

*The British Army  
on Campaign  
1816-1902 (1):  
1816-1853*



*Text by* MICHAEL BARTHORP  
*Colour plates by* PIERRE TURNER

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Space does not permit a list of sources, which are mostly primary and pictorial, or soldiers' reminiscences and orders, though they are usually evident in the text. Most can be found in the National Army Museum's collections. For further information on the campaigns, general histories on the China, Maori, Afghan, Kaffir, Sikh and Burma Wars have been published within the last 20 years. For matters of organisation, tactics and weapons, readers are recommended to: Hew Strachan, *From Waterloo to Balaclava: Tactics and Technology of the British Army, 1815-54* (CUP, 1985) and Marquess of Anglesey, *History of the British Cavalry, Vol. I, 1816-50* (Leo Cooper, 1973).

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# *The British Army on Campaign 1816-1902 (I)*

## *Introduction*

Between the final defeat of Napoleon in 1815 and 1902 the British Army fought one major war against Russia, another against the Boer Republics, and some 80 other campaigns and expeditions of varying scale all over the world. The aim of this four-volume series is to record chronologically these campaigns and the regiments that took part; to give some insight into how they were fought, mainly at regimental/battalion level; and to examine more closely how the British soldier's fighting dress, equipment and weapons developed. The cut-off date of 1902 marks both the end of the Second Boer War and the introduction of universal khaki service dress.

This first volume deals with the period up to the Crimean War.

**An early African campaign, 1824. Sailors and the Royal African Corps at close quarters with the Ashantis. After Denis Dighton. (National Army Museum, as are the remaining illustrations unless otherwise attributed)**

## *Campaigns 1816-53*

Although the period between the end of the Napoleonic Wars and the Crimean War has been called 'the long peace', as far as the British Army and the Honourable East India Company's three Presidencies' armies of Bengal, Madras and Bombay) were concerned, it was to see an almost continual series of campaigns and expeditions across the world. Most were fought in the defence, or further expansion, of the British Empire. Their scope included largely police actions, like the Canadian Rebellion; counter-insurgency against rebellious tribal peoples, as in South Africa and New Zealand; amphibious operations in conjunction with the Royal Navy to protect trade interests, as in China; and major campaigns involving all arms to secure the frontiers of the Indian possessions against hitherto unsubdued native rulers and, in the case of Afghanistan, against the threat of Russian expansion in Central Asia. In





**Royal Marines artillery and infantry in action at Hernani, First Carlist War 1837, the second of the only two European expeditions of the period. David Cunliffe. (Royal Marines)**

the last category the two wars against the powerful Sikhs of the Punjab witnessed an intensity of fighting and similarity of tactics comparable to the Napoleonic Wars. At home there were numerous calls upon the Army in aid of the civil power; while in Europe the unsettled state of the Iberian Peninsula again drew British troops to Spain and Portugal, first in support of the Anglo-Portuguese alliance against a Spanish threat, and later against the Carlist bid for the Spanish throne; for the latter the Government's chief contribution was the raising of the British Auxiliary Legion, a force of all arms.

Below are listed the campaigns and expeditions of the period. Against each are shown the battle honours awarded, and the regiments of Cavalry, Infantry and the HEIC's European Artillery and Infantry (which from 1860 became part of the British Army) to whom they were granted. Honours were granted to individual troops and companies of the Bengal and Bombay Horse and Foot Artillery, and in two cases to those of the Madras Artillery, but to save space only their corps are given here. The Royal Artillery was not granted individual battle honours, its service being recognised by the motto 'Ubique'; it did not serve in India during this period. The Royal Engineers and Royal Sappers and Miners, and in India the HEIC Engineers, provided detachments for most of the campaigns, but are not specifically listed here. Where no battle honours were awarded, the regiments and Royal Artillery which took part are given in brackets. The HEIC's Native Cavalry and Infantry regiments, later the Indian Army, which provided a sizeable

element of the forces for campaigns mounted in or from India (e.g. Afghanistan, Burma and China) are not included. Regiments are abbreviated as follows:

British cavalry: Numeral followed by DG (Dragoon Guards); LD (Light Dragoons); H (Hussars); L (Lancers).

Royal Artillery: RA.

British infantry: 1st, 14th etc.

HEIC artillery: B (Bengal); M (Madras); By (Bombay); HA (Horse Artillery); FA (Foot Artillery); A (Artillery).

HEIC infantry: B (Bengal); M (Madras); By (Bombay); E (European); LI (Light Infantry); F (Fusiliers).

(Note: The Bengal Europeans received a 2nd Regiment in 1822, the 1st becoming Light Infantry in 1840 and Fusiliers in 1846. The Madras Europeans received a 2nd Regiment as Light Infantry in 1840, the 1st becoming Fusiliers in 1843. The Bombay Europeans received a 2nd Regiment as Light Infantry in 1826, the 1st becoming Fusiliers in 1843. After 1860 all were taken into the British Line, becoming, from 1881, battalions of the Royal Munster and Royal Dublin Fusiliers, King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and Durham Light Infantry. The HEIC Artilleries and Engineers became incorporated into the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers.)

1814-16 **Gurkha War.** (8 LD; BHA, BFA; 14th, 24th, 66th, 87th, BE.)

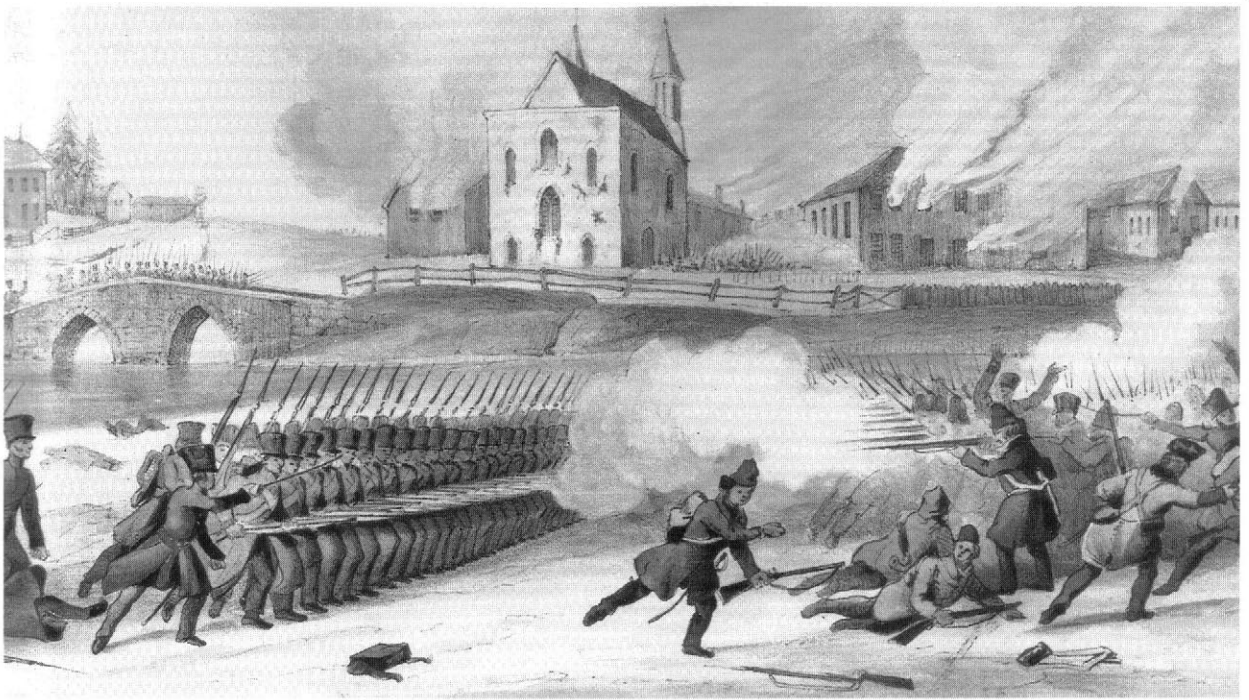
1817-19 **Third Mahratta and Pindari War.** *Kirkee:* ByFA; ByE. *Seetabuldee:* MA. *Maheidpoor:* MA; 1st, ME. *Corygaum:* MA. *India:* 65th, 67th, 69th, 84th. *Hindustan:* 8 LD; 17th. (17 LD, 21 LD, 22 LD; BHA, BFA; 14th, 30th, 34th, 47th, 53rd, 56th, 59th, 89th, BE.)

1817-19 **Ceylon Rebellion.** (19th, 73rd, 83rd.)

1819 **Fifth Kaffir War.** (RA; 38th, 54th, 72nd, Royal African Corps<sup>1</sup>.)

1819, 1821 **Persian Gulf Anti-Piracy.** *Arabia:*

<sup>1</sup>Formed 1804 as a penal regiment (Europeans). Underwent numerous changes including partial enlistment of blacks in 1810. Companies in South Africa 1819 all European. From 1822 stationed solely in West Africa. In 1826 all penal drafting ceased, thereafter only blacks enlisted. In 1840 converted to 3rd West India Regiment.



Sir John Colborne's infantry (1st, 32nd and 83rd Foot) dispersing French-Canadian rebels, St Eustache, 1837. After Lord Charles Beauclerk, RA.

- 1824 65th. (47th) *Beni-boo-ally*: ByHA; ByE.
- 1824-26 **Ashanti Campaign (W. Africa)**. (RA; Royal African Corps, 2nd West India<sup>2</sup>.)
- 1824-26 **First Burma War**. *Ava*: BHA, BFA, MA; 1st, 13th, 38th, 41st, 44th, 45th, 47th, 54th, 87th, 89th, ME. *Arracan*: BFA.
- 1825-26 **Siege of Bhurtpore**. *Bhurtpore*: 11 LD, 16 L; BHA, BFA; 14th, 59th, 1st BE.
- 1827-28 **Portuguese Expedition**. (10 H, 12 L; RA; Grenadier Guards, Coldstream Guards, 3rd Guards, 4th, 10th, 11th, 23rd, 43rd, 63rd, Rifle Brigade.)
- 1834 **Coorg Campaign (S. India)**. (MA; 39th, 48th, 55th.)
- 1835 **Sixth Kaffir War**. *South Africa 1835*: 27th, 72nd, 75th. (RA; Cape Mounted Rifles<sup>3</sup>.)
- 1836-38 **First Carlist War**. (RA; Royal Marines; British Auxiliary Legion.)
- 1837-38 **Canadian Rebellion**. (KDG, 7 H; RA; Grenadier Guards, Coldstream Guards, 1st, 11th, 15th, 23rd, 24th, 32nd, 34th, 43rd, 65th, 66th, 67th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 73rd, 83rd, 85th, 93rd.)
- 1838-42 **First Afghan War**. *Ghuznee 1839*: 4 LD, 16 L; BHA, ByHA, ByFA; 2nd, 13th, 17th, 1st BELI. *Khelat*: ByHA; 2nd, 17th. *Jellalabad*: 13th. *Candahar 1842*: BFA, ByHA; 40th, 41st. *Ghuznee 1842*: BFA; 40th, 41st. *Cabool 1842*: 3 LD; BHA, BFA; 9th, 13th, 31st, 40th, 41st. *Afghanistan 1842*: 4 LD, 16 L; BHA, BFA, ByHA, ByFA; 2nd, 13th, 17th, 1st BELI. (44th.)
- 1839-40 **Capture and Defence of Aden**. *Aden*: ByFA; 1st ByE. (6th.)
- 1839-42 **First China War**. *China*: MHA, MFA; 18th, 26th, 49th, 55th, 98th. (RA; Royal Marines.)
- 1840-41 **Syrian Expedition**. (RA; Royal Marines.)
- 1842 **Occupation and Defence of Durban**. (RA; 25th, 27th, Cape Mounted Rifles.)

<sup>2</sup>Formed 1795 in West Indies; black soldiers, British officers.

<sup>3</sup>Formed 1817 as Cape Corps, Mounted Rifles from 1827. Recruited from Cape Coloureds with British officers and some British NCOs. Proportion of British soldiers increased until by 1853 two British to one Coloured.



The 18th and 80th Foot storming the Shwedagon Pagoda, Burma 1852. J. N. Crealock.

- 1846-47 **Seventh Kaffir War.** *South Africa 1846-47:* 7 DG; 6th, 27th, 45th, 73rd, 90th, 91st, Rifle Brigade. (RA; Cape Mounted Rifles.)
- 1848-49 **Second Sikh War.** *Mooltan:* BFA, ByHA, ByFA; 10th, 32nd, 60th, 1st ByEF. *Chillianwallah:* 3 LD, 9 L, 14 LD; BHA, BFA; 24th, 29th, 61st, 2nd BE. *Goojerat:* 3 LD, 9 L, 14 LD; BHA, BFA, ByHA, ByFA; 10th, 24th, 29th, 32nd, 53rd, 60th, 61st, 2nd BE, 1st ByEF. *Punjaub:* as for Goojerat plus 98th.
- 1850-53 **Eighth Kaffir War.** *South Africa 1851-53:* 12 L; 2nd, 6th, 12th, 43rd, 60th, 73rd, 74th, 91st, Rifle Brigade. (RA; Cape Mounted Rifles.)
- 1851-53 **Second Burma War.** *Pegu:* BFA, MHA, MFA; 18th, 51st, 80th, 1st BEF, 2nd BE, 1st MEF.

## Fighting Methods

Of the Army that fought the Napoleonic Wars, the Infantry emerged with the greatest prestige. Its muskets and bayonets had overcome French infantry and cavalry, its discipline had withstood their formidable artillery. For this reason, and because weapon effectiveness remained constant for most of the post-war period, the tactical formations in which British infantry were trained remained essentially those which had served it so well: the line for firing and charging, the column, of variable frontage and depth, for movement, and the square against cavalry. Occasionally a mixture of line and column might be used, particularly when more than one battalion was deployed. The basic element of any formation was the company (eight per battalion), formed in two ranks, though there was little decentralisation of command below battalion level in the field.

When the terrain permitted, as on the Indian plains, or when the type of enemy required—e.g. the massed but incohesive Mahrattas and Baluchis, or the European-trained Sikhs—then conventional ‘Peninsular’ tactics would be employed. However, in contrast to the great Wellingtonian defensive

battles, Lord Gough saw no alternative against the powerful Sikh artillery but attack, looking chiefly to the bayonet for success. Since the Bengal sepoy regiments, which formed the bulk of his infantry, were beginning to disclose the unreliability which was to erupt in 1857, the brunt of his battles was borne by his British battalions attacking in line ahead of the sepoys, and often suffering grievously: at Chillianwallah the 24th lost 497 out of 960 without firing a musket.

But many of these campaigns involved mountain, jungle or bush warfare against enemies who fired at long range from heights or hill forts, like the Afghans; lurked in ambush amidst undergrowth, like the Kaffirs; held strong stockades, like Maoris and Burmese; or fought from walled cities, like the Chinese. Then the battalion line in close order was neither appropriate nor feasible, and battalions had perforce to adopt looser formations, to forgo the volley and the charge, and to learn to fire individually and accurately with companies not side by side in line, but skirmishing independently.

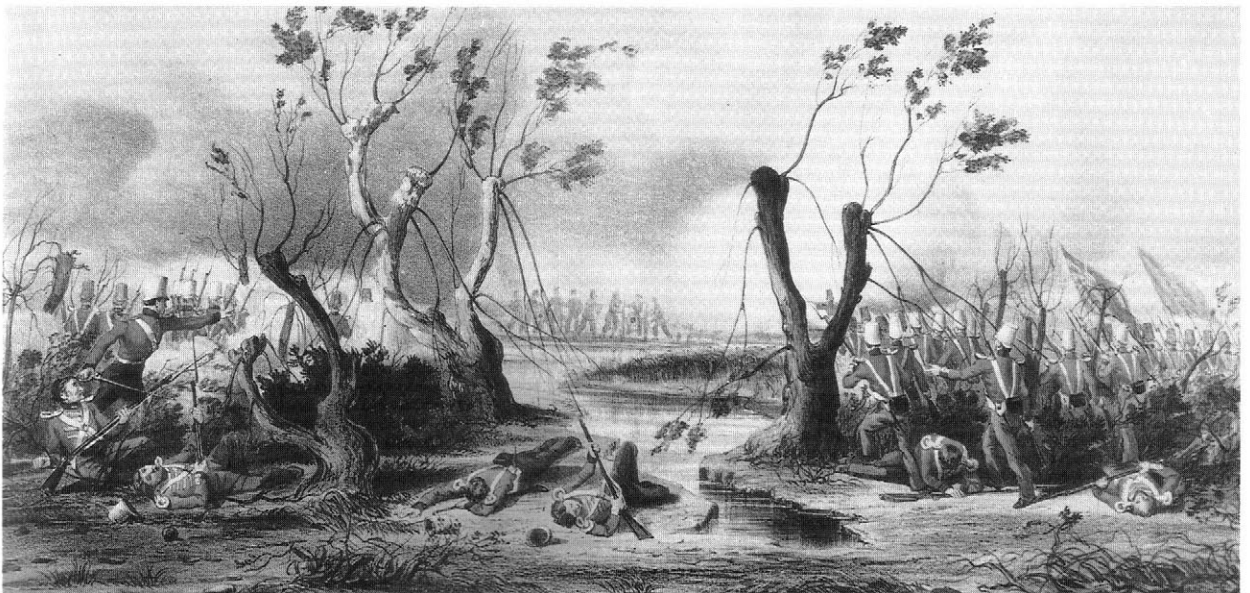
Similar skills had been perfected in the Peninsula by light infantry and riflemen; but there were only eight light infantry battalions and four of Rifles in the Army, none of whom might be available where and when a need arose. Every battalion had its light company, but one was unlikely to be sufficient in counter-guerilla operations. A prudent commanding officer would therefore train all his companies in such duties, as did the 58th in New Zealand and the

74th in South Africa. Without such training a battalion had to learn by bitter experience.

The basic element of cavalry formations in line or column was the two-rank troop, six or eight per regiment, which in action would be grouped two to a squadron. The Cavalry generally had not excelled in the Napoleonic Wars either in shock action or in reconnaissance and outpost duties, Wellington having little confidence in their ability and being conscious of their weakness in numbers. For the latter reason the distinction between Heavy and Light Cavalry became increasingly one more of appearance than rôle, and all regiments, according to Queen's Regulations, had to 'be equal to the Charge in Line, as well as the Duties on Outposts'. However, the 'cavalry spirit' tended, in training, to favour the former at the expense of the latter, notwithstanding the proven impotence of cavalry against infantry squares.

