CAPE TOWN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

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EDITORIAL

This edition of the CTFHS Newsletter is the last I'll be doing while still working. Next edition (if I'm elected to stay on the executive of the CTFHS at our AGM in March 2016) will be done while I'm 'in retirement'.

Among the things I hope to do while retired is to offer my genealogical skills to help others find their families. Hopefully I can do this for a small fee to add to my pension. If other professional researchers who are society members would like to submit their names to me, we could include a list in future editions.

One of the areas we often find ancestors is in the British Army. The Cape Colony did not run its own army and so regiments from the British Army were stationed at the Cape and naturally, troops fraternised with the local population and many stayed on and thus became our ancestors. Other area for overseas people coming to the Cape was the mission field. In this edition there is an article discussing the usefulness of Hart's Army List and Crockford's Clergy Directory.

One of the examples of British Army Officers' families staying on at the Cape is the Denton family. There is an article about the Kirwee Prize and soldiers entitlement to the booty. While dealing with the Army there is a short article on role of Quartermaster and Paymaster as well as an explanation of purchasing rank in the British Army.

Finally, looking back at the September Newsletter and Irish influence on South Africa, we look at the Irish women settler who came on the Lady Kennaway and the Gentoo.

Derek Pratt
31 December 2015

USEFULNESS OF LISTS

When researching ones family it is often useful to have a publication where one can find an ancestor who went to a certain school, university or was employed in a certain profession. Many of the posh public schools in the UK have lists of former pupils (usually 19th Century pupils). These I have found useful when researching children of Indian Army families who went back to the 'home country' for schooling. Then, if they went to Oxford or Cambridge one can find their names in the alumni lists available on the subscription genealogical sites. Of course, if they subsequently enter the Church or the Army one can find them in Crockford Clerical Directory and Hart's Army Lists.

My father served in the Royal Navy and he often use to refer to it as 'the silent service' and as I've tried to research his naval career I come to the conclusion that this nickname is so true. Navy Lists do exist but have only recently been digitised and made available on subscription sites. Needless to say, the class-conscious British only list Officers in the Hart's Army Lists and Navy Lists.

Crockford Clerical Directory

Crockford's Clerical Directory (Crockford) is the authoritative directory of the Anglican Church in the United Kingdom, containing details of English, Welsh and Irish benefices and churches, and biographies of around 26,000 clergy. It was first issued in 1858 by John Crockford, a London printer and publisher whose father – also named John – had been a Somerset schoolmaster.

Crockford is currently compiled and published for the Archbishops' Council by Church House Publishing. It covers in detail the whole of the Church of England (including the Diocese in Europe), the Church in Wales, the Scottish Episcopal Church, and the Church of Ireland, and it also gives some information about the world-wide Anglican Communion. In the older editions, all Anglican Clergy worldwide were included – at least all in the British Empire including South Africa. I have a 1957-58 edition and it has the South African clergy – both those trained in UK and those from South African theological colleges.

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The first four issues came out in 1858, 1860, 1865 and 1868. Crockford then reappeared biennially until 1876, when it began a long run of annual appearances which lasted until 1917. The next issue was a delayed 1918/19 edition. Appearing more regularly again with exemption of War times when paper was limited it continued as a commercial enterprise until 1980 when the Church Commissioners started publishing through Hymns Ancient and Modern/ Canterbury Press.

The biographical page in an older edition would typically include many abbreviations, including clergy academic backgrounds, and their dates ordained deacon [d] and priest [p]. Diocesan coats of arms were shown alongside Episcopal [Bishops'] entries; any publications were listed, and parish incomes and patrons were mentioned.

By the early 1980s severe economies had become necessary and 1985/86 edition had to be restricted to the "home" churches of England, Scotland and Wales.

BARTLETT, Douglas William Guest. b 03. St Cath S Ox BA 40, MA 46. MRCS 47. LRCP 47. Sarum Th Coll 28. **d** 29 **p** 31 Swan B. C of Llanthetty w Llansantffraed Usk and Glyncollwng 29-33; Publ Pr Dio Swan B 34-36; C-in-c of Llanwenarth Citra 36-38; R of Mkt Overton w Thistleton 38-40; Perm to Offic Dio Ox 40-48; R of N w S Wootton 48-63; V of Charlbury w Chadlington and Shorthampton 63-71. *The Old Tavern, Leafield, Oxon.* (Asthall Leigh 632)

This entry shows how one needs to interpret the facts. This clergyman was born in 1903; attended St Catherine's College Oxford where he obtained a BA in 1940, a MA in '46. He appears to be a doctor as well as a priest as he is member of the Royal College of Surgeons and has a Licentiate from the Royal College of Physicians. He attended the Sarum Theological College in Salisbury in 1928, Ordained a deacon[d] in 1929 and priested [p] in 1931 by the Bishop Swansea & Brecon. He served as a curate in a Welsh parish 1929-33. He appears to be a Public Preacher for the Diocese (1934-36) before becoming Rector of a few parishes up to 1940. He had Permission to Officiate while he was studying at Oxford from 1940-48 then two parishes from 1948 till 1963 in Diocese of Norwich and 1963 till 1971 in Oxford Diocese from whence he retired and he is staying in The Old Tavern Leafield, Oxford.

Locating previous issues

The South African Library has a large number of, if not a complete set of, the early Crockfords which I have used while research certain Anglican clergy for my thesis. One can check a clergy person through his career and when he disappears one can then assume that he died some time between the last edition in which his name appeared and the one he doesn't appear in. Of course, he might have resigned to follow another career too - so watch out!

