SCOTTISH YEOMANRY IN SOUTH AFRICA, 1900-1901: A RECORD OF THE WORK AND EXPERIENCES OF THE GLASGOW AND AYRSHIRE COMPANIES

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649699377

Scottish Yeomanry in South Africa, 1900-1901: A Record of the Work and Experiences of the Glasgow and Ayrshire Companies by Trooper A. S. Orr

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

TROOPER A. S. ORR

SCOTTISH YEOMANRY IN SOUTH AFRICA, 1900-1901: A RECORD OF THE WORK AND EXPERIENCES OF THE GLASGOW AND AYRSHIRE COMPANIES

Trieste



Bara, Ayr.

Licut.-Colonel W. K. Hamilton Campbell.

SCOTTISH YEOMANRY

1900-1901.

A RECORD OF THE WORK AND EXPERIENCES OF THE GLASGOW AND AYRSHIRE COMPANIES.

.

÷

BY TROOPER A. S. ORR, 18th company 1.y.

Illustrated with Original Sketches by Trooper J. Hannan Watson, and Photos by the Author and others.

GLASGOW : JAMES HEDDERWICK & SONS, GOVERNMENT PRINTERS, "THE CITIZEN" PRESS, 1901.

PREFACE.

COMING home from the Cape on board the "Tintagel Castle" a very general desire was expressed amongst us to possess some such record of our small share in the great South African struggle as is contained in the following pages, but it seemed that no one was willing to undertake the task of writing it. After being some time at home, and seeing that otherwise the proposal was likely to come to nothing, I was persuaded to take the matter in hand. I have endeavoured to write a plain story of our work and experiences during sixteen months of service, but I fear it will be found to have lost much of what might have been its chief attraction -life and vigour - from having been written almost entirely from memory after some lapse of time. While intended primarily for the members of the two West of Scotland Yeomanry Companies, it may prove of interest to the friends who, in our absence, showed such a lively and practical interest in our welfare; and last, but not least, it will answer the two questions they one and all ask us :-- "Did you have any fighting in Africa?" and-"Did you see any Boers?"

My best thanks are due to Mr. J. Hannan Watson of our company, who has so enlivened the book with his sketches, and to Mr. R. E. Wilson for a chapter on the Bethlehem fighting.

A. S. O.

. U • 5.25 1 2 12 (12) (12) (2) (1

CONTENTS.