To improve cavalrymen's reach some Light Dragoons were converted to Lancers in 1816. As such, the 16th, with four squadrons, overran the Sikh gun-line and broke three squares of regular infantry at Aliwal—though losing 141 out of 530, and effecting entry as much by horses falling into squares as by lance-points. Useful in pursuit the lance could prove an encumbrance in a mêlée, or when broken ground forced the lancer to dismount,

**The 24th Foot in line attacking Sikh guns with the bayonet at Chillianwallah, 1848, its formation disrupted by ponds and undergrowth. After J. H. Archer, attached 24th.**

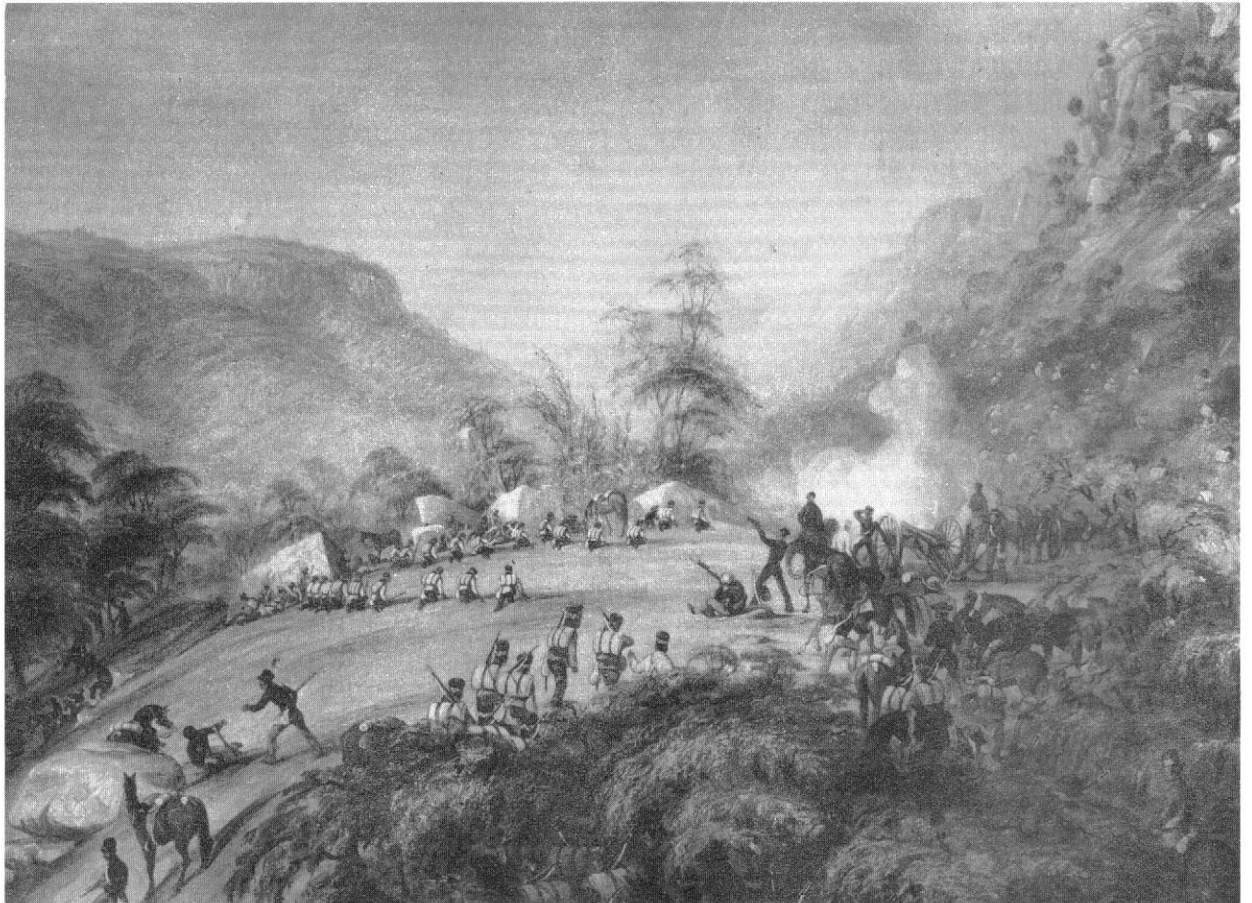






*Above:* Aliwal 1846. The 16th Lancers attacking Sikh squares having overrun their guns which are being spiked. M. A. Hayes.

*Below:* Bush warfare, South Africa 1851. 74th Highlanders skirmishing supported by a field gun, with Cape Mounted Rifles covering their rear. Thomas Baines. (Africana Museum, Johannesburg)



as the 12th discovered to their cost when so caught by Basutos in South Africa. The sword, though frequently blunted by its steel scabbard, was handier in the charge, particularly against cavalry, as the 3rd Light Dragoons demonstrated at Moodkee; but it was infantry stubbornness, not cavalry dash, that carried the day.

If the conventional Sikh battles afforded opportunities for shock action, other campaigns did not. The 7th Dragoon Guards once caught Kaffirs in the open and charged effectively, if in looser order than true shock action prescribed; but the most valuable horsemen in the Kaffir Wars, until the Regular cavalry acquired their skills, were the Cape Mounted Rifles and the extemporised mounted infantry companies. These used the horse not as a shock instrument, but as a speedy conveyance for scouts, messengers, escorts and, above all, for the rapid deployment of firepower. Elsewhere too, even in such different circumstances as Canada and Afghanistan, the requirement was for the cavalryman's eyes, ears, speed and his firearm, for troops that could act independently, not the sword or lance wielded by a regiment in line of squadrons.

The Royal Artillery, undervalued by Wellington, was starved in the post-war period of men, guns and horses, its companies (the basic element) being spread over the world (except India) in small static garrisons, most of which were unlikely to experience hostilities. Although three companies were mustered for the Eighth Kaffir War, artillery support in many of the non-Indian campaigns could only be of an *ad hoc* nature, sometimes supplemented by landed naval guns, as in New Zealand. Typically, a handful of guns acted as infantry heavy weapons, spraying the bush with shrapnel or canister or blasting a breach in a stockade.

Only in India, where horse troops and foot companies were available in some strength from the HEIC Artillery, did gunners as an arm begin to achieve parity of importance with the other arms, as a result of the superiority of the French-trained Sikh artillery, firing heavier guns from strong earthworks. The need to neutralise the enemy guns before the infantry attacked, rather than trundling forward with the bayonets or protecting the flanks, was learned by the ultimate victory at Goojerat, when 100 guns were massed to pave the way for the infantry's advance with sustained fire.

Whatever the nature of the enemy or the tactics used, in all these campaigns the soldier could expect long, often hazardous marches in extremes of climate, through difficult terrain, frequently short of food, water and medical supplies and pursued by the omnipresent threat of disease, often more lethal than the enemy. How he endured these hardships and the stress of battle was influenced by his clothing and equipment, which will now be considered.

## 1816-1828

In the decade that followed Waterloo the dress of the Army reached heights of splendour and impracticality seldom seen before or since. Wellington's army which entered Paris in 1815 had a serviceable if somewhat austere appearance compared with the Allied troops; but the need to make a show, encouraged by the Prince Regent's taste for military millinery, resulted in the demise of serviceability and the birth of extravagance. Napoleon was banished, the long peace had begun; so the soldier must emulate the peacock. However, the campaigns which the British soldier was to face would all demand an agility and stamina for which 'Prinny's' follies, and even the more restrained costumes of his successors, were ill-designed. Furthermore, the authorised dress was expected to serve in peace and war, regardless of climate, terrain or mode of warfare. Therefore, before examining how the troops actually appeared in these campaigns, the dress required by regulations must be considered in general terms. Its essentials can be seen in the accompanying Simkin print.

The cavalry regiments to be engaged on service between 1816 and 1828 were either Light Dragoons or Lancers. The former were clothed in: black, broad-topped felt shako, superseded in 1822 by a taller model; dark blue double-breasted jacket with collar, cuffs and lapels in the facing colour, with short tails behind and two epaulettes; waist girdle; white leather breeches with hessian boots, or blue-grey cloth trousers. Lancers had a similar jacket; the tall, plumed lance-cap; and loose-fitting Cossack trousers, crimson for dress occasions, blue-grey for



**Types of the Army, 1826. Mounted: 12th Lancers, 1st Dragoon Guards, 10th Hussars, 2nd Life Guards. Standing: 2nd Foot, Sergeants 60th Rifles and 38th Foot (Grenadiers), Officers 4th Light Dragoons, 93rd Highlanders, 8th Foot (Light Company), 24th Foot (Grenadiers), 57th Foot. After R. Simkin. (Author)**

undress. The cavalryman's accoutrements consisted of a pouch belt with carbine swivel attachment (except for Lancers), and a waist belt with slings for sword and sabretache. Light Dragoons were armed with sword and carbine, Lancers with sword, lance and pistol. New swords with three-bar guards replaced the 1796 pattern from 1821.

The Infantry adopted the broad-topped 'Regency' shako of leather-bound felt, copied from the Prussian model, except for the bearskin caps of Grenadier companies and Fusiliers. Officers' long-tailed scarlet coats had broad lapels matching the facings on collars and cuffs; in undress the lapels were buttoned over. Lapels, cuffs and collars, which were closed up in the Prussian manner after 1820, were laced in gold or silver. The soldiers' red coats

were single-breasted, embellished with worsted lace of regimental pattern, and had long tails except in the Light companies, which retained the short-tailed jacket of the Napoleonic Wars. Blue-grey trousers were officially authorised in 1820, but the white breeches and black gaiters of the previous century remained for dress occasions until abolished in 1823. Officers and sergeants wore a sword belt over the right shoulder and secured in place by a crimson waist sash, which for sergeants had a stripe of the facing colour. Sergeants carried a knapsack like the men, whose own accoutrements consisted of two shoulder belts suspending the bayonet and ammunition pouch. Haversack and water bottle were classed as 'camp equipage' and issued when required. Officers and sergeants received new swords in 1822, sergeants additionally carrying a pike or—if light infantry—a fusil. The rank and file's weapon remained the flintlock musket with 17-in. socket bayonet.

In the Royal Artillery the dress of the Foot

branch broadly followed the infantry pattern, but in blue, while that of the **Horse Artillery** resembled the dress of **Hussars**, though without the pelisse for soldiers.

The European infantry and artillery of the **HEIC's** armies dressed similarly to the **Sovereign's Army**, although their **Horse Artilleries** enjoyed several distinctive features of their own, which will be described later.

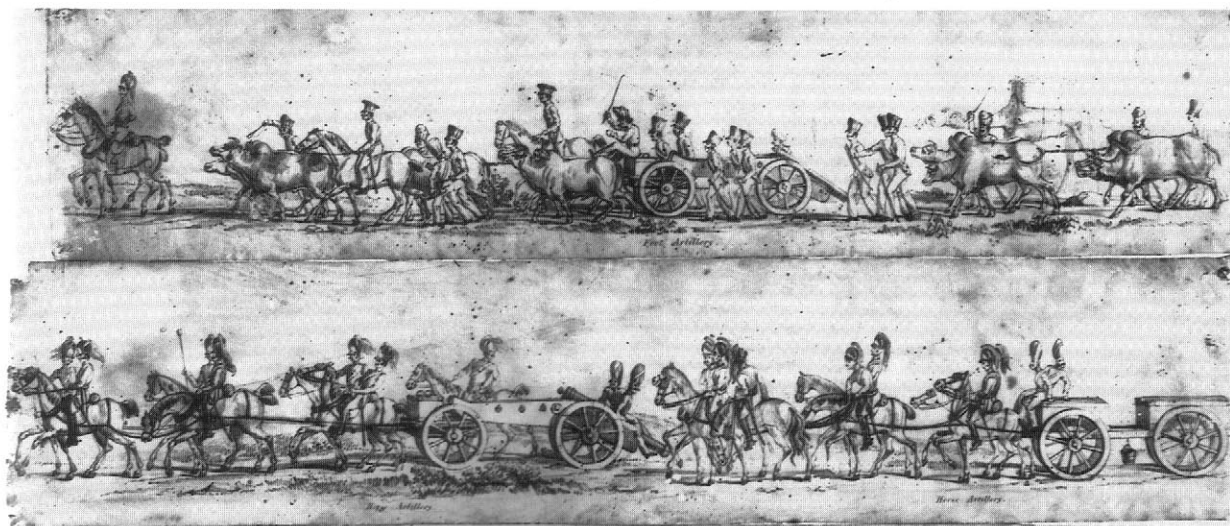
The first campaign after **Waterloo** was the continuation of the **Gurkha War**, begun in 1814, against the hillmen who later became such staunch allies, in the mountains of **Nepal** where 'the troops suffered much from privation and cold'. Few **King's** regiments took part and evidence as to their appearance is negligible, as it is for other early campaigns. Their dress was probably little different from that worn at **Waterloo**, including the 1812 shako and possibly even its predecessor, as it is unlikely that the **Regency shako** would have reached troops engaged in **Nepal** by 1816. Some very small figures of gunners, probably **Bengal Foot Artillery**, in a drawing by a **Bengal Engineers** officer, **Lt. Smith**, appear to be wearing the 1800 'stove-pipe' shako or stocking caps. The 1812 shakos for **Light Dragoons** and **Infantry** had 'hot climate' versions of 'drab coloured felt' with tan leather peak and 'fall' at the rear, which may have been issued in **India**. **John Shipp**, who was commissioned from the ranks of the 24th **Light Dragoons** into the 87th **Foot**, noted at the end of the campaign: 'Our

clothes were in rags and our toes sticking out of our shoes'.

The 87th were again in action at the **Siege of Hattrass** in 1817 and apparently had now received the **Regency shako**. According to **Shipp's** portrait, he wore his at the storming; but he observed one young officer who 'had taken the plate and feather from his cap to look as much like a private soldier as possible'—the implication is that the soldier had on black oilskin covers, issued to protect their dress shakos, while the officers did not. A mention of epaulettes and a reference to a ball passing through a lapel suggests that some officers were wearing their dress coats, although his portrait depicts him in an undress frock coat, as shown in **Plate A2**.

During the **Third Mahratta War** the pursuit of the highly mobile **Pindari** bands across the **Central India** plains gave much work to the **Cavalry**. **Plate A1** shows a soldier of the 17th **Light Dragoons** at this time. There is some evidence of the 2nd **Bn., 1st Foot** in this campaign. Two aquatints by **John Hudson**, published in 1819, of the surrender of **Fort Talneir** on 28 **February 1818**, at which its flank companies were present, show one officer in **Regency shako** with plume and cap-lines, jacket, white breeches and hessian boots, while another wears a **grenadier cap** (which seems unlikely for **Indian service**), unbuttoned jacket and white trousers. His **grenadiers** also have bearskin caps, long-tailed coats, grey trousers, cross belts and knapsacks with mess-tins in grey covers strapped to

**Bengal Foot (top) and Horse Artillery pursuing Pindaris, 1817. Captain Ludlow, 12th Bengal N.I.**





An 11th Light Dragoon engaging a Jat outside Bhurtpore. William Prinsep after Luard. (India Office Library)

the top. Inspection reports for 1819–20 disclose that soldiers of the 2/1st were issued with a variety of trousers—grey, white, nankeen and cloth—and a ‘cumley’ watchcoat of local material. The campaign obviously caused havoc with the soldiers’ netherwear, as the 30th Foot marching to Secunderabad in October 1818 are described in regimental records as wearing ‘any pair of fancy trousers that came in handy’.

King’s and HEIC battalions in India at this period had one or more companies armed and dressed as riflemen. An officer, R. G. Wallace, recorded that the 2nd Bn., 56th Foot had ‘its 8th and Light Companies armed with rifles and clothed in green’. When the 65th relieved it at Poona in 1817, ‘the rifles were transferred to the 65th and two of the companies were soon arrayed in green’. The Bengal Europeans also had a rifle company until 1824, and an officer expressed his grief at ‘parting with my handsome green uniform’. Unfortunately no details of these uniforms have materialised.

For the **Siege of Bhurtpore**, the stronghold of a rebellious Jat chieftain, between November 1825–January 1826, there is more substantial evidence. John Luard, who later wrote *A History of the Dress of the British Soldier* (1852), served during the siege as an officer of the 16th Lancers and recorded some aspects of it. A portrait painter named Hutchisson, who arrived in Calcutta in 1824, made a series of lithographs of the siege; but these contain numerous improbabilities, so cannot be considered reliable.

Luard states that he wore the lance-cap at Bhurtpore and, in his drawing of a skirmish at Seetah, shows these caps in black covers. An officer

wears an undress stable jacket, but the men are in dress jackets with shoulder scales and girdles. Luard’s *Views in India* are uncoloured, but the 16th at this time wore blue jackets, faced scarlet, and blue-grey trousers with scarlet stripe. Hutchisson gives them white-faced scarlet jackets—an example of his unreliability.

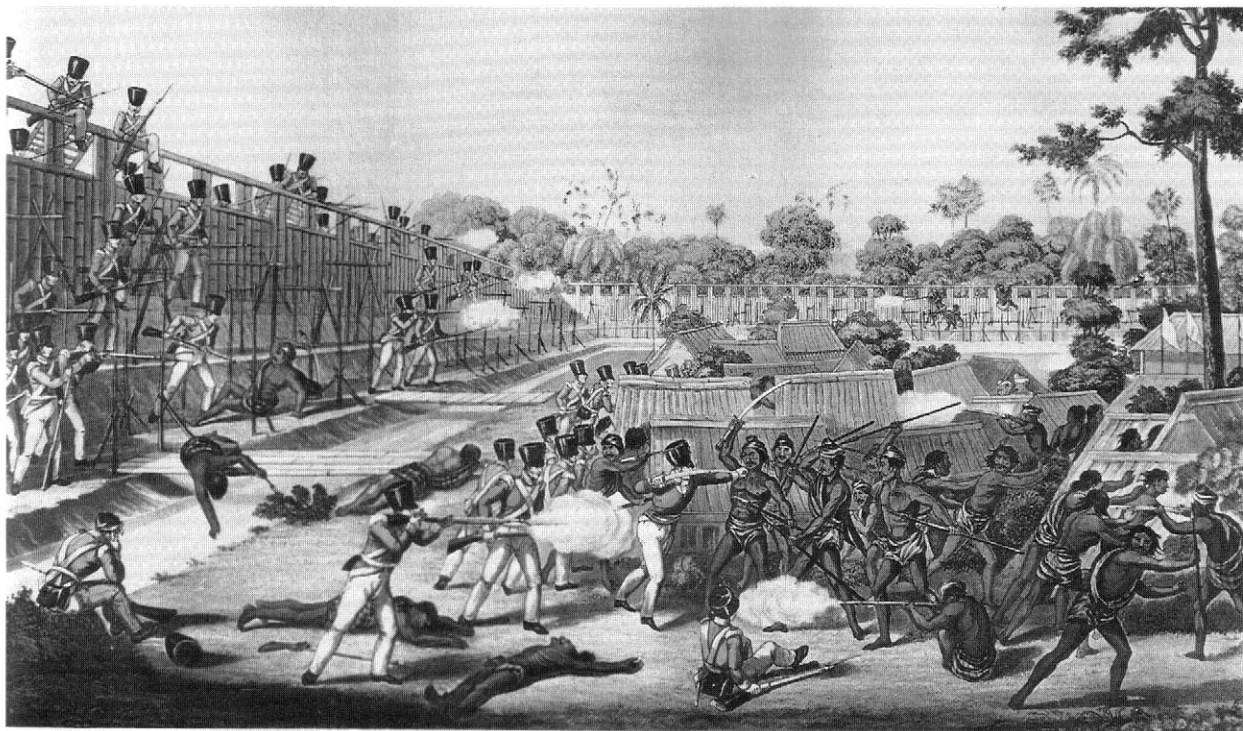
William Prinsep, a Calcutta merchant, made a watercolour after a sketch by Luard of an 11th Light Dragoon and a Jat horseman, reproduced here; unusually for active service, the jacket’s buff lapels are displayed. An inspection return for the regiment dated December 1824 records that the officers had not yet received the 1821 sword and that their undress sword belts were of buff leather instead of black patent, which cracked in the climate.