A small number of early editions have been reissued in CD format by various publishers, including Archive CD Books. Scanned copies of other early editions have also begun to appear on the World Wide Web including Crockford's own site but although searches are free, full biographical details are subscription only at an annual fee of £35. ancestry.co.uk has *Crockford Clerical Directory from* 1868 to1932.

For Church of England clergy earlier than 1858, there is the clergy database covers 1540-1830.
http://db.theclergydatabase.org.uk/jsp/search/index.jsp

For clergy from the Diocese of Cape Town from the arrival of the British until 1907 can be found in William de Villier's wonderful book *Watchmen, Messengers and Stewards* published by Wits University Library – where the Anglican Church of Southern African has its Archives.

Hart's Army List

Official Regular army lists included Annual Army Lists, 1754–1879 (at Kew National Archives WO 65); Quarterly Army Lists (First Series), 1879–1922, Half-Yearly Army Lists, 1923 - Feb 1950 (From 1947, annual, despite the name), Modern Army Lists, 1951-Ongoing but this is a restricted publication not generally available.

Other independent lists include Monthly Army Lists, 1798-June 1940; Quarterly Army Lists (Second Series), July 1940-December 1950. These superseded the Monthly Army Lists, and, for the remainder of World War II were not published but produced as confidential documents, monthly or bi-monthly until December 1943 and quarterly until April 1947, then three times a year, April, August and December; Home Guard List, 1939–1945; Militia Lists - various militia lists pertaining to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries are extant and the most famous of all - **Hart's Army List**, an unofficial list, produced between 1839 and 1915, containing details of war service which the official lists started covering only in 1881.

Hart's Army list was owned and founded by Lieutenant-General Henry George Hart (1808–1878) who was a British Army officer. Born on 7 September 1808 in Glencree, Ireland, Henry was the third son of Lieutenant Colonel William Hart who served in both the Royal Navy and British Army before emigrating to the Cape of Good Hope in 1819 where he died in 1848. Henry accompanied his father to the Cape, and was on 1 April 1829 appointed ensign in the 49th Foot, then stationed here. He followed a successful military Career rising from Lieutenant (1832) to Lt-General (1877). He died at Biarritz, France on 24 March 1878.

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Hart's Army List

When Hart joined the army, the main reference work was John Philippart's Royal Military Calendar of 1820. In February 1839, supported by his wife and with the approval of the military authorities, Hart published the first edition of his Quarterly Army List, which was well received.

Hart was allowed access to the official records of officers' services, and in 1840 published his first Annual Army List, containing supplementary information in addition to the contents of the Quarterly. The role of editor was later taken over by his son Fitzroy. The List was published to 1915.

Hart married in 1833 Alicia, daughter of the Rev. Holt Okes, D.D. (Rector of St John's Wynberg). Their family included three sons, who all served in the army: Jane Margaret Hart; Colonel Horatio Holt Hart, Royal Engineers; Major General Arthur Fitzroy Hart, C.B., 1st battalion East Surrey Regiment, General Reginald Clare Hart, V.C., Royal Engineers.

I was not aware of Hart's Cape Colony connection until researching this article. Furthermore the Rev. Holt Okes was a clergy person who served Cape Town from 1830 when he arrived here with his five children until his death in 1854 at Wynberg. He was at St John's Wynberg from 1834-1848.

What Hart's Army List tells you:

This extract is from the 1857 Hart's Army List. It is for the

Emb. for Australia, 18 July 45.] 11th (North Devonshire) Regt. of Foot. [Serv. at N. S. Wales. Depot, Buttevant.] 78

"SALAMANCA" "PYRENEES" "NIVELLE" "NIVE" "ORTHES" "TOULOUSE" "PENINSULA."

Years' Serv.		
52		*Colonel.*—P William George Cochrane,[1] *Ens.* 13 Feb. 05; *Lt.* 29 May 06; *Capt.* 11 Aug. 12; *Brevet-Major*, 17 March 14; *Brevet Lt.-Col.* 15 July 24; *Major*, 9 July 30; *Lieut.-Col.* 16 Sept. 36; *Col.* 28 June 38; *Major-Gen.* 11 Nov. 51; *Lieut.-Gen.* 26 Sept. 56; *Col.* 10 Foot, 23 June 56.
Full Pay.	Half Pay.	
44	0	*Lieut.-Colonel.*—WM Henry Keane Bloomfield,[2] *Ens.* 30 Sept. 13; *Lieut.* P 7 Aug. 17; *Capt.* P 1 April 24; *Brevet-Major*, 28 June 38; *Major*, P 26 Feb. 41; *Lieut.-Col.* P 27 June 45; *Col.* 20 June 54.
47	4	*Majors.*—P John Casemir Harold,[3] *Ens.* 25 Sept. 06; *Lt.* 28 May 07; *Capt.* 16 Feb. 15; *Brev.-Maj.* 10 Jan. 37; *Maj.* 6 Nov. 41; *Brev.-Lt.-Col.* 11 Nov. 51.
31	½	John Singleton, *Ens.* P 17 June 26; *Lieut.* P 31 Dec. 27; *Capt.* P 15 Feb. 39; *Major*, P 27 June 45; *Brev.-Lieut.-Col.* 20 June 54.