•

											PAG
IMobilis	ation—Ja	nuary	1 t	ill Fe	brua	ry 23	190	о,			з т
II.—On Bos	ard s.s. C	arthag	ginia	n—Ja	nuar	y ag ti	II Ma	rch 2	I, IÇ	,00	5
IIIBase C	Camps—N	farch	21 1	ill M	ay 9	, 190	,	2	3		15
IVWith C	General S	ir Arc	hibal	d Hu	nter-	-May	9 til	l July	1, 1	1900,	27
VWith (General H	Iunter	(cor	ntinue	d)—J	uly 1	till J	uly 19	, 19	,000	45
VIWith	General 1	Bruce	Han	uilton	-wi	ittebe	rgen	(by ·	Froo	per	
R.	E. Wilso	m)—J	aly 1	19 till	Aug	rust 4	, 190	о,			55
VIIWith (General B	lacdo	nald	-Aug	rust	4 till	Augu	1st 31	, 19	,00	65
VIII.—We con	me under	Color	nel I	e Gal	lais-	-Aug	ust 3	till (Octo	ober	
14,	1900,				•	•			٠		73
IXWith	Colonel	Le	Gall	us—E	Botha	ville	-Oct	ober	14	till	
No	vember ç	, 190	0,	5 4	•	٠	3 9 3	۰	303	•	77
XWith C	Colonel P	ilcher	—Fi	rst Tr	rek-	Nove	mber	9, 1	900,	till	
Jar	wary 12,	1901,	8	32	53	2			•		91
	17917.7.7.7 C (1.1.7/14).			Secon	d 1	Frek-	-Janu	ary	12	till	
	ANOC11125 165	1074174		•	2		•3	-	•		107
				Third	1 7	'rek-	-Febi	nary	1	till	505
		SH 2		- 200 61 - 2047		in Ni Ca	17. 1. 1994		285) 2003	ی میں	117
		Pilche	r—F	ourth	Tre	k—M	arch	11 6	ш 1	May	
0.00	120500050	•	8	•	36		53	-3		-	133
XIVConch	usion, -	٠	٠	•		100	1	•	•	•	155
17th Company	· ·		•	٠	•	•	•		•		1 57
18th Company		15					•	1	•		159
	II.—On Bou III.—Base (IV.—With (V.—With (VI.—With (VII.—With (VII.—With No X.—With (Jar XI.—With Fei XII.—With Ma XII.—With IZ, XIV.—Concht 17th Company	 II.—On Board s.s. C III.—Base Camps—N IV.—With General S V.—With General I R. E. Wilso VII.—With General M VII.—With General M VII.—With General M VII.—With Colonel November S X.—With Colonel P January 12, XI.—With Colonel February 1, XI.—With Colonel February 1, XI.—With Colonel March 11, XIII.—With Colonel 12, 1901, XIV.—Conclusion, - 17th Company, - 	 II.—On Board s.s. Carthau III.—Base Camps—March IV.—With General Sir Arc V.—With General Hunter VI.—With General Bruce R. E. Wilson)—J VII.—With General Macdo VII.—With General Macdo VII.—With General Macdo VII.—With Colonel Macdo X.—With Colonel Le November 9, 190 X.—With Colonel Pilcher January 12, 1901, XI.—With Colonel Pilch February 1, 1901, XII.—With Colonel Pilch Garch 11, 1901, XII.—With Colonel Pilcher 12, 1901, XIV.—Conclusion, - 17th Company, 	 II.—On Board s.s. Carthaginia III.—Base Camps—March 21 (1996) IV.—With General Sir Archibal V.—With General Bruce Han R. E. Wilson)—July 10 VII.—With General Macdonald VII.—With General Macdonald VII.—With General Macdonald VII.—With Colonel I I 14, 1900, - IX.—With Colonel Le Galk November 9, 1900, X.—With Colonel Pilcher—Fi January 12, 1901, - XI.—With Colonel Pilcher—March 11, 1901, - XII.—With Colonel Pilcher—March 11, 1901, - XII.—With Colonel Pilcher—Fi 12, 1901, - XIV.—Conclusion, - - - 	 II.—On Board s.s. Carthaginian—Ja III.—Base Camps—March 21 till M IV.—With General Sir Archibald Hu V.—With General Hunter (continue VI.—With General Bruce Hamilton R. E. Wilson)—July 19 till VII.—With General Macdonald—Aug VII.—With General Macdonald—Aug VII.—With General Macdonald—Aug VII.—With General Macdonald—Aug VII.—With Colonel Le Gallais—I November 9, 1900, X.—With Colonel Le Gallais—I November 9, 1900, X.—With Colonel Pilcher—First Th January 12, 1901, XI.—With Colonel Pilcher—Secon February 1, 1901, XII.—With Colonel Pilcher—Third March 11, 1901, XII.—With Colonel Pilcher—Fourth 12, 1901, XIV.—Conclusion, 	 II.—On Board s.s. Carthaginian—January III.—Base Camps—March 21 till May 9 IV.—With General Sir Archibald Hunter- V.—With General Bruce Hamilton—With General Bruce Hamilton—With Ceneral Bruce Hamilton—With R. E. Wilson)—July 19 till Ang VII.—With General Macdonald—August VII.—With General Macdonald—August VII.—With General Macdonald—August VII.—With Colonel I Le Gallais—I4, 1900, IX.—With Colonel Le Gallais—Botha November 9, 1900, X.—With Colonel Pilcher—First Trek—January 12, 1901, XI.—With Colonel Pilcher—Second February 1, 1901, XII.—With Colonel Pilcher—Third Tharch 11, 1901, XII.—With Colonel Pilcher—Fourth Tree 12, 1901, XIV.—Conclusion, - 	 II.—On Board s.s. Carthaginian—January 23 ti III.—Base Camps—March 21 till May 9, 1900 IV.—With General Sir Archibald Hunter—May V.—With General Bruce Hamilton—Witteber R. E. Wilson)—July 19 till August 4 VII.—With General Macdonald—August 4 till VII.—With Colonel Le Gallais—Bothaville—November 9, 1900, X.—With Colonel Pilcher—First Trek—Nove January 12, 1901, XI.—With Colonel Pilcher—Second Trek—February 1, 1901, XII.—With Colonel Pilcher—Third Trek—March 11, 1901, XII.—With Colonel Pilcher—Fourth Trek—March 11, 1901, XIV.—Conclusion, 	 II.—On Board s.s. Carthaginian—January 23 till Ma III.—Base Camps—March 21 till May 9, 1900, IV.—With General Sir Archibald Hunter—May 9 til V.—With General Hunter (continued)—July 1 till J VI.—With General Bruce Hamilton—Wittebergen R. E. Wilson)—July 19 till August 4, 1900 VII.—With General Macdonald—August 4 till August 111.—We come under Colonel Le Gallais—Angust 3: 14, 1900,	 III.—Base Camps—March 21 till May 9, 1900, IV.—With General Sir Archibald Hunter—May 9 till July V.—With General Hunter (continued)—July 1 till July 19 VI.—With General Bruce Hamilton—Wittebergen (by R. E. Wilson)—July 19 till August 4, 1900, VII.—With General Macdonald—August 4 till August 31 VIII.—We come under Colonel Le Gallais—Angust 31 till 14, 1900, IX.—With Colonel Le Gallais—Bothaville—October November 9, 1900, X.—With Colonel Pilcher—First Trek—November 9, 17 January 12, 1901, XI.—With Colonel Pilcher—Second Trek—January February 1, 1901, XIII.—With Colonel Pilcher—Third Trek—February March 11, 1901, XIII.—With Colonel Pilcher—Fourth Trek—March 11 to 12, 1901, XIV.—Conclusion, 	 II.—On Board s.s. Carthaginian—January 23 till March 21, 15 III.—Base Camps—March 21 till May 9, 1900, IV.—With General Sir Archibald Hunter—May 9 till July 1, 15 V.—With General Bruce Hamilton—Wittebergen (by Troo R. E. Wilson)—July 19 till August 4, 1900, VII.—With General Macdonald—August 4 till August 31, 15 VIII.—We come under Colonel Le Gallais—August 31 till Octo 14, 1900, IX.—With Colonel Le Gallais—Bothaville—October 14 November 9, 1900, X.—With Colonel Pilcher—First Trek—November 9, 1900, January 12, 1901, XI.—With Colonel Pilcher—Forst Trek—February 12 February 1, 1901, XII.—With Colonel Pilcher—Fourth Trek—February 1 March 11, 1901, XII.—With Colonel Pilcher—Fourth Trek—March 11 till 12, 1901, XIV.—Conclusion, 	 II.—On Board s.s. Carthaginian—January 23 till March 21, 1900, III.—Base Camps—March 21 till May 9, 1900, IV.—With General Sir Archibald Hunter—May 9 till July 1, 1900, V.—With General Bruce Hamilton—Wittebergen (by Trooper R. E. Wilson)—July 19 till August 4, 1900, VII.—With General Macdonald—August 4 till August 31, 1900, VII.—With General Macdonald—August 4 till August 31, 1900, VII.—With General Macdonald—August 4 till August 31, 1900, VII.—With Colonel Le Gallais—Bothaville—October 14 till November 9, 1900, X.—With Colonel Pilcher—First Trek—November 9, 1900, till January 12, 1901, XI.—With Colonel Pilcher—First Trek—February 12 till February 1, 1901, XII.—With Colonel Pilcher—Third Trek—February 1 till March 11, 1901, XII.—With Colonel Pilcher—Fourth Trek—March 11 till May 12, 1901, XIV.—Conclusion, YIV.—Conclusion, YIV.—Conclusion, Yith Company,

