

OSPREY · MEN-AT-ARMS SERIES

# *The British Army of the Crimea*

*Text by* J. B. R. NICHOLSON

*Colour plates by* MICHAEL ROFFE



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## General Officers and Staff

As a general rule the scarlet full-dress uniform of general and staff officers was worn at levees, drawing-rooms or receptions given by senior commanders or governors, dress reviews or Queen's birthday parades. On all other occasions the blue undress uniform was worn. The sash was to be worn on all occasions, to go twice round the waist and to be tied on the left hip.

The only exceptions to the normal dress for general officers were for those who were also colonels of regiments who might appear at levees or drawing-rooms in the uniform of their regiment but with the hat, plume, sword, sash and belt of a general. The other exception was for general officers commanding hussars who were allowed to wear a special dark blue gold-braided hussar uniform, by special royal permission.

Staff officers with field rank were to have distinctions of rank on their epaulettes as follows:

Colonel	Crown and star on the strap
Lieutenant-Colonel	Crown
Major	Star

Furthermore the fringe of the dress epaulettes was to be the same length as prescribed for regimental officers, i.e. three-and-a-half-inch bullion for colonels and lieutenant-colonels, two-and-a-half-inch bullion for majors; captains were to have a smaller bullion two and a half inches deep and subalterns a yet smaller bullion also two and a half inches deep.

The dress uniform was scarlet, double-breasted with blue collar and cuffs embroidered with gold oak-leaf pattern as was the three-point scarlet slash on the cuff. The buttons were nine per row

evenly spaced for a field-marshal and general, in threes for a lieutenant-general and ten in pairs for a major-general. The lining and turnbacks to the skirts were white with gold-embroidered insignia of rank as below on the skirt and embroidered three-point cross pocket flaps on the skirts. Field-marsals had no epaulettes but a gold aiguillette on the right shoulder. Generals had gold bullion epaulettes with metal crescent and badges of rank



**Her Majesty Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort**

In this charming conversation piece Prince Albert wears the full dress uniform of a field-marshal, with the blue ribbon of the Garter and stars of various orders of chivalry. The gold sash with crimson stripes and bullion tassels is clear, but the sword-belt is not, nor are details of the sword-hilt, which should be the ivory-bilted Mameluke sabre. The scabbard is obviously the black leather gilt-mounted pattern prescribed for drawing-rooms, official receptions, and levees. The boots which seem somewhat low by modern standards, would not be worn in the evening, and other pictures show His Royal Highness wearing white knee breeches and white silk stockings with black gilt-buckled shoes.

THE BRITISH ARMY AT THE BATTLE OF THE ALMA

Commander-in-Chief: Field-Marshal Lord Raglan (the Hon. Fitzroy James Henry Somerset).  
*Front Line:* 2nd Division, Lieutenant-General Sir George de Lacy Evans.  
 Left Brigade: Brigadier-General Pennefather. 30th Regiment, 55th Regiment, 95th Regiment.  
 Right Brigade: Brigadier-General Adams. 41st Regiment, 49th Regiment, 47th Regiment.  
 Light Division: Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown.  
 Left Brigade: Brigadier-General Buller. 19th Regiment, 88th Regiment, 77th Regiment.  
 Right Brigade: Brigadier-General Codrington. 7th Regiment, 39th Regiment, 23rd Regiment.  
*Second Line:* 1st Division: Lieutenant-General His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge.  
 Left Brigade: Brigadier-General Sir Colin Campbell. 42nd Regiment, 93rd Regiment, 79th Regiment.  
 Right Brigade: Brigadier-General Bentinck. Grenadier Guards,

