley	" ..	<i>Vide</i> "Promotions"
40. Farley, Patrick Henry ..	"	
24. Firns, Thomas ..	" ..	Slightly wounded at Vet River, 5.5.00
62. Glen, Alexander Henry ..	"	
15. Greene, Arthur Henry ..	" ..	Severely wounded at Vet River, 5.5.00. Invalided to Australia, arr. 31.7.00
43. Hardie, James ..	"	
21. Harrington, William ..	" ..	Slightly wounded at Belfast, 2.8.00
13. Holles, Arthur ..	"	
81. Innes, Olive Selwyn Long ..	"	
1. James, Frederick Edward ..	"	
25. Jeffers, John Patrick ..	"	
60. Jeffers, Edward ..	"	
78. Jones, Arthur Belmont ..	" ..	Slightly wounded at Kroomdraai, 2.8.00
56. Kelby, Oliver William ..	" ..	Lance-Corporal, 18.7.00
23. Kennerly, Thomas ..	"	
58. Kirkaldy, John ..	"	
75. Lockett, Harry ..	"	
29. Longman, Edward Robert ..	" ..	Slightly wounded at Kroomdraai, 2.8.00
11. Maley, Henry Kennedy ..	"	
34. McCarthy, James Joseph ..	"	
77. McFarlane, Sydney Collin ..	" ..	Slightly wounded at Vet River, 5.5.00
2. McKenna, Walter John ..	"	

Nominal Roll—*continued.*

No. and Name.	Rank.	Remarks.
N.C.O.'s AND MEN— <i>continued.</i>		
65. McLean, Angus Lachlan ..	Private ..	Wounded at Val River, 5.5.00. Invalided to Australia, arr. 31.7.00
26. McRobinson, Edward ..	" ..	
20. Messer, Arthur S. B. ..	" ..	
89. Mitchell, Charles Douglas ..	" ..	Lance-Corporal, 30.3.01
90. Moran, William Armstrong ..	" ..	
66. Morrison, James de Burgh ..	" ..	
3. Morrison, Alexander de Burgh ..	" ..	
47. Musgrove, Mandeville ..	" ..	
71. Neville, Frederick Hugh Rother ..	" ..	Invalided to Australia, arr. 21.8.00
76. Nolan, Edward ..	" ..	
72. O'Brien, Edward Dunegh ..	" ..	
44. Palmer, Henry Geoffry ..	" ..	
53. Perkins, Stanley Millbank ..	" ..	Lance-Corporal, 3.3.00
73. Pooley, Reginald William Price ..	" ..	
33. Power, William ..	" ..	Injured through horse accident; Invalided to Australia, arr. Victoria, 10.8.00
41. Reid, Stanley Spencer ..	" ..	<i>Vide</i> "Promotions." Reported missing at Rhenoster, 28.7.00. rejoined, 9.8.00
32. Rose, Percy Cooper ..	" ..	
37. Rokby, James Augustus ..	" ..	
7. Ryan, Timothy Joseph ..	" ..	Wounded severely at Pan, 17.8.00
22. Salmon, Algernon ..	" ..	
38. Schroder, Ernest ..	" ..	
50. Skipwith, Edward Renan ..	" ..	
4. Slawson, George ..	" ..	
19. Speers, Alfred Ernest ..	" ..	Severely wounded at Vet River, 5.5.00. Mentioned in C.-in-C.'s despatches, 2.4.01
9. Stewart, Sydney William ..	" ..	
10. Stewart, Duncan John ..	" ..	
70. Strickland, Arthur James ..	" ..	
35. Stubbs, Gerald Salkeld ..	" ..	
97. Thorburn, Ernest Smet ..	" ..	
92. Thurston, John Bates Milne ..	" ..	
87. Uniacke, Gerald L. ..	" ..	
88. Watson, Arthur John ..	" ..	
85. White, Charles ..	" ..	
68. Whiteman, William Leighton ..	" ..	
16. Williams, Claude William ..	" ..	<i>Vide</i> "Promotions"
12. Wilson, George Ernest ..	" ..	
91. Withnell, Ernest Willmott ..	" ..	Slightly wounded at Pretoria 5.6.00
18. Woodman, Charles ..	" ..	
64. Zeitsch, Arthur Clarence ..	" ..	Invalided to Australia, arr. 31.7.00