Luard depicts the flank companies of the 59th Foot in black-covered shakos and short-tailed jackets, though an officer seems to be in an undress jacket, non-regulation at this time. Short gaiters are worn under the trousers, and no knapsacks are carried. A painting by Capt. Field, 23rd Bengal Native Infantry, has infantry in pale blue trousers, probably the nankeen variety and made up in India.

The **First Burma War** involved troops in an entirely different terrain and climate, yet they were required to attack stockades and fight through steaming jungle in the same costume as sufficed for a winter campaign in India. The troops’ dress is recorded in two sets of prints after drawings by Capt. Marryat, RN, and Lt. Moore, 89th Foot. The latter shows infantry in covered shakos, dress coats and white trousers, as illustrated in Plate A3.

Although the shell jacket—the undress garment without lapels or tails—was not authorised in England until later, it seems to have been generally worn by officers in the East at this time and earlier. Moore shows a number of officers so dressed, with sashes and black leather waistbelts with slings. An officer of the 1st Foot sketched some of his brother officers at Trichinopoly in 1820 in shell jackets, white or blue trousers, sashes, black sling-belts, and blue forage caps with leather peaks, gold lace bands, and wide, soft crowns; they were doubtless similarly dressed in the Burma War.

A lithograph after a sketch by Ensign Doveton of the Madras Europeans corroborates the infantry dress



**British infantry storming a stockade, First Burma War. After Lieutenant Moore, 89th.**



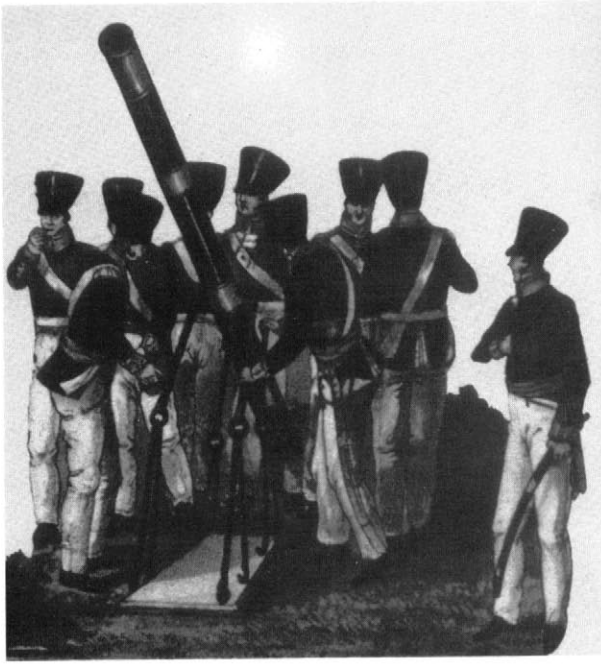
**The 54th Foot in Arakan, First Burma War. (Dorset Military Museum)**

shown by Moore, though he shows one officer wearing a frock coat and forage cap, and the men carrying knapsacks. He recalls the variety of officers' dress: 'We were soon a most motley group . . . our colonel not being over strict as to dress. Many wore trousers made of coarse blue calico used for lining tents, others wore white, and some tartan [woollen fabric]; in fact everyone suited his own taste . . . uniform being quite a misnomer. There was great diversity of taste as to headdress, some wearing the high oilskin shako, others foraging caps

of various shapes'. The former probably means a lightweight cap of oilskin stretched over a frame in the shape of a shako, as contrived by some officers in preference to wearing the actual shako within an oilskin cover, as worn by the men.

According to an inspection report dated May 1826 the 54th Foot had the blue nankeen trousers, which also appear in an anonymous watercolour of this regiment in the Arakan. Surprisingly, the shakos are uncovered, and the men are apparently equipped with the obsolete, tan-coloured knapsacks of the pre-1805 type. This is not necessarily an artistic inaccuracy but merely an example of outdated equipment still in service in the East. Finally, a rocket troop of the HEIC Artillery is shown by Moore, dressed similarly to the infantry, though of course with blue jackets, faced red.

From the sparse evidence for these campaigns, it can be deduced that officers' dress was, to some degree, becoming adapted to the discomforts of active service. However, apart from such concessions as shako covers, trousers more suited to the climate, and the carriage of the minimum accoutrements, the men were expected to march and fight dressed as for a field day in England.



HEIC artillerymen at Rangoon manning a rocket, a weapon used extensively in the Burma campaign. After Lieutenant Moore. (Author)

## 1829-1843

From 1829 economies began to be effected in the Army's costume, and a greater degree of standardisation within each branch was sought. The changes were promulgated, for officers, in Dress Regulations of 1831 and 1834 and, for soldiers, in periodic Horse Guards Memoranda; their effect can best be seen in the paintings commissioned by William IV from Dubois Drahonet, on which the accompanying Simkin print is based. Unfortunately the measures took no account of the soldiers' fighting rôle, and it was left to regimental commanding officers on the spot to adapt the regulation dress for service—if they so chose.

Of the Cavalry that will appear on campaign in this period, the Dragoon Guards must be considered first. Their black leather 'Roman' helmets with curving bearskin crest were replaced in 1834 by a similar design in brass; the removable fur crest could be replaced by a brass lion's head. The plain, single-breasted scarlet coatee with tails had epaulettes, or brass shoulder scales for soldiers, and was worn with dark blue trousers with gold or yellow stripe. White gauntlets completed the

clothing. The heavy dragoon's accoutrements consisted of a pouch belt with carbine swivel, sabretache, and a wider sword belt than the light cavalryman's.

William IV desired to have all Line cavalry in scarlet, so in 1831 Light Dragoons received a double-breasted scarlet jacket with short tails, epaulettes or shoulder scales, worn with a girdle and dark blue trousers with double gold or scarlet stripes. A smaller, bell-topped shako was introduced in 1830. Hussars retained their dark blue, gold or yellow-barred jackets with five rows of buttons, but received scarlet pelisses. Their barrelled sashes were worn above dark blue trousers with a single gold or yellow stripe. A shako, similar to the Light Dragoons', was approved in 1828, but gave way to a fur busby in 1841. Hussars were accoutred as Light Dragoons. A less extravagant and slightly lower cap was authorised for Lancers in 1828, who also changed to scarlet with a uniform broadly similar to Light Dragoons. In 1833 Lancers received gauntlets and in 1834 their privates lost their sabretaches. In 1840 all these regiments reverted to dark blue, except the 16th Lancers.

Heavy Cavalry officers and soldiers had an 1821 pattern sword with steel scroll pattern guard, and steel bowl guard respectively, both with steel scabbards; the Light Cavalry's were unchanged from 1821. A new, lighter lance, 117 ins. overall, was approved in 1829. Carbines were of two types: a 26-in. barrel weapon for the Heavies, and the 'Paget' with 16-in. barrel for Light Cavalry. Towards the close of this period these flintlock carbines began to be replaced with percussion weapons, which will be considered later.

Infantry dress underwent a number of changes. By 1831 all three Guards regiments had taken the bearskin cap. In 1829 the Line received a new, bell-topped shako, with a white plume which was changed to a ball-tuft in 1835; grenadier and fusilier bearskins became less ornate, and light infantry adopted a green ball-tuft in 1830.

The officer's lapelled coat gave way to a double-breasted coatee with reduced lace, no lapels, long tails and epaulettes. This garment was worn by all ranks of the Foot Guards, Line officers and, from 1836, Line sergeants. The rank and file coatee for the Line remained single-breasted with lace loops which, from 1836, were of plain white worsted. The



cuff lace loops and buttons were removed to a vertical flap, or slash, of the same colour as the coatee. Very dark grey 'Oxford mixture' cloth trousers, with a red welt from 1833, were authorised for winter, white linen for summer. Highland regiments retained their feather bonnets and articles of Highland dress, but had a jacket which above the waist was like the coatee, with short tails behind.

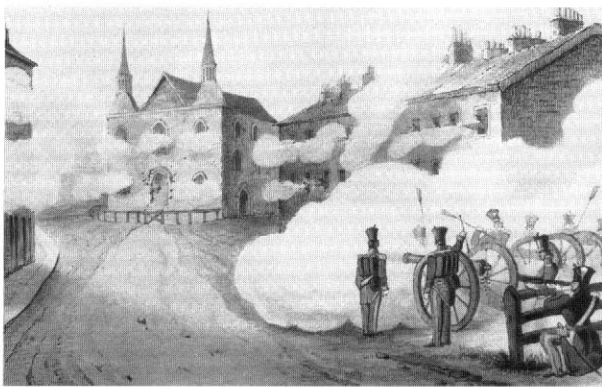
Two other important items were regulated in 1829. Forage caps were ordered to be of blue wool, or green for Light Infantry regiments, with a red band for Royal regiments and one of facing colour for others, except Highlanders who had dicing. These caps were broad-crowned; from 1834 a plain dark blue or green 'pork-pie' type was ordered, though the banded caps remained in use for some years. Officers' caps had leather peaks, which in 1836 were authorised for soldiers in hot climates; non-Royal officers had black bands from 1834. Shell jackets, which were to be quite plain but with regimental facings, were authorised for officers

**Types of the Army, 1835. Mounted: Royal Horse Guards, 9th Lancers, 8th Hussars, Officers 13th Light Dragoons and 5th Dragoon Guards. Standing: 88th Foot, 79th Highlanders, Officers 51st Light Infantry, Rifle Brigade, 87th Fusiliers, 69th Foot, Sergeant 26th Foot. After R. Simkin. (Author)**

serving in 'East Indies [India], Ceylon, Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, West Indies, Gibraltar, Mediterranean', and for soldiers everywhere. Officers also had the blue frock coat for undress.

Infantry accoutrements remained as before though with minor improvements to the pouch and knapsack. In marching order, i.e. that used on service, 'the Greatcoat is to be rolled and secured on top of the Knapsack with the straps provided for the purpose. The Mess Tin is to be placed flat on the Knapsack below the Greatcoat, the top of the tin being in line with the upper part of the Knapsack and to be fastened by a strap from the back slings'. In light marching order the mess-tin went on top of the knapsack, in which was packed the greatcoat. When blankets were issued as 'camp equipage' they were folded flat on the outside of the knapsack. Sergeants lost their pikes in 1830; otherwise,





**Royal Artillery bombarding French-Canadian rebels in St Eustache church as infantry fire from house windows, 1837. Officer in frock coat, men in coatees. After Lord Charles Beauclerk, RA.**

infantry weapons remained unchanged, although percussion equivalents began to appear in the late 1830s.

A bell-topped shako was worn by the Royal Artillery from 1828. The Foot companies adopted a double-breasted blue coatee, faced red, for all ranks in 1828, with red-striped blue-grey trousers in winter, white in summer. The three HEIC Horse Artilleries all wore 'Roman' helmets with horsehair manes of slightly differing patterns, and hussar-type jackets. Soldiers of the Bengal Horse Artillery wore white leather breeches and high, jacked boots until 1847; but its officers, from 1828, and the Madras and Bombay regiments wore blue trousers and Wellington boots. Horse Artillery were accoutred similarly to Light Cavalry, the Foot to the Infantry though with minor differences according to rôle.

The dress of the Army, though modified, was still quite unsuited to field service in the colonies. Lt. Webber-Smith of the 48th wrote bitterly of the **Coorg Campaign** in the jungles of Southern India: 'Our beautiful red coats—our shakos—our white belts and glittering breastplates were the bull's eyes of the target [the enemy] could see a mile off! No men have a chance in jungle warfare in such a dress'.

A more realistic view prevailed in South Africa. The uprising of tribes on the eastern frontier of Cape Colony in 1835, known as the **Sixth Kaffir War**, saw the arrival at Grahamstown of the 72nd Highlanders, 'conspicuous in their splendid Highland uniforms and black ostrich plumed bonnets'. The 72nd were not kilts but wore trews of the predominantly red 'Prince Charles Edward Stuart'

tartan. However, the bush skirmishing that ensued demanded a more practical dress, illustrated as Plate B1. A staff officer, Capt. Alexander of the 42nd, elaborated on the fighting dress of the 72nd and the other regiments engaged, the 27th and 75th: 'The regulars were prepared for the field by broad peaks being added before and behind [to forage caps], and leather trousers for the nether man. White cross-belts and black cartouche boxes were laid aside, and light hairy pouches were attached to the brown waist belts, from which hung the bayonet in a frog. A knapsack and a very few necessities, two blankets, haversack and canteen completed their equipment'.

The Light Company of the 75th were turned into mounted infantry, with 'short double-barrelled smoothbore guns, and cutlasses for swords with accoutrements and saddlery as for cavalry. Our uniform for the occasion was: forage cap with square peak attached, coatees docketed of wings and skirts, buckskin trousers and spurs'. Another report of these early mounted infantry said that the men wore shell jackets and carried on their small horses: 'Greatcoats folded in front, necessities folded within, second pair of trousers, shirt and pair of stockings. Blankets under saddles. Armed with fusils cased in rough sheepskin. Small waistbelt pouch contains 22 rounds of ammunition' (*United Service Journal*, 1836).

The first campaign of Queen Victoria's long reign occurred in very different conditions in **Canada**, where grievances among French-Canadians in the Lower Province and radical British and American immigrants in the Upper erupted into armed rebellion. Lord Charles Beauclerk of the Royal Artillery depicted the November–December 1837 operations against the French-Canadians. During the day infantry and artillery appear in marching order with shakos, coatees and winter trousers, officers wearing blue frock coats; at night greatcoats are worn, officers are in cloaks, and all shakos are covered.

The *United Service Gazette* stated in 1838 that the 43rd, 71st and 85th (all Light Infantry) were 'to be clothed in grey—a cloth very much the colour of the bark of a tree. This is a very popular change as there will be much bush fighting, and our "red-coats" will not be so good an object for the American and Canadian riflemen'. Whether this was actually

adopted, and in what style, is unknown: a Canadian, Mr Dearborn, described the 43rd in 1838 apparently in regulation dress, which is also shown in a Hayes print of the 71st escorting prisoners.

As another winter approached more suitable clothing was adopted, as can be seen in the King's Dragoon Guards costume in Plate B2. The other cavalry regiment employed, 7th Hussars, 'had only to put on the large sheepskin-lined boots with their warm pelisse and they were well clothed' (Luard). The 7th kept their scarlet pelisses until 1841; these are shown in a drawing of a sergeant in Canada by Sir James Alexander Hope dated 1838. This NCO wears a similar cap to the King's Dragoon Guards, buff gauntlets, and dark-brown wader-type boots; he carries normal hussar accoutrements and a haversack.

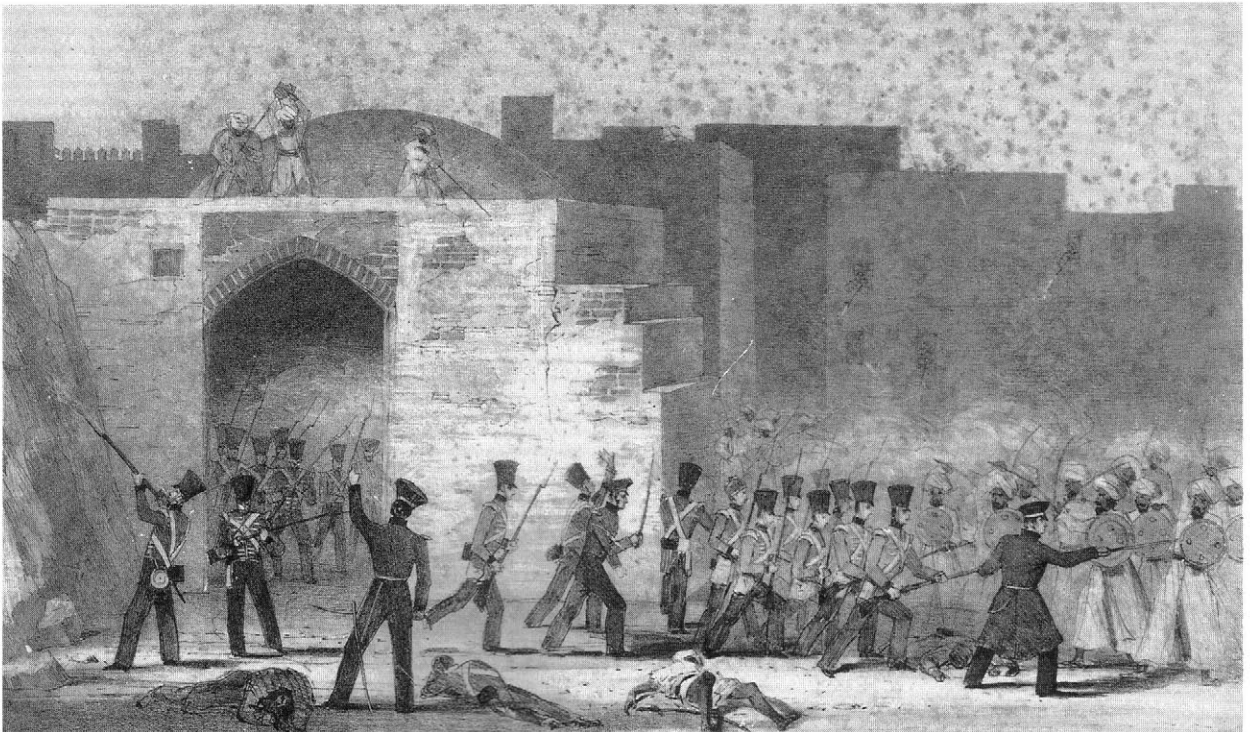
Hope also drew a sergeant and corporal of 2nd Bn., Grenadier Guards as they appeared in the autumn of 1838. Both wear peaked caps with ear flaps, one fur, the other probably oilskin; coatees; Oxford mixture trousers; and are accoutred in marching order with haversacks. Both have white mittens; the sergeant has light blue wader-type leggings, while the corporal has wound strips of blanket round the lower half of his trousers;

moccasins were usually substituted for regulation boots.

