THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE, S'T. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, 1914-5

Famous British Regiments

1. Grenadier Guards

T has been aptly written that regiments great in history retain, though old in glory and honor, the vigour of youth, and to none can this observation be more fittingly applied than to the Grenadier uards, who, at Modder River and in the

tions of two and half centuries. Date from 1660

First on the roll of Britsh infantry, colours as black, green, and blue pre- The regiment, which then wore its formation dating from 1660, the Grenadier Guards originally wore scarlet coats faced with blue, with blue breeches and stockings and of the day. plumed hats. A Grenadier company was first added to the regiment of 1678, but the regimental badge of a grenade did not figure on the appointments of this or any other regiment until some 90 years later, long after the use of the missile had become obsolete with the class of troops named after it.

practically a complete list of British since. The historian who wrote that can War is still fresh in the recolfought against the Moors at Tangier Fontenoy was "the theme of admir-

and the Indians in Virginia. Formed a Forlorn Hope

Fifty Grenadiers formed the "for- have been equalled but never exlorn hope" at the storming of the celled.

Something About the Troops the regiment were employed in the Maroon War in Jamaica and at the Who Have Defended the capture of the island of Grenada. In Honor of the Flag in all less than another 12 months the 17th Lands and Fights They was experiencing arduous service in San Domingo, and in 1798 a part of Have Figured In the regiment was engaged in the attack on Ostend. During 1806-7 the

There is something sinister in the headquarters of the regiment were in whole course of their South African unusual title of the regiment which all four quarters of the globe within service, upheld the glorious tradi- has always appealed to the popular the space of 12 months-in South imagination, but the name "Black America, at the Cape, in India, and Watch" really owes its origin to the at home.

Regimental Uniform fact that such comparatively sombre

dominated in their military dress in cavalry-grey uniforms faced with contrast to the brilliant scarlet tunics white and silver, distinguished itself of the majority of the British troops in India for more than eight years, and, returning home in 1823, next saw

Raised primarily with the object of service abroad in the Crimea, being doing service in Scotland, the Black present at the battles of the Alma, In-Watch first had its fighting qualities kerman and Balaclava.

put to the test abroad when it was It was, of course, one of the five sent to join the army in Flanders regiments that took part in the shortly after the battle of Dettingen. Charge of the Light Brigade. Afterwards it served in Central India dur-Established Reputation

In its first engagement the regi- ing the closing scenes of the Mutiny. To enumerate all the famous bat- ment established that reputation for In the Zulu War in 1879 the "17th" tles in which the Grenadier Guards gallantry on the field of action which was present at the capture of Ulundi, have taken part would be to compile has been so jealously maintained ever and its fine record in the South Afri-

campaigns of any importance. They the way these Highlanders fought at lections of most people. 4. "The Fighting Fifth" ation throughout all Britain" was not guilty of a word of exaggeration. The

courage and dash of the Black Watch. A NE of the most stirring episodes connected with the return of troops to England after the

heights of Schellenberg, in Bavaria. They fought with such distinction South African War was the magnifi-This was shortly before the Battle in Canada in 1758 that King George cent reception accorded to the Northof Blenheim, in which the regiment II. conferred the title "Royal" on the umberland Fusiliers, popularly known a prominent part, and it was regiment, whose subsidiary descrip- as "The Fighting Fifth," who at always in the thick of the fighting tion became "the 42nd or Royal High- Colenso and on the Tugela heights throughout Marlborough's campaigns. land Regiment of Foot." had fought with a courage and per-Always conspicuous for steadiness At Waterloo, in the Crimea, during tinacity unrivalled in the records of in action, this quality was particu- the Indian Mutiny, and in South the British Army. The fact that this larly in evidence at Waterloo, when Africa the Black Watch have had & famous regiment lost 32 officers and in the famous charge at the close of lion's share in the making of mili- 617 men killed and wounded in South the day they swept down from their tary history. Africa is sufficient evidence that they post on the ridge above Hougomont. lived up to their finest traditions. The collective loss of the 2nd and 3rd battalions at Quatre Bras and 3. "Death or Glory Boys" Nicknamed "Shiners" Originally nicknamed 'The Shiners' Waterloo amounted to 181 killed and THE badge of the 17th (Duke of on account of the gay appearance of 853 wounded out of about 2,000 of Cambridge's Own) Lancers is the men's uniforms, the regiment has all ranks. The same stubborn valour and indifference to hardship were exa death's head (skull and cross always been known as "The Fighting hibited in the Crimea at the Alma, at bones) with the words, "Or Glory," Fifth" since its various exploits in Inkefman, and in the trenches be- beneath it. Their service record the Peninsular War. The Duke of proves that they are thoroughly en- Wellington was so impressed by their fore Sebastopol. titled to an emblematic device signi- gallant conduct at El Boden when,

