DENTON, Thomasine. Plot 76 St Paul's Graveyard, Rondebosch

The information on Grave 76 in St Paul's Graveyard in *Tombstones & Transcripts* is very simple.

76 Denton

Brick enclosure, nothing else

I looked in St Paul's burial register and found a **Thomasine DENTON** who died on 17th January 1869. She was 58 years old; her abode was given as Rondebosch and the minister who buried her was the Rev Edward Becher Prince. There was a note attached to the Burial register entry stating "Pur Gr No. 76" (Purchased Grave no 76), so the writer of the note believed that he was buried in the grave marked 'Denton' on the plan.

	e ii dhawa	On Almak	Januar	Vial .	11 21-	
Party of	Denton No.ggh	Ron debisch	1715	Geard	W.S. Timce	45
	No. 885- Thomasine		January			

From St Paul's Burial Register page99 entry 886

Because she was placed in a purchased grave, she probably had an Estate and so I looked for her on the National Archives Index (NAAIRS). There were the following entries for **Thomasine DENTON**:

- 1. MOOC 7/1/301 ref 85 DENTON, THOMASSINE. WIFE OF JOSEPH DENTON. WILL.1869
- 2. MOOC 6/9/126 ref 5010 DENTON, THOMASINE. (NEE MARTIN). DEATH NOTICE. 1869
- 3. MOOC 13/1/260 ref 85 DENTON, THOMASINE. LIQ AND DIST ACCOUNT. 1869

Thomasine DENTON's Death Notice was filed 13 July 1869 and is numbered 5010/69. She was born in Perranaworthal, Cornwall England, the daughter of Edward and Ann MARTIN. She was born about 1810 and was 59 years old when she died. She was the widow of the late Joseph Denton, formerly Paymaster of H. M 43rd Regiment. [For his military service, see below.] Thomasine died on 16 January 1869 at her home in Rondebosch. Two children are listed on her Death Notice both were majors: **Elizabeth Denton** and **Wellington James Denton**. Her Death Notice states that she had 'no property excepting a few household effects and the share of the Barda Prize money due to the late Paymaster Denton, not yet secured' [see below for more on this prize money also called the Kirwee Prize.] The Death Notice was signed by her daughter Elizabeth Denton.

I have not as yet drawn her will MOOC 7/1/301 Ref 85 or the Liquidation and Distribution Account file which might tell us whether the Prize Money became part of her Estate.

From the Death Notice I knew that her husband was **Joseph DENTON**, I wondered if he had died at the Cape so I searched NAAIRS for any entries for him and found:

- 1. CO 4086 ref 84 MEMORIAL. JOSEPH DENTON. APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT. 1856
- 2. CO 4146 ref 12 MEMORIAL. MRS. J DENTON. REGARDING THE "KIRWEE PRIZE MONEY". 1867
- 3. CO 4146 13 MEMORIAL. MRS. J DENTON. REGARDING A PREVIOUS MEMORIAL. 1867 1867

There was no Death Notice for husband. So, Jospeh DENTON had died elsewhere and that is why "Mrs J DENTON" wrote to the Colonial Office in two of the above examples to find out more about the Kirwee Prize, a share of which her husband had been entitled to.

The prize money referred to on the DN must have been to do with "KIRWEE PRIZE MONEY" referred to above (CO 4146 ref 12). During the Indian Mutiny of 1858, the troops had captured Kirwee and Banda held by the chiefs (two brothers, called Narrain Rao and Madho Rao). They also captured 140 cart-loads of gold bricks and nuggets, and 40 lacks of rupees. The treasure and jewellery (excluding the gold and rupees found) are said to be of the value of three million pounds sterling. The troops felt they were entitled to a share of the booty as prize money. The crown disputed this and the officers of the different regiments clashed over how the prize was to be shared, but obviously Joseph DENTON's wife felt he, like the other troops, was entitled to his share. For more on the Kirwee Prize go to Appendix B.

Military Carrer of Joseph DENTON

Joseph DENTON enlisted in the 43rd of Foot Regiment in 1825. On the Nominal roll of that year it states he was seventeen years old, five feet five and quarter inches tall, fresh complexion, grey eyes and an oval face. His birth place is given as Manchester, Lancashire and his occupation, shoemaker. He was attested to the 43rd Regiment of Foot on 6 Dec 1825 in Cambridge for a life-time of service.