Another Hope drawing shows a sentry in winter clothing. He wears a broad-topped fur cap, regulation grey greatcoat with a fur cape over the shoulders, and white mittens. His trousers are covered by dark brown leggings and he wears moccasins. He is in marching order, and carries a blanket rolled 'en banderole' over his right shoulder.

The next campaign saw a sizeable British force fighting in extremes of climate against a formidable enemy in wild mountainous terrain which demanded endurance and constant alertness from the troops. This was the **First Afghan War**, which began in December 1838. The Bengal Division, which advanced on Kandahar in March–April 1839 on half-rations in temperatures of 100°F, contained the 16th Lancers. A lithograph after Hayes of this regiment 'equipped for service (India)' shows them dressed exactly as for home service marching order, with cap plumes removed and haversacks and water bottles over the right shoulder. Hayes did not go to the East, but his

**The 2nd Foot entering the fortress of Ghuznee, Afghanistan, July 1839. After Lieutenant Wingate, 2nd.**



interpretation is corroborated in a drawing by Lieutenant Wingate of the 2nd Foot, who was in Afghanistan. Certainly on reaching Kandahar more than 80 men of the 16th went into hospital with fever, dysentery and heat stroke.

Included in the Bombay Division were the 2nd and 17th Foot. Wingate illustrated his regiment storming the fortress of Ghuznee by night on 22/23 July 1839 wearing shakos with black covers, coatees and trousers which, after lithography, are coloured dark blue-grey. According to the 2nd's regimental orders for 1828–30 three kinds of trousers were stipulated for soldiers in India: grey cloth (obsolete from 1829), white and 'blue dungaree'. The regiment continued to wear the first-named until 1832 but then presumably received Oxford mixture. Those shown by Wingate might be the latter, but since it was July were probably the blue

dungaree. The men's accoutrements are the normal cross belts, haversack and a water container. Three officers appear in lighter order: all have forage caps which are wide and full in the crown—a Capt. Robinson had his 'padded with cotton'; one wears a frock coat, the others shell jackets, and all have sling waist belts. These belts are white, which is in accordance with a regimental order dated 4 April 1828 which discontinued the black undress waist belt except for Regimental Staff. Wingate's drawing probably depicts the storming parties, suitably in light order; but another picture of Ghuznee, by a different hand, shows the follow-up troops in greatcoats.

In another of Wingate's drawings appears an officer of Bengal Horse Artillery, dressed as in Plate C2. The second Ghuznee picture has the Bombay Foot Artillery in shakos and coatees. Wingate also shows officers of the 17th Foot storming Khelat in November 1839 in broad-crowned forage caps and shell jackets, their men dressed as in Plate C1. When the Bombay Division had advanced in December

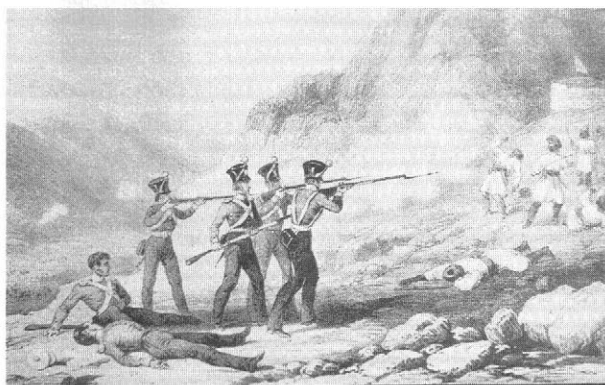
**Skirmishers of the 13th Light Infantry protecting the withdrawal of captured livestock, Afghanistan 1842. Detail from 'The Sortie from Jellalabad' by David Cunliffe. (Somerset County Museum)**



1838 the men had been ordered to carry a blanket, with clean shirt, stockings and a flannel waistcoat wrapped in it. This bundle would probably have been carried in the knapsack straps, the knapsacks being loaded on baggage animals as was customary in India. All this, together with 40 rounds in the pouch, the day's rations in a haversack, and 'a small round keg containing water was no light burden for the men to carry in the heavy country through which they had just come'. In his journal entry for 27 April 1839 Maj. Pennycuik of the 17th criticised the practice of the men lying down to sleep in their greatcoats, 'an arrangement I should say very objectionable when it can possibly be avoided as now—men carrying their packs'. Presumably the greatcoats were strapped to the blanket packs, which the men were unwilling to unroll owing to the articles wrapped up therein.

In the force that advanced to Kabul was the 13th Light Infantry, which for a time formed part of its garrison. When inspected there in 1840, the men's clothing was 'worn out, none having been issued since 1838'. This regiment moved to Jellalabad, arriving there on 13 November 1841, where it became besieged by the Afghans until 16 April 1842. The accompanying illustration from *The Sortie from Jellalabad* by David Cunliffe (who, though not present, had information from eyewitnesses) shows the 13th's skirmishers in undress or shirtsleeves. A bugler appears at Plate C3. In Cunliffe's painting an officer appears in forage cap, shell jacket, black sling waist belt and, in contrast to his men's cotton trousers, Oxford mixture cloth. Here is seen a comfortable fighting dress; but these men were operating at short range from a firm base, and thus could afford to turn out in very light order. Their white shirts or red jackets perhaps made them easy targets for Afghan marksmen, whose *jezails* outranged the flintlock musket, but in an age of short-range firearms little thought was given to concealment. In any case soldiers' coats, being made of inferior cloth of brick-dust hue, faded after exposure to sun and rain so that the bright colour depicted in military paintings is often unrealistic.

Jellalabad was relieved by Gen. Pollock's force from India, which then pressed on to Kabul to avenge Elphinstone's evacuation and destruction in early 1842 (portrayed in Wollen's late Victorian painting of the 44th's last stand at Gandamak).



**Privates of the 31st Foot defending a wounded officer and sergeant during the advance on Kabul, 1842. Henry Martens. (Author)**

Under Pollock were the 3rd Light Dragoons, who were still in scarlet jackets. An aquatint of a dragoon in Afghanistan has him in bell-topped shako with white quilted cover and neck curtain, dress jacket with shoulder scales, and blue trousers. His arms and accoutrements are regulation, together with a haversack and a curiously-shaped water container, obviously of local make, suspended by a thin cord, both over the right shoulder.

In India most of the troops' water supply was provided from pigskins carried by native followers and the regulation wooden water bottle was seldom, if ever, seen. However, many men obtained or were provided with locally-made water containers, sometimes a soda-water bottle covered in material or leather. Such a bottle was noted strapped to the saddle of a 16th Lancer.

Pollock appreciated the necessity of seizing the heights in mountain warfare, which required speedy ascents and descents by the infantry. According to Capt. Borton of the 9th, his regiment fought the action at Tezeen in shirtsleeves. A drawing by G. A. Croley, 26th Native Infantry, whose regiment was brigaded with the 9th for the attack on Istalif shortly afterwards, shows the 9th in uncovered, or possibly black-covered shakos and shell jackets; Croley's figures are very small so it is difficult to be precise.

During the Afghan War the custom of officers wearing blue frock coats in action lost favour, since it made them conspicuous among the men, and the shell jacket was deemed more sensible for the field.

A lithograph after Henry Martens of the 31st at Mazeema shows an officer so dressed with a white-

covered forage cap. Four privates are also in shells but with uncovered shakos; all are in Oxford mixture trousers. The soldiers wear their cross belts with, additionally, a white waist belt; the latter seems to serve no purpose other than securing the cross belts close to the body. Sepoys of the HEIC armies had been wearing such belts since the 1830s, but no provision was made for such a belt in the Royal Warrant which governed the British infantryman's accoutrements. However, it will be increasingly observed on Queen's regiments in India. The uncovered shakos of the 31st are a little surprising but, as Luard recorded, each regiment's dress was left 'to the fancy of each commanding officer'.

What is seldom shown in contemporary illustrations, even by eyewitnesses, is evidence of the wear and tear of action on soldiers' clothing. This was replaced annually, but months and years in the field meant delay of the new issue until troops returned to peacetime stations. A chaplain, Reverend Allen, was surprised at the good order in which the 40th had kept their clothing, considering

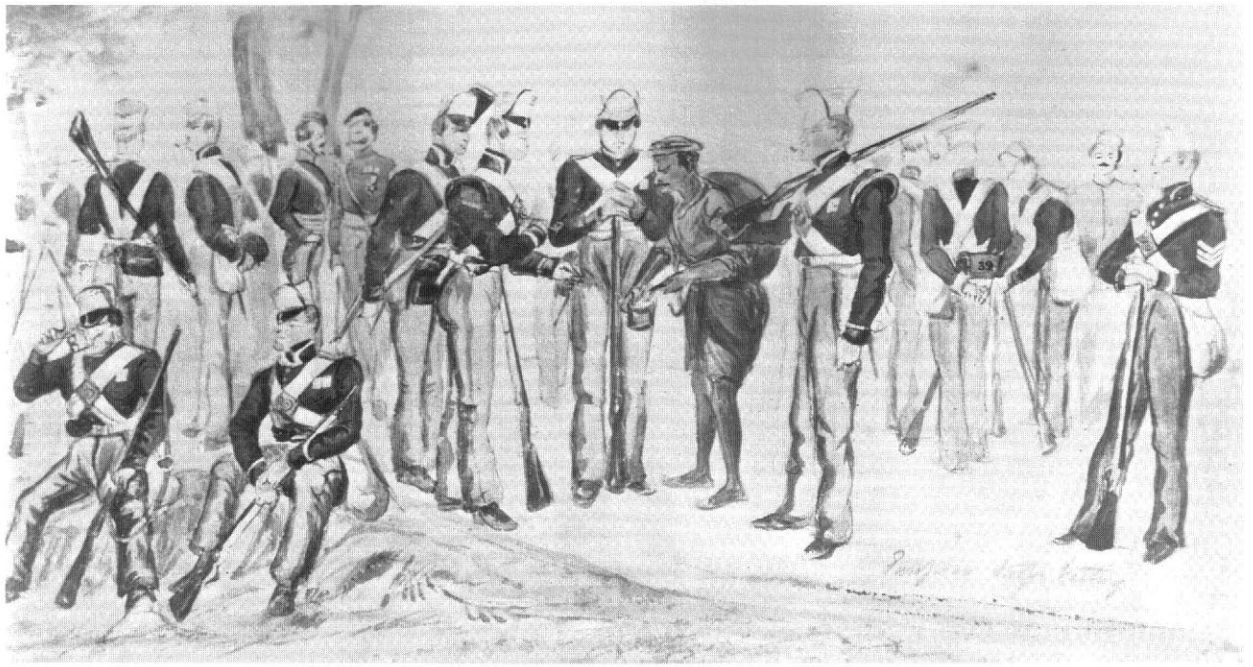
**The 22nd Foot attacking the Baluchis at Meanee, 17 February 1843, during the conquest of Scinde. After Edward Armitage.**

the time they had spent in the field: 'true, there was many a patch and that not always of the proper colour, but there were no rags'.

The year following the conclusion of the Afghan War saw two further campaigns in India: the **Conquest of Scinde** and the very brief **Gwalior Campaign** against the Mahrattas, sometimes known as 'The 48 Hours War'. Sir Charles Napier conquered the Baluchis of Scinde with a force containing only one British infantry regiment, the 22nd, which distinguished itself at the Battles of Meanee and Hyderabad on 17 February and 24 March 1843 respectively. The regiment is shown at Meanee in a large painting exhibited in 1847 by Edward Armitage RA, reproduced herewith. Armitage was not primarily a battle painter but his military subjects are executed with precision, and for this painting he acquired material through the help of Napier's brother, William. The 22nd's officers are in uncovered forage caps and either frock coats or shells, while the men wear their dress coatees and locally-made blue-grey trousers. Their peaked forage caps, probably of the 'pork-pie' type, have white covers and curtains.

Paintings of Meanee and Hyderabad (sometimes





**The 39th Foot halting on the march at the time of Maharajpore in the Gwalior campaign, December 1843. B. D. Grant, Bengal Native Infantry. (Dorset Military Museum)**

called Dubba) were executed by George Jones RA, advised by Napier's officers. Napier preferred Jones's rendering of the action to Armitage's, but his style was less attentive to costume detail and his Meancee painting shows the 22nd in coatees but with winter trousers and white-covered shakos with curtains. However, his Hyderabad painting depicts similar dress to Armitage, so possibly the conflicting headdress and trousers resulted from misinterpretation of information he received. The latter painting also includes a troop of Bombay Horse Artillery in its full dress; its helmets had black manes and a brush on the front of the crest, whereas those of Bengal and Madras had red manes and no brush.

In Scinde Napier used 350 men of the 22nd as camel-mounted infantry in pairs for his expedition to the desert stronghold of Imamgarh.

Two battles, Punniar and Maharajpore, were fought on the same day—29 December 1843—in Gwalior. A lithograph after Capt. Young, Bengal Engineers, of troops crossing the River Chumbal before Punniar has a small figure, probably of the 9th Lancers, all in dark blue and white-covered lance-cap. At this date the 9th wore a wide waist belt, similar to the Heavy Cavalry's, instead of the girdle. At least one officer of the 39th Foot fought at Maharajpore in a shell jacket, for the garment in which Ensign Bray was killed is preserved, together with his forage cap and colour belt, in the Dorset

Military Museum. In the same museum is an unsigned watercolour entitled 'European troops halting'. From the green-faced shells, the '39' marked on a pouch and a haversack, and from the fact that the 39th left India soon after Maharajpore, it must depict that regiment in the Gwalior Campaign. The style resembles the work of an officer of Bengal Native Infantry, B. D. Grant, whose other drawings will be met later. All the forage caps have white covers, but while most must be of the 'pork-pie' type, two are of the former broad-crowned pattern. Their pale blue-grey trousers must be locally made. In addition to their cross belts, the men have haversacks and the narrow waist belt described earlier. They are armed with the new percussion musket and have a small black pouch, containing the caps for this weapon, attached to the waist belt to the right of the clasp.

The appearance of a complete British regiment in India at this period is shown in a panorama titled *Line of March of one of H.M. Regiments in Guzerat*, drawn in 1845 by Lt. Steevens, 28th Foot, which was employed on the periphery of the Scinde Campaign. This shows the regiment in shell jackets, bright blue trousers, and forage caps annotated by

the artist: 'The forage cap is covered with quilted cotton, with a curtain hanging down behind, as a protection from the sun'. The men are accoutred as described for the 39th but without waist belts.

Meanwhile a campaign had been fought in **China** from 1839–42, involving amphibious operations against walled towns, during which heat and fever proved more deadly than the enemy who, though possessing strong fortifications, lacked discipline and modern weapons. The historian of the 18th Royal Irish records: 'Notwithstanding the protests of the doctors, the men still wore tightly buttoned coatees or shell jackets, stocks and blue Nankin trousers; their headgear was a huge shako or a small forage cap, both useless in an almost tropical climate'. Hayes shows the 18th at the assault on Amoy, 26 August 1841, in a full dress which accords with a description by Lt. Ouchterlony, Madras Engineers, 'equipped and accoutred with all the smartness of a Hyde Park field day'. The same description could apply to the Royal Marines, depicted in a naive painting in their museum of the attack on Canton three months earlier. As late as mid-1842 similar dress appears in engravings of the fighting at Chapo after 'sketches on the spot' by Capt. Stoddart, RN. However, the 18th achieved some relaxation of dress by that time, and the Madras Artillery had fought in undress as early as January 1841 (see Plates D1 and 2).

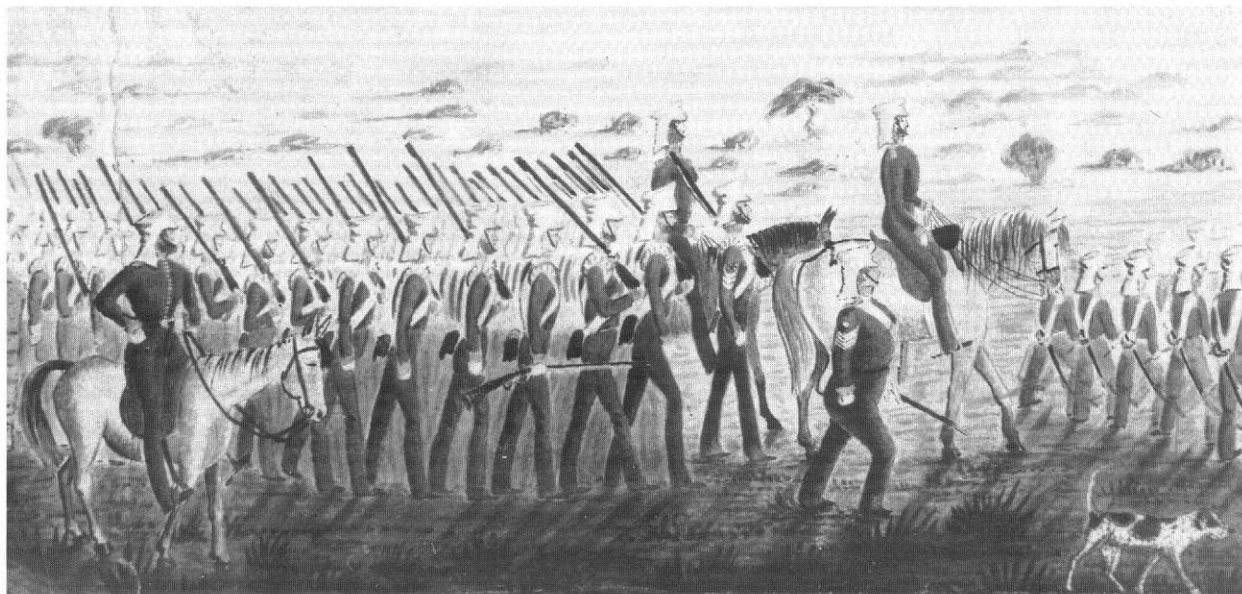
Lt. Murray of the 18th and Ouchterlony both record that the 18th and 55th were armed with

percussion muskets in this campaign. In the hand-to-hand fighting Murray relied on his pistol because, when attacked by a Chinese swordsman, 'having no particular confidence in my regulation spit, or perhaps my skill as a swordsman, I stuck my sword in the mud beside me, took a steady aim, and shot him'.

