



UNDER THE PATRONAGE
OF THE . . .
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

ARMY LIFE;

or, How Soldiers are Made.

Illustrated from a Series of

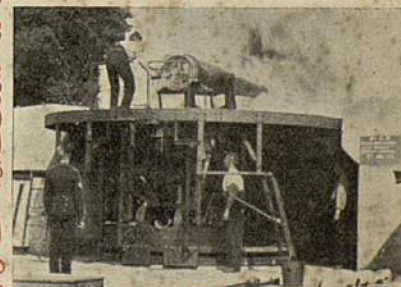
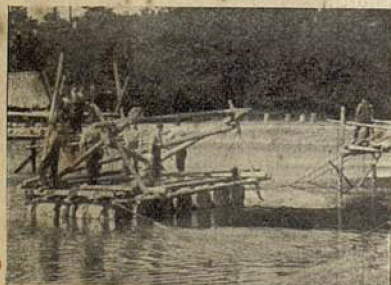
Animatograph Pictures

taken by permission of

Sir Evelyn Wood,

Adjutant-General.

Price Sixpence.





FEW words of explanation may be offered as to the origin and objects of this Booklet. In consequence of the interest at present manifested in all matters concerning the Army, it occurred to the writer to take a series of Animated Photographs illustrating the life and career of a soldier, and the work of each branch of the Service. The project was laid before the War Office authorities, who, foreseeing that recruiting would be stimulated by a more wide-spread knowledge of Army Life, courteously gave every facility. The Animated Photographs thus secured are now being given as an entertainment in various parts of the country.

The writer has to thank the Officers at the various Depôts for their assistance in rendering each scene as interesting and perfect as possible.

It is hoped that the following pages, which are illustrated by portions of the Animatograph Films, will form a handy record and souvenir of the series, and, in the absence of more pretentious works, will prove interesting even to those who do not see the pictures in motion on the screen.

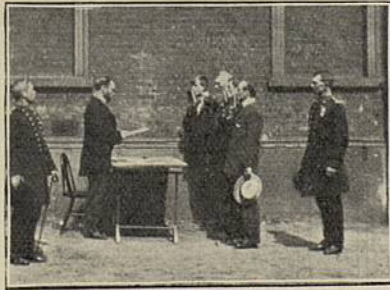
As the series of pictures is added to, new editions of the Booklet will be issued.

Robt. M. Paul.

PART I.—General Outline of a Soldier's Life.



This Series was Animatographed
at the
London Recruiting Depôt,
Trafalgar Square,
where 7,000 recruits enlisted last
year.



Joining the Army.



A man who decides to join presents himself for enlistment, and, after a preliminary examination by the Recruiting Sergeant of his weight, height, chest measurement and sight, he is questioned as to whether he has previously served, and his general description, place of birth, and other particulars are recorded.



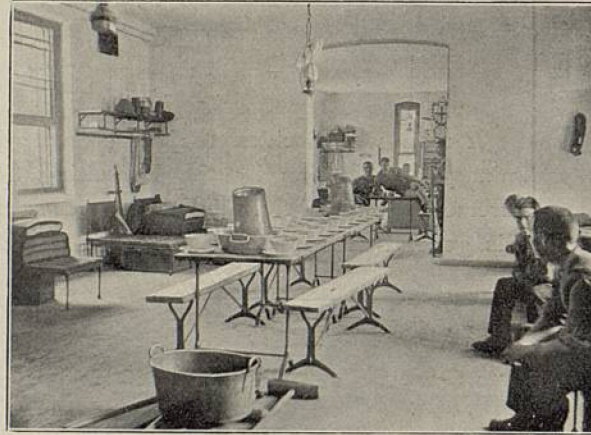
If these tests are satisfactorily passed, he is taken before the Medical Officer, who sounds his heart, examines his muscles, and requires him to hop, in order to see that he is not suffering from varicose veins.

After the medical examination the Recruit takes the Oath of Allegiance, which is administered by an Officer, who, by virtue of his Commission, is entitled to exercise the function of a Magistrate. Having now become a soldier, his first day's pay is handed to him, and he is marched off to the Regimental Depôt to commence his training.



Training at the Regimental Depôt.

After Réveille, the first duty is to tidy up the barrack room; the bed cots are put up, blankets and sheets neatly folded, and the breakfast is prepared. This is done by orderlies, told off in rotation. In the further room can be seen some of the trophies on the wall, won by the Company occupying the room, at football, cricket, &c.