Following where the regiment served, he would have served in the following places:

1823-27 - stationed at Gibraltar

1827-28 - with Army of Occupation in Portugal

1828-30 - stationed at Gibraltar

1831-34 - in England [possible daughter Mary Ann born 1833]

1835-45 - New Brunswick, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Canada

[the following children as listed by Nick Bartley were born **Elizabeth b 1836**; Joseph b 1837; Edward b 1839; **Wellington J[ames] b 1841**; Albert J b 1843; Emily A b.1845. Those in bold are children of Joseph & Thomasine, others may be children of James DENTON who was also in 43rd Light Infantry Regiment and need to be confirmed]

1846 – England [Thomasine b 1846]

1848 - south of Ireland [Horatia b 1850]

1851 - Cape of Good Hope, Kaffir War

1853 - India

1857-59 Indian Mutiny, Kirwee

1857-58 - India – Bangalore

1858 - India - Punnanh Jungle, Peunghattan Pass, Kirwee, Kampti/Kampthi (Central Provinces), Jaloun, Humeerpore, Hernapore, Calpe, Banda. [Joseph dies of sunstroke 1858¹]

Children of Joseph and Thomasine DENTON

Because only two children of Joseph and Thomasine DENTON are mentioned on Thomasine's Death Notice I will just trace them and presume the other children were those of James DENTON, brother of Joseph but also in the 43rd Regiment of Foot.

WELLINGTON JAMES DENTON.

With an unusual first name I thought it might be easy to find more about him. NAAIRS gave up the following entries:

- 1. CO 4101 Ref D27 MEMORIAL. WJ DENTON. REQUESTING HE BE ALLOWED TO TAKE THE CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION 1858
- 2. CO 4108 Ref D37 MEMORIAL. WJ DENTON REQUESTING TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT. 1859
- 3. CO 4108 Ref D86 MEMORIAL. WJ DENTON REQUESTING EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE. 1859

As there is not DN in the Cape Archives one can presume that he was not successful in getting a job and had moved on to some other place.

¹ See Appendix C

I searched overseas records to see if he returned to the UK and perhaps died there but I found nothing. I also checked for census records in case he past through the UK at some point. I did find an entry for a "Wellington James DENTON" on the Australian Voters Roll of 1909. This W J Denton lived in Melbourne and was a labourer. It did not seem to be right that a man looking for civil service employment in the Cape should end up as a labourer in Australia, therefore I tried "Wellington James DENTON" in a Google search.

One of the things to come up was an email on Rootsweb's DENTON list from **Nick Batley** asking about a Joseph DENTON. He wrote:

Hello everybody,

I am new to the Denton list, so I hope someone out there can help me.

I am seeking information on descendants of my great-great-great grandfather, Joseph Denton, who was born c1808 in Manchester, Lancashire (UK). The IGI gives me a baptismal entry for a Joseph Denton in 1809 at Manchester (son of James Denton and Ann Ball (?), m 1805 Manchester)

Joseph enlisted in the 43rd Light (Monmouthshire) Regiment of Foot (British Army) in 1825, stating at the time that he was 17 yrs old, and a shoe maker by trade. He married Thomasine Martin in 1829 at East Stonehouse, Devon.

Joseph saw service with the 43rd in Ireland, Canada (where my g-g-grandfather Wellington James Denton was born, in 1841) and India.

Joseph Denton was paymaster of the 43rd Light when he died of sunstroke in India in 1858. He also had a brother, James Denton, who served in the same regiment. James was quartermaster of the 43rd Light when he also died of sunstroke, also in India in 1858.

Joseph Denton's widow, Thomasine, was based in Cape Town, South Africa, at least from 1854 (possibly earlier), and I gather that she remained there after her husband's death in India. As a result, I suspect there may be descendants of this branch of the Denton family still in South Africa, although I am not discounting the possibility that Denton descendants emigrated to Australia (as my ancestor did), New Zealand, Canada, the US, or even returned to the UK.

From what I have been able to determine, the children of Joseph Denton and Thomasine Martin were as follows: [The trouble is that two DENTON's served in the 43rd Regiment so Birth registration of children of soldiers serving abroad did not include parent's names so some of these could be children of James and Elizabeth DENTON.]

b 1833
b 1836
b 1837
b 1839
b 1841
b 1843
b 1845

Thomasine b 1846 Parent's names not given. Born in Carlisle, England

Horatia b 1850 Clara b 1851 Arthur J b 1853

If there is anybody researching this Denton family, or with Denton connections in South Africa, I would be most interested to hear from you.

Nick Batley

I sent Nick Batley an email – many years after his original but he still had the same email address and responded with this brief summary of what he believed was Wellington James DENTON's history:

The 43rd was sent to India from South Africa in 1857 or early 1858 to beef up the British presence as part of the Imperial response to the Indian Mutiny. Thomasine and family remained in Cape Town in the meantime. Both Joseph and James Denton died on service with the 43rd in India they both died from sunstroke or disease whilst on route march. At the time of their deaths, Joseph Denton was paymaster of the 43rd, and James Denton was quartermaster.

Of the list of children, Nick Batley has mixed up the children of the two DENTON's serving in the 43rd Foot. I found birth registrations for these children of DENTON men serving in the 43rd Regiment – some had parents' names other did not but at least two were children of Quartermaster James DENTON and his wife Elizabeth.