Across the Indian Ocean the long march of Capt. Smith, 27th, from the eastern Cape to **Durban**, and its subsequent defence against the Natal Boers, was captured in several drawings, possibly by Lt. Tunnard, 27th. Clearly the regiment took both its dress and undress uniforms, for on the march some are in coatees, others in shells, though all wear broad-crowned, pale (buff)-banded forage caps. A sentry at Durban appears in oilskin-covered shako and coatee, while another sketch shows the 27th falling in to repel a night attack on their fort unclothed except for shirts and cross belts.

This period, then, which saw some reduction in the Army's parade ground finery, also saw a few allowances being made for the conditions in which the soldier was expected to fight. Obviously the officers (who had to buy their uniforms) led the way in dressing more simply and comfortably for service. As for the soldiers, such articles as black oilskin covers, while not lightening their heavy shakos, at least helped to preserve a headdress that was

**The colonel, sergeant-major and Grenadier Company of the 28th Foot, headed by the Drums, on the march in Guzerat. All in shell jackets. Lieutenant Stevens, 28th.**



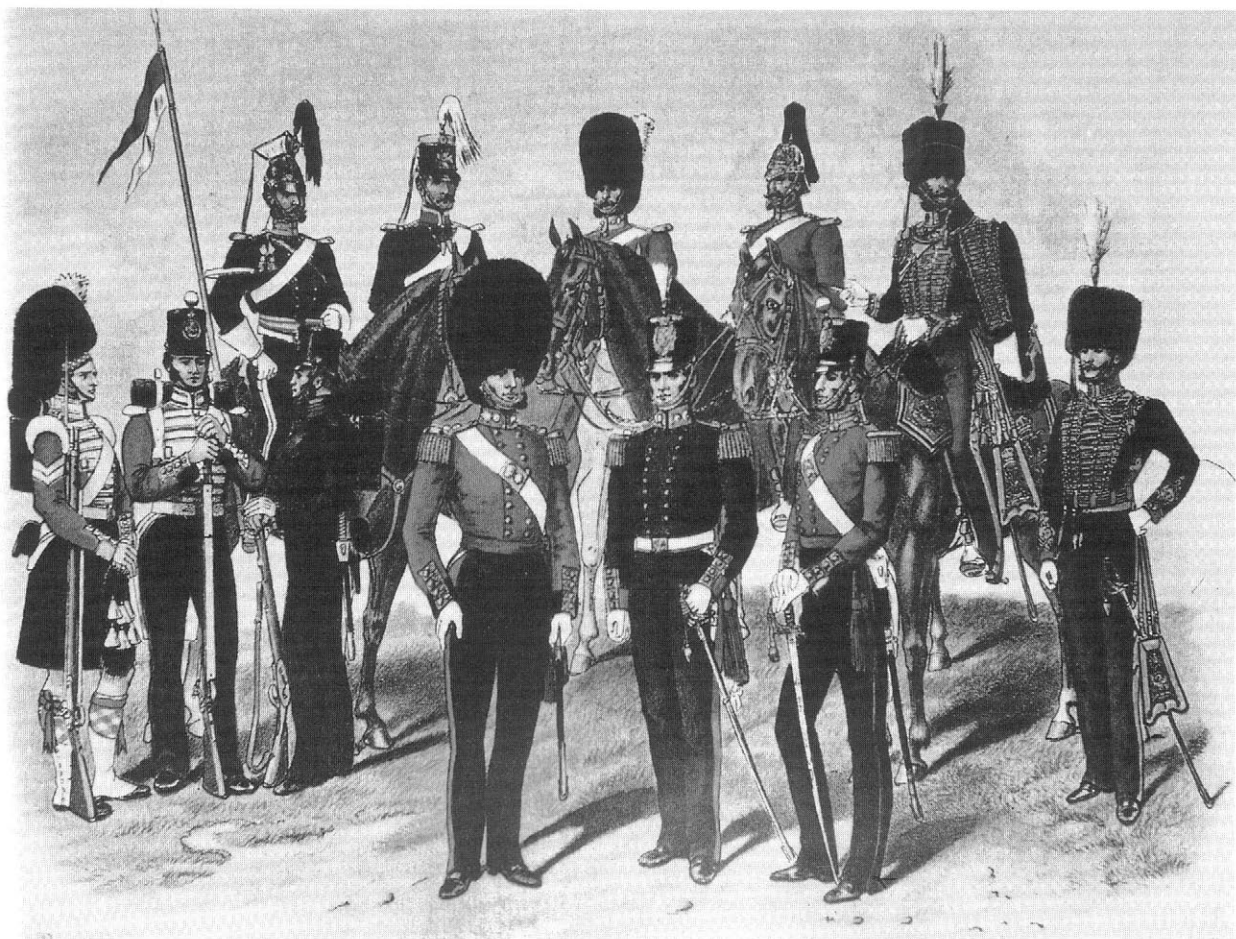
intended to last for two years, thus saving their pockets if not their heads. White quilted covers and curtains gave some protection from Eastern suns, and more enlightened commanders permitted forage caps in the field. The coatee, with its long tails and protruding shoulder ornaments made an elegant show on parade but was impractical for struggling through bush, scrambling up mountains or forcing a breach. The increasingly popular shell jacket was more comfortable, though its lack of skirts afforded no protection in bad weather (like the unfortunate battledress blouse of the Second World War). In hot climates soldiers were tormented by their leather stocks; but the lower man was less constricted by locally-made, cheaply replaceable, lightweight trousers. The infantryman's accoutrements, even without the knapsack's crushing burden, were hardly conducive to agility; but the use of waist belts in South Africa and India foreshadowed an equipment innovation soon to be introduced. Finally the production of

percussion weapons, which will shortly be discussed, brought a more efficient firearm, though without much reducing the weight or increasing the effective range. Despite these small advances there was little real progress, except perhaps in South Africa where the experience of European colonists may have helped to inspire some practical adjustments to the dress of troops employed there.

## 1844-1853

The decade preceding the Crimean War saw some further minor economies in the Army's clothing but, although throughout this period major alterations were under consideration, none were

**Types of the Army, 1846. Mounted: 17th Lancers, 4th Light Dragoons, 2nd Dragoons, 1st Royal Dragoons, Officer 11th Hussars. Standing: 93rd Highlanders, 19th Foot, Rifle Brigade, Officers Grenadier Guards, Royal Artillery, 28th Foot, Royal Horse Artillery. After R. Simkin. (Author)**

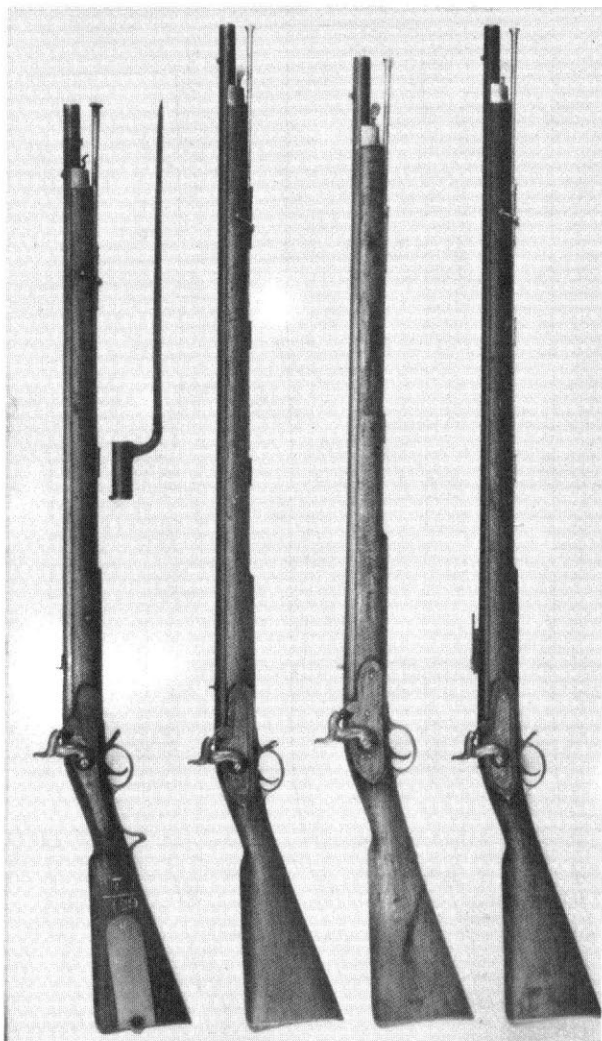




introduced before 1853, and it largely remained as before except for changes in headdress (see accompanying Simkin plate). In 1847 the Heavy Cavalry received a new helmet with a falling black horsehair plume. At the same time their coatee skirts were shortened. In 1845 the Light Dragoon shako was made more cylindrical; but the lance-cap underwent only slight changes. All cavalry had small round forage caps, usually blue, with a gold band for officers and one of coloured cloth for the men. All ranks had stable jackets, similar to the Infantry's shells, but more elaborately laced for officers.

The Infantry's headdress had been under review for some time. In 1837 Lord Hill, the Commander-

**Percussion firearms, 1840-53. From left: Rifled musket, Guards' sergeants; musket, Line sergeants; musket, 1842 pattern; Minié rifled musket. (Author)**



in-Chief, had written to the London hatters asking for designs to be submitted and suggesting that a light round hat might be better for hot climates than the shako. In October 1843 the *Illustrated London News* depicted 'The Proposed New Infantry Cap', which looked something like a tapering top hat with turned down brim: but, as the paper said, 'it is neither soldier-like nor appropriate' and 'public opinion has been unequivocally expressed against it'. Another proposal, in 1842, had been to put the Infantry into tall leather helmets with deep peaks at front and rear, similar to the Prussian model. In the event another shako, which combined elements of both these proposals—being almost cylindrical and having peaks at front and back—was finally authorised on 4 December 1843. It became known as the 'Albert'—after the Prince Consort who was credited with a hand in its design—and was surmounted by a ball tuft.

A Horse Guards Circular dated 21 February 1848 decreed that 'clothing of infantry in India, Ceylon, Mauritius, Hong Kong and St Helena was to be made of a somewhat lighter texture than hitherto in use'. The white summer trousers were abolished in 1846, except for hot climates and the Foot Guards, in favour of a lavender-coloured tweed pattern, which in turn was changed to indigo blue in 1850. The Foot Artillery, which received a similar shako, lost its white trousers in 1841 and changed its winter pattern to dark blue in 1847. The HEIC European troops followed these changes, receiving the Albert shako in 1846.

The Rifle regiments, which have not appeared hitherto, wore the infantry shako with black ball tuft and bronze bugle-horn. Officers had rifle-green clothing of hussar style, with crimson sash, and black leather accoutrements of cavalry pattern with a silver badge on the pouch belt. They carried infantry swords with steel hilts and scabbards. The riflemen of the 60th wore a single-breasted jacket, faced red, with three rows of black buttons and short skirts behind. The men of the Rifle Brigade had a double-breasted coatee, faced black, with two rows of buttons and long tails. The trousers of both regiments matched the rifle-green upper garments. The rifleman's accoutrements were all of black leather: ammunition pouch suspended from a shoulder belt; waistbelt with snake clasp, from which the bayonet hung in a frog; ball bag, or

India, Burma:

1: Pte., 17th Lt. Dragoons; India, 1817

2: Officer, 87th Foot; India, 1817

3: Cpl., 41st Foot; Burma, 1824





South Africa, Canada:  
1: Pte., 72nd Highlanders; S. Africa, 1835  
2: Pte., King's Dragoon Guards; Canada, 1838

**Afghanistan:**

**1: Pte., 17th Foot, 1839**

**2: Officer, Bengal Horse Arty., 1839**

**3: Bugler, 13th Lt. Inf., 1842**



**China, New Zealand:**

**1: Pte., 18th Foot; China, 1842**

**2: Gunner, Madras Foot Arty.; China, 1841**

**3: Officer, 58th Foot; N. Zealand, 1845**



India:

1: Pte., 9th Foot, 1845

2: Sgt., 3rd Lt. Dragoons, 1845

3: Field officer, 10th Foot, 1848





**India:**

**1: Officer, 60th Rifles, 1848**

**2: Cpl., 16th Lancers, 1846**

**3: Pte., 32nd Foot, 1849**



1



2



3

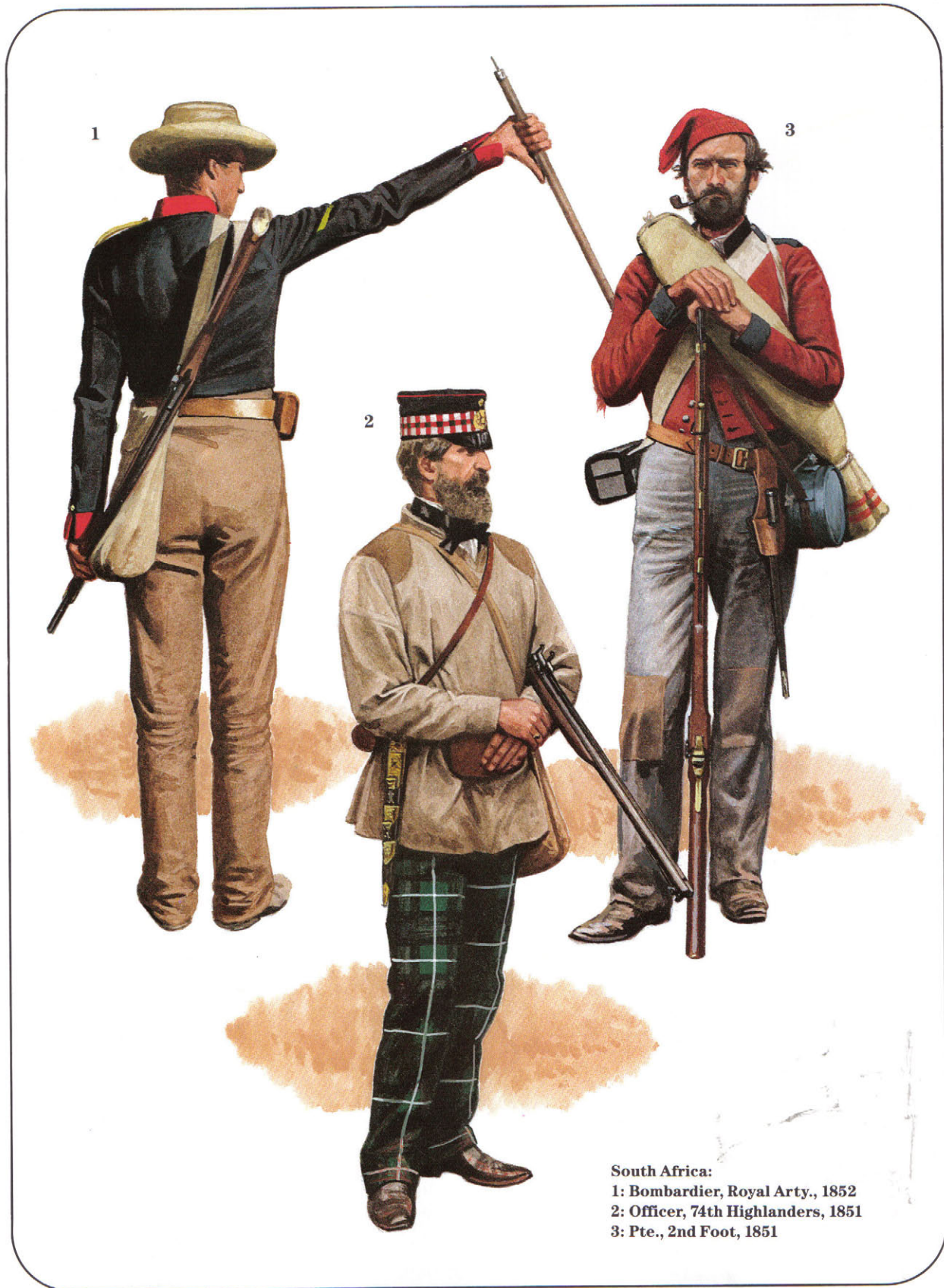
**South Africa:**

1: Pte., 7th Dragoon Guards, 1846

2: Cpl., Cape Mtd. Rifles, 1846

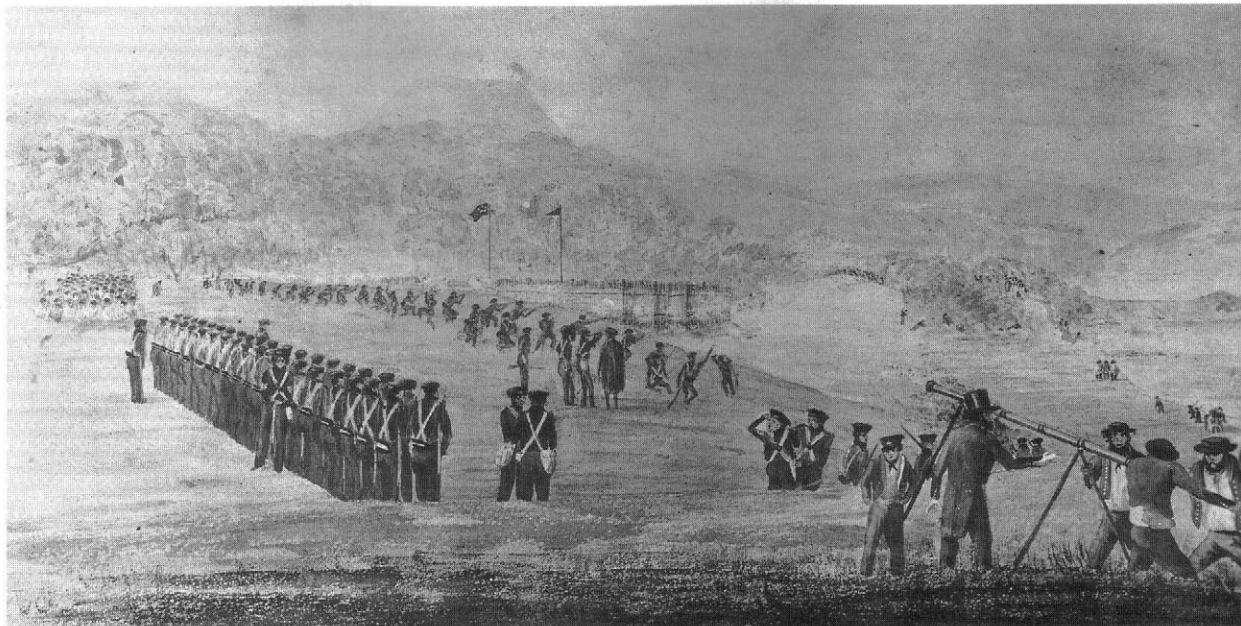
3: Pte., 1st/91st Foot, 1846





South Africa:

- 1: Bombardier, Royal Arty., 1852
- 2: Officer, 74th Highlanders, 1851
- 3: Pte., 2nd Foot, 1851



**The Grenadier Company, 58th Foot, covered by skirmishers and supported by a Naval rocket, preparing to attack a Maori pah, New Zealand 1845. All in forage caps and shell jackets. Major Bridge, 58th. (Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington)**

expense pouch, fastened to the right of the waistbelt clasp; knapsack and mess-tin. At this period both regiments were armed with the Brunswick rifle, nine inches shorter than the infantry musket, and a sword bayonet with brass hilt.

