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## **An historical record of the Royal Regiment of horse guards**

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### Chapter VI.

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## CHAPTER VI.

Invasion of the Pretender, and recall of the Duke of Cumberland—The Blues return to England—Quarters of the Regiment—War with France—The Blues embark and join the Army in Germany—Battles of Minden and Warbourg—The French surprised and defeated at Grœbenstein—Affair near Hombourg—Conclusion of the War, and return of the regiment to England—Stationed in country quarters—It embarks to join the Army under the Duke of York, in Flanders—French defeated at Villers en Couchie—at Cateau—and near Tournay—The Army retires through Germany, and returns to England.

1745 THE allied army retreated under the cannon of Ath, and was encamped at Lessines, near that fortress ; but it was shortly afterwards compelled to retire before the superior force of the French, who before the end of the year had subdued the greater part of the Austrian Netherlands. In the mean time the young Pretender, Charles Edward, at the head of the insurgent clans, having defeated the King's troops at Gladsmuir, was continuing his triumphant march towards the metropolis. In this emergency, the Duke of Cumberland was recalled to command the army destined to suppress the Rebellion ; and the greater part of the English troops were ordered home. Upon its arrival in the Thames, from Flanders, (February, 1745,) the Royal Regiment of Horse Guards marched into cantonments at Aylesbury, Wen-

dover, Uxbridge, and other towns in that vicinity\* 1745 forming part of the army assembled to cover the metropolis, in event of the advance of the Pretender, or to oppose the threatened descent of the French upon the southern coasts of the kingdom. The Rebellion, however, being terminated by the Battle of Culloden, a detachment, consisting of two troops, was stationed at Kingston-upon-Thames, to attend upon the Court, and the remainder of the Regiment was cantoned in the vicinity of Northampton, in which town the head quarters were established.

Few incidents now occur worthy of record; the Blues formed a relay of escorts to attend the King on his landing from the Continent in 1748, 1750, and 1755†, and a detachment seems to 1750 have been constantly retained to attend upon the Court, without reference to the quarters of the remainder of the Regiment. On the death of the Duke of Somerset, (February 7, 1750,) Charles, second Duke of Richmond, succeeded to the Coloneley of the Blues (February 13). But that nobleman dying on the 8th of August in the same year, the vacant Coloneley was not filled up till January 27th, 1753, when Sir John Ligonier, K.B., from the Second Dragoon Guards, was appointed to the command of the Regiment‡.

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\* War Office Records.

† Ibid.

‡ At the time of the Duke of Richmond's death, the King was on the Continent, and did not return to England till nearly two years afterwards. This may in some measure explain why the Coloneley of the Regiment continued so long vacant. The off-

1758 This officer was succeeded in the Colonelcy (13th May, 1758) by John, Marquis of Granby.

War had been again declared against France in the year 1756; and in order to rescue the Electorate of Hanover from the French armies, by which it was overrun, a large body of British troops was embarked for the Continent in the year 1758, to co-operate with the allied Hanoverians and Hessians. The Royal Regiment of Horse Guards having been encamped at Blackheath, and afterwards at Dartford Heath\*, embarked in the Thames, in the month of May, in that year, and, shortly afterwards landing at Embden, in Germany, proceeded to join the allied army, of which Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick now assumed the chief command. The British contingent was commanded by the Duke of Marlborough, and afterwards, upon that nobleman's death, by Lord George Sackville. After various

1759 unimportant operations in the spring and summer of 1759, the Prince at length succeeded in drawing the French army, under the Mareschals de Con- tades and Broglio, from a strong position which it