		CAPTAINS.	ENSIGN.	LIEUT.	CAPTAIN.	BREV.-MAJ.
39	0	Edward Moore	21 May 18	7 Apr. 25	7 Feb. 39	11 Nov. 51
24	0	Edward Lynch Blosse ..	P 15 Nov. 33	P 25 Jan. 39	P 5 Sept. 43	20 June 54
22	0	Augustus Fred. Jenner, *s.*	P 9 Oct. 35	P 21 June 39	P 5 April 44	5 June 55
16	0	John Walpole D'Oyly ..	P 17 Sept. 41	P 5 Sept. 43	P 15 June 49	
14	0	Henry Maynard Ball....	P 21 July 43	P 6 Dec. 44	P 18 Apr. 51	
18	14½	A.H.L.Wyatt, *Lt.* 20 June 54	P 17 Sept. 25	P 24 Feb. 29	P 29 June 32	9 Nov. 46
19	1½	Thomas Peebles.....	P 17 Mar. 37	P 6 Feb. 41	6 June 51	

11th (North Devonshire) Regiment of Foot. The top comments tell us the regiment had gone to NSW Australia in 1845 and its home depot was at Buttevant, Ireland. In small uppercase letters are the Regiment's battle honour list. In the column on the left is the number of years served by the different officers, giving full pays years and half pay years.

The Regiment's Colonel, Lieutenant Colonel and Majors are given in the centre column with the dates on which the man was appointed to each rank so that seniority could be judged. Captains, Lieutenants and Ensigns are given in a list below with promotion dates in columns.

Other officers (paymaster, quartermaster, surgeon etc) is given at the bottom of the page.

1	0	1 Rowley Willes Hinxman .. 23 Nov. 49
41	½	*Paymasters.*—1 P WM Edward Coxen,[5] 9 Feb. 26; *2nd Lieut.* 5 April, 00; *Lieut.* 28 June, 10; *Capt.* 8 April, 25.
22	0	2 William Henry Fitzgerald, 20 Sept. 39; *Ens.* 17 Jan. 28; *Lieut.* P 31 May, 33.
9	0	*Adjutants.*—2 *First Lieut.* Stephen Kenny, 9 May, 43.
10	0	1 *First Lieut.* John Maguire, 2 June 49.
8	0	*Quarter-Masters.*—1 Thomas Berrey, 29 Mar. 42.
3	0	2 Richard Power, 28 May 47..
24	0	*Surgeons.*—1 Charles Robert Boyes, M.D. 2 July 41; *Asst.-Surg.* 22 Nov. 27; *Hosp.-Ass.* 17 Aug. 26.
24	0	2 Augustus Henry Cowen,[6] 2 July 41; *A. S.* 29 July 30; *H. A.* 2 Nov. 26.
6	0	*Assistant-Surgeons.*—1 William Joseph Macfarlane, 16 Feb. 44.
6	0	2 Frederick John Folliott Payne, 31 May, 44.
5	0	2 George Augustus Frederick Shelton, M.B. 3 Jan. 45.
9	0	1 Nesbitt Heffernan, M.D. 11 June 41.

[*1st Battalion embarked for India, July*, 1845. *Serving in Scinde*.]
[*2nd Battalion returned from North America, 5th June*, 47.]
Regimentals Green—*Facings* Scarlet.—*Agents*, Messrs. Cox & Co.
Irish Agents, Sir E. R. Borough, *Bt.*, Armit and Co.

So if you see under Google, that one of your ancestors appears in the Hart's Army List you know what to expect.

THE KIRWEE PRIZE

While research the family of Thomasine DENTON, buried at St Paul's Graveyard, I came across a memorial she sent to the Colonial Office regarding the Kirwee Prize Money *CO 4146 ref 12 MEMORIAL. MRS. J DENTON. REGARDING THE "KIRWEE PRIZE MONEY". 1867* That peaked my curiosity. What was the Kirwee Prize? Why was this lady from Rondebosch inquiring about it? I soon discovered a very interesting story of British Imperialism and its rewards.

In 1857-58 there were numerous uprisings in British held India. Up till this time the whole of British-held India (not the independent Indian states) were governed by the Honourable East India Company (HEIC) who ran the country administratively as well as military, employing it own Indian Army and Indian Navy. By the 1850s it was becoming impossible for them to continue to do so and with the Sepoy uprising, the British Government had to send troops to protect British lives and keep the 'Jewel in the Crown' British.

The 43rd Light Foot (Monmouthshire) Regiment had been in South Africa involved in the Eighth Frontier War in the Eastern Cape. Reading a Google book on the history of the regiment I could see they had not had a good time in the Eastern Cape including some of the regiment being aboard the *Birkenhead*. In 1853 they were shipped off to India. In that regiment was a paymaster Joseph DENTON. I am not sure what rank a paymaster held. In the history of the regiment, I found that Joseph Denton was the Quartermaster. He had been appointed to that rank in 1848 and in 1856 promoted to Paymaster. In another Google book I downloaded, *From England to the Antipodes & India - 1846 to 1902, with startling*

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revelations, or 56 years of my life in the Indian Mutiny, Police & jails by Tyrrell Isaacs, b. 1830 Published 1904. Tyrell Isaacs describes Joseph Denton's death (see below) and describes him as "Captain Denton, our paymaster". So it would appear that, paymaster was a commissioned rank. Captain Joseph Denton and his family had come to the Cape with the Regiment and it is believed she stayed on in Cape Town when the Regiment was transferred to India.

The 43rd Light Foot Regiment was part of the Saugor and Nerbudda field force (also called the Madras column) under Major-General George Cornish Whitlock sent to Bundelkund to engage in the relief of various towns in the region. After defeating a force of 7000 outside the town of Banda, they entered the town and took a large amount of loot from the palace. The British troops then marched on nearby Kirwee where its Prime Minister, Radho Govind, fled to the hills with a rebel force and Narrain Rao, the chief of the town, surrendered to Whitlock and his troops. Once again a large amount of money and jewels were found in the palace.