Cavalry accoutrements remained unchanged. The infantryman's bayonet and pouch had for some time been slung well to the rear, the pouch being connected to the bayonet belt and scabbard by two short straps; these served to steady the accoutrements and transferred some of the weight of the pouch and ammunition to the bayonet belt. Luard criticised this arrangement thus: 'The pouch is so inconvenient that the men take several cartridges out at once, and tuck them between the buttons of their coats in front, from which place they are easily knocked out. When the ammunition in the pouch is nearly expended . . . there is great difficulty in getting [the remainder] out, as from the position of the pouch the men can hardly get their fingers into it. When the men move at double quick, the cross belts flap about a great deal . . . the bayonet is sheathed with difficulty'. These faults applied when manoeuvring in the close-order evolutions of conventional warfare; when skirmishing in rough or close country against concealed enemies—which many of these campaigns entailed—they were doubly apparent.

In 1850 the accoutrements were improved by replacing the bayonet shoulder belt with a

waistbelt, which had a fixed frog for the bayonet; sergeants had a sliding frog, like riflemen. The pouch remained as before, though slightly smaller from 1845, but with a short strap attached to the back of the waistbelt which steadied it and took some of the weight off the pouch belt. When going into action the strap could be unfastened so that the pouch could be brought round to a more accessible position. Thus the soldier's chest became less constricted, the accoutrements were more firmly secured to the man, and the belt plate, which previously had secured the belts crossing on the chest, was done away with, thus depriving enemy marksmen of an excellent aiming mark. As always, however, it took time for the new equipment to reach the troops, particularly battalions overseas.

Percussion firearms had been used as sporting weapons since the second decade of the 19th century. They were less liable to misfires than flintlocks; were not so susceptible to damp; and did away with the flintlock's tendency to hang fire after the trigger was pressed, and the resulting flash and smoke from the pan, all of which could spoil the aim and cause burns to the face and hands. Although careful aiming was of no great consequence when firing volleys at close range in close order, it could be

crucial in colonial warfare where the enemy often offered only a fleeting target, requiring speed and accuracy in firing. However, percussion was not adopted for military use until the late 1830s, and even then it would be some years before the Army was completely re-equipped. The 85th Light Infantry took four types of percussion weapons to Canada in 1838, while a Guards battalion took 800 percussion muskets converted from flintlocks; a cavalry carbine was also tested in the same theatre.

After intensive trials the following weapons were produced: a rifled musket for Guard sergeants and a smoothbore pattern for Line sergeants; the 1839 rank and file pattern, superseded by the 1842 pattern, both six ins. longer than the sergeants' 4ft 1 in. weapon; the Victoria cavalry carbine (3ft 6 ins.); a Royal Artillery and Royal Sappers and Miners carbine (3ft 10 ins.); and the Rifles' Brunswick (3ft 10 ins.). Finally there was the 1842 pattern pistol for Lancers, and all cavalry sergeant-majors and trumpeters. Except for Rifles, Artillery and Sappers, who all had sword bayonets, the triangular 17-inch socket bayonet was retained. The new muskets were furnished with a spring catch under the muzzle to secure the bayonet more

firmly. The need for this had been demonstrated at Meanee, when the 22nd had bound their bayonets to their muskets with cords to prevent them being wrenched off by the Baluchis.

Notwithstanding improved reliability, these weapons still lacked range and accuracy, and could only fire two, rather than the flintlock's three, rounds per minute. An experiment in 1846 concluded that musketry at over 200 yards was a waste of ammunition, the most effective range being not more than 150 yards—a distance that certainly a horseman, and probably a nimble savage, could cover before a soldier could complete his reloading. The solution lay in a rifled barrel; and in 1851 the Belgian Minié rifled musket was adopted. In outward appearance the Minié resembled the 1842 musket but had a leaf backsight. It was effective up to 800 yards and targets could be hit at twice that distance. In 1852 100 Miniés were issued to each infantry battalion at home and abroad; these were distributed evenly between each company and 'placed in the hands of the most expert marksmen'.

The percussion weapon, 1842-type or Minié, was fired by its hammer striking down on a thimble-shaped copper cap containing a charge, which was placed on a vented nipple. The main supply of these caps were held in a tin magazine carried in the pouch, but a small waterproof leather pouch was

**The 3rd Light Dragoons charging the Sikhs at Sobraon, 10 February 1846. Lieutenant Denholme-Cookes, 3rd LD. (Major R. C. McDuell)**



provided to contain caps for immediate use. From 1840 these pouches were to be fixed to the waist or sword belts by Rifles and cavalry, and attached to the right side of the coat with a ring by infantry. From 1844 infantry coatees and shells were to be furnished with a small pocket on the right to hold the cap pouch. In India the practice of fastening the pouch to the HEIC-type waistbelt by the 39th has already been noted.

The second half of the 1840s saw the Army in action in New Zealand, India, South Africa and Burma. The **First Maori War** of 1845-47 involved a small force fighting in often torrential rain amid scrub, forest and swamp against a warlike and ferocious enemy, well-equipped with firearms, and with a talent for constructing extremely robust stockades complete with underground shelters from which they fought, rather than utilising the undergrowth for ambushes as did the Kaffir tribes. Evidence of the 58th Foot in this campaign can be gleaned from the water-colours of Maj. Bridge, Lt. Page and Sgt. Williams and regimental diarists, on which Plate D3 is based. All indicate shell jackets and cloth trousers being worn by all ranks, with forage caps. Bridge shows the latter as the broad-crowned type, with black band of the facing colour, but Williams' figures are usually in the plain 'pork-pie' variety. New Zealand service did not qualify for such minor concessions as forage cap peaks (for soldiers) or headdress covers.

The only accoutrements portrayed are the men's cross-belts and haversacks slung over the right shoulder by soldiers and the left by officers. These drawings all depict static operations in front of Maori *pahs*, but it is clear, from soldiers' accounts, that blankets, greatcoats and mess-tins were carried on the march. There was very little transport, and since the knapsacks were stored for a time, these articles must have been carried in the knapsack straps. The absence of the knapsacks allowed the men no change of clothing which, in wet weather, caused great hardship. Sgt. Hattaway noticed the men 'ragged, tattered and torn, many without boots or tied on their feet with flax, their pants of many colours; blankets and greatcoats reduced in size to repair their continuations'. The knapsacks were restored later, and Cpl. Free stated that they were carried by the Light Company during the assault on Ohaeawai on 1 July 1845. After storming



**Sergeant, 14th Light Dragoons, in Indian cold season dress of covered shako and dress jacket, as worn in the Second Sikh War.**

Ruapekapeka in January 1846 Pte. Whisker remembered returning to the coast in 'heavy marching order and our blankets besides—we had very hard work'.

The two **Sikh Wars**, which resulted in the annexation of the Punjaub, involved six major battles and one siege during the cold weather season in a terrain that was 'dead flat, covered at short intervals with low, but in some places thick jungle, and dotted with sandy hillocks'. B. D. Grant, the HEIC officer mentioned earlier, made a number of drawings of the campaign which show several Queen's regiments. He depicts the 3rd Light Dragoons at Moodkee on 18 December 1845 in forage caps with peaks and white covers; this is corroborated in sketches made by Lt. Denholme-Cookes of that regiment (see Plate E2). In the second campaign the 3rd wore white-covered shakos; Sgt. Pearman mentions in his memoirs using his as a pillow, and in a sketch of Chillianwallah Capt. Unett shows his squadron so dressed. In the well-known plates by Martens of the Sikh Wars the 3rd appear in shakos, with black covers at Ferozeshah, 21-22 December 1845, and



**The 14th Light Dragoons at Ramnuggar, 22 November 1848, charging Sikh infantry, who wear white or blue turbans, red jackets, blue trousers and black belts. After H. Martens.**

with white at Chillianwallah, 13 January 1849. Capt. Thackwell wrote: 'Some officers wrapped rolls of linen cloth round the shako, the folds of which hung down the backs, affording some protection'. All the evidence indicates that soldiers wore their dress jackets but that officers fought in stable jackets; that worn by Unett at Chillianwallah has survived, in the Queen's Own Hussars Museum, with a sword cut across the shoulder.

Similar dress, with white-covered shakos, appears in a painting by J. Wheeler of the surrender of the Sikhs, which may portray the 14th Light Dragoons. Martens painted the 14th at Ramnuggar on 22 November 1848 in this dress. The wearing of shakos is corroborated by Cpl. Tookey who recorded that at Ramnuggar Sgt. Clifton had 'the top of his shako cut to pieces', but Pte. Coultrup noted: 'Most of the men managed to lose them before long, and we often wore a towel soaked in water wound round the head like a turban'.

Evidence of the 16th Lancers in the first campaign (see Plate F2) includes eyewitness drawings by Grant and Capt. Yule, Bengal Engineers, and the account of Capt. Cowtan, who charged as a corporal at Aliwal. He recalled officers wearing stable jackets and men dress jackets

without girdles, and that the lance-caps were covered with either 'black oilskin or white calico quilted with curtain'. Cowtan's memories are not entirely substantiated by the pictorial evidence: certainly girdles were not worn by officers, but three privates in a Grant sketch all have them, as they do in other paintings; an officer observed by Yule apparently has a loosely-folded cummerbund round his waist; and only Martens shows black oilskin covers at Aliwal. Neither Grant, Yule, nor the more finished paintings by Spalding and Hayes (see herewith) show neck curtains.

Pte. Gilling of the 9th Lancers records how a sergeant of his regiment had his cap-lines severed at Chillianwallah by a sabre stroke which also cut through his brass shoulder scales. This, and how 'a Sikh grasped one side of his double-breasted jacket', confirms that the 9th also wore their dress jackets, which were blue as opposed to the 16th's scarlet.

The Bengal Horse Artillery appear in Yule's drawing, and a somewhat macabre Grant sketch entitled 'The headless Horse Artillery man in Dicky Tod's troop'. They wear their much-prized full dress (described under Plate C2), though some of the men drawn by Yule apparently have helmet covers, and Grant shows an officer in a white-covered forage cap.

Orders for the 9th Foot, when warned for service on 10 December 1845, required coatees and cloth



**The 31st, 50th and Gurkhas attacking Sikh defences at Sobraon as Sergeant McCabe, 31st, plants the Regimental Colour on the ramparts. After H. Martens, from sketch by Captain White, 31st.**

trousers to be packed in knapsacks and, on the 20th, company commanders were to see that 'their men are completed to 60 rounds in the pouch, that their canteens are filled with water, and that each has tomorrow's bread and meat in their haversacks'. The water canteens were apparently a local issue made of tin—called 'tom-toms' by the soldiers, according to Pte. Baldwin. They seem to have been carried on camels, as Ensign Robertson of the 31st mentions how they were crushed when a camel fell into a ditch.

Subsequent orders reveal that coatees and cloth trousers were put on for inspections; but in action, as drawings by Grant of the regiment at Moodkee and Ferozeshah confirm, the men were dressed as in Plate E1. Grant shows an unusual drummer's dress detail: a festoon across the shako front outside the white cover, similar to the cords worn on the 1812 shako. This record of the 9th Foot's field appearance is completed by Baldwin's description of the regiment after Ferozeshah: 'Our faces and hands covered in blood, mingled with dust and filth from all kinds of smoke; our clothes from head to foot painted all over; and our once white, now sable belts besmeared with it. I should like then to have had my portrait taken by an artist that I might show you the great difference between a fighting man in this country, and the clean pipe-clayed soldier in England'.

According to Grant the 53rd were dressed similarly to the 9th. Four plates by Martens, after sketches by Capt. White of the 31st, show that regiment in white, broad-crowned forage caps, shell jackets and cloth trousers. Ensign Robertson and Baldwin recorded that some men went into action at Moodkee in shirtsleeves, having been resting in camp when the 'fall-in' sounded. Robertson also mentions carrying his military cloak strapped to his back, and Martens shows the men carrying their greatcoats in this manner at Moodkee. This regiment also had the HEIC-type waistbelt.

At Sobraon Baldwin observed how 'Her Majesty's 10th threw aside their heavy shakos'. The shako was obviously not ideal for fighting, though a Col. Wood pronounced it 'capital' and that 'our men used to lounge about camp in the shako in preference to the forage cap'. The 10th's colonel, Franks, was a martinet, and by the Siege of Mooltan, September 1848–January 1849, had made sure his men appeared in shakos, with white covers, and coatees though they were permitted cotton trousers. Their officers were allowed a more comfortable dress, as shown in Plate E3. These costumes, and others of the siege, were sketched by

John Bellasis, an officer of HEIC Bombay Army. He also drew the 60th Rifles, their men in shakos with black linen covers and curtains, dress jackets and blue cotton trousers, officers as in Plate F1.

As Bellasis was guarding a battery he had opportunity to sketch the Bombay Foot Artillery. Officers' headgear varies: one wears a white shako with red-striped curtain, another has a shako with a blue turban round it, while a third wears a forage cap with black cover and curtain. The gunners are more uniformly dressed in white-covered shakos with curtains, blue coatees and trousers. The officers have skirted blue coats which may be frocks, or possibly a blue version of Plate E3, though the figures are too small and sketchy to discern details. An Engineer officer makes a rare and interesting appearance, as Bellasis shows him in an early form of sun helmet swathed in a red puggaree, a blue frock coat and blue trousers with a red stripe; he has a waistbelt with sword hooked up, and a spy-glass or some other instrument slung over his right shoulder.

Another regiment at Mooltan was the 32nd Foot, which contained a competent artist in its surgeon, John Dunlop, and two diarists, Cpl. Ryder and Pte. Waterfield. One of Dunlop's tinted lithographs, 'In the trenches, September 1848', shows the men in broad-crowned, peaked white forage caps, white

**Flank company of the 53rd, in covered shakos and shell jackets, halted on the march in the Punjab, 1846. Three officers, standing right, wear forage caps. B. D. Grant.**

shell jackets (issued in India for the hot season) and grey trousers. Two officers wear white, turban-like headgear, white shell jackets unbuttoned to reveal white waistcoats with roll collars and black neckerchiefs, and white trousers. Waterfield noted temperatures of '123 degrees in tents' in late August, but during January 'the rain poured down in torrents' and by 4 February 'the weather was like a summer's day in old England'. Thus, for the final assault on 22 January, coatees were worn, as shown in Plate F3.

At Chillianwallah the contrasting dress of the 24th and 29th is known from drawings by officers of both regiments, J. H. Archer and W. S. Simmons respectively, and a description by the former: 'The 24th went into action in full dress with the inconvenient tall shako. The 29th were in undress jackets and forage caps. Some officers wore their blue frock coats, some dark trousers and shell jackets, and others long red or blue cotton coats, quilted, with turbans wound round their forage caps'. Both shakos and caps had white covers, the latter curtains as well. The 24th's trousers were described by another witness, Sam Browne, as 'french grey'—possibly the summer, lavender type—while the men of the 29th had blue cotton, their officers preferring their Oxford mixture cloth. All ranks of the 29th wore shell jackets but over them their officers wore, as Maj. Everard recalled, 'a plain double-breasted red serge quilted jacket, with roll collar and buttons covered in the same





**32nd Foot, in white shell jackets, in the trenches before Multan, September 1848. After Surgeon Dunlop, 32nd.**

material. Field officers wore a belt with slings, company officers carried their swords suspended in a sliding frog on a black patent leather waistbelt with snake clasp'. According to members of the 61st Foot, that regiment also fought at Chillianwallah in undress.

Simultaneously with the Maori and Sikh wars, operations had been undertaken against the **Orange Free State** Boers in 1845 and 1848, and in countering more tribal uprisings on the eastern Cape frontier between 1846–47—the **Seventh Kaffir War**. According to a sketch made 'on the spot' by Charles Bell, the 7th Dragoon Guards encountered the Boers at Zwartkopjes on 30 April 1845 dressed in brass helmets with lion's-head crest and undress uniform. In this action they used Brunswick rifles taken over from the 60th Rifles, but these proved so difficult to load on horseback that carbines were restored during the tribal fighting. The helmets were not worn again in the field, and the regiment appeared at the beginning of the Kaffir War as in Plate G1. After the campaign Pte. Adams wrote: 'Our uniform was of many colours; all more or less patched with pieces of sheep or buckskin. Our headgear was equally of as great variety from the regimental forage cap to the red or blue night cap'. Other mounted troops were provided by the Cape Mounted Rifles, shown at Plate G2.

Surgeon Munro noted that the Royal Artillery wore 'a blue forage cap, blue [shell] jacket and light French grey pantaloons'; though Martens, after sketches by Capt. Carey, CMR, shows gunners in dark blue trousers with broad red stripe.

The infantry wore forage caps, shell jackets 'which sobered down to a dark and dingy maroon', and 'white linen trousers for the march, dark grey cloth ones being carried rolled up in the greatcoat for night use' (Munro). No knapsacks were carried, but Adams observed infantrymen with greatcoats and blankets strapped to their backs and said each had 120 rounds; this was double the capacity of the pouch, so the balance must have been consigned to the haversack. Capt. Ward of the 1st/91st sketched his men, not in shells but coatees with all lace removed—as in Plate G3—with an officer in forage cap, frock coat and water bottle over the left shoulder. Ensign Fleming of the 45th reported that 'there was an order that no officer, on any account whatever, was to appear in blue [frock]'.

The 1st Rifle Brigade stored their shakos at Grahamstown, but Sir William Cope recorded that on the march the men 'suffered severely from the sun; their faces being almost skinned as their forage caps had no peaks'. By January 1847 their 'clothing was some of it in rags; some patched with leather; some men had no shoes; some wore sandals of rawhide and fastened with thongs'. The battalion was armed with Brunswicks, but six per company had Lancaster rifles which were sighted to 900 yards. According to Munro, the 27th still had flintlocks in this campaign.

In 1850 trouble again erupted on the eastern frontier and for this, the **Eighth Kaffir War**, there is considerable pictorial and documentary evidence, including the paintings and journal of the artist and explorer Thomas Baines, who accompanied the troops in the field.

