

# GREAT RECORD IN WARS ENJOYED BY KING'S OWN BORDERERS

REGIMENT HAS  
BEEN IN SERVICE  
FOR 237 YEARS

Saint John Fusiliers Now  
Honored by Being  
Affiliated

IN BATTLES IN MANY  
PORTIONS OF WORLD

Colors Bear Names of His-  
toric Fields It Helped  
to Win

A glorious record of service in the wars of Britain is that of the King's Own Borderers, with which now is affiliated the Saint John Fusiliers, commanded by Lieut Colonel George Keefe. For 237 years this regiment has been in service and the mere mention of the campaigns in which it has taken notable part is sufficient to stir one's blood. Affiliation with this body of soldiers is a matter of pride to the local regiment, itself enjoying an excellent record.

The Times-Star has secured a summary of the history of the King's Own Borderers and its published here-with. It will be read with interest especially now in connection with the brotherhood established with the Fusiliers. It follows:

Raised on March 19, 1689 in the city of Edinburgh by the Earl of Leven from noblemen and gentlemen who had been refugees in Holland during the reign of James II, the regiment attained a strength of 1,000 in four hours (some authorities say two hours) after recruiting opened. It was at first known as "Leven's" or the Edinburgh Regiment.

It first saw service at Killcrankie. "There was no regiment or troop with us," wrote Major Mackenzie in his despatch after the fight, "but behaved like the veriest cowards in nature except Hastings and Lord Leven's, who I must praise at least to a degree as I cannot but blame the others."

For its service at Killcrankie the regiment was given the exclusive privilege of beating for recruits in the streets of Edinburgh at any time without first asking permission of the Provost.

**SERVED IN IRELAND**  
In 1691 the regiment was in Ireland and served in the sieges of Ballymore, Athdown, Galway and Limerick and at the Battle of Aughrim.

On the suppression of the troubles in Ireland Leven's Regiment moved to the Low Countries and fought under William at Steinkirk on Aug. 8, 1692, and again at Landen on November 3, 1693. It took part in the Siege of Namur and on this occasion lost no fewer than 20 officers and 500 men by the explosion of a mine.

**GIVEN SURPRISE**  
During this war the regiment had the experience of being the first unit to face the French when the latter used bayonets fixed round the muzzle in the present fashion. A French regiment advanced towards Leven's regiment with fixed bayonets. Thinking the French intended to fire it opened with the bayonet Leven's were ordered to fix bayonets also (screwed into the muzzle). To the astonishment of the unit, however, the French, after advancing a certain distance halted and fired. As it had been thought impossible to fire with bayonets fixed the surprise threw Leven's into confusion but, quickly recovering, they charged and routed the enemy.

The regiment returned home and for a number of years served in the disturbed districts of Scotland. In the rebellion of 1715 it fought for the crown at Sheriffmuir (12-11-1715).

**IN SPANISH WAR**  
In 1719 it took part in the Spanish War, being part of the expedition on the Vigo Expedition, and was engaged in the successful operations against various towns on the N. W. coast of Spain. Afterwards it had a long spell of service in Ireland, where, owing to the disturbed conditions, the British garrison was always more or less in a state of active service.

Its next foreign service came in 1727 when Leven's Regiment took part in the successful defense of Gibraltar against the Spanish during the years 1727-28.

For the next 15 years the regiment's history is not clear but it was probably on service at home. It joined the army in Flanders in 1743 and took its share in the War of the Spanish Succession. It arrived too late for the Battle of Dettingen but fought at Fontenoy on May 11, 1745 and in several minor actions.

**AT CULLODEN**  
On the outbreak of the Rebellion in Scotland in 1746 the regiment was hurriedly called home and took part in the Battle of Culloden Moor on April 16, 1746 and in the pursuit of the rebels. A detachment of the regiment cut off in Blair Castle made a most gallant and successful defense from March 17 until April 2, 1746, when it was relieved. On the crushing of the rebellion Leven's Regiment returned to Flanders. As part of Houghton's Brigade it made a forced march from Maestricht and arrived on the field of Roucoux, Oct. 11, 1746, just in time to save the day for the Allies. At the battle of Val July 2, 1747 it greatly distinguished itself, capturing two French standards. It also took part in the unsuccessful defense of Beren-Opp-Zoom July 15 to Sept. 17, 1747.