Although any booty theoretically was the property of the Crown, in practice the spoils of war were shared amongst those who had captured it. General Whitlock's troops had captured a much larger booty than the other Generals (Rose and Roberts) who had made up the rest of the column. These other generals, together with their officers had proposed that the money captured by Whitlock's men be combined with that captured by forces under General's Rose and Roberts and distributed evenly, including shares for other officers who claimed to have co-operated in the related actions.

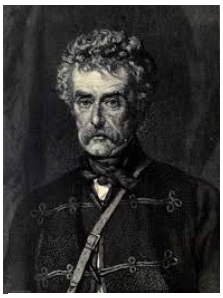
The treasure and jewellery that General Whitlock had captured (excluding the gold and rupees found) was said to be of the value of three million pounds sterling, but I suspect this was an exaggeration. The troops under Whitlock's command felt they were entitled to a share of the booty as prize money. The crown disputed this and thus begun a long court case in the Admiralty Court. General Rose's booty totalled £49,000 and Robert's, £18,200, whereas the amount captured by Whitlock was valued at a huge £700,000. Unsurprisingly, Whitlock and his men were not in favour of splitting the money and the Admiralty Court had to settle the matter. A case costing over £60,000 ensued. In March 1867, a judgement was reached and the claims of almost all the officers were disallowed (with the exception of that of Colonel Keatinge, who had commanded a part of the force that had seen no action at Banda or Kirwee and that of Lord Clyde, the Commander-in-Chief).

	1867 Pounds	2015 Equivalent buying power	Rand exchange rate
Lord Clyde	£60 000	£2.742m	R54.84m
General Whitlock	£12 000	£548 000	R10.96m
A Captain	£600	£27 420	R548 400
A Lieutenant	£325	£14 852	R297 040
A Sergeant	£100	£4 570	R91 400
A Private	£50	£2 285	R45 700

General George Whitlock

A Google search of "Kirwee Prize" brought up numerous Hansard references where the fate of the prize money was the subject of numerous questions in the House of Commons and in the Lords. So, finally, some nine years after its capture the booty was distributed to Whitlock's Officers and men. In many cases the men directly involved in putting down the Indian mutiny had died. Joseph Denton had died from "heat apoplexy" while on the route-march to Kirwee and Banda. Isaac Tyrell in his book *From England to the Antipodes & India - 1846 to 1902* published 1904, says:

> *On we marched, the heat becoming more intense the farther we proceeded on our journey, the sky at midday would be a canopy of fire, and we had some deaths from sunstroke…. Our Paymaster, Captain Denton, who travelled with his cash chest in the bullock carriage over the ghat, was found dead of heat apoplexy, with his cash chest in front of him.*



Lord Clyde

Even the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Clyde had died by the time the award was made. He had never married and so his share went to his unmarried sister Miss Alyce Campbell. It is amazing to see the number of references on Google to newspaper articles of the time where people claimed distant relationships with Miss Alyce Campbell in order to get a share of the booty!

With the CO reference from Joseph DENTON's wife in 1867, she must have felt that he, like the other troops, was entitled to a share. A Paymaster was an honorary officer rank – Joseph Denton was an honorary Captain and would have been entitled to £600. Let me put this into perspective. The Rector of St Paul's Rondebosch at that time was paid around £300 p.a. and a Paymaster was paid £230 p.a. so £600 was nearly three times his normal annual salary.

Paymasters and Quartermasters

While tracing the Denton family I found that Joseph Denton had served in the 43rd Foot Infantry and had been Quartermaster (QM), when the regiment had been at the Cape and Paymaster (PM) when the regiment had served in the Indian Sepoy uprising in 1857-58. I wondered what rank these positions carried – in other words was a he a commissioned officer (like a Lieutenant, Captain or Major) or a senior non-commissioned officer (like a sergeant, colour-sergeant etc)?

I discovered that QMs and PMs had a commission but they were "non-combatant" commissions, that is, they were not expected to command soldiers in action except *in extremis*, and they were not eligible for "normal" promotion within the regiment. Even as late as 1914 they were not full members of the Mess in some regiments, being allowed dining privileges once a week. The correct title for a QM was Quartermaster and Honorary Lieutenant on first appointment, and almost always promoted to that level from Colour-Sergeant or QM Sergeant the latter was a rank in the 1840-1850s. Many a Sergeant-Major ended up as a QM and Hon Lt. Promotion on "time" was available and the rank of Major was unusual but not impossible to be reached but on a different pay scale to combatants.

Paymasters have served with the British Army ever since it was created as a professional, standing Army in the seventeenth century. It was the poor performance of the British Army during the Crimea War that galvanised the then Secretary of State for War (1868 – 1874), Edward Cardwell, to bring all the regimental paymasters into a single corps called the 'Army Pay Department'. The Royal Warrant authorising the creation of the new department was signed by Queen Victoria on the 22 October 1877, with the effective date of operation of the department being the 1 April 1878.

The Quartermaster was the post of the persons in the armed forces who directed the supply of troops with food, weapons, and military maintenance equipment and who organize everyday services for the personnel.

Purchase of Rank in the 19th Century British Army

If you have ever had to look up an ancestor in Hart's Army list or even in the London Gazette you would have seen references to someone having been promoted to a rank because of "purchase".

What, besides the obvious that money was changing hands for the promotion, did this mean? And how did it work? I found the following article online at: http://www.victorianwars.com/viewtopic.php?f=27&t=6845 which might help you understand.