The early morning's drill is devoted to teaching the recruit to salute "by numbers." His physical development is improved by the "Extension" motions; he is taught to turn, and finally his rifle and bayonet are issued to him, and he is instructed in the "Manual Exercise."



Life at the Regimental Depôt.

Strict attention is given to cleanliness in barracks, and the general work of cleaning and minor repairs is performed by a "Fatigue Party," which is furnished by each Company in rotation. The party is in the charge of a Non-commissioned Officer, who is responsible for the execution of the work.



The monotony of barrack life is relieved by various forms of recreation, the most popular being card playing; a quiet rubber is being indulged in, after the work of clearing up, by the orderlies. Provision is made for those men who wish to study, in the form of a well-stocked library; and in the Sergeants' Mess a billiard table is always found.

The orderlies are here seen waiting for the "Orderly Sergeant," who will inspect the pans and pails to see that they are clean, before the rations are drawn. No labour is spared in cleaning, and the pans in this illustration are burnished like silver.



A Typical Day at a Depôt.

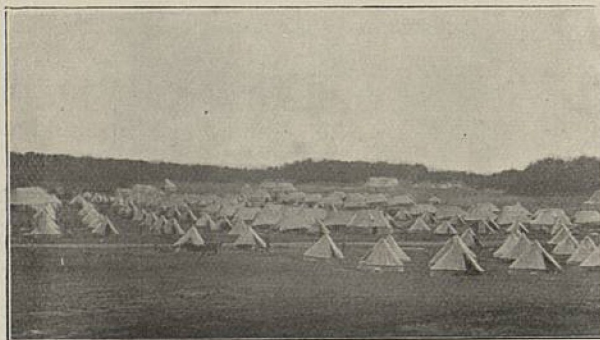
Réveille	- - -	6 a.m.
Breakfast	- -	8 "
Recruits' Drill	- 9"	"
Orderly-room	- 10 "	"
Canteen opens	- 12 noon.	
Dinner	- - -	1 p.m.
Drill	- - -	2 "
Tea	- - -	4 "
Tattoo Roll-call	9	"
"Lights out"	- 10	"
"Last Post"	- 10.15.	



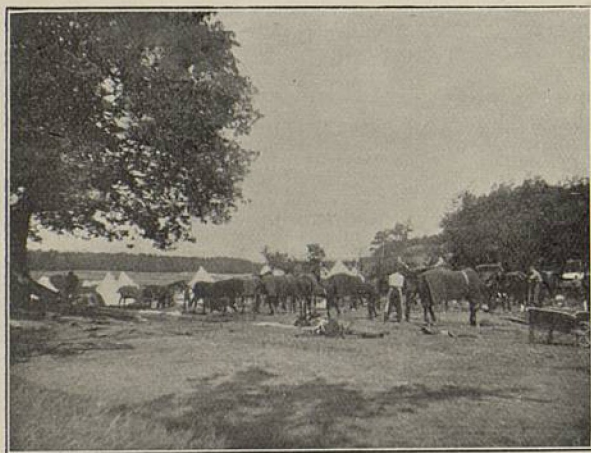
Camp Life at Aldershot.

At this centre about 30,000 troops, consisting of Regulars, Militia and Volunteers, go into training every year, either under canvas or in barracks.

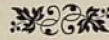
Some little idea can be formed from this picture of the canvas cities one meets in this district. As a rule, eight men sleep in one tent, and, given fine weather, the life is most-enjoyable and healthy. The camping season usually lasts from April to September.



In the case of Cavalry, the horses are picketed in lines, and it is a most interesting sight to see the care of the men for their horses. The work of the various trades followed in the Army is still carried on under canvas. The tailor, bootmaker, and harness-maker have each their separate tent.



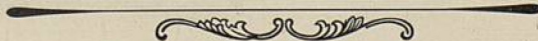
Firing at the Ranges.



The training in Musketry is very carefully carried out by special Instructors who have passed a qualifying examination at the Hythe School. This examination, which is generally considered the most severe a Non-commissioned Officer has to undergo, includes the mathematical and scientific principles involved, the use of range-finders and machine guns, the Musketry regulations and duties on the Range. On re-joining his Regiment an Instructor becomes responsible for its practical training, and for that education of the soldier in judging distances so essential to accurate firing. At the Ranges volley and independent firing is practised, at distances varying from 200 to 1200 yards.

Prizes are given to encourage the soldier to take an interest in shooting, and the Marksman's Badge of crossed rifles is a coveted distinction. The best marksman in the Battalion is entitled to wear a crown over the badge, and the best shot in a Company, a star. In addition a monetary reward is given.