**IN SHIPWRECK**  
On its return to England in 1747 on the declaration of peace the ship conveying the regiment was wrecked on the coast of France, this being the first of a series of adventures by sea that afterwards befell it. The troops were most hospitably treated by their late enemies until transportation could be arranged for them. The regiment then

## Battle Honors Won On Many Fields

THE following lengthy list shows the battle honors, won by the King's Own Borderers—  
Namur, 1695; Minden, Egmont-op-Zee, Martinique, 1699; Afghanistan, 1878-80; Chitral, Tirah, Paardeberg, South Africa, 1900-02.  
The Great War—12 Battalions—Mons, Le Cateau, Retreat from Mons, Marne, 1914-15; Aisne, 1914; La Bassée, 1914; Messines, 1914; Ypres, 1914-15; 17-18; Noyon Bouschies, Hill 60, Gravenstafel, St. Julien, Frezenberg, Bellewaerde, Loos, Somme, 1916-18; Albert, 1916-18; Bazentin, Delville Wood, Pozieres, Fiers-Courcellette, Novval, Arras, 1917-18; Vimy, 1917; Scarpe, 1917-18; Pilkem, Langemarck, 1917; Menin Road, Polygon Wood, Broodseinde, Passchendaele, Cambrai, 1917; Drocourt-Queant, Hindenberg Line, Canal du Nord, Courtrai, Sella, Sambré, France and Flanders 1914-18; Italy, 1917-18; Helles, Landing at Helles, Krithia, Soma, Schinlar Hill, Gallipoli, 1915-16; Rumani, Egypt, 1916; Gaza, El Mughar, Nebi Samwil, Jerusalem, Palestine, 1917-18; Lys, Estaires, Hazebrouck, Kemmel, Souvassoncourt, Ba-paume, 1918.

again served in Ireland and afterwards in the Highlands of Scotland. In the meantime the title of the Regiment was changed and it became the 25th of the Line, the numeral probably being associated with the name Edinburgh as "25th Edinburgh Regiment." (It was certainly the "Edinburgh Regiment" for a time.)

## IN 7 YEARS WAR

When the Seven Years War broke out in 1756, the 25th immediately went on service, being embarked on transport for descent on French coast towns. Among those which it attacked were Oleron, St. Malo and Cherbourg. After this it was detached to Germany and served in the army under Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick. It took part in several battles which resulted in more or less severe reverses for the Allies. At the battle of Minden, Subsequently it was engaged at Cambray, Sept. 18, 1759; Warburg, July 31, 1760; Kirk Denkmarn (or Fellinghausen), July 16, 1761 and Wilhelmshagen, June 24, 1762. Exceptionally heavy losses were suffered in this campaign, the 25th having to be made up to strength a number of times. At Cambray it suffered casualties amounting to two-thirds of its strength.

## COLOR REMAINENTS BURIED

When peace came with the Treaty of Paris in 1763 the regiment returned to England and settled down to a short spell of home soldiering. The tattered remains of the colors it had carried in every action from Fontenoy onwards, were buried with military honors at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The 25th left for Minorca in 1768 and was in the garrison there until 1775 when it returned to Scotland. In 1782 trouble arose with the Provost of Edinburgh over the ancient privilege of beating for recruits and the Duke of Richmond (who was closely associated with the regiment through his brother, Lord George Lennox, who carried a change of title to "25th Sussex Regiment" the duke having extensive estates in that county). The change was not welcome, even the C. O. opposing it, and all Scottish peculiarities continued to be rigidly served.

## IN NAVAL BATTLES

In 1782, the year the title was changed, the regiment embarked on Lord Howe's fleet and was engaged in several naval actions against the Spanish. Finally, in the face of the French and Spanish blockading fleets, it was thrown into Gibraltar on Oct. 11, 1782, and served throughout the short remainder of the memorable four year siege till Feb. 5, 1783. Thus the 25th had twice served in defense of this famous fortress, though the honor is not carried on its colors.