The Purchase of Officers' Commissions in the British Army
Most people have heard of the purchase of commissions in the Victorian Army. Often their knowledge is limited to rumours of boys at Eton being on the Army List whilst still at school and tales of Lord Cardigan spending £28,000 to rise from Cornet to Lieutenant Colonel in six years. He was then rumoured to have spent between £35,000 and £40,000 for command of the 15th. Hussars, and later paid £48,000 for the colonelcy of the 11th. Hussars.

The purchase system, which did not apply to the Royal Artillery, the Royal Engineers or the Royal Marines, lasted some 200 years, and was said to have a number of advantages - there was "no nonsense about merit", no favouritism, and an officer who wished to leave the service was provided with a lump sum from the sale of his commission. The modern impression is that the system was corrupt, and only allowed the rich to become army officers.

In practice a proportion of first commissions and promotions were available without payment, most officers would have obtained at least one commission free, and it was possible for an able NCO to rise to the rank of General - Sergeant Luke O'Connor of the 23rd Foot (Royal Welsh Fusiliers) won a VC and was commissioned for his gallant conduct at the Alma, was awarded his brevet Lieutenant-Colonelcy for Ashanti (1872-74), commanded the second battalion of the regiment from 1880 to 1885, and ended his career as a Major General. It must be said that it was unusual for an officer promoted from the ranks to rise beyond Ensign or Cornet, and many NCOs refused to accept a commission because they were unable to pay the expenses they would incur in an age when an officer required a private income to live in the expected style in the United Kingdom.

The prices of commissions were laid down in Regulations and are shown in the table over the page:

Every commission had a dual value - the official cost plus

Rank	Life Guard	Cavalry[1]	Foot Guards[2]	Infantry	Half Pay Difference
Cornet/Ensign	£1260	£840	£1200	£450	£150
Lieutenant	£1780	£1190	£2050	£700	£365
Captain	£3500	£3225	£4800	£1800	£511
Major	£5350	£4575	£8300	£3200	£949
Lieutenant Colonel	£7250	£6175	£9000	£4500	£1314

Footnotes to table:
1. In 1860 the regulation price of cavalry commissions was reduced to the same price as in the infantry.

2. The purchase of the ranks of Major and Lieutenant Colonel in the Foot Guards was abolished in 1855. Guard Ensigns held the army rank Lieutenant, Guards Lieutenants held the army rank Captain, and Guards Captains held the army rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

the "over-regulation price" or "regimental value" which would typically be in the range of one half to twice the regulation price. The value of a commission depended on:

1. The social acceptability and reputation of the regiment; and
2. The regiment's station (on returning from abroad the price would be high, as a number of officers were likely to retire due to ill health, commissions in a regiment ordered overseas would have a lower value, particularly if it was being sent to an unhealthy station, such as the West Indies).

In wartime over regulation payments tended to disappear because of the chance of promotion without purchase and the risk of being killed in action.

Becoming an Officer

Commissions were not awarded to anyone under the age of 16. Every officer was required to start at the lowest commissioned rank - Ensign in the infantry, Cornet in the cavalry. An individual who wished to be considered for a commission applied to the Commander-in-Chief through the Military Secretary. Those who wanted to join the Guards or Household Cavalry applied direct to the regiment concerned. The application had to be lodged by someone recommending the candidate “in whose respectability the Commander-in-Chief feels confidence”. If the outcome of investigations into the candidate's character were satisfactory and he passed the exam introduced in 1849 (and which could only be taken twice) his name was entered onto a register for a commission when one became available. The Commander-in-Chief indicated whether or not the commission is to be gained by purchase.

Sandhurst

Before 1858 entry to the Junior Department of the Royal Military College was at between the ages of 13 and 15 years for a three or four year course. From 1858 the minimum age on entry was 16, and the course lasted two years, reduced in 1865 to 18 months.

First Commissions

The highest priority for free commissions was given to candidates from the Sandhurst who obtained the required marks in their final examination. Candidates from Sandhurst who did not get a free commission had the highest priority for purchased commissions. Queen's Pages of Honour received free commissions in the Guards. Orphans of officers could be sent to Sandhurst as Queen's Cadets and received free commissions on qualifying. Ensigns and Cornets on half pay might be appointed to full pay first commissions (to reduce the cost of the half pay list).

From 1862 all free commissions went to Sandhurst cadets, NCOs and Pages of Honour.

Promotion and Retirement

Vacancies arose which could be acquired by purchase if an officer:

1. Left the service by selling his commission; or
2. Retired on half pay after 25 years service; or
3. Retired on full pay after 30 years service.

On promotion an officer sold his original commission, so the outlay for an infantry Lieutenant to rise to the rank of Captain was £1,100.

Non-purchase vacancies arose because of:

1. Death ("A bloody war or a sickly season"). After 1856 the value of the commission of an officer killed in battle or dying of his wounds within six months was paid to his family; or
2. An officer being promoted to the rank of major general; or
3. An increase in the size of the officer corps; or
4. The appointment of an officer to a staff post; or

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(Continued from page 6)

5. An officer being promoted to the unattached list.

The main factor in deciding who would be promoted was seniority within the regiment. An officer could not purchase a rank over the heads of other officers who were willing to purchase, or be promoted free over the heads of officers with longer service. Seniority might be suspended because of the unsatisfactory state of the regiment's discipline, insubordination to the commanding officer, want of harmony among the officers, general misconduct, or when a vacancy arose from the removal of an officer, whether by sale or otherwise, in consequence of a Court Martial, or Court of Inquiry, or on account of conduct calling for the exercise of the Royal Prerogative.