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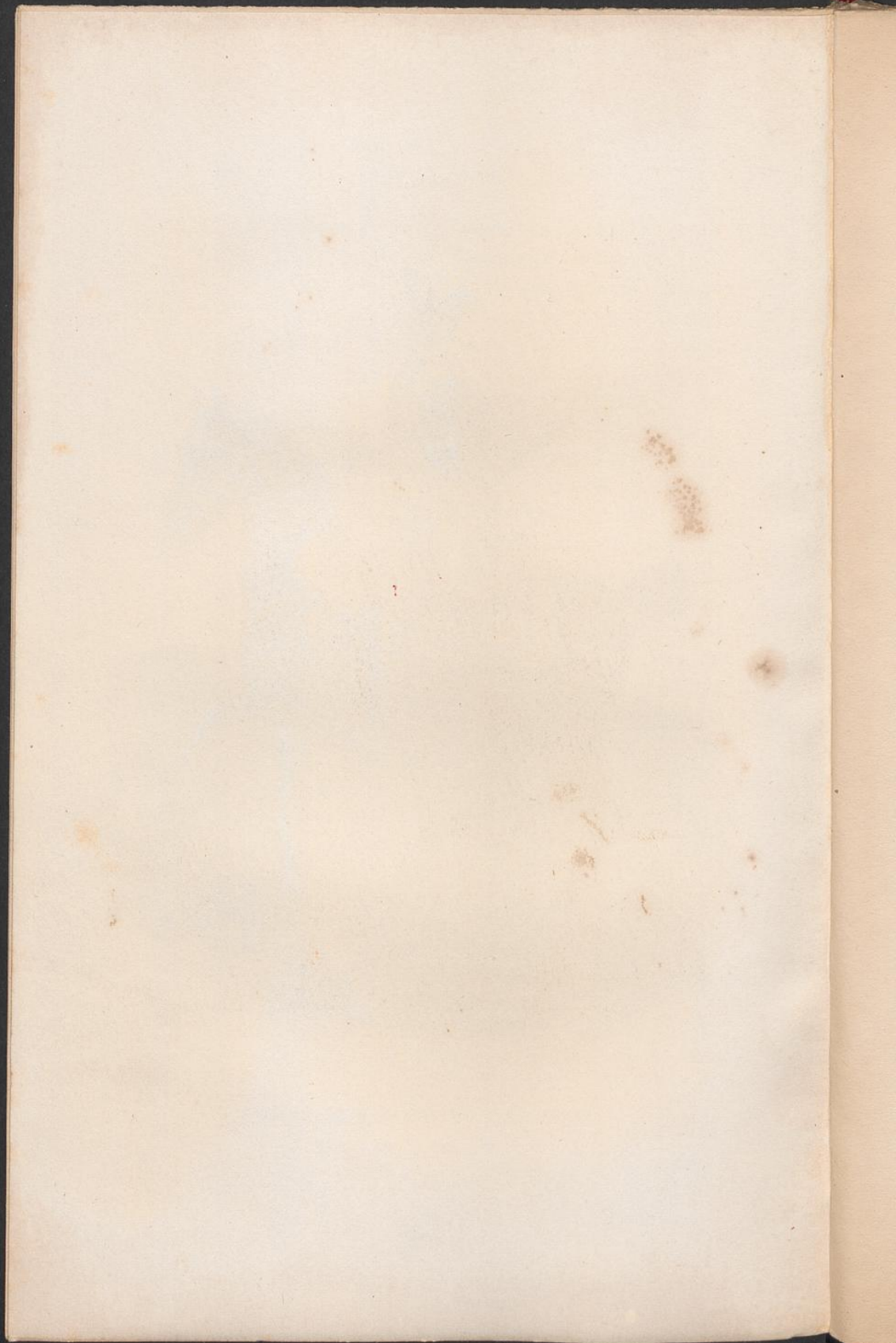
reckonings and allowances due to the Colonel were in the mean time directed to be paid to William Adair, Esq., the agent, and the balance in his hands, upon the appointment of Sir John Ligonier to be Colonel, was directed to be appropriated as follows: 'To Robert Gardiner, Esq., for oatmeal delivered to the troops in North Britain, 495*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*;' and the remainder of the balance, being 626*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.*, to John Calcraft, Esq., to be by him applied towards carrying on the buildings at the Horse Guards. The letters in the War Office books, authorizing the appropriation of these sums, are dated 10th May, 1753.

\* War Office Records.



ROYAL REGT OF HORSE GUARDS. 1758:

*Handidge & Co, Litho*



occupied near Minden. It accordingly advanced 1759 to attack the allied army (August 1), when, after a fierce engagement, the French were totally defeated. But, owing to the unfortunate misunderstanding between Prince Ferdinand and the Commander of the English Forces, Lord George Sackville, and the misapprehension of his orders on the part of the latter, the Blues, with several other regiments of English cavalry, forming the cavalry of the right wing, were detained in a state of inactivity, being separated by a wood from the rest of the army; and thus deprived of an opportunity of sharing in the honours of the day, and of rendering more decisive a victory which had been gained chiefly by the valorous conduct of the British artillery and infantry\*. Upon the resignation of Lord George Sackville, who returned to England (where he was afterwards tried by a Court-Martial, and found guilty of disobeying the orders of the Commander-in-Chief), the Marquis of Granby succeeded to the command of the British troops in Germany; but during the remainder of the year they do not appear to have been actively engaged, and were distributed in winter quarters in the neighbourhood of Osnaburg.