The Cavalry are seen lying down and firing with carbines.



Incidents of Camp Life.



Every encouragement is given to the men to learn swimming, and on a hot day the bathing parade is a popular event, the Regiments taking turns in the use of the ponds.



Great improvements have, of late years, been effected in the feeding of the Army, and although cooking in the open is attended by many difficulties, yet the joints are well cooked, and even pastry is made. Each Regiment has its master cook, who has to qualify at the School of Cookery.



After dinner, the men usually rest. The peacefulness of one of the Volunteer Camps having been disturbed by a "larky" volunteer, he is seized and tossed in a blanket.

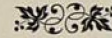


The "orderly men" are paraded, and the dinners are distributed by them to each tent. After a morning's work in the open air, the meal is thoroughly enjoyed.



Army Gymnastics.

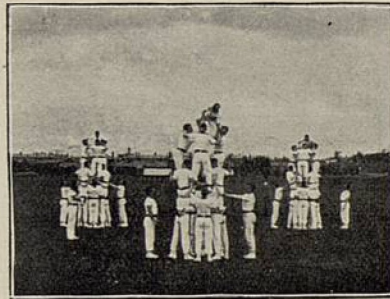
By the Instructors at the Central Gymnasium, Aldershot.



Every soldier is bound to undergo a course of gymnastics, and specially selected men are trained at this School, to afterwards act as Gymnasium Instructors to their several Regiments.

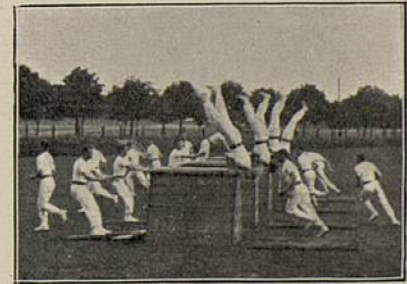


Illustrations of the work done by this splendid body of men, are seen in "Bending Practice," forming "Towers" or Pyramids, and in practice with the Vaulting Horses.



Each of these Exercises forms a magnificent spectacle, owing to the precision and smartness with which every movement is executed.

The use of every weapon is taught, and competitions are held in Boxing, "Sword *v.* Bayonet," "Lance *v.* Sword," and so on. The influence of this training on the physique of the men can easily be understood.



Leaving the Army.



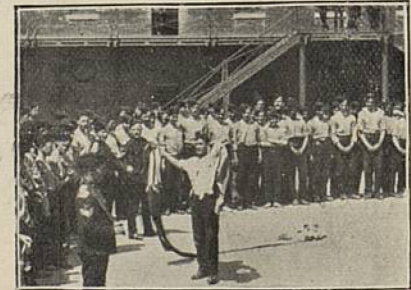
A soldier of good character may, [on leaving the Army, join the "Corps of Commissionaires." This useful Corps (founded 1859) supplies the public with clerks, theatre attendants, timekeepers, &c., and the services of the men are eagerly sought for.

The Corps has branches in several of the large provincial towns, and in its ranks are comprised men who have fought in every portion of the Empire. They are shown at their monthly muster for Church Parade at Westminster Hall.

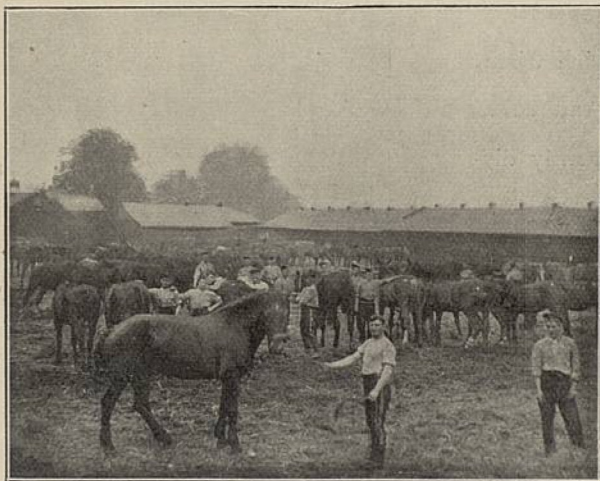


A pathetic incident is shown in the sale by auction of a dead soldier's kit. In some cases, where the friends are in needy circumstances, a very high price is obtained—Tommy, with his usual generosity, giving twice as much as the article is worth.

The Officer Commanding reports that, during the year 1899, "Every wounded man who has applied has been admitted, and placed in a position to earn a competent living." Any soldier who makes use of the advantages and education offered in the Service, experiences no difficulty in obtaining suitable employment on leaving the Army.