Mary A b 1833 Parents names not given. Born in Ireland Elizabeth b 1836 Parents not given. Born in Clogheen, Ireland Joseph b 1837 Parents not given Born in Plymouth England

Edward b 1839 Parent's name not given. Born in Stamford, England

Wellington J[ames] b 1841 No record found, but many Family Trees on Ancestry.com

say Amherstburg, Essex, Ontario, Canada.

Albert J b 1843 Parent's names not given. Born on St Helena
Emily A b 1845 Parent's names not given. Born in Quebec, Canada
Thomasine b 1846 Parent's names not given. Born in Carlisle, England
Horatia b 1850 Parent's names not given. Born in Kilkenny Ireland
Clara b 1851 [d/o James and Elizabeth not Jospeh & Thomasine]
Arthur J b 1853 [s/o James and Elizabeth not Jospeh & Thomasine] Died

1855 in Madras

A Passenger list on FIBIS² gave 'Departure of Mrs Denton and 5 children' in 1859 but it does not state which 'Mrs Denton' it was – Elizabeth (wife of James) or Thomasine (wife of Joseph).

Departure

Month & Day Dec 20
Year 1858
Name of Ship Nile
Title or Rank Mrs.
Passenger Surname Denton
Children & 5 children
Origin Madras

Passenger Destination London
Vessel Origin Madras
Vessel Destination London
Port 1 The Cape
Source Madras Almanac 1859

Suddenly I had so much more interesting information, which fitted into mine but I was not sure on the accuracy of it all especially the number of children. If they were that many born, all over the world, why did the Death Notice only list two? Perhaps only those two were in the Cape Colony or perhaps all the others had died in infancy or childhood.

Nick Bartley is a descendant of Wellington James DENTON and he wrote

Wellington James Denton is the only one of the children that I know much about, and even he seems to be a little bit of an enigma. He enlisted in the 43rd in 1861 - family story is that he gained a commission as an officer, but I'm not sure that the documents back this up. At this stage, I think the 43rd were still in India, and Wellington James saw active

² FIBIS is Families In British India Society. They have an excellent website with a database of references to British families who had served in India.

service with the 43rd. But around 1863 or 1864, he was discharged from the regiment. Again, family story has it that Wellington James was dishonourably discharged for slapping the face of a superior officer with his glove, but I haven't seen the documents to prove this one way or the other. Around this time, the 43rd was transferred to New Zealand, to serve in the Maori Wars in Waikato. Also around this time, we lose track of Wellington James. We are unsure of exactly what he did in the intervening period, but the next record we have of him is his marriage to my g-g-grandmother, Lucinda Cudmore Eggers, in Melbourne in 1870. I cannot find any record of his entry into Australia, nor any sign of his presence in terms of directories or other such records, before this time. My suspicion is that he got the boot from the 43rd about the time that the 43rd moved to New Zealand, and that he spent time in New Zealand or on the Victorian goldfields during the mid-1860s (remembering that there were gold rushes in both New Zealand and southeastern Australia during this time) before resurfacing in Melbourne in 1870 to marry Lucinda. That's just my theory, there's no evidence that this was the case, but it does seem to me coincidental that the 43rd moves across to New Zealand, and that Wellington James turns up in Melbourne a few years later - the proximity suggests to me some sort of link

I found two other entries for Wellington James DENTON on Google. Both were in Google Books and were army lists of some sort. The first was *United Services Magazine* (1861) were it stated: "45th Foot ... Wellington James Denton, gent, to be ensign, without purchase, vice Villiers, promoted." This entry means he was commissioned as an Ensign to the 45th Regiment of Foot. In those days an officer resigning could take payment from the officer who was replacing him. In Wellington James DENTON case, he was filling the post of an officer promoted so no payment was required³. The next entry was in the Hart's Annual Army List, Militia List, and Imperial Yeomanry List of 1862. Here under "43rd (Monmouthshire) Regt. of F (Lt. Inf.)" appears the list of commissioned officers with "Wellington James Denton" appearing as an Ensign with one year's service from 21st May 1861. The final entry was in the London Gazette of 2nd January 1863 "43rd Foot, Ensign Edward McNeile Cairns, from the 96th Foot, to be Ensign, vice Wellington James Denton, who retires. Dated 22nd May 1863."

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1
 1
 1
1
     O Paym.-Horatio Morgan, 17 Sept. 58. Kalee Nuddee (Medal and Clasp).
4
5
     0 Adjutant .- Lt. G. Garland, 0 6 Feb. 57.
8
        Instructor of Musketry .- Lieut. F. G. E. Glover, 11 June 60.
        Quarter Master .-- Arthur Williams, 29 Oct. 58.
19
     0 Surgeon.—Alexander Barclay,21 MD. 13 April 52; Assist.Surg. 22 Dec. 43.
        Assistant Surgeons .- John James Henry, 2 18 Jan. 56.
6
                          James Good, 3 Oct. 57.
 5
     0
                          Robert Alexander Peter Grant, 13 June 59.
     0
                Facings White.—Agents, Messrs. Cox & Co.
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Facings White.—Agents, Messrs. Cox & Co.