On the 5th of May, 1760, the allied armies 1760 marched from their cantonments, and were encamped near Fritzlar, in Lower Hesse. In the subsequent operations of the campaign, the Blues

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\* Despatches of Prince Ferdinand, and subsequent General Orders

1760 do not appear to have been engaged till the end of July ; when the allies being encamped at Kalle, near Cassel, the Duc De Broglio, with the French army under his command, advanced against them, having detached the Chevalier de Muy, at the head of his reserve, amounting to 35,000 men, to cross the Dymel, and thus cut off the communication of the allied army with Westphalia. To prevent this, Prince Ferdinand, leaving a small force to protect Cassel, despatched the Hereditary Prince of Brunswick, at the head of a body of troops, across the Dymel, lower down (July 29), who, by a rapid march, succeeded in placing himself upon the left flank of the French army, which had now advanced to Warbourg ; whilst Prince Ferdinand, who had crossed the river for that purpose, with the remainder of the allied army, advanced against their front\*. The result may be told in the words of Lord Granby's despatch :  
' The Hereditary Prince immediately attacked the  
' enemy's flank, and, after a very sharp dispute,  
' obliged them to give way, and by a continual  
' fire, kept forcing them to fall back upon War-  
' bourg. The army was at this time marching  
' with the greatest diligence to attack the enemy  
' in front ; but the infantry could not get up in  
' time. General Waldegrave, at the head of the  
' British, pressed their march as much as possible :  
' no troops could shew more eagerness to get up  
' than they shewed. Many of the men, from the

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\* London Gazette.

‘ heat of the weather, and overstraining themselves 1760  
‘ to get on through morassy and very difficult  
‘ ground, suddenly dropped down on their march.

‘ General Mostyn, who was at the head of the  
‘ British cavalry, that was formed on the right of  
‘ our infantry, on the other side of a large wood,  
‘ upon receiving the Duke’s orders to come up  
‘ with the cavalry as fast as possible, made so  
‘ much expedition, bringing them up at a full  
‘ trot, though the distance was near five miles,  
‘ that the British cavalry had the happiness to  
‘ arrive in time to share the glory of the day,  
‘ having successfully charged several times both  
‘ the enemy’s cavalry and infantry.

‘ I should do injustice to the general officers, to  
‘ every officer and private man of the cavalry, if I  
‘ did not beg your Lordship would assure His  
‘ Majesty, that nothing could exceed their gallant  
‘ behaviour on that occasion.’

The loss of the Royal Regiment of Horse  
Guards was as follows: killed, two rank and file,  
one horse; wounded, Cornet Cheney, six rank and  
file, fifteen horses; missing, seven rank and file,  
six horses.

Nothing further of any consequence occurred  
during the campaign, and at its close, the British  
troops were cantoned in the Bishopric of Pader-  
born, where they suffered great hardships from  
scarcity of forage and provisions\*. The campaign

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\* It was by his liberality and generous efforts to relieve the dis-  
tresses of the soldiers, who, during the greater part of the war were  
subjected to extraordinary privations, that the Marquis of Granby

1761 of 1761 was distinguished by few memorable events. The battle of Kirch denkern (July 16), in which the Duc De Broglie was defeated by the allies, was almost entirely an affair of infantry, and throughout the campaign, the Blues do not seem to have been once engaged. The British army occupied nearly the same winter quarters as in the preceding year.