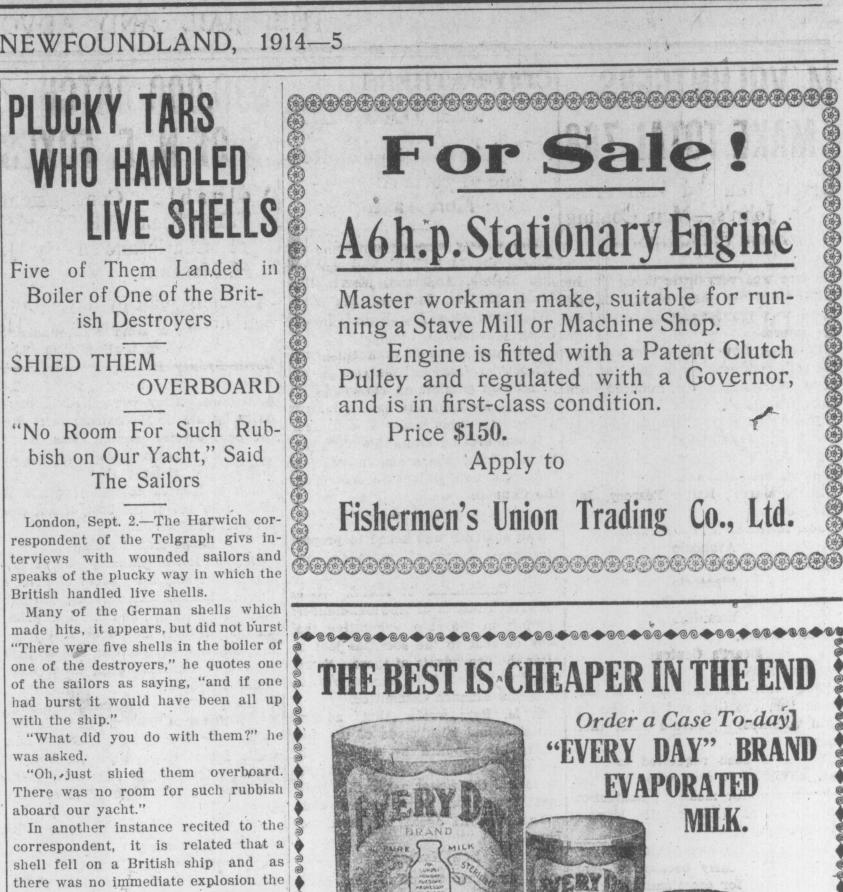


siege of Namur, which once again has become the centre of tremendous military operations. During its long and honorable career the "Fifth" has seen servce in Ireland, America, Portugal, Spain, France, Canada, India and South Africa. In Germany in 1762 a woman, Phoebe Hassell, to whose memory there is a stone in Hove Churchyard, served in the ranks without her sex being discovered until after the campaign. That was the occasion when, at Wilhelmsthal, the

'Fifth" took a French standard and vas asked. twice as many prisoners as the regiment had men on the field.

5. Royal Scotch Greys

THE 2nd Dragoons (Royal Scots Greys) traces its origin to certain troops of horse and drasailors rushed at it and pushed it into goons added to the Scottish Establishthe sea with their naked hands. nent in 1678. The Scots Dragoons, as they were then called, served in the campaign in Flanders until 1678, and went from Scotland to the Low Countries in 1702 by which time they had become known as the Grey Dragoons, or the 'Scots Regiment of White Horses." Fought With Marlborough They fought at Blenheim, and at Ramillies captured the standard of he French regiment du Roi. Accordng to one of the great historians they, in conjunction with the 5th from his own ship Royal Irish Dragoons (subsequently he 5th Lancers), overwhelmed three READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE battalions of French Grenadiers. The 'Greys" fought also at Oudenarde and The Right Place Malplaquet, and were at nearly all



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2. The Black Watch

picturesque Highland garb and a fine fighting record have made the Black Watch one of the most popular regiments in the British Army. It is the oldest Highorigin dating back to the early part of cavalry to cross the Atlantic. From of the eighteenth century. In those days it consisted of six companies, each of which was distinguished by the tartans of their captains for the time being.

fying courage of the highest type. forming part of a small force, they Originally called the 18th Light beat off an overwhelming force of the Dragoons, the present 17th Lancers enemy during the investment of was raised in Hertfordshire in- 1759. Ciudad Rodrige that he announced in

It first saw service under Lord Gran- a special proclamation to the Army by in Germany in 1761, and when that it was "a memorable example of hostilities with the American Colonies what can be done by steadiness, disbroke out it supplied the first body cipline and confidence."

Hired Out to Holland the battle of Bunker's Hill onwards It is a coincidence that, seven years it took part in important engage- after becoming a part of the British Army-it was first raised 11 years ments for a period of five years. earlier as an auxiliary force in the Employed in Jamaica Fourteen years later four troops of pay of Holland-the regiment gained

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24 pairs. Regular Price 25c. Special Price 18c. per pair. 24 pairs. Regular Price 30c. Special Price 23c. per pair. 60 pairs. Regular Price 35c. Special Price 27c. per pair. 30 pairs. Regular Price 40c. Special Price 30c. per pair. 25 pairs. Regular Price 45c. Special Price 35c. per pair. the great sieges in the Low Countries during the campaigns of 1703-12. During 1742-7 the regiment was in the Flanders campaign, and at Det-

Provisions, Groceries, ingen captured a white standard of he French Household Brigade. In Germany during 1759-62 it fought at Minden, Warburg, Kirk, Denkern, Groebenstein, and was engaged in

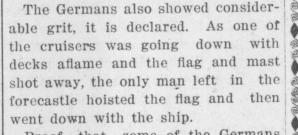
numerous skirmishes. Next it served n Flanders with the Duke of York in 1793-4. At Quartre Bras and Waterloo in 1815 even Napoleon paid a triute to their prowess and spoke of iem as "these terrible grey horses."

The Eagle Badge The Eagle badge afterwards worn Corner George and Prince's Sts y the Greys represented an "eagle" nd colour of the veteran French 45th of the Line, valiantly defended but Sergeant Charles Ewart, of aken by in one of the charges of Brigade on that memorable promptly attended to. June. The Greys marched ith the Army to Paris after the vic

When the Russian war began the egiment was ordered to the Crimea nd was present at Balaclava, Inkerman, and the siege of Sebastapol. In 1894 the Emperor Nicholas of Russia was appointed colonel-in-chief.

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Proof that some of the Germans vere shot by their own officers, the correspondent says, is given by one wounded German landed at Shotley, who had seven revolver bullets in him which he could only have come

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