1 Sir James Fergusson served the campaign of 1809-9, including the battles of Vimiera and Corunna. Expedition to Walcheren in 1809. Peninsular campaigns from March 1810 to the end of that war in 1814, including the passage of the Coa, near Almeida, battle of Busaco, actions at Pombal, Redinha, Miranda de Corvo, Foz d'Arouce, and Sabugal; battle of Fuentes d'Onor, sieges and assaults of Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajoz, battle of Salamanca, action of San Munos, passage of the Bidassoa, battle of the Nivelle, battles of the Nive on the 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th Dec. 1813; and investment of Bayoune. Major General Fergusson has received five wounds, viz. at Vimiera, slightly; at the storming of Ciudad Rodrigo, severely in the body and slightly in the foot; at Badajoz, slightly in the side by a splinter of a shell in the trenches, and in the head at the assault. He has received the Gold Medal for Badajoz, as senior surviving Officer of the Light Division Storming Party; and he also served in the Storming Party at Ciudad Rodrigo and at the taking of the outworks of that place Fort Reynard. He has also received the Silver War Medal with eight Clasps.

9 Capt. Trafford served with the 51st Regt. in Burmah from Sept. 1852 to the end of the war, and was present with Capt. Irby's deachment of four Companies with Brigadier General Cheape's force during the whole of the successful operations in the Donabew district, ending in the assault and capture, on the 19th March 1853, of the stronghold of the Burmese chief Mystroon Medal).

[For remainder of Notes see end of 41st Foot.

[For remainder of Notes see end of 41st Foot. Digitized by Google Mysttoon Medal).

Hart's Army List 1862

³ The Regiment given 45th Foot is incorrect, Wellington James DENTON only served in the 43rd Foot. The Officer he replaced as Ensign – Villiers appears in the list of Lt. in Hart's Army List 1862 for 43rd Regiment.

Thomas Phillips to be captain, by purchase, vice Brett.

1st Regiment of Foot...John de Stuteville Isaacson, gent, to be ensign, without purchase, vice Davey, promoted; Francis Robert Stanton, gent, to be ensign, without purchase, vice Mills, promoted.

2nd Foot.. Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Addison, C.B., to be lieutenant-colonel, without purchase, vice Brevet-Colonel Stanhope William Jephson, C.B., who retires upon full pay; Captain Richard Hill Rocke to be major, without purchase, vice Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Addison; Lieutenant Thomas John to be captain, without purchase, vice Rocke; Ensign Thomas

William Crofton Ward, who retires: Ensign Samuel Gordon McDakin to be lientenant, by purchase, vice Murdoch Macleod; Edward Percy Hicks, gent, to be ensign, by purchase, vice McDakin.

45th Foot...Wellington James Denton, gent, to be ensign, without purchase, vice Villiers, promoted.
49th Foot ... Ensign John Jamison

Russell Russell to be lieutenant, without purchase, vice Robert Hall Spratt, deceased.

50th Foot...David Lyall, gent, to be ensign, by purchase, vice Atthill, promoted.

51st Foot.. Ensign Dudley Villiers Stuart to be lieutenant, by purchase, vice Riland W. Oldham, who retires; Stewart

United Services Magazine 1861

Edward Eden Hughes, Gent., to be Ensign, by purchase, vice Byng. Dated 22nd May, 1863.

43rd Foot, Ensign William McNeile Cairns, from the 96th Foot, to be Ensign, vice Wellington James Denton, who retires. Dated 22nd May,

John Bingley Garland, Gent, to be Ensign, by purchase, vice Charles Yates Peyton, who retires. Dated 22nd May, 1863.

44th Foot, Lieutenant George Evatt Acklom to be Captain, without purchase, vice Arthur de Montmorency Fleming, deceased. April, 1863.

Digitized by Google

London Gazette 1863

If we use the Date of Birth as given by Nick Batley then Wellington James DENTON was 17 years old when he applied to write the Civil Service Examination in Cape Town. In 1861, he appears to be given a commission by the Army and he was 20 years old. When "retired" he was 22 years. Researching his name in the British Newspaper Archives produced articles that indicated that some of the family stories told by Nick Batley about Wellington's behaviour were true. He was demoted to the bottom of the list of Ensigns thus jeopardising any chance of fast promotion and perhaps he also had a drinking problem⁴ and felt 'forced' to resign.