Every officer had a claim, in order of seniority, to the next highest rank in his regiment subject to:

1. Having served for two years as a Subaltern (i.e. Cornet, Ensign or Lieutenant) before promotion to Captain.
2. Having held a commission for six years before becoming a field officer (i.e. Major or Lieutenant Colonel).
3. Passing examinations (introduced 1850) for promotion from Ensign to Lieutenant, and from Lieutenant to Captain (the latter requirement was not enforced until the Crimean War).

If no officer within the regiment was qualified or able to purchase the Commander-in-Chief would select an officer to fill the vacancy. However an officer from outside the regiment might exchange to purchase a commission, becoming the junior officer of that rank in the regiment.

When an officer was able to decide whether or not to leave the service he was normally able to negotiate an unofficial payment from officers who will benefit from his departure.

Exchanges

Officers of equal rank on full pay could exchange their commissions. The officers involved became the junior officers of their grade in their new regiments. Exchange was not permitted as a way of avoiding active service.

Half Pay

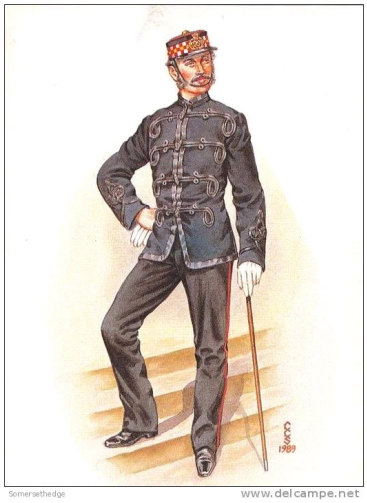
Officers may exchange to half pay and receive the difference in value of the commissions.

In exchanges between full and half pay officers the half pay officer is required to pay the difference in value between the two commissions on returning to full pay.

Half pay officers are permitted to retire by selling their commissions to full pay officers.

Selling Out

An officer could sell a commission he has purchased and retire at any time. However it was considered



dishonourable to sell out avoid active service.

Commissions which had not been purchased could be sold after 12 years by an Ensign, 15 years by a Lieutenant and 20 years for higher ranks. A non-purchase officer who as served between three and twenty years could retire and receive £100 for each year of foreign service and £50 for each year of home service, this bonus was added to the purchase money of any commissions purchased until the regulation value of the commission being sold was realised.

Following opposition in the House of Lords to a Bill designed to abolish purchase, all regulations relating to the sale of commissions were abolished by Royal Warrant from 1st November 1871.

Footnotes

References

These notes are based on The Purchase System in the British Army 1660-1871 by Anthony Bruce, Royal Historical Society 1980.

Additional details have been taken from:

1. A History of the British Cavalry 1816 - 1919 Volume II by the Marquess of Anglesey, Archon Books 1975

2. Highland Soldier, A Social Study of the Highland Regiments 1820 - 1920 by Diana M. Henderson, John Donald 1989.

from http://www.victorianwars.com/viewtopic.php?f=27&t=6845

The *Lady Kennaway* girls

adapted from an article by K.P.T. Tankard

Throughout its history, the Cape Colony was continually expanding. It began with the original Dutch pioneer cattle farmers, the trekboers, who moved steadily eastward in search of more land. It was during the late eighteenth century that they first came into contact with the powerful Xhosa, themselves pastoralists, and thus a series of frontier wars began. The British inherited this problem when they occupied the Cape first in 1795 and again in 1806.

The British governors attempted to find a solution to this problem because of the financial burden which it placed on the British taxpayer. One of the solutions was the extension of the Cape frontier so as to include more Xhosa land under British rule. In 1847 after the seventh frontier war, commonly known as the war of the axe. A large area between the Keiskamma and Kei Rivers was annexed and formed a new crown colony known as British Kaffraria. The military headquarters at King William's Town became its capital and a sea-port was created at the mouth of the Buffalo River at East London.

The German military settlers

In December 1854 a new governor, Sir George Grey, decided to implement a policy of assimilation and acculturation which he believed had been highly successful during his previous governorship of New Zealand. Grey's policy entailed the construction of public works which would open up the territory and create employment for the Xhosa, would foster the capitalist economic system and thereby erode the authority of the chiefs. He also wished to establish schools, hospitals and other institutions 'of a civil character' so as to convert the inhabitants to Christianity and western civilisation.

Another plan was to settle as many whites as possible within British Kaffraria. By March 1855 Grey had decided on the idea of encouraging the mass immigration of British military pensioners and their families. These men would be middle-aged and would be able to develop farms while supporting themselves financially on their military pensions. As ex-soldiers they would be able to defend the colony if necessary and as husbands and fathers, Grey hoped, they would form a stable and reliable population. Their presence would further provide employment for and acculturation of the Xhosa. The colonial office accepted Grey's proposal but, when only 107 volunteers responded to the offer, the scheme was cancelled.

Early in 1856, as the Crimean war was ending, the British government found itself confronted with the problem of what to do with the Anglo-German Legion which had been recruited for the war and was still under contract. It was decided to send the legionnaires to British Kaffraria in place of the military pensioners. This new scheme was not in accord with Grey's original plans. Few of the legionnaires were married. They were, moreover, much younger men than the middle-aged military pensioners and had joined the legion to fight, not to farm. To solve the first problem, the legionnaires were encouraged to marry before they left Britain. Free berths were offered for wives and fiancées. Mass marriages then look place which made a mockery of the whole episode and many a soldier arrived in British Kaffraria not knowing which woman he had married. Special legislation had therefore to be enacted in the Cape to legalise many of the confused marriages.