In the following spring the allies again took the field, at first with doubtful success; but 1762 on the 24th of June, Prince Ferdinand having succeeded in surprising the French army under the Mareschals D'Etrées and Soubise, at Grœbenstein, in Westphalia, gained a complete victory, having taken between two and three thousand prisoners, together with several pieces of cannon, colours, &c. In this action the Blues, and Elliot's Light Horse, were the only regiments of British cavalry present. The loss of the former was as follows: killed, one rank and

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acquired that reputation for kindness of heart, which, even more than his fame as a Commander, long rendered him so popular with the British army. Upon the return of the troops to England, every village host found it his interest to adorn his sign-post with a portrait of the hero: and the passing veteran, recognizing his noble General, splendidly portrayed in the uniform of his Regiment, could seldom resist the temptation to devote a tankard to his health, and reward the good taste of the landlord who had adopted such a sign. Many an idle villager was thus attracted to listen to the wondrous tales of war, whilst seated in the chimney corner,

'The praise of *Granby* next the sweet musician sung;  
till under the accumulating inspiration of ale and tobacco, the roof resounded with the burthen of the ditty, 'Granby O! generous Granby O!'

file, three horses; wounded, five rank and file, 1762 two horses.

The French were again defeated August 6, in the same year, at Hombourg, when the Blues greatly distinguished themselves. The following particulars are given in the London Gazette:—

‘ Prince Ferdinand having received advice that  
‘ M. De Rochambeau had assembled some brigades  
‘ of infantry and cavalry near Hombourg, with a  
‘ view to cover the communications of the enemy’s  
‘ army with Frankfort, took the resolution of dis-  
‘ lodging him from his post which he had taken  
‘ possession of: for which purpose His Serene  
‘ Highness ordered Lord Frederick Cavendish to  
‘ advance with the chasseurs of the infantry of the  
‘ army, Freytag’s Chasseurs, and Bauer’s and  
‘ Riedesel’s Hussars, from Lohn to Felzberg, and  
‘ Lord Granby, with the brigade of British Gre-  
‘ nadiers, Elliot’s, the Blues, and the four Hano-  
‘ verian squadrons, from Hoff to Fritzlar. The  
‘ former were to march towards Hombourg, in  
‘ such a direction as to cut off the enemy’s corps  
‘ from Melsulgen and Fulda, the other to cut off  
‘ their retreat to Ziegenhayn, which orders were  
‘ executed in the following manner. The hour  
‘ of rendezvous on both sides of Hombourg for  
‘ the attack of Rochambeau’s corps was agreed  
‘ on; the discharge of three pieces of cannon from  
‘ Lord Frederic Cavendish’s troops was to be the  
‘ signal of their arrival. Elliot’s being arrived at  
‘ a quarter of a league’s distance from Hombourg,  
‘ attacked the advanced posts and drove them from

1762 ‘ the heights, and took post there: the rest of  
‘ Lord Granby’s corps were in the rear of Elliot’s,  
‘ behind the declivity of the height, and the  
‘ enemy’s tents continued standing. At the same  
‘ time Lord Frederick Cavendish’s Hussars began  
‘ to exchange some shots with the enemy, when  
‘ their tents were immediately struck, and they got  
‘ under arms at the foot of the mountain, and in  
‘ the hedges near the town. Their cavalry formed  
‘ on the plain; the three discharges of cannon  
‘ were made; whereupon the enemy’s infantry  
‘ defiled upon their left, their cavalry covering  
‘ their march. Lord Granby, perceiving they  
‘ intended to retreat, marched all his corps as fast  
‘ as possible to the right, when the enemy’s  
‘ cavalry, who put on a good countenance, began  
‘ to move on at a good rate; upon this his Lord-  
‘ ship ordered the cavalry to advance, following  
‘ close with the infantry, which began an attack  
‘ on the enemy’s rear with the greatest ardour  
‘ and success, making two onsets in an instant;  
‘ but the enemy’s cavalry facing about imme-  
‘ diately, and falling sword in hand upon Elliot’s  
‘ Dragoons, that regiment would have suffered  
‘ greatly, had not Colonel Hervey, at the head of  
‘ the Blues, seeing the danger, passed the village  
‘ at full gallop, and notwithstanding he could  
‘ only oppose eight or ten men in front to formed  
‘ squadrons, he overthrew all that came in his  
‘ way, and saved Elliot’s Regiment. The situation  
‘ of the two regiments at this time was very cri-  
‘ tical; but the mutual support which they gave

‘ each other—Elliot’s Dragoons by their con- 1762  
 ‘ tinal skirmishing with the enemy ; and the  
 ‘ Blues by their manœuvres in squadrons, and by  
 ‘ their steady countenance, kept the enemy at  
 ‘ bay, till the infantry could come up. They then  
 ‘ began their retreat in the utmost hurry, the  
 ‘ Grenadiers and Highlanders following them  
 ‘ with their usual ardour. If their infantry had  
 ‘ not posted themselves in a hollow way to sustain  
 ‘ their squadrons, which the Blues and Elliot’s  
 ‘ were charging, the whole would have been  
 ‘ routed : during their retreat Lord Cavendish’s  
 ‘ corps, which could not advance sooner, followed  
 ‘ them close, and pushed them vigorously.