Nick Batley suggests that the regiment was on its way to New Zealand at the time of his resignation and perhaps he remained in Australia, and as Nick suggests joined the gold rush. Certainly, there is an Australian record from Victoria of Wellington James DENTON marrying a Lucinda Cudmore EGGERS

First name(s)

Wellington James

Last name

Denton

Sex Marriage year Male 1870

Spouse's first name(s)

Lucinda Cudmore

Spouse's last name

Eggers

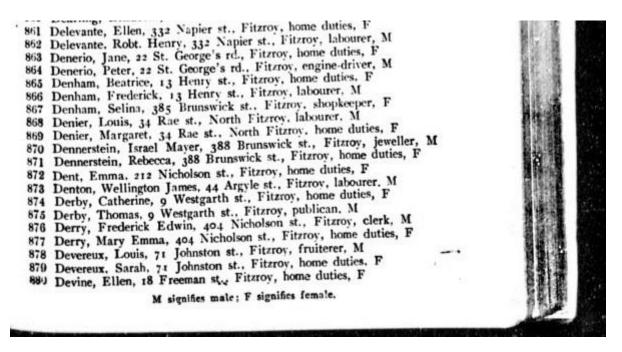
⁴ See Appendix A

State Victoria Country Australia

Record set Victoria Marriages 1836-1942

Registration number 3332

If he were the person who was on the voters roll in Australia, the state of Victoria, Batman, subdivision of Fitzroy Central then he would have sixty-eight and unlikely to be a labourer unless his behaviour in the Army was due to a drinking problem and he was on a downward spiral which resulted in him ending up as a labourer.



Australian Voters Roll: 1907 Fitzroy, Batman, Victoria

In some of the family trees on ancestry.com they list a W. J. Denton who was a third mate onboard the *Alfred* sailing off Australia in 1863 as being Wellington James DENTON but he had been in the Army not the Navy and would not be qualified for this position. Nick Bartley suggestions that after going to the gold rush he had by 1870 returned to Melbourne where he married.

Wellington James DENTON and his wife Lucinda Cudmore EGGERS had the following children:

- 1. Thomasine Elizabeth DENTON b 1871. She married William John WISEMAN and died 8 Aug 1914 aged 42.
- 2. Jane Margaret Gage DENTON b abt 1873, She married on 10 Nov 1897 to Edward Francis BOLAND
- 3. Lucinda Mary DENTON b1875. She married William R. MacLeod
- 4. Joseph Albert DENTON b1881. When he died in 1933 the Death Notice in the Newspaper only mentions his still living sisters and his mother presumably still living. This seems to indicate that he had not married.

DENTON.—December 30, 1933, at Prince Alfred Hospital, Camperdown, Joseph Albert, beloved son of Mrs. and the late Wellington James Denton and brother of Jane, Lou., Annie, and May, aged 52 years. At rest.

- 5. Anne Caroline DENTON b1883. Married 1909 to Alfred Dwyer
- 6. May DENTON b 1893. Married in 1911 to John MCGILLIVARY

I also found an entry on www.familysearch.org which does not go into details but might also be Wellington James DENTON because he was living in the Carlton area of Melbourne.

Name Willington [sic] Denton

Role of Individual Defendant
Event Type Legal
Event Date 28 Jun 1882

Event Place Carlton, Victoria, Australia

Court Carlton Courts

Source Collection Title Victoria Petty Sessions Registers

Reference 299/P1/Vol 3

Besides the Voters Roll mentioned above where he is entered as 'Labourer' I also found his burial in Rockwood Cemetery in Sydney, Australia. He was buried 26 Jun 1915.

Name: Wellington Denton

Birth: unknown Death 26 Jun 1915

Burial: Rookwood General Cemetery

Rookwood, Cumberland Council, New South Wales, Australia

Plot Zone B Section AAAA Grave 991

He would have died a day or two before being buried. According to the website his son Joseph is also buried in this plot on 1 Jan 1934 (see newspaper announcement above.)

Lucinda Cudmore DENTON died in 1935 in Parramatta, New South Wales.

Name Lucinda Denton

Death Date 1935

Death Place Parramatta, New South Wales

Registration Date 1935

Registration Place Parramatta, Australia Father Paul C Eggers

Mother Margaret born Cudmore

Registration Number 18955

ELIZABETH DENTON

The popularity of the name Elizabeth means it is hard to find which of the numerous Elizabeth DENONs is our one. Her birth registration as a child of a serving soldier was found.

First name(s) Elizabeth
Last name Denton
Sex Female
Birth year 1836
Organisation Armed Forces
Regiment 43rd Light Infantry
Place Clogheen

Country Ireland
Record's year range 1836

Archive General Register Office

Archive reference REG1

Source Gro Regimental Birth Indices (1761 To 1924)

Volume 1224 Page 10 Line number 57

Record set British Armed Forces And Overseas Births And Baptisms

Elizabeth signed her mother's Death Notice, so she was in Cape Town and as she signed 'E Denton' one could conclude that she was not married. She would have been thirty-three-years-old at that point, considered old for marriage in the 1860s.