Besides the CMR, cavalry was provided by the 12th Lancers. According to Baines and paintings by Barker and Capt. Goodrich, CMR, all ranks wore white-covered forage caps fitted with short peaks and curtains, stable jackets, girdles and regulation trousers. For some of the operations part of the regiment was armed with double-barrelled carbines instead of lances; carbine swivels had to be specially fitted to the pouch belt, and a cap pouch to the sword belt. Before leaving for the Cape, 25 Colt





**7th Dragoon Guards and Cape Mounted Rifles, supported by Royal Artillery, in action at the Gwanga, 8 June 1846, 7th Kaffir War. After H. Martens, from sketch by Captain Carey, CMR.**

revolvers (first displayed at the Great Exhibition of 1851) were ordered for the officers, some of whom also carried carbines in the field.

Among the infantry, various measures were taken by commanding officers and the men themselves to adapt their issue clothing and equipment for bush warfare. Plate H3 shows a soldier of the 2nd Foot. Capt. King of the 74th described the 6th with 'their red coats patched with leather, canvas or cloth of all colours, with straw hats or wideawakes [broad-brimmed felt hats], long beards, tattered trousers and broken boots revealing stockingless feet'. Baines shows their trousers as white, light blue or buff; some men have peaked forage caps, all wear pouches in front on a waistbelt, haversacks and water bottles slung over the right and left shoulders respectively. Sgt. McKay of the 74th saw the 6th's Colonel Michel with 'shirt sleeves rolled up to his elbows, wideawake cocked on one side, strong blucher boots on his feet, and a pair of corduroy trousers on his legs'. Foster of the 12th wrote: 'White belts which the men wear and the big pouches are to be given into store and a light serviceable waistbelt, with a pouch fixed on it given in place. Our [officers'] clothing is also different; we

have all ordered what is called a "Frontier Jacket", made of red cloth; our trousers are of moleskin'.

Some officers hardly bothered with any item of uniform. A series of sketches with descriptive commentaries by Capt. Lucas includes a typical subaltern who 'wears a green wideawake with lanyard thereto to prevent it blowing away; a Frontier jacket, any colour you like, with lots of pockets; a pink flannel shirt; no waistcoat; mimosa-stained corduroys of a faint purple colour; felt shoes of undressed leather; one hunting spur on the right foot. His weapons, a double-barrelled gun carried in a leathern bucket on the right side; a Colt revolver; a pocket pistol<sup>1</sup> loaded with french brandy, slung over his shoulder; a leather strap buckled round the body supporting a larger sealskin pouch for bullets, with a small one for caps. A leather side bag of jackal's hide, strapped on the saddle; a cloak or greatcoat rolled up in front of him, and a tin pot adorns the horse's crupper'. The frontier jacket drawn by Lucas has a step collar and three-button fastening and reaches nearly to hip length. He also describes a bespectacled commanding officer as 'habited in a leathern hunting cap, a short mackintosh and carrying no more formidable weapon than a Dolland's telescope'.

<sup>1</sup>Pistol-shaped flask for travellers, holding about a dram.

The spectacles suggest Col. Eyre of the 73rd, who features in a series of drawings by Ensign Robinson of the 43rd Light Infantry dressed in a frontier jacket, checked waistcoat, probably corduroy trousers and Napoleon boots. Robinson also shows officers dressed like Lucas' subaltern, wearing a variety of headgear including a forage cap with black oilskin cover and curtain. Though slightly more regimental, the 43rd's men were also variously dressed: wideawakes, nightcaps, peaked forage caps, some in coatees, some shell jackets and much-patched trousers described as 'fustian and cord'. Unlike most regiments the 43rd seem to have retained both cross-belts, and carried blankets and greatcoats folded together to form a pack with the mess-tin attached thereto, haversacks and wooden water bottles.

In February 1851 Sir Harry Smith, commanding at the Cape, proposed to clothe the 73rd in light grey jackets. Yet on 12 May a General Order required that in future red jackets would be worn in the field and that 'the slop clothing issued to the Royal Sappers and Miners, the 6th and 73rd' was to be stored; this may have referred to the grey jackets.

A water-colour of a 73rd soldier in early 1852 by Lt. Fowler RE, reproduced herewith, shows a dress similar to other regiments.

A revolutionary costume, ignoring the May General Order, was adopted by the non-kilted 74th Highlanders. Capt. King described it as 'more suitable for the bush—viz, a short dark canvas blouse; in addition feldt-schoen and lighter pouches, made of untanned leather, were issued to the men and broad leather peaks fitted to their forage caps'. The blouses were the smock-frocks issued for sea voyages, and dyed at Grahamstown to a deep olive brown using copperas and mimosa bark; the cuffs and shoulders were reinforced with leather. This dye cannot have been fast, as in Baines' paintings of the regiment the colour varies from light brown to pale buff. They were worn with regimental trews of Government tartan with a white stripe. Besides the locally-made waistbelts and pouches, the men carried a blanket-cum-greatcoat pack with mess-tin on top. An officer is

**12th Lancers and CMR charging Basutos at Berea Mountain, 20 December 1852, 8th Kaffir War. The 12th have white cap-covers.**



illustrated as Plate H2. With this practical dress which, as time went by, became patched with leather or cloth, and with boots 'burnt to a reddish-brown', the 74th acquired not only a comfortable fighting dress, but one which must have blended well with the bush—a forerunner of what was to become known as khaki.

Of all infantry engaged the 1st Rifle Brigade, which returned to South Africa in March 1852, maintained the most regulation appearance. Sketches by 2nd Lt. Bramston, and paintings by Baines all show riflemen in forage caps (now with peaks, according to Baines), coatees or shell jackets, regulation trousers and black equipment, and the customary blanket packs. In one off-duty scene, however, Bramston shows a wideawake and a nightcap.

**Soldier of the 73rd, 8th Kaffir War 1852, in grey hat, red coatee without shoulder ornaments, brown trousers, blanket pack. Lieutenant Fowler, RE. (Africana Museum, Johannesburg)**

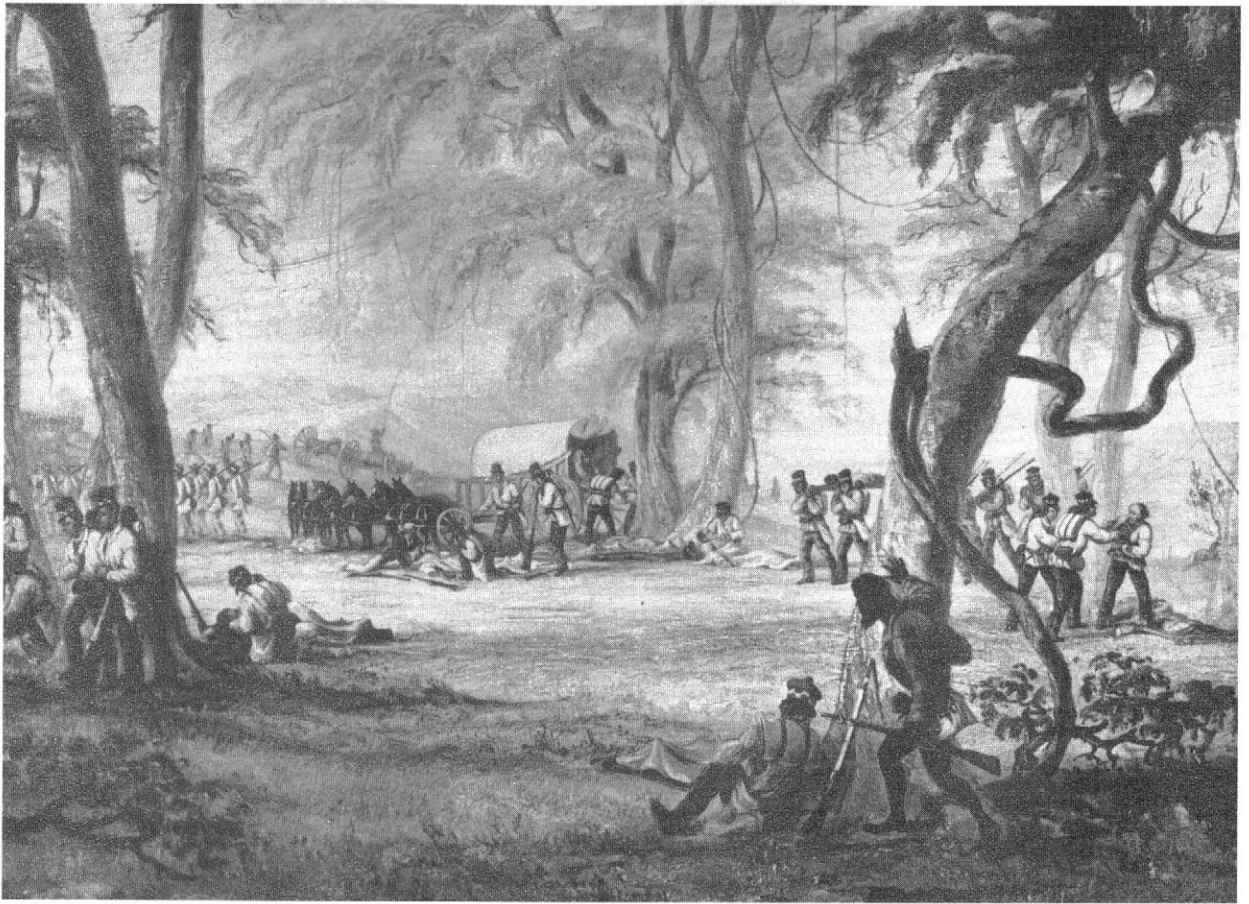


Several Baines paintings include the Royal Artillery with ox or mule-drawn guns. A typical gunner is shown at Plate H1. Variations in artillery dress echoed the infantry's, though seemingly always based on undress.

The more relaxed attitude to field dress in South Africa found little reflection in the last campaign to be considered and the first for which there is some photographic evidence. Writing of the **Second Burma War**, the 18th Royal Irish's historian remarks on the 'folly' of sending troops to fight in the tropics 'in the same uniform as that in use in the United Kingdom'. Viscount Wolsley, then an ensign in the 80th, had similar criticisms, based on personal experience: 'The Queen's Army took an idiotic pride in dressing in India as nearly as possible in the same clothing they wore at home. Upon this occasion [the Burma war] the only difference was in the trousers, which were of ordinary Indian drill dyed blue, and that around our regulation forage cap we wore a few yards of puggaree of a similar colour. We wore our ordinary cloth shell jackets buttoned up to the chin. Could any costume short of steel armour be more absurd in such a latitude? As a great relaxation of the Queen's Regulations, our men were told they need not wear their great stiff leathern stocks. This was a relief to the young recruits, but most of the old soldiers clung to theirs, asserting that the stock protected the back of the neck against the sun and kept them cool'.

Wolsley's words are corroborated by an anonymous watercolour showing men of the 18th overcome by heat around a temple at Rangoon. They wear white-covered caps, coatees or shells and grey-blue trousers, and are fully accoutred with cross-belts, HEIC-type waistbelts, knapsacks and the 'soda-water' type of water bottle. Another water-colour, by the officer-artist J. N. Crealock, depicts the 18th and 80th at Rangoon in 1852 similarly dressed except for cap curtains and no knapsacks. A contemporary engraving of the 51st Light Infantry shows much the same.

Wolsley wrote enviously of the HEIC officers who were 'sensibly dressed in good helmets with ample turbans round them and loose jackets of cotton drill'. However, a photograph of either the Bengal or Madras European Fusiliers shows their men dressed much like the Queen's regiments; they have waistbelts which have a sliding frog and are



broader than the HEIC type encountered earlier, so must be the HEIC version of the British 1850 pattern with its fixed frog.

\* \* \*

Generally in this period there had been some relaxation of regulation dress in the field, thanks either to enlightened local commanders or sheer exigencies of the service. Undress had been more usual than full dress; trousers of more suitable weight and material had been obtained locally, though red, blue or green cloth was still considered appropriate for the upper man regardless of climate, though of lighter weight in hot countries; and one commanding officer at least, Col. Fordyce of the 74th, had revolutionised his regiment's fighting dress. Whenever possible the soldier was relieved of his hated knapsack, and better means of carrying the infantryman's ammunition, side-arm and immediate necessities had been devised, particularly in South Africa. An improvement to his

**74th Highlanders resting and attending to wounded after an engagement on the Waterkloof, 6 November 1851. Thomas Baines. (Africana Museum, Johannesburg)**

regulation accoutrements had been authorised, though as yet few regiments overseas had benefited from it.

Infantry weapons had been improved, while open-order fighting in rough country against elusive opponents had inculcated in all companies of a battalion the qualities of self-reliance, initiative and marksmanship which should facilitate the adoption of the looser formations and less centralised control that longer-range, more accurate weapons would, sooner or later, demand. The few cavalry regiments engaged had learned similar lessons; and that skirmishing, reconnaissance and outpost duties were of equal, if not greater importance than shock action, and that their horses, rather than being merely vehicles for sword or lance, could be a means of conveying their more lethal firearms to a point more rapidly than infantry could march. The campaigns outside India

had seen few guns deployed, and then only to enhance infantry firepower; but the weight of artillery encountered in the Sikh Wars had pointed the need for improved guns and, therefrom, the decisive rôle they would have in future warfare, making artillery not merely an adjunct of infantry or cavalry, but vital to success.

The Army overseas, through its many and varied campaigns, had changed in several respects from its Peninsular forebears, and the lessons learned had not been lost on many professionally-minded officers and military commentators. Against that, the recently dead hand of the Commander-in-Chief and former Master-General of the Ordnance, the Duke of Wellington—partly for reasons of economy, and partly from his aversion to changing something that had proved victorious under his command four decades before—had frequently applied the brake on progress in a force which, two years after his death in 1852, was to confront its first European enemy since those days, and for which its colonial experience, despite its lessons, had not prepared it.

## The Plates

*A: India, Burma*

1: Private, 17th Light Dragoons, India, 1817

2: Officer, 87th Foot, India, 1817

3: Corporal, 41st Foot, Burma, 1824

**A1** wears a covered shako, dress jacket buttoned over to hide the white lapels, girdle, pantaloons and hessian boots; a year later the latter two were replaced by grey trousers and ankle boots. He is accoutred with waistbelt for sword and sabretache, pouch belt with carbine swivel, haversack and water bottle. His arms are Light Cavalry 1796 pattern sword and 31-in. Paget carbine. Based on a water-colour by George Salisbury, bandsman of the 17th.

**A2**, based on John Shipp's portrait, has a Light Company feather in his uncovered shako. The wearing of a frock coat was probably from personal choice. Shipp retained his old Light Dragoon sword on commissioning and the belt shown may also be a relic of his former service, with an attachment

added for his pistol. He discarded his scabbard when storming Hattress.

**A3**, after Lt. Moore of the 89th, wears a battalion company jacket and an oilskin cover for the shako. Note the regimental pattern lace. The Moore plates show only pouch and bayonet belts being worn when attacking stockades, other equipment being left off to improve agility.

*B: South Africa, Canada*

1: Private, 72nd Highlanders, South Africa, 1835

2: Private, King's Dragoon Guards, Canada, 1838

**B1** is based on Alexander's description (see text) and Sir Harry Smith's, 'the 72nd in brown buckskin trousers wearing a forage cap with large red leather peak'. The stock and Highland jacket wings have been removed. Note lace is now plain white. Equipment has been reduced to pouch, haversack and water bottle.

**B2** is based on an engraving after Hayes and Luard's description of 'a kind of busby, blue pea-jacket, long boots lined with sheepskin, very good and sensible but not according to regulations'. He carries the normal accoutrements, Heavy Cavalry carbine and 1821 pattern sword. On the saddle is his rolled cloak and valise.

**1st Rifle Brigade halting on patrol during the 8th Kaffir War, 1852. 2nd Lieutenant T. H. Bramston, RB. (Royal Green Jackets Museum)**





*C: Afghanistan*

1: Private, 17th Foot, 1839

2: Officer, Bengal Horse Artillery, 1839

3: Bugler, 13th Light Infantry, 1842

**C1**, based on Wingate and documentary evidence, belongs to the Grenadier Company. Apart from the shako cover, he is clothed as for home service. At Khelat only cross-belts were worn, but on the march a change of clothing was carried wrapped in the blanket, together with the greatcoat, in the knapsack straps. The day's ration went in the haversack.

**C2** wears undress uniform except for the white-covered BHA black metal helmet, which had a leopard-skin turban and gilt crest holding the horsehair mane. His men wore their dress, yellow-laced, red-faced jackets, white leather breeches and jacked boots. Based on Wingate and other pictures of the regiment.

**C3** is based on Cunliffe's 'Sortie from Jellalabad'. This regiment's yellow facings appear on the band of the forage cap, which is green for light infantry. He wears the nankeen cotton trousers issued in India. Buglers and drummers were armed with 29½-in.-blade swords with 1822 pattern hilts, similar to officers' but three inches shorter.

**Colonel Eyre, 73rd (centre) with officers, infantrymen (43rd), levies and camp followers of his column, 1852. The three mounted men (left) are probably 12th Lancers without lances. After Ensign Robinson, 43rd. (Author)**

*D: China, New Zealand*

1: Private, 18th Foot, China, 1842

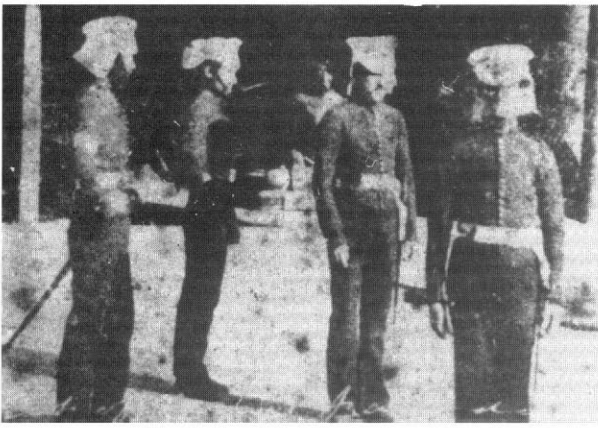
2: Gunner, Madras Foot Artillery, China, 1841

3: Officer, 58th Foot, New Zealand, 1845

Based on drawings by Surgeon Cree RN and eyewitness accounts, **D1** shows a mixture of dress and undress with nankeen trousers, HEIC pattern waistbelt, and the new percussion musket. The 18th suffered less from sunstroke than other regiments by unbuttoning their jackets and carrying their stocks under their shoulder straps. Before the attack on Chinkiangfu the greatcoats, carried in the knapsack straps, were removed.

**D2** is based on sketches by Capt. Mourilyan and Lt. White, and Madras Artillery regulations. He is in undress with winter trousers, as worn at Chuenpee, January 1841. Gunners and drivers with field batteries were armed with short swords. Note similar waistbelt to D1. He is the spongeman, or No. 2, of a field gun's seven-man crew.