PART II.—Training in the Various Branches of the Service.

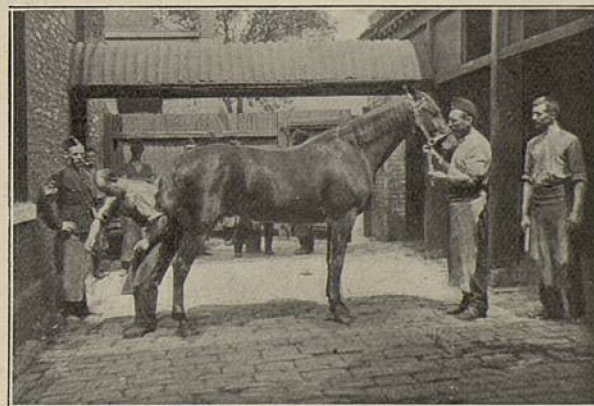


All the work connected with the care of these horses is performed by soldiers, and many clever veterinary surgeons are in the commissioned ranks.

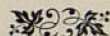
Training Cavalry Horses.



Horses for the use of the Army are selected from various parts of the country by specially qualified officers. After partial training at a Remount Station, such as here illustrated, they are drafted to the Regiments.



The Cavalry Depôt, Canterbury.



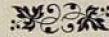
A Cavalry Recruit's trouble begins when, after preliminary foot drills, he is taught to ride, and in his first attempt frequently dismounts without receiving the word of command. By attention to the directions given by the Instructor these difficulties are soon overcome, and a ride in the fresh morning air gives keen enjoyment.



The various drills are then learnt ; mounting and dismounting practice is gone through, and Sword and Lance Drill is practised both mounted and dismounted. If a man shows signs of becoming an expert in the use of his particular weapon, every encouragement is given him, and he soon becomes an Instructor and a Non-commissioned Officer.



Cavalry Exercises.



The manner in which recruits are able to perform various evolutions "bare-back," shows the efficiency of their training. Great agility and nerve are required for the feats depicted.



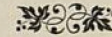
A Musical Ride performed by the 2nd Life Guards is a wonderful sight. The horses keep time to the music, and seem to enter into the spirit of the display. This display demonstrates the highest perfection of "drill and dressing."



The effect of a charge of Lancers, so demoralising to an enemy, can be realised from these pictures.



Royal Army Medical Corps.



The care of wounded or sick soldiers is one of the finest features of "Army Life." The Hospitals are perfect in their arrangements, and any man reporting himself "sick" receives immediate and careful treatment. The Army Nurses or Sisters are devoted to their work, and many soldiers have cause to be thankful for their kind and unremitting attention.

The duties of the Royal Army Medical Corps comprise not only attention to the sick and wounded, but to the sanitary requirements of the Army, both in Camp and Barracks.



The work in the Field is illustrated by the following examples of Searching for Wounded, Administering "First Aid," and Collecting the Wounded at a "Dressing" Station.



Royal Horse Artillery, Woolwich.

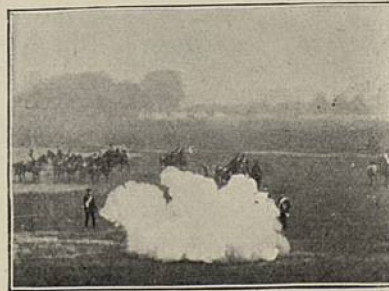
The "Right of the Line, and the Pride of the British Army" is the title by which this Corps is known amongst soldiers.



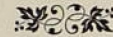
Instruction in the theory of gunnery is followed by practical lessons in the mechanism and working of the guns.

The guns are then horsed or "hooked in"; the battery of eight guns, is galloped off to the ranges, and practice under working conditions is carried on—the battery coming into action as on a battlefield.

After a drill, the men are to be seen watering their horses, which are their first care on all occasions.



Army Service Corps.



The work of this branch of the Service consists mainly in feeding the Army and in arranging for its transport. Its efficiency has been demonstrated in the recent campaign, when the movements of the troops were absolutely dependent upon the supplies, often necessitating the labour of this Corps while others rested.

In order to ensure mobility every article of equipment and stores is made to be packed readily, and an instance is seen where even a service wagon is “dismounted” being in readiness for transport.



The bread is seen being loaded into wagons for distribution amongst the various Regiments, and butchers are cutting up the meat for the same purpose.