Did she return to the UK or India?

APPENDIX A

from Naval and Military Gazette and Weekly Chronicle of the United Service. 6 December 1862

43rd Head-quarters, Simla, Sept. 27, 1882.--At a General Court.-Martial, assembled at Fort William, on June 9, 1862, Ens. Wellington James Denon. of H.M.'s 43rd Foot, was arraigned on the following charge:- with conduct unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, in having been shamefully intoxicated in one of the public rooms of the mess on the 43rd Light Inf., at Dum -Dum. on the night of Dee. 25, 1861, and then aggravated his misconduct by having, in the hearing of the European Sentry, addressed to Assist.-Surg. James Good. of the Reg. who was endeavouring to induce him, Ens. Denon, to leave the mess-house, the following highly improper language--viz., "Go to hell and be damned," or words to that effect.

Additional Charge.-With conduct unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman and to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, in having at Calcutta. on April 8, 1862, whilst in arrest and awaiting; trial for the offence stated in the original charge, been shamefully drunk when for embarkation on the flat *konaie*[sic], and thereby made it necessary, that he should be carried on board by soldiers of the Regiment.

Finding;-The Court is of opinion that the prisoner, Ens. Wellington James Denton, is guilty of the charge preferred against him, and also guilty of the additional charge.

Sentence.-The Court sentences the prisoner, Ens. Wellington James Denton, to be severely reprimanded, and in addition to be reduced to the bottom of the list of Ensigns in his Regiment.

(Signed) E. R. Mainwaring, Col., President,

Fort William. June 11. 1862.

Revised Sentence.-The Court having carefully considered the contents of the letter frum the Judge Advocate-General of the Army, begs respectfully to adhere to its former sentence.

(Signed) E. R. Mainwaring, Col., President,

Fort William, Aug. 14, 1862.

confirmed, but not approved.

(signed) Hugh Rose, Gen., Com.-in-Chief in India,

Simla. Sept. 19, 1862.

Remarks the Commander-in-Chief.-The prisoner was found guilty, in the first instance. of being drunk in the mess-room, and applying very insulting and ungentlemanlike language to Assist-Surg. Good, in the hearing of a sentry of his Regiment, who also saw him drunk and staggering. Secondly, of having been publicly and shamefully drunk at the place of embarkation of the Regiment, and carried on board by soldiers of his Regiment, whilst in arrest for a previous shameful instance of drunkenness. Third, the Court having quite lost sight of the fact that an officer who had on two separate occasions, been seen in a state of shameful intoxication by the men of his Regiment, on one of them having grossly insulted a brother officer, on another having been literally carried on board, on account of his inability to move from excess of intoxication, could not possibly command the respect of his men, or exercise with advantage to the Service the authority over them which belongs to his position. Fourth, the Commander-in-Chief observes that the President and members of the Court can neither have been well acquainted with military law or the spirit and rules of discipline. when for such repeated and aggravated acts of ungentlemanlike and unmilitary conduct, they award the very inadequate punishment of the loss of two steps of rank and a reprimand, a sentence which fails wholly as a warning and an example.—Fifth. The officer commanding the Presidency Division will assemble the Court-Martial, and read these remarks to them in the presence of his Staff and the Field Officers of the garrison.—-Sixth. Ensign Denton will he released from arrest. his name is to he transposed in the list of Ensigns of the 43rd Foot, and in future will be next below that of Ensign William Clarke.

By order of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief,

E. Hatthorne, Colonel. Adjutant-General, H. .M.'s British Forces in India.

Ensign Denton entered the Regiment May 24, 1861.

Appendix B

THE KIRWEE & BANDA PRIZE

from Kirwee Prize Data/Banda and Kirwee Prize Money - FIBIwiki.htm

The Banda and Kirwee Prize Money was the subject of a long case in the British Admiralty Court during the 1860s. It concerned the distribution of booty captured by the Saugor and Nerbudda field force during the Central India Campaign of the Indian Mutiny. After nine years, the case was settled and the money finally distributed amongst the soldiers involved in its capture.

Capture of the booty

In 1858, the Saugor and Nerbudda field force (also called the Madras column) under Major-General George Cornish Whitlock were sent to Bundelkund to engage in the relief of various towns in the region. After defeating a force of 7000 outside Banda, they entered the town and therein took a large amount of loot from the palace. When the British troops marched on nearby Kirwee, its Prime Minister, Radho Govind, fled to the hills with a rebel force and Narrain Rao, the chief of the town, surrendered to Whitlock. Once again a large amount of money and jewels were found in the palace.