‘ Colonels Hervey and Erskine, Majors Forbes  
 ‘ and Ainsley, distinguished themselves greatly.  
 ‘ Our loss in killed, wounded, and taken may  
 ‘ be about eighty men ; that of the enemy is very  
 ‘ considerable, the number of prisoners made by us  
 ‘ amounting to two hundred and fifty.’

Of the loss of the Blues upon this occasion there is no official return.

At the conclusion of the war the Regiment was reduced previous to its return to England, which took place in the spring of 1763. The establish- 1763  
 ment, which had before been fifty-two, was now fixed at twenty-nine per troop. The discharged men were conveyed to England with the remainder of the Regiment, and certain allowances granted to them, to enable them to return to their previous places of abode. Each discharged trooper who had served for one whole year was permitted

1763 to sell his horse for his own benefit, upon condition that it should be sold previous to embarkation, and an additional gratuity equal to nine days' pay was given to them upon disembarking in England: to those who had served for less than a year eighteen days' pay was given at the same time, and the whole were permitted to retain their clothes and cloaks\*.

The Regiment was now stationed at Derby and Nottingham, and it seems singular that from this period till the year 1804 it was not employed about the Court, nor was the usual detachment retained near London to perform the escort duties as had been customary in the preceding reigns. In the first instance, probably, it was thought just, that a corps which had been so much harassed during five years of active service should be permitted, for a time at least, to remain stationed in the country, in order to recruit; and afterwards the commanding officers of those regiments which had superseded the Royal Regiment of Horse Guards in the honourable duties which for one hundred years it had performed, and for the performance of which it was originally raised, seem to have been long enabled, by means of various kinds of influence, to continue its privileges in abeyance. On the other hand, it is not unlikely that the officers and troopers of the Regi-

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\* The warrant authorizing this reduction and the allowances to the discharged men, is dated December 24, 1762; the reduction appears to have been carried into effect in the month of February following.

ment, satisfied with the easy duties belonging to 1770 a military life in country quarters, were scarcely anxious to exchange them for the almost forgotten honour of attending upon the Court. On the death of the Marquis of Granby, (19th of October, 1770,) General, afterwards Field-Marshal Conway, from the Fourth Regiment of Dragoons, was appointed to the Coloneley of the Blues (25th of October, 1770).

The quarters of the Regiment seem to have been generally established at Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, Stamford, Northampton, and other towns in the midland counties of England, till the commencement of the war with the French Republic, in 1793\*. On the 8th of June in 1793 that year, four troops of the Blues, having been previously reviewed by the King, in Hyde Park, on the same day embarked at Blackwall, for the Netherlands. The remaining troops, forming the regimental depôt, were stationed at Northampton. The troops on foreign service landed at Ostend on the 15th of June, and marched from thence to Condè; whence they joined the army under the command of His Royal Highness the Duke of York, and were encamped. They were present at the surrender of Valenciennes on the 1st

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\* Shortly after the conclusion of the war in 1762, the Regiment began to be mounted upon long-tailed horses. The reason assigned for this change is said to have been the great annoyance to which it was found the animal was subjected from the flies, when on foreign service. When the fashion of a short dock was introduced is not known; but the Regiment appears to have been originally mounted upon long-tailed horses.

1793 of August. Afterwards the regiment formed part of the force assembled to besiege Dunkirk, and marched from Furnes towards that city on the 23rd of August. But as the route lay along the sands, near the sea, upon its approaching Dunkirk it was exposed to the fire of some of the enemy's gun-boats which bore in towards the shore. In this affair Lieutenant Board of the regiment was knocked off his horse by a cannon shot and so severely injured that he died soon afterwards. The siege of Dunkirk was raised on the 8th of September, and the regiment does not appear to have been engaged in any operation of importance during the remainder of the year: it retired to Tournay, and afterwards for winter quarters to Ghent.