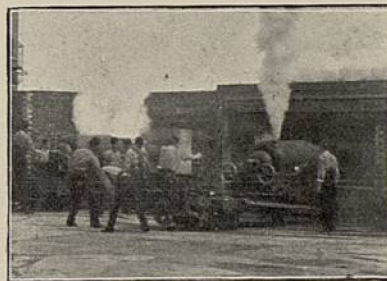
The Corps is divided into Commissariat and Transport Branches. Its Head-quarters are at Woolwich, and detachments are sent to every military station. All details of the work—even those of a clerical nature—are carried out by the men, whose fighting qualities are often called into play when a convoy is attacked.



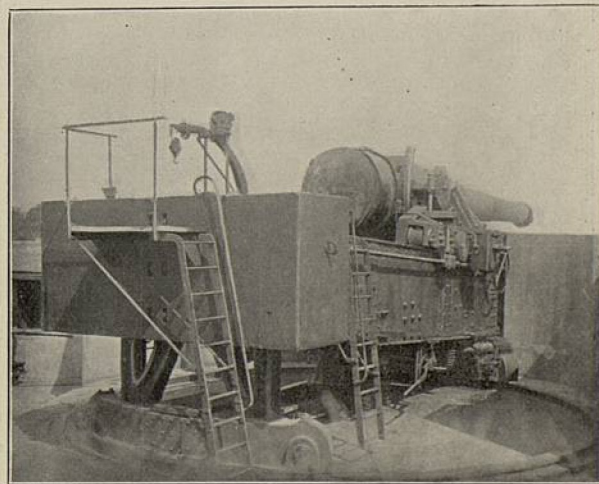
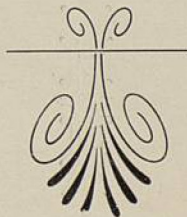
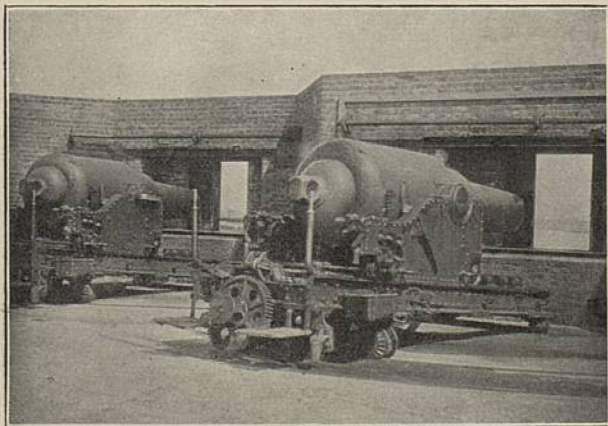
Royal Garrison Artillery

(OLD STYLE).

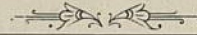
The work of the Royal Garrison Artillery in this country is principally confined to coast defence. The chief training ground is at the School of Gunnery, Shoeburyness, where these pictures were taken, and where there is an extensive ground for practice and experiments.



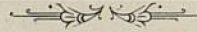
The heavy guns, shown in the act of firing, are 9-in. muzzle-loaders, which, when loaded, are run out to the port-holes. After being fired they are brought into position for re-loading by the recoil.



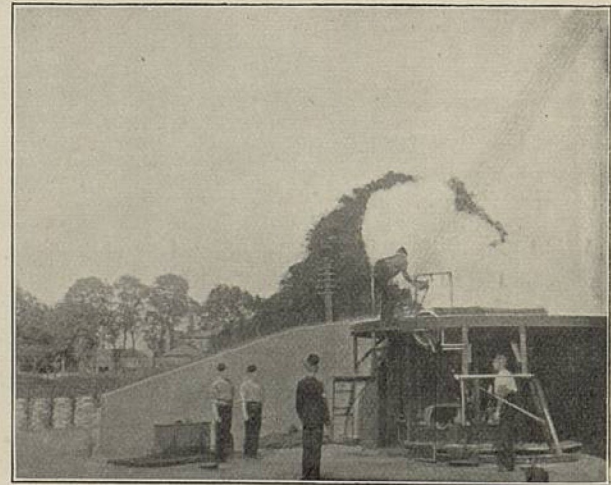
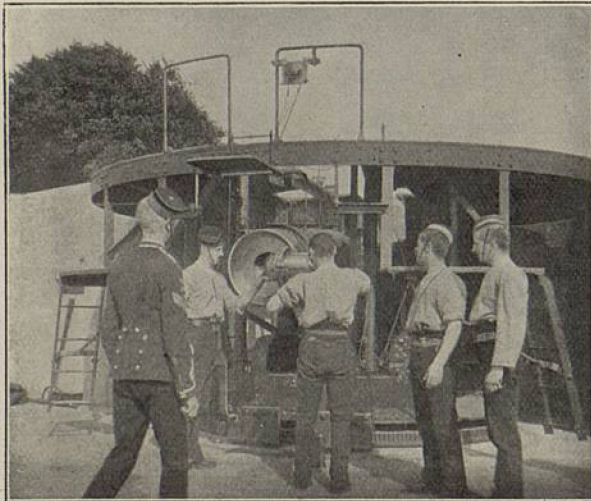
Royal Garrison Artillery.