The court case

Although any booty theoretically was the property of the Crown, in practice the spoils of war were shared amongst those who had captured it. In this case, it had been proposed by various officers 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.

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). [This is a bit confusing. What the writer is trying to say is that the other Generals Rose and Roberts and their officers and men were disallowed except those of Lord Clyde under whom was General Whitlock and his officers and men] There are books online giving the full story as well as the complete judgement⁵.

Payout

Recipient Amount
Lord Clyde £60,000
General Whitlock £12,000
a Captain £600

a Lieutenant £325/£375 (dep on service length)

a Sergeant £100 a Private £50

Two further payouts were made, raising the total of an individual's prize. A Private, for instance, received a final total of £75 (or 750rs if awarded in India).

These figures viewed in a modern context on the National Archive's currency converter. In 2017, £100 awarded to sergeants (Joseph Denton's rank) is worth approximately £6,135.68

Stephen Lushington, Banda and Kirwee Booty: Judgment of the Right Honourable Stephen Lushington, D.C.L., Delivered on the 30th of June 1866. (H.M. Stationery Office: London, 1866)

⁵ George Cornish Whitlock, *Prize Money; or the right of Major-General Whitlock, K.C.B., and his troops to the Banda and Kirwee Booty, tried by Naval and military Law, and usage of the Army* (Harrison: London, 1862) Richard George Augustus Levinge, Bart. *Historical Records of the Forty-Third Regiment, Monmouthshire Light Infantry, with a roll of officers and their services from the period of embodiment to the close of 1867.* (W. Clowes & Sons, London, 1868.)

In 1870, you could buy one of the following with £98:

Horses: 6 Cows: 18

Wool: 148 stones Wheat: 48 quarters

Wages: 490 days (skilled tradesman)

Regiments

Regiments comprising the Madras Column (or the Saugor and Nerbudda field force) who were eligible for the prize money:

British Army Regiments:

12th Lancers (left wing)

43rd Regiment of Foot

6 Coy/14th Brigade Royal Artillery (later G Battery/14th Brigade)

Native Regiments: TBC

6th Madras Light Cavalry

7th Madras Light Cavalry

3rd Madras (European) Infantry

1st Regiment of Madras Native Infantry

19th Regiment of Madras Native Infantry

50th Regiment of Madras Native Infantry

2 companies of Sappers

Hyderabad Green Horse (2nd Cavalry Hyderabad Contingent?)

Appendix C

from Richard George Augustus Levinge, Bart. *Historical Records of the Forty-Third Regiment, Monmouthshire Light Infantry, with a roll of officers and their services from the period of embodiment to the close of 1867.* (W. Clowes & Sons, London, 1868.)

The 43rd Light Infantry Regiment in India

On the 28th of November the Regiment, after having passed nearly two years in South Africa, embarked from East London on board H..M. sloop 'Baracouta,' and at Table Bay was transferred into freight ships. While the vessels were loading, the officers enjoyed a few days amidst the beautiful environs of Cape Town, probably the only pleasant part of their sojourn in a country which all left without regret; an ungrateful land of "streams without water," "flowers without scent," and "birds without song."

The Kaflir War was a hard and discouraging service- often disastrous to the best troops; and though the combined and persevering efforts of an adequate body of disciplined soldiers must always prevail in the end against the dastardly and plundering warfare of savages, yet the immediate effect of their exertions is seldom or never apparent to the jaded and harassed spectators, who, passing their time in forced marches, unavailing pursuits, and useless skirmishes, are moreover discouraged by scandalous abuse from the colonists who do not fight themselves, and by the still more scandalous comments of strange writers in a stranger portion of the English press, who seek to depreciate the character and skill of officers and courage of the soldiers, and undertake to teach them how to fight in the Kaffir plains and forests, which they, the censors, never beheld. Such aggravations —added to the actual hardships of keeping the open fields in an immense extent of mountainous forest country, ill-clothed, ill-shod, and ill-fed, on one unvarying diet of beef as tough and leathery as hide, of biscuits which a stone would hardly break—made the Kaffir warfare--a. service where no laurels were to be won—one for which few men indeed would willingly volunteer.

Some honourable exceptions there were to the assertion that the colonists would not fight. Individually they are brave and skilled in the use of firearms. It must be said, in excuse for their holding back, that their circumstances almost enforced it. On the outbreak of war, their first thoughts are naturally for their wives, children, flocks, crops, and herds—their only wealth and means of subsistence. They must remove from danger, and, banding together by several families, establish "Laagers," where water and forage are attainable. Their pleasant homesteads, engrafted by long toil, are abandoned to the torch of the savage; happy if, after years of strife and eviction, they return to find some portion of the blackened Walls of their old house still standing, some clumps of their peach and orange trees still extant.

INDIA. 1854.