-

12

PAGE

, ⁽²⁾

13

2 I 1 2

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

1. LieutColonel W. K. Hamilton Campbell,	1993	×	1.	- Frontispi	ece
2. Captain Andrew Coats, D.S.O.,		*		Facing page	
3. Surgeon-Major Naismith, D.S.O.,		×	•	"	1
4. 1st Section, 18th Company I.Y.,	2	×	1963	**	1
5. Crossing the Vaal River,					2
6. "Al-oh-ai! Al-oh-ai!" (Gee-up),	200	i.	301		4
7. A Mid-day Halt, · · · ·	(1	ŭ.			5
8. Among the Bethlehem Hills,	3 . 2	2	S.	"	50
9. 2nd Section, 18th Company I.Y., -		-		"	6
10. Night Picquet,	-	¥.	3	**	7
11. {Farm near Bothaville, Boer Refugees, }	·	•	•	"	8
12. "A few shells landed among the led horse	s ,''		8	"	9
13. 3rd Section, 18th Company I.Y.,	۲		8	11	10
14. Transport in Difficulties,	3175	1	8 - s	"	12
15. Transport crossing a River,	1370	5	۲	"	12
16. 4th Section, 18th Company LY.,	•		55		13
17. Royal Horse Artillery,	1.02	55	25		14
18. Rushing a Kopje on April 16, 1901, -	3 7 3	*	8 .		14
19. "The 20th Company formed the advance s	creen.	*			150
20. Farewell South Africa,			-		15

82

-

 $\hat{\varphi}$