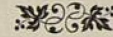
THE MODERN STYLE OF BREACH-LOADING ARTILLERY, AS EXEMPLIFIED BY A DISAPPEARING GUN (6-inch).



This Gun, after being loaded behind the embrasure, where the men are protected from the enemy's fire, is raised by hydraulic pressure, and fired electrically. The recoil of the Gun sends it down immediately it is fired, rendering it difficult for an enemy to locate its position.

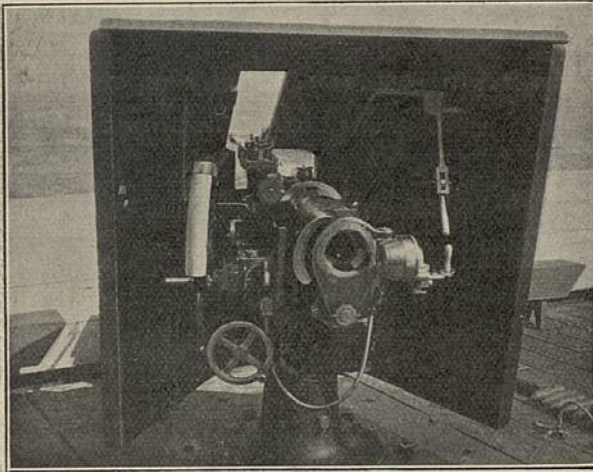


Quick-Firing Guns.

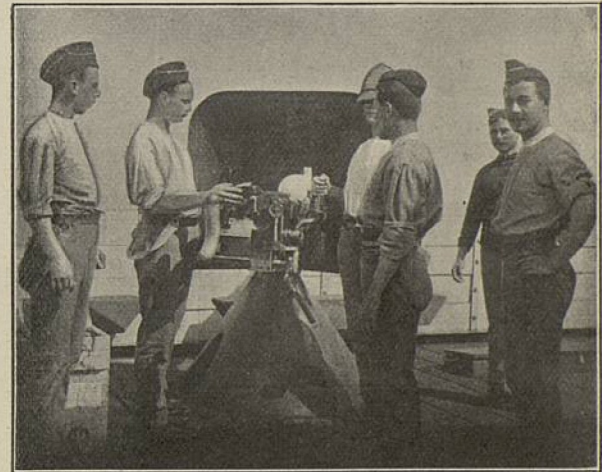


The distinguishing features of these Breach-Loading Guns are convenience of handling and speed of firing.

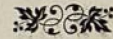
On the occasion on which these pictures were taken the target represented a Torpedo Boat running at the rate of 23 miles per hour.



As an illustration of the accuracy and rapidity of their fire, it may be mentioned that the size of the target was 18 by 4 feet. Ten hits were made out of nineteen shells fired by four guns, and the time occupied was 26 seconds.



Infantry.



Mounted Infantry have been brought into prominence by their great utility and mobility during the present campaign, and are likely to be extended very considerably in numbers. This example of mounted infantry work is executed by the "King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment."

The men of this regiment are also seen trench digging—one of the most important developments of modern warfare, as the work is absolutely necessary where no natural cover exists.



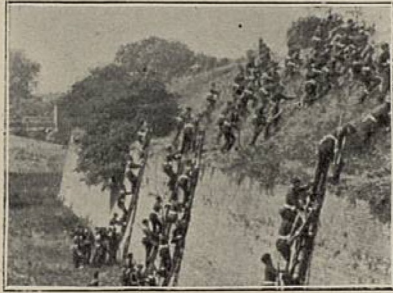
The Maxim gun plays an important part in modern battles. It is dragged into action by the detachment, and is a most effective weapon—particularly in stopping a "rush."



The Cyclist Sections act as Scouts, Despatch Carriers, &c., frequently covering many miles of country, and are a most useful adjunct to an Infantry Regiment. They frequently take the place of mounted orderlies. Efforts are being made to introduce a Cyclist Section in all line battalions.