The battalion arrived in Madras Roads on the 30th and 31st of January, and went into quarters and. camp on the esplanade of Fort George, thus commencing their first experience of India since enrolment. On the 24th of February the left wing, under Captain Primrose, marched for Bangalore, reached on the 15th of March. Cholera began its ravages: 1 sergeant, 1 corporal, and 5 privates succumbed an route to this Eastern foe. On the 1st of April, aided by drafts from different regiments in India, the muster-roll showed 52 sergeants, 43 corporals, 18 buglers, and 1005 privates. The head-quarters and two companies joined at Bangalore on the 26th, and the remaining portion of the right wing arrived soon after.

In September, disturbances being expected at Mysore, one company was detached from Bangalore and two from Fort St. George by rail to Vellore, to assist, in conjunction with the other forces, in disarming the mutinous 8th Native Cavalry. On the 20th of December, on a grand parade at Bangalore, medals for the Kaflir War were distributed. On the 24th the 43rd, in brigade with the 19th Regiment of Madras Native Infantry under command of Brigadier John Macduff, 74th Highlanders, marched to join Brigadier Whitelock's division for service in the Saugur and Nerbudda territory. Their strength was 30 officers and 969 men, including non-commissioned officers, buglers, and privates, under command of Lieut.-Colonel Primrose; Captain Dorehill was brigade-major. The Regiment was entirely composed of the finest description of seasoned soldiers ever remembered by the most veteran officers.

The interval between the close of 1854 and that of 1857 passed over in the ordinary routine of Indian service, without any particular incident or occurrence. In 1858 the first route received by the 43rd was for Kamptee, in the Nagpore country, a distance of 631 miles, completed on the 28th of March; being resumed for another 156 miles, Jubbalpore was reached on the 17th of April, where a detachment was left of 1 subaltern and 53 men. The march then continued by Dumoh and Banda, joining Whitelock's division on the 30th of May.

On the 3rd of June eight companies marched with the force destined for the attack of Kirwee under Brigadier Whitelock, which was reached on the 7th, when the Rajah Narrain Row surrendered in person, and his armed followers betook themselves to the hills. The Rajah's palace and treasures were seized. Forty-two lacs of rupees in coin, with an enormous quantity of gold and silver utensils and jewels, were captured, although it was conjected that much had also been secreted or carried off by his troops, who had fled before the surrender. Three companies of the 43rd remained at Kirwee to form part of the garrison under Brigadier Carpenter of the Madras Army, While the Headquarters and remainder of the corps marched to Banda, taking with them forty-six prisoners. Two companies at once joined a detached force for that district under Lieut.-Colonel Primrose, and by July 1st all were together at Hernapore, when the Regiment marched to Calpee, and on the 7th went into temporary barracks.

On reaching Calpee, a march of 1300 miles — with only an occasional halt at large stations for a few days—had been performed by the 43rd; and these halts generally were for the purpose of laying in commissariat supplies. Some idea may be formed of the excessive exertion and fatigue undergone both by officers and men, when it is considered that this march was in most part performed during the hottest season of a year in which the mean temperature of heat at that of any known during the fifteen preceding. The marches commenced before daylight, usually as early as 2 AM., and it frequently happened that the rear of the column did not arrive in camp until 4 or 5 P.M. A more country track constituted the only route, at times crossing chains of high, precipitous hills, cutting through rocks and jungles for days together, traversing and passing numerous rivers, many of great breadth, Without bridges or boats. Now and again the entire Regiment was employed in dragging the carts—— some hundred in number—containing ammunition, stores, &c., over almost insurmountable obstacles, where cattle were nearly useless.

The Monsoon, usually commencing in June, did not in this year visit Central India until the middle of July, consequently the acute sufferings of the Regiment under the burning and arid breezes of that inhospitable region were not only most exceptionally intense but protracted. At no point was this felt to such an extent as at Bisramnugger, one day's march north of Purneah. Three days were occupied in getting the carts down a ghaut by which the Brigade descended, during which time 2 officers and 11 men of the 43rd died from sunstroke. Even natives attached to the force succumbed from the same cause. Major Young of the 19th Madras Native Infantry with 12 Sepoys also similarly perished, and all lie buried in one spot close to the ground on which the camp was formed. During May and June the thermometer ranged at 120° in the Hospital tents, while in small ones this was usually exceeded by 8° or 9°.

In the first 950 miles only two deaths, and each accidental, occurred. The health of the Regiment had been most extraordinary; but later the amount of wear and tear endured began to tell on their constitutions. Sunstroke was of constant occurrence, and death generally most sudden; some of the stricken expiring in a few minutes, though others lingered on in a state of coma for hours. Three officers and 44 men of the 43rd died from this and miscellaneous causes. The officers were, Paymaster and Quarter-Master Denton (brothers), and Lieutenant Thomas Elwes. A finer body of men, well-grown, and averaging twenty-five years of age, had never before taken the field in India...