The regiment remained in garrison till 1786 when it returned home. No honors were given for the first of Gibraltar defense. For the second defense only regiments that served throughout the siege were allowed "Gibraltar" as a battle honor.

## IN NAPOLEON'S TIME

On war breaking out again with France in 1794 part of the 25th were again sent to Plymouth, and as the balance of the regiment left behind had been brought up to full regimental establishment, it was decided to use the 25th "Marines" as the nucleus of a second battalion. The first battalion was sent to the West Indies in 1795, and was at once engaged at Grenada in defense of the colony against the brigands in what was called "The Maroon War."

**AGAIN LAND UNIT**  
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## THOUSANDS OF THANKFUL MOTHERS

Strongly Recommend Baby's Own Tablets to Their Friends.

Once a mother has used Baby's Own Tablets for her little ones she would use nothing else. The Tablets give such results that the mother has nothing but words of praise for them. Among the thousands of mothers throughout Canada who praise the Tablets is Mr. David A. Anderson, New Glasgow, N. S., who writes: "I have used Baby's Own Tablets for my children, and from my experience I would not be without them. I would urge every other mother of young children to keep a box of the Tablets in the house."

Baby's Own Tablets are a mild but thoroughly effective medicine which regulate the bowels and sweeten the stomach; drive out constipation and indigestion; break up colds and simple fevers and make feeding easy. They are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

## By the Boers at the Congella, near Port Natal, or as it is now called, Durban.

Later in the same year a succession of terrible storms visited Table Bay, which a convict ship was driven ashore and wrecked. A party of the regiment was sent on in charge of the convicts to New South Wales, and in the following year rejoined headquarters, which had meanwhile returned to Madras.

In 1846, hostilities threatening with China, the Borderers were hurried down country to Madras, two companies sent off to Hong Kong, and the rest to Singapore, where the movement was countermanded. Three companies were subsequently employed in suppressing disturbances in Ceylon.

## COMES TO CANADA.

The regiment returned from Madras in 1856, just before the outbreak of the Bengal Mutiny, and two years later was sent to Gibraltar. It went from Gibraltar to Malta in 1864, and thence to Canada, where it was employed during the Fenian Raid. It returned home from Canada in 1868.

In December, 1869, a second battalion—the third since the formation of the regiment 170 years before—was raised at Preston, in Lancashire. The first recruit was enlisted in December, 1869, and the battalion formed of 53 sergeants, 40 corporals, 14 drummers and 943 privates on March 26, 1869. In 1868 the battalion received its first colors at Edinburgh, the ancient home of the regiment. It proceeded to Ceylon soon afterwards, and served in India, and at Aden, until 1876, when it came home.

## WITH LORD ROBERTS.

In 1875 the first battalion went out to India, and served in the Afghan War, under Lord Roberts, during the operations 1878-80, including the second expedition into the Bazar Valley. It took part on October 18, 1881, in the first attack on the Dargai Heights, and distinguished itself on many other occasions. On the conclusion of the campaign, Major General Westmacott addressed some farewell words to the battalion which may be appropriately quoted here: "I had always heard that the Borderers were one of the finest regiments in the service. You have been tried very highly. Constant rear-guard actions, marching through ice-cold water, and then going straight up on the highest hill on picquet duty and fighting all night without either food or blankets; and I have never heard a murmur or an unsoldierlike word. I am very proud of having had the Borderers in my command, and it will be my pride, so long as I live, that I have commanded the Fourth Brigade."

## IN SOUTH AFRICA

On the outbreak of the South African War the 1st Battalion was one of the first units despatched from England and it served throughout the war. Its honors are limited to Paardeberg and South Africa, 1900-02, but the battalion served in innumerable battles and actions, which, owing to the strictly limitation on battle honors for the campaign, are not recorded on the colors. This was the last active service the regiment saw previous to the Great War.

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