Royal Engineers.



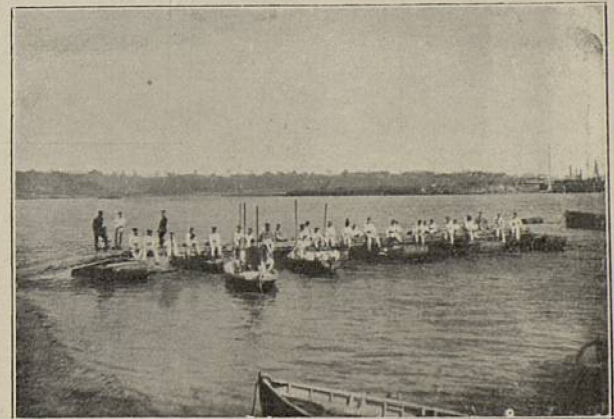
This Corps, whose Head-quarters are at Chatham—with detachments in every part of the Empire—supplies practically the whole of the skilled mechanics and executes the constructional work required for the Service. In its ranks are to be found engineers, electricians, aeronauts, telegraphists, land surveyors and draughtsmen.



Their combatant duties are shown in the Escalading Practice, in which the men advance under cover of the firing party, lower ladders, descend, rush the moat, and ascend the other side and capture the fort.

The construction of a Redoubt also forms part of the work of the Royal Engineers. The walls are composed of sand-bags (loopholed), through which the defenders fire, and the men are protected underground in casemates from Artillery fire.

When an Army is impeded in its progress by a river, a Pontoon—or bridge of boats—is constructed by this Corps, so that the troops, both Artillery and Cavalry, are enabled to cross. This bridge is so made that the whole can be taken to pieces, and thus easily transported in wagons over the most difficult country.



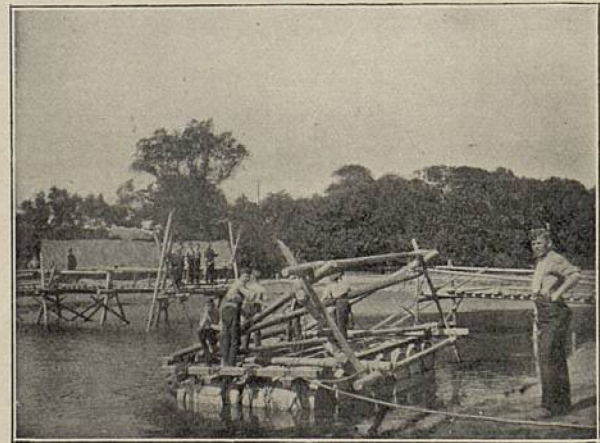
Royal Engineers.



Among the varied duties of the Royal Engineers is that of constructing and exploding "Land Mines." The enormous mass of earth thrown up by an explosion—as here depicted—forms a natural trench and cover for infantry attacking a fortified position. The Corps has men specially trained as "listeners," whose duty it is to locate the enemy's mines, and by "counter-mining," to frustrate their designs.

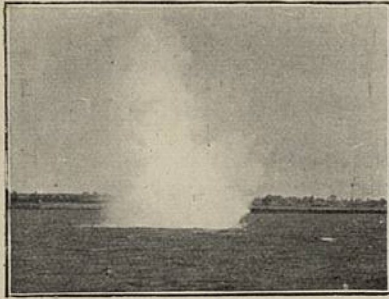
Another example of constructional work is the building of a "Trestle Bridge," which is sometimes used when pontoons are not available. The bridge is put together in sections, which are floated into position on barrels.

These are only a few examples of the range of work done by the Royal Engineers, but it will be seen there is a splendid field for advancement for a recruit, with a good education, who joins this Corps.



Royal Engineers.

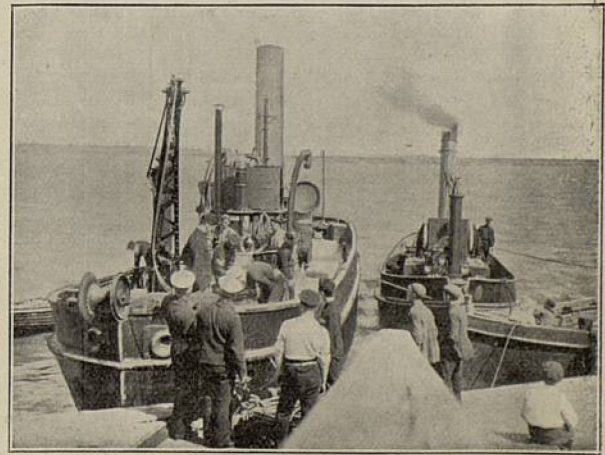
SUBMARINE MINERS.