1794 In the following spring, the allies commenced the campaign by laying siege to Landrecies, to relieve which fortress the French army under General Pichegru had assembled in great force. On the 23rd of April, the Duke of York having despatched General Otto, with a detachment of cavalry, to reconnoitre the enemy, that officer reported them to be strongly posted at Villers en Couchie, and in great force, and requested that a reinforcement might be sent to his support. Two squadrons of the Austrian cuirassiers of Zetchwitz, Major-General Mansel's brigade of heavy cavalry, consisting of the Blues, First Dragoon Guards, and Royal Dragoons, together with the Sixteenth Light Dragoons, were immediately detached upon this service. As they

could not arrive till it was dark, General Otto 1794 was obliged to delay the attack till the next morning, when, soon after day-break, he ordered two squadrons of Hussars and two squadrons of the Fifteenth Light Dragoons to charge the enemy, which they did with the greatest success; and finding a line of infantry in rear of the cavalry they continued the charge without hesitation, and broke them likewise. The enemy were completely driven back, and obliged to retreat in great confusion into Cambray, with the loss of one thousand two hundred men killed, and three pieces of cannon. The defeat, however, was not so complete as it ought to have been, owing to some mistake, by which General Mansel's brigade did not arrive in time to give efficient support to the Light Dragoons and Hussars\*. In this action one horse belonging to the Royal Horse Guards was killed, one wounded, and two missing.

On the 26th of April, a French corps, amounting to twenty-eight thousand men, having marched out of Cambray the night before, advanced against the British army under the Duke of York, which was strongly posted at Cateau. The enemy having formed their line at day-break, advanced under cover of a thick fog, and had possessed themselves of one or two small villages in front of the British position, when at length their motions being plainly seen, and their left appearing to be unprotected, His Royal Highness detached the cavalry

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\* London Gazette.

1794 of the right wing, consisting of this Regiment, the Zetchwitz Cuirassiers, the First, Third, and Fifth Dragoon Guards, and the Royals, under Lieutenant-General Otto, to turn them from that flank; whilst a brisk cannonade was kept up in their front in order to divert their attention from this movement. Some light troops were in the mean time directed against their right flank, but owing to the incessant fire which was kept up by the enemy's batteries, stationed in a wood, this attack was only partially successful. That, however, directed by General Otto, completely succeeded. The enemy being attacked in their front and rear, were soon thrown into confusion, and the slaughter was immense; twenty-two pieces of cannon were taken, also a great quantity of ammunition\*; and Lieutenant-General Chapuy, who commanded the French, with three hundred and fifty officers and privates, were made prisoners. The loss of the British was also severe, including General Mansel† and his son, who were both killed. The loss of the Royal Horse Guards was as follows: killed, Quarter-Master Kipling, fifteen rank and file, twenty-five horses; wounded, four corporals, sixteen rank and file, seventeen horses; missing, eight horses. His Royal Highness, in

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\* London Gazette.

† Unable to bear the imputation which remained upon his character after the battle of the 24th, this unfortunate officer is said to have declared that 'he would not return alive;' and rushing into the action, with all the energy of reckless despair, sought his fate in the midst of the enemy's ranks.

his despatch detailing this affair, was pleased to 1794 describe 'the conduct of the British cavalry as 'beyond all praise;' and issued a General Order upon the occasion, from which the following is an extract:—

'The Austrian regiment of Cuirassiers of Zetchwitz, the Blues, the First, Third, and Fifth Dragoon Guards, the Royals, Archduke Ferdinand's Hussars, and the Sixteenth Light Dragoons, who attacked and defeated the principal column of the enemy on the right, have all acquired immortal honour to themselves.'

Landrecies surrendered a few days after the action. But at day-break on the morning of the 10th of May the French, in different columns, amounting in the whole to thirty thousand men, renewed their attack upon the British army, in the neighbourhood of Tournay; and, after a sharp engagement, which lasted five hours, were repulsed with great loss, including thirteen pieces of cannon, and above four hundred officers and men taken prisoners. The enemy commenced their attack with an attempt to turn the British left, which failing, their next efforts were directed against the centre, advancing with great resolution under a heavy cannonade. But a favourable opportunity presenting itself of attacking their right flank, which did not seem to be protected, Lieutenant-General Harcourt, with sixteen squadrons of British, and two of Austrian cavalry, was detached for this purpose; and, having succeeded in gaining their flank, attacked them with so

1794 much resolution and intrepidity that they immediately began their retreat, in the course of which they were soon broken. The Hanoverians, who occupied a position to the right of that of the British, had in the mean time repulsed an attack which was made upon them, and the discomfiture of the French army was complete\*.