The problem, however, still remained. Of the 2 362 German soldiers who arrived in British Kaffraria early in 1857, most were still not married.

Plans to send out Irish girls

Grey argued that the lack of females would be disastrous to the whole community as it would, he said, cause 'great immorality...and great expense.' The Germans, the governor stated, would roam the country in search of females, would probably 'be frequently murdered by the native population' and would be 'quite useless' as a defence for the colony.

The Colonial Secretary, Labouchere, believed that respectable single women be sent out to the Cape to balance the population. He believed that there would be no difficulty in finding large numbers of respectable young women in Ireland who would be willing to emigrate to the colonies. He therefore instructed the emigration commissioner to take an early opportunity of sending out a party of Irish orphan girls. The chartered ship would proceed directly to East London and would not call at Cape Town, as this would increase the cost of the voyage and, moreover, might 'unsettle the minds of the Emigrants'. He feared that they would compare the uncivilised frontier where they were to find themselves with the beauty and civilisation of Cape Town.

Preparation for the voyage

By mid-August 1857 arrangements were well under way. The *Lady Kennaway* had been selected for the voyage, a

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vessel of 583 tons which had been built in Calcutta in 1816. She had been used most frequently on the East India route but had on four previous occasions conveyed similar emigrants to Australia. The required party had been completed to the maximum that the ship could carry and it had been decided that the *Lady Kennaway* would sail not later than the end of the month.

Attempts were made to obtain girls from among the ordinary working population in Ireland but the inducements which they were able to offer were not sufficient to enable them to obtain the required numbers within the appointed time. They had, therefore, decided to select some women between the ages of 18 and 35 from among the inmates of the union workhouses. After 'much trouble and uncertainty' they had been able to procure about 100 young women of this class from 'four or five of the principal unions in Ireland.' A few 'respectable married couples' were also selected to assist in taking care of the Irish girls during the voyage. The surgeon superintendent, Mr Henry Lannigan, who was to accompany them, had already made two such voyages to Australia and would receive a gratuity of 12 shillings 'for each person landed alive provided his duties during the voyage were performed to the satisfaction of the local Government.' He would receive a further £60 for his return passage.

The full complement for the *Lady Kennaway* was eventually obtained by selecting some English artisans and their families. A few Irish agricultural families and about 20 more single women 'from the ordinary population' of Ireland were also enlisted. There was, however, a last-minute hitch. Just as the ship was about to sail, some of the Irish women realised that there might be no catholic priest where they were to be settled. They decided to withdraw rather than face such a calamity. To prevent the extra expense incurred by detaining the *Lady Kennaway* in port, it was decided to fill the vacant places with emigrants of what was termed 'the usual class'.

The *Lady Kennaway* duly sailed from Plymouth Sound on Saturday, 5 September 1857, hearing her load of 231 emigrants. Of these, 153 were single girls, 42 were artisans and their wives, and 36 were children, some of whom were already grown up and had themselves become artisans. By the time the vessel dropped anchor in the East London roadstead on Friday, 20 November, the passenger list had been increased by one, a baby born at sea.

Preparations for reception

Early in September, about a week after the Lady Kennaway had set sail, John Maclean, the chief commissioner for British Kaffraria, was instructed to take steps to distribute the immigrant women as soon as possible after they had landed. By mid-September a committee of three clergymen and three influential businessmen had been formed in King William's Town. It was chaired by Henry Barrington, president of the criminal court for British Kaffraria. Labouchere's argument that the Irish giris would help alleviate the legionnaires' need for wives was treated with total scepticism by the reception committee. Their introduction so far as the Germans were concerned would be a failure, Barrington wrote:

> For I do not think they will marry such lazy beggars – had they houses & gardens & pigs to shew it might have been very different. I do not suppose the dronken profligate white labourers here much wish to encumber themselves with wives tho' some few will in time -I suppose the soldiers will be on the look out, but they have no great inducements to offer.

Ultimately, when the giris arrived at King William's Town, the reception committee did its best to discourage such marriages, which they considered would be an 'imprudent' act. Barrington was similarly sceptical concerning the prospects for the Irish girls.

A tolerably decent white woman could get £2 per month, he wrote to Grey, but if 200 came to British Kaffraria then wages would fall so that it would be doubtful whether they would receive more than 15 shillings. At the outside, there were 150 families in King William's Town and none of these would want more than one white servant. East London and the British Kaffrarian outposts would be able to absorb only a few.

The King William's Town committee had arranged to accommodate the girls in 14 double cottages in the village which had been built to accommodate the military pensioners of Grey's initial scheme. In addition, four marquees and eight bell tents, as well as kettles, tables and benches were supplied by the ordnance department. Transport would be provided by the commissariat department at East London. Further accommodation was arranged at East London so the immigrants could be housed for the duration of their stay at the port. Since the majority of them would be Catholics, it was also decided to have a catholic priest

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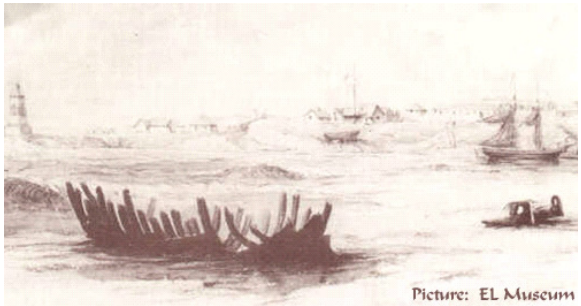
meet them at East London as they disembarked from their two-month voyage.