Some most interesting work is performed by this branch. The men are specially selected from the Corps, and their work consists principally in the protection of our coasts, and particularly of the mouths of the large rivers. The men, when at work, are dressed in a navy kit, with the ordinary seaman's cap, the only distinction being that the cap ribbons bear the words "Royal Engineers" instead of the name of a ship. When on furlough, or "walking out," the ordinary Royal Engineers' uniform is worn.

In executing work under water, the soldiers are trained in diving and soon become experts.

The illustrations show mines ready to be placed and exploded where necessary, and the tug in which they are taken out to sea is entirely manned, steered, and worked by Royal Engineers.



OPINIONS OF THE LONDON PRESS

on the First Production of "ARMY LIFE" by the Animatograph, at the Alhambra, London, Sept. 18, 1900.

Times.

A large company, consisting mainly of Army officers and their friends, assembled at the Alhambra Theatre yesterday afternoon to witness a reproduction upon a screen of animated photographs, taken by Mr. R. W. Paul, M.I.E.E., by permission of Sir Evelyn Wood, Adjutant-General, and with the assistance of the officers commanding various depôts, illustrative of "Army Life."

This preliminary exhibition of the photographs was extremely satisfactory. . . . The scenes commence with a photograph of the recruit joining the colours, and show the various stages of his training. There are also very realistic photographs of cavalry charges, of the firing of mines, the building of bridges by engineers; and, generally speaking, the spectator obtains from the representation an idea of Army life that he could not get from a most extensive reading of Army literature.

Express.

An admirable series of animated photographs was exhibited at the Alhambra yesterday afternoon. They give the complete career and routine of soldier life.

Advertiser.

At any time a series of animated photographs illustrating the life of a soldier from the day of enlisting till the end of his career in the Army, and depicting many of his most interesting duties, performed with military smartness and accuracy, would prove popular, and in such a year as the present, when everything is more or less khaki, an exhibition of this description is bound to be one of interest to the public. . . . They are a splendid set of pictures, and bring home most vividly to the spectator the fine training Tommy has to undergo in peace time, the value of which he is now demonstrating in South Africa. . . .

Pall Mall.

Unique and original . . . extremely interesting.

Daily News.

Altogether in an hour and a quarter the spectator sees more of the moving life of the Army than he would witness in months of travel, and the exhibition promises to be very popular, as was shown by the outspoken approval of a company including many hundreds of officers and men of all branches of the service.

Daily Mail.

The pictures are very clear and interesting.

Standard.

A very attractive series of animated photographs were exhibited at a private view at the Alhambra yesterday. . . . No branch of the Army is neglected.

Morning Post.

There was an intimacy about these peeps behind the scenes that is not always found in such pictures, and that the views were true to life was attested by the attitude and comments of the Duke of York's boys regarding the earlier scenes, and of the Chelsea pensioners regarding the later. There was perfect recognition in the laughter of the boys at the blunders of the young recruits, and unmistakable reminiscence in the chuckle of the veterans over the struggle at the door of the newly-opened canteen. . . .

Star.

The most interesting views are those representing the firing of heavy artillery. The wonderful effects of the explosion of land and submarine mines have never before been photographed. The construction and the blowing up of fortifications, too, make a very real military picture. . . .

Sportsman.

The pictures are really marvellous. . . .

To-Day.

The military authorities have taken a deep interest in Mr. Paul's work, and have afforded him unwonted facilities. He has spent the whole summer on accumulating these pictures.

Era.

Even more interesting than either of these displays is the work with a battery of 6-pounder and 12-pounder quick-firing guns firing at a target travelling at nearly thirty miles an hour. The target is shown rushing across the sea front with the shots splashing round it. . . . They are besides very attractive, and no one who takes an interest in our Imperial land forces—and what Briton does not?—should miss the admirable series of representations of military life which have been so industriously and cleverly caught by the camera.

Echo.

It is doubtful whether the Animatograph has ever before been turned to such good account. . . . Of exceptional merit, combining art and actuality.

Whitehall Review.

These photographs are remarkably good, and the scenes very vividly brought before us. The entertainment is a capital one.

Referee.

Enthusiastically welcomed by a vast audience.

Observer.

Without doubt, a veritable triumph over all systems of animated photography which have, up to the moment, been presented in London.

ROBT. W. PAUL, 44, HATTON GARDEN, LONDON, E.C.