In this action, the Regiment being in position near the Lille road, having the village of Baizieu on its right, and a little to the rear, a French six-pounder, with four horses, drivers, and some men mounted on the limbers, was observed attempting to escape from Baizieu, in the direction of Lille, upon which, General Dundas ordered Lieut. Sir Charles Turner of the Blues with two file of his men to take possession of it; this was instantly done, and the gun was safely lodged in the rear. A few moments after, a French officer, apparently of some distinction, mounted upon a grey charger, was seen crossing the right of the Regiment, somewhat in front, when Joseph White, one of the troopers who had been in pursuit of the gun, and had been the first who came up and turned the horses' heads upon that occasion, elated with his success, put spurs to his horse, galloped forward and summoned the French officer to surrender. The latter turned upon him with contemptuous fury, and a deadly combat ensued between them, which lasted for several minutes in sight of the Regiment, and was terminated by

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\* London Gazette.

the death of the Frenchman ; White having run 1794 his sword through his body. The victor dismounted, and having taken from his opponent two watches, his purse, and pocket-book, as trophies of his victory, rejoined his troop, having himself escaped unhurt in the encounter, but his horse had received several severe cuts.\*

His Royal Highness, in his despatch, after thanking the general Officers, added his opinion, ' that the officers, and men of the troops which ' they led, merit every commendation, having well ' supported the reputation they had already acquired by their conduct on the 26th of last ' month.' Of the Royal Horse Guards, in this battle, there were two rank and file and four horses killed ; Cornet George Smith, three rank and file, and three horses wounded ; four rank and file, and four horses missing.

The immense superiority of numbers which the French were enabled to bring into the field now compelled the British army to retire ; and the reluctance of the Dutch to make any sacrifices to defend their territories becoming daily more apparent, the Duke of York was unable effectually

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\* In the year 1804, when the regiment was at Windsor, White, having been promoted, was one of the four orderly corporals, who in turn waited at the castle to receive the King's orders, and the King, (George III.) having heard that Corporal White had a French officer's watch in his possession, requested to see it, and upon its being produced, His Majesty expressed his delight, and enquired whether the owner would part with it. White, however, with all submission, expressed his unwillingness to do so, and the King told him he had no wish to press him, as it was an honour for him to keep it.

1794 to resist the advances of the enemy : and in the subsequent operations of the war, which was carried on in a country for the most part totally impracticable for the movements of cavalry, the Blues were not engaged. After the conquest of Holland by the French, which was much facilitated by the severity of the winter of 1794-5, the British army retired through Germany ; and having suffered much privation during a disastrous march, continued through the greater part of the year 1795, it finally embarked on board transports at the mouths of the Weser and Elbe. The four troops of the Royal Horse Guards, shortly after their arrival in the Thames, in November, 1795, marched to join the remainder of the regiment at Northampton\*.

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\* In spite of the Duke of York's encomiums upon their gallantry, the old story that the Blues had run away was again raised upon their return ; and as their uniform was no longer decorated with the gold lace, by which heretofore it had been distinguished, it was asserted that this deprivation had taken place to mark their disgrace. As this idle story, if it has not obtained implicit credit, has at least been vaguely supposed to have some foundation, the simple facts, and causes of this temporary eclipse, may be here related. Their clothing becoming due during the absence of the four troops on the Continent, a splendid parade uniform was thought inconsistent with the severer duties of active service, and a plainer one was accordingly issued to them. On their return, it was necessary to re-establish uniformity ; and the Colonel, unwilling to be at a greater expense in clothing his Regiment than were the colonels of *other* Dragoon Regiments, (for the peculiar rank and privileges of the Royal Horse Guards were now well nigh forgotten,) ordered the gold-laced uniform and furniture to be laid aside ; and, in order to render their appearance still more uniform with the rest of the army, the brass ornaments on the horses' bits were also ordered to be taken off.