All ranks of the 58th (**D3**) wore undress with home service winter trousers during the First Maori



**Sergeant, lance-corporal and privates of Bengal or Madras European Fusiliers at Rangoon, 1852.**

War, according to drawings by Maj. Bridge and Lt. Page, though company officers retained their dress sword belts instead of the undress pattern. The sword is the 1822 type, the soldiers being armed with percussion muskets.

*E: India*

- 1: Private, 9th Foot, 1845
- 2: Sergeant, 3rd Light Dragoons, 1845
- 3: Field Officer, 10th Foot, 1848

Several of B. D. Grant's Sikh War drawings show the 9th Foot's campaign dress (**E1**) of shell jackets, locally-made trousers, HEIC-type waistbelts, and dress shakos within white covers, the ball-tufts removed. Grant depicts men of the 9th after Moodkee carrying greatcoats in knapsack straps, but before battle these seem to have been discarded, as here.

Grant and Lt. Denholme-Cookes show men of the 3rd Light Dragoons (**E2**) in dress clothing with covered forage caps at Moodkee, but covered shakos were worn during the Second Sikh War. Officers wore the same headdress but with undress. The men's arms were the 1821 Light Cavalry sword and Victoria percussion carbine; Grant omits the latter in one drawing. Horse furniture included valises, sheepskins and shabracques with the hind corners looped up. Note method of saluting at this date.

**E3**, based on a Bellasis sketch at Mooltan, illustrates the degree of latitude permitted to officers but denied to the 10th's men, who wore shakos and coatees. The coat and trousers were locally made,

the former of quilted cotton or serge. He carries a spyglass and suspends his sword from the undress waistbelt, which for field officers had slings, and for company officers a frog.

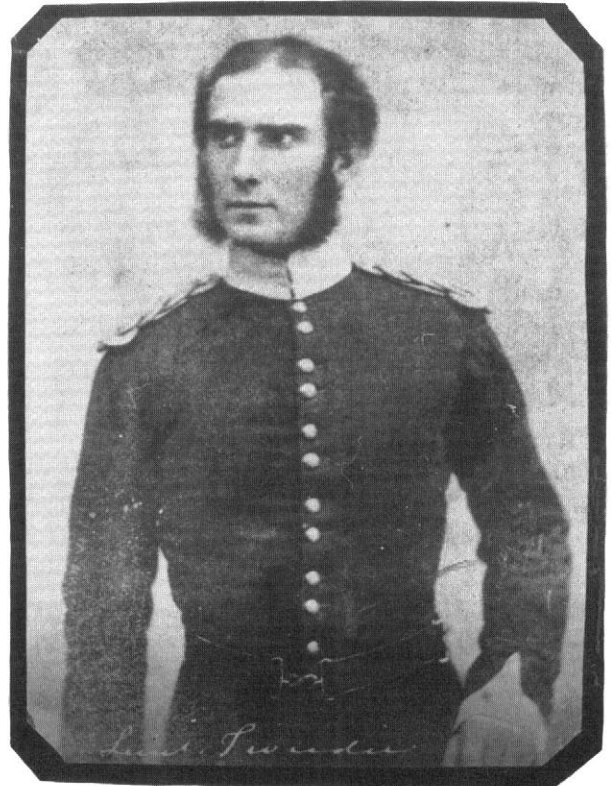
*F: India*

- 1: Officer, 60th Rifles, 1848
- 2: Corporal, 16th Lancers, 1846
- 3: Private, 32nd Foot, 1849

Based on Bellasis at Mooltan, **F1** wears a shell jacket and home service trousers. His shako is a lightweight, foul-weather type made of oilskin over a frame—an arrangement often adopted by cavalry officers. His riflemen wore covered shakos with curtains, dress jackets and local trousers. Bellasis shows the officer without the pouch belt normally worn by Rifles' officers.

**F2**, based on Grant, Hayes, and Cpts. Cowtan and Yule, is dressed as for home service marching order except for the lance-cap cover. Officers wore undress with lance-caps. Horse furniture was sheepskins and valises. Cowtan said a leather-covered soda-water bottle was fastened to the centre strap securing the rolled cloak to the saddle. Hayes

**Lieutenant Tweedie, 80th Foot, in shell jacket, 2nd Burma War.**



shows some men with carbines—unusual for Lancers, but corroborated by Sgt. Pearman, 3rd Light Dragoons.

In contrast to E1, **F3** wears a forage cap with flank company dress coatee but similar trousers—the costume ordered for the final storming of Mooltan, according to Surgeon Dunlop. The only equipment Dunlop shows are cross-belts, but Cpl. Ryder mentions his haversack containing rations. The crowns on the caps are unusual but are shown by Dunlop.

*G: South Africa*

1: Private, 7th Dragoon Guards, 1846

2: Corporal, Cape Mounted Rifles, 1846

3: Private, 1st/91st Foot, 1846

Surgeon Munro, 91st, described this regiment (**G1**) as 'big men on the largest horses in the Colony, who wore a forage cap, jacket and cloth trousers seated with leather', a costume confirmed in drawings by Sir Harry Darell Bt., 7 DG. Arms were the Heavy Cavalry 1821 sword and carbine.

The CMR (**G2**), then part of the British Army, were part European, part Coloured. Their full dress was of Light Dragoon style in rifle-green, officers being dressed similarly to the Rifle Brigade. This field costume of undress jacket and cap is based on drawings by Cpts. Carey and Goodrich, CMR, and Darell. The trousers were leather, and known as 'crackers'. Though issued with swords, the CMR's chief weapon was the double-barrelled carbine, effective in bush warfare.

**G3**, of the Light Company, is based on a sketch by Capt. Ward, 91st. The dress coatee has had its lace removed, the collar is turned down, but the wings retained, possibly to prevent supporting straps slipping off the shoulders. A locally-made pouch and waistbelt replace the regulation pattern. Bayonets were often discarded in the bush. He carries haversack, water bottle, greatcoat, blanket and mess-tin. The 91st had two battalions in the field; though not Highlanders, its title, 'Argyllshire', acquired for its 1st Battalion's forage caps a diced band, its Reserve Battalion's being plain blue. In addition to the peak fixed in front the cap had an adjustable one at rear.

*H: South Africa*

1: Bombardier, Royal Artillery, 1852



Sergeant, HEIC Horse Artillery, in dress jacket and oilskin-covered forage cap, 1851.

2: Officer, 74th Highlanders, 1851

3: Private, 2nd Foot, 1851

Chief sources for all three figures are Thomas Baines' paintings and journal. **H1** wears a 'wideawake' hat, stable jacket, locally-acquired trousers, and untanned leather waistbelt and pouch. Some RA retained forage caps and regulation trousers. He is the No. 5, or firer, of a gun-crew. He carries the 1841 pattern artillery carbine.

**H2** has discarded his broadsword in favour of a double-barrelled carbine, but has retained his dirk. He wears the same smock-frock and trows as his men—an unusual example of uniformity between ranks—and a locally-made waistbelt and pouch. Baines shows one 74th officer in a wideawake.

Baines observed the 2nd Queen's (**H3**) wearing a variety of headgear, forage caps, red nightcaps (as issued to soldiers) or even handkerchiefs, but all in shell jackets. The home service summer trousers,



shown here, soon faded and wore out and fresh ones were made up of local red cloth. Regulation pouches were retained, but untanned leather waistbelts were adopted to suspend the bayonet

when carried. Cpl. Ebsworth recorded haversack being carried on the back. Baines shows blanket slung over the right shoulder.

## Notes sur les planches en couleur

**A1** Hormis le shako, qui porte ici un pare-soleil, cet homme est un dragon de la cavalerie légère de Waterloo. Des revers blancs sont boutonnés. L'année suivante les culottes et les bottes à la Souvarov furent remplacés par des pantalons gris et des bottes allant jusqu'aux chevilles. D'après une aquarelle contemporaine. **A2** Basé sur le portrait de John Shipp; notez le léger plumet de l'infanterie sur le shako, la redingote (un choix personnel) et l'ancien sabre des Dragons de la cavalerie légère de cet homme et le baudiir du pistolet personnel. Il écrivit qu'il se défiait de son fourreau lors du combat. **A3** Veste de la compagnie du Centre et shako couvert d'une toile cirée; les peintures du Lt Moore ne montrent que le baudiir de baïonnette et la bandoulière de giberne portés lors des attaques de palissade, tout autre équipement étant mis de côté.

**B1** Pantalons bruns de peau de daim et calot avec large visière ajoutée en cuir rougeâtre-d'après des récits de témoins oculaires. Les 'nids d'hirondelles' ont été retirés de la veste; notez le gálon uni blanc et l'équipement qui se réduit à la giberne, le havresac et la gourde à eau. **B2** Bonnet de fourrure obtenu localement, manteau bleu et bottes hautes doublées de peau de mouton, portés avec les équipements courants.

**C1** Soldat de la compagnie des grenadiers; hormis le couvre-shako, l'uniforme est le même que celui porté en Grande-Bretagne. Pendant la marche, des vêtements de rechange et la redingote, roulée dans une couverture, étaient portés en bandoulière au moyen de courroies retirées du havresac. **C2** Cet officier porte un uniforme de petite tenue avec le casque à crête blanche; ses hommes auraient porté des vestes de tenue complète, des pantalons blancs et des bottes. **C3** La couleur du parement jaune de cette unité apparaît sur le bandeau du bonnet vert de modèle d'infanterie légère. Les sonneurs de clairon et les tambours portaient des épées avec garde de modèle de l'année 1822 mais de six centimètres plus courte que celle des épées d'officiers. D'après Cunliffe.

**D1** Basée largement sur les dessins du Chirurgien Cree, un mélange de tenue complète et d'articles de petite tenue, avec pantalons de 'nankin', ceinturon HEIC et mousquet à percussion; ne se retire pas du cou et était porté sous la bandoulière. **D2** Basé sur des croquis et des réglementations: il est en petite tenue, avec pantalons d'hiver et notez à nouveau le ceinturon de type HEIC. **D3** Petite tenue avec pantalons d'hiver quoique des récits mentionnent que les officiers portaient des dragones d'épée de grande tenue.

**E1** Les dessins de Grant montrent des vestes et des pantalons locaux, des ceinturons de type HEIC et des shakos couverts sans plumes. **E2** Les dessins montrent aussi des hommes de troupe en uniforme de grande tenue mais avec calots couverts; les officiers portaient l'uniforme de petite tenue. **E3** Choix personnel de veste de coton outainée fabriquée localement, des pantalons locaux et un ceinturon de gradé de petite tenue. Les hommes souffraient de la chaleur en grande tenue et avec leur shako pendant ce temps-là.

**F1** Shako fait de toile cirée sur un bâti léger; veste et pantalons de service dans la métropole. Le croquis d'origine montre que la courroie de giberne a été mise de côté. **F2** Ce corporal, selon de nombreux croquis, porte 'une tenue de marche de service dans la métropole' à l'exception du couvre-czapka. **F3** Cet homme porte pour l'assaut de Mooltan une veste (avec distinctions de compagnie d'encadrement), avec calot et pantalons locaux de grande tenue. Les croquis de Dunlop montrent des hauts de calot peu courants.

**G1** Des dessins et descriptions, confirment le calot, la veste et les pantalons avec renfort de cuir. Une lourde épée de cavalerie de 1821 et un mosqueton comme armes. Leurs chevaux étaient les plus gros de la colonie. **G2** Cette unité, en partie européenne et en partie de race mixte, porte le vert 'Rifle'; cette veste et ce bonnet de petite tenue se portaient en campagne, avec des pantalons de cuir et l'on transportait des mosquetons à deux coups pour les combats de brousse. **G3** La veste de grande tenue n'a pas de gálon, le col est retourné, mais les 'nids d'hirondelle' de cette compagnie d'encadrement sont conservés. Une giberne et un ceinturon de fabrication locale remplacent les modèles réglementaires. Le calot, avec bandeau à carreau écossais, avait des visières ajoutées à l'avant et à l'arrière.

**H1** Toutes les figures proviennent des peintures et du journal de Baines. Le chapeau en feutre à bords larges surnommé 'wideawake' se portait avec une veste de corvée, des pantalons locaux et un ceinturon et une giberne de cuir non tannée. L'arme est le mosqueton d'artillerie de 1841. **H2** Le poignard est conservé bien que le sabre ait été mis de côté en faveur du mosqueton à deux coups. Tous les grades de cette unité portaient la blouse en toile à renfort de cuir et des pantalons en tartan—première adoption consignée du khaki par une unité entière, pour la tenue de campagne. **H3** Les garnitures de tête alternatives étaient les calots, les bonnets rouges et même des mouchoirs noués; tous portaient des vestes avec ces pantalons de service en métropole ou des pantalons rouges qui servaient à les remplacer, fabriqués localement. Les ceinturons de cuir non tannée adoptés pour porter la baïonnette, bien que les gibernes réglementaires aient été conservées.

## Farbtafeln

**A1** Abgesehen vom Tschako, hier mit Sonnenschutz, ist dies ein Leichter Dragoner von Waterloo. Die weissen Aufschläge sind überkreuz geknüpft. Im nächsten Jahr wurden Breeches und Reistiefel durch graue Hosen und knöchelhohe Stiefel ersetzt. Aus einem zeitgenössischen Aquarell. **A2** Basierend auf dem John Shipp-Portrait; Feder der Leichten Infanterie auf dem Tschako; Waffenrock (eine persönliche Wahl), und Säbel der alten Leichten Dragoner sowie persönlicher Pistolengürtel. Er schrieb, dass er die Scheide in der Schlacht fortgeworfen habe. **A3** Bataillons-Kompaniejacke und Ölzeugbedeckter Tschako; die Gemälde von Leutnant Moore zeigen nur den Patronen- und Bajonnettgürtel, der beim Sturm auf Stellungen getragen wurde, während andere Ausrüstungsstücke zurückgelassen wurden.

**B1** Braune Buckskin-Hosen und ein Käppi mit grossem Schirm aus rötlichem Leder—nach Augenzeugenberichten. Die Schwalbennester von der Jacke entfernt; siehe glatte weisse Borte; Ausrüstung reduziert auf Patronengürtel, Brotbeutel und Wasserflasche. **B2** Lokal erworbene Pelzkappe, blauer Mantel und hohe Stiefel, schaffellgefüllt, werden mit den normalen Ausrüstungsgegenständen getragen.

**C1** Soldat der Grenadierkompanie; ausser der Tschakohülle dieselbe Uniform wie in Grossbritannien. Auf dem Marsch wurde Ersatzkleidung und der Mantel in eine Decke gewickelt mit Riemen auf dem Rücken getragen. **C2** Dieser Offizier trägt Interimuniform mit weissbedecktem Helm mit Kamm; seine Männer würden volle Galajacken, weisse Breeches und Stiefel tragen. **C3** Die gelben Aufschläge der Einheit sind am Band des grünen Käppi nach der Art der leichten Infanterie zu sehen. Trompeter und Trommler trugen Schwerter, deren Griffe Muster von 1822 trugen, aber etwa 7,5 cm kürzer waren als die der Offiziere. Nach Cunliffe.

**D1** Beruhend hauptsächlich auf den Zeichnungen des Arztes Cree, ist hier eine Mischung von Gala- und Interimuniformstücken; 'Nankenk'-Hosen, HEIC-Gürtel und Perkussionsmuskete; Ladestock ist entfernt und unter Schulterriemen geschoben. **D2** Beruhend auf Skizzen und Vorschriften: er ist in Interimuniform, mit Winterhosen; auch hier wieder der HEIC-Gürtel. **D3** Interimuniform mit Winterhosen; es gibt jedoch Schilderungen, denenzufolge Offiziere Gala-Schwertgehenke getragen haben.

**E1** Grants Zeichnungen zeigen leichte Offiziersjacken, lokale Hosen, HEIC-Gürtel und bedeckte Tschakos ohne Federn. **E2** Zeichnungen zeigen auch Kavalleristen in voller Galauniform, aber mit gedeckten Käppis; Offiziere tragen Interimuniform. **E3** Persönlich gewähltes, lokal hergestelltes, gesteppte Baumwolljacke, lokale Hosen und Interimgürtel von Stabsrang. Die Männer mussten die Hitze in voller Galauniform und Tschakos ertragen.

**F1** Tschako aus Öltuch über leichtem Rahmen; leichte Offiziersjacke und Heimdiensthosen. Die Originalskizze zeigt Patronengürtel abgelegt. **F2** Beruhend auf zahllosen Skizzen—dieser Korporal trägt 'home service marching order', abgesehen von dem Tschapakbesatz. **F3** Für die Erstürmung von Mooltan trägt dieser Mann Galauniformjacke (mit Abzeichen der Anschlusskompanie), Käppi und lokale Hosen. Die ungewöhnlichen Käppi-Oberteile werden in den Skizzen von Dunlop gezeigt.

**G1** Zeichnungen und Schilderungen bestätigen Käppi, Jacke und Hosen mit Lederverstärkung. Waffen sind das schwere Kavallerieschwert von 1821 und ein Karabiner. Ihre Pferde waren die grössten in der Kolonie. **G2** Teils Europäer, teils gemischtrassisch, trugen die Männer dieser Einheit Rife-Grün; im Feld wurden diese Interimsjacke und Kappe getragen, Lederhosen und doppelläufige Karabiner für Kämpfe im Busch. **G3** Bei der Galajacke sind die Borten entfernt und der Kragen umgestülpt, aber die 'Schwalbennester' der Anschlusskompanie bleiben. Vorschriftsmässige Gurten werden durch Patronengürtel und Gürtel—lokal hergestellt—ersetzt. Das Käppi mit kariertem schottischen Band hat Schirme vorne und hinten.

**H1** Alle Figuren stammen aus den Gemälden und dem Journal von Baines. Der sog. 'Wideawake'-Helm wird mit Jacke, lokalen Hosen und Gürtel und Patronengürtel aus ungegerbtem Leder getragen, die Waffe ist der Artilleriekarabiner von 1841. **H2** Der Dolch bleibt, aber der Wallast wird durch den doppelläufigen Karabiner ersetzt. Der lederverstärkte Leinwandkittel und Trews (karierte Hochlandhosen) werden von allen Rängen dieser Einheit getragen—die erste registrierte Verwendung von Khaki für Felduniformen durch eine ganze Einheit. **H3** Alternative Kopfbedeckungen sind Käppis, rote Strumpfkappen oder sogar verknöterte Halstücher; alle trugen leichte Jacken, entweder mit Heimdiensthosen oder mit roten Hosen, lokal hergestellt. Ungegerbte Ledergürtel wurden zum Tragen des Bajonnetts verwendet, die vorschriftsmässigen Patronengurte aber beibehalten.

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