Arrival and wreck of the Lady Kennaway



The Lady Kennaway anchored in the East London roadstead on 20 November 1857. As yet little had been done to construct a harbour at the port and so only the smallest of ships could cross the sand-bar and enter the Buffalo River mouth. The immigrants had therefore to be transferred to land by means of surf-boats, a task which took four days to complete. Only when the last of the party had disembarked did the next leg of their journey begin. In the meantime, four of the girls were immediately offered employment in East London and a further two found husbands and were married almost at once. One of these was a German girl who was swept off by a German settler. This was probably Fredericka Schulle, the only German girl in the party, who had been enlisted from Middlesex and not from Ireland. The other was married to the local police constable. None of the artisans chose to remain at East London. On Tuesday, 24 November, 12 bullock wagons set out for King William's Town, hearing the married people and all the baggage.

The following day a dramatic incident occurred. The *Lady Kennaway* was driven ashore to become wrecked within the mouth of the Buffalo River. The ship had been anchored in what had been considered a safe berth in 12 and a half fathoms of water, just over a mile (1,6 km) offshore. Her anchor cables, however, were worn. They were, moreover, light and too short for a vessel of that mass. To cap it all, only two anchors had been used and no third anchor was put in readiness should the others fail. Heavy winds came up that day and the *Lady Kennaway* parted from both anchors. In the confusion which followed, the crew muddled their attempt to raise the sails and the ship was driven inexorably by the wind onto the sandspit in the river mouth, where she was to remain for some months as an obstruction to all vessels which attempted to enter the river.

The next day, with the excitement and dismay of the wreck still on everyone's lips, the remaining Irish girls departed on 13 mule wagons. They halted at Fort Pato for a 'Grand Breakfast...which cheered up the spirits of the Immigrants.' They then continued on their journey and arrived at King William's Town that evening. On Friday morning, immediately after their arrival, the hiring commenced and continued for a week. During that time about 79 people were employed in King William's Town at an average wage of 30 shillings per month, including board and lodging. A further 22 were employed or married at Line Drift, Peddie, Alice or Woolridge and about 61 artisans and labourers, including their families, also found work in these places. When hiring closed in King William's Town, 15 girls who had not found employment were kept in the committee depot in the expectation that those who were not yet engaged to be married would soon find employment.

The exact number of immigrants who found employment in British Kaffraria and of those who journeyed to Grahamstown is impossible to ascertain as the statistics given in the various documents contradict one another. It is clear, however, that six girls eventually settled at East London, including the two who married on arrival; between 78 and 93 found employment in King William's Town, where five married immediately; and between 70 and 84 journeyed on to Grahamstown. Of the artisans and their families, none remained at East London, between 46 and 68 settled in King William's Town and about 16 journeyed to Grahamstown.

The arrival of the *Lady Kennaway* girls did not solve Sir George Grey's problem. It was stretching the imagination to the extreme to expect all 153 to marry immediately on arrival in British Kaffraria, yet employment opportunities in the territory were simply not sufficient to accommodate even the small number who had arrived. On the other hand, 153 unmarried girls offered little prospect of wives to well over a thousand bachelor soldiers. Moreover, the German legionnaires had as yet scarcely settled down, generally made poor farmers and were mostly interested in enlisting for further military action in another country.

The Ladies of the Gentoo

In November 1850 the association for the promotion of female migration sent 46 single Irish women to the Cape on the *Gentoo.* Their arrival on 15 March 1851 was followed by a great storm of moral indignation when it was discovered that grave irregularities had occurred during the voyage. Contrary to the strict regulations imposed by the emigration commissioners, the girls had been allowed to mix freely with the men on board and 'gross improprieties' had taken place. The captain had allowed his officers and crew complete freedom of conduct and the surgeon superintendent in charge of the girls, far from enforcing discipline, had allowed a girl to sleep in his cabin. An official enquiry was held and the captain and surgeon were severely reprimanded. All gratuities were withheld except those due to a steward who had behaved with exemplary forbearance throughout the voyage. The official report did not publish the names of the girls concerned. Only four girls, Anne Currey, Mary Cowie, Eliza Causeby and Emilie Ie Jeune were exonerated from all blame. Lady Duff-Gordon on a visit to the Cape between 1861 and 1862 commented on the incident

> Miss Coutts and the Bishop... emptied a shipload of young ladies from a 'Reformatory' into the streets of Cape Town and what in London is called a 'pretty horse-breaker' is here known as one of 'Miss Coutts' young ladies'.

Obviously the girls had found their niche but the comment is a little unfair to the admirable Miss Coutts. Unfortunately, this event put a damper on female immigration and no more single women were sent out until 1857 when 153 single Irish women, nine Irish families and 12 English families were sent to British Kaffraria on the Lady Kennaway (see above).
From Southern African-Irish Studies, p2, 1992.

END OF YEAR BRAAI—IN PICTURES

Gathered in the Hall out of the sun and wind

The Braai underway

Tour of Graveyard about to begin

CAPE TOWN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

WEBSITE:

http://www.family-history.co.za/

Contains lots of interesting and useful information

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Third Saturday of each month at St John's Church Hall, Wynberg

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SECRETARY:
Ann Smythe
TREASURER:
Vacant
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ORGANISING SPEAKERS FOR MEETINGS
Cheri Wright
Kevin Turner
WEBMASTER
Eric Settle

BACK PAGE HUMOUR

"I'm trying to prove we're not related to the kids."

TOURING ST PAUL'S GRAVEYARD

Members gathered in the Graveyard

Derek Pratt pointing out something important!