Scott Fusilier Guards, Coldstream Guards.  
*Rear:* 3rd Division: Major-General Sir Richard England.  
 Left Brigade: Brigadier Sir W. Eyre. 44th Regiment, 50th Regiment, 60th Regiment, 68th Regiment.  
 Right Brigade: Brigadier Sir J. Campbell. 1st Regiment, 4th Regiment, 28th Regiment, 38th Regiment.  
 4th Division: Major-General Sir George Cathcart.  
 Left Brigade: 46th Regiment, 56th Regiment, 1st Rifle Brigade.  
 Right Brigade: 20th Regiment, 21st Regiment, 63rd Regiment.  
 Cavalry: Major-General the Earl of Lucan and Brigadier-General the Earl of Cardigan. 4th Light Dragoons, 13th Light Dragoons, 8th Hussars, 11th Hussars, 17th Lancers.  
 Artillery: 1 Troop (4 guns) Horse Artillery, 8 Batteries (64 guns) Field Artillery.  
*Not In Action:* The Heavy Cavalry Brigade: Brigadier-General the Hon. James Scarlett. 4th Dragoon Guards, 5th Dragoon Guards, 1st Dragoons, 2nd Dragoons, 6th Dragoons.

CAVALRY REGIMENTS IN THE CRIMEA, BATTLE HONOURS AND COLOUR OF FACINGS

1st (the King's) Regiment of Dragoon Guards			Sevastopol	Blue
4th (Royal Irish) Regiment of Dragoon Guards	Balaklava		Sevastopol	Blue
5th (the Princess Charlotte of Wales's) Regiment of Dragoon Guards	Balaklava		Sevastopol	Green
6th Regiment of Dragoon Guards (Carbineers)			Sevastopol	White
1st (Royal) Regiment of Dragoons			Sevastopol	Blue
2nd (Royal North British) Regiment of Dragoons	Balaklava		Sevastopol	Blue
4th (Queen's Own) Regiment of Light Dragoons	Alma	Balaklava	Inkerman	Scarlet
6th (Inniskilling) Regiment of Dragoons	Alma	Balaklava	Sevastopol	Yellow
8th (the King's Royal Irish) Regiment of Light Dragoons (Hussars)	Alma	Balaklava	Inkerman	Sevastopol
11th (or Prince Albert's Own) Regiment of Hussars	Alma	Balaklava	Inkerman	Sevastopol
12th (the Prince of Wales's) Royal Regiment of Lancers			Sevastopol	Scarlet
13th Regiment of Light Dragoons	Alma	Balaklava	Inkerman	Sevastopol
17th Regiment of Light Dragoons (Lancers)	Alma	Balaklava	Inkerman	Sevastopol
			Sevastopol	Buff
			Sevastopol	White

INFANTRY REGIMENTS IN THE CRIMEA, BATTLE HONOURS AND COLOUR OF FACINGS

1st (or Grenadier) Foot Guards	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Blue
Coldstream Regiment of Foot Guards	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Blue
Scotts Fusilier Guards	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Blue
1st (the Royal) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Blue
3rd (East Kent) Regiment of Foot (The Buffs)			Sevastopol	Buff
4th (the King's Own) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Blue
7th Regiment of Foot (Royal Fusiliers)	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Blue
9th (the East Norfolk) Regiment of Foot			Sevastopol	Yellow
13th Albert's Regiment of Light Infantry			Sevastopol	Blue
14th (the Buckinghamshire) Regiment of Foot			Sevastopol	Buff
17th (the Leicestershire) Regiment of Foot			Sevastopol	White
18th (Royal Irish) Regiment of Foot			Sevastopol	Blue
19th (the 1st Yorkshire North Riding) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Green
20th (the East Devonshire) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Yellow
21st Regiment of Foot (Royal North British Fusiliers)	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Blue
23rd (Royal Welch Fusiliers) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Blue
28th (the North Gloucestershire) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Yellow
30th (the Cambridgeshire) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Yellow
31st (the Huntingdonshire) Regiment of Foot			Sevastopol	Buff
33rd (the 1st Yorkshire, West Riding) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Red
34th (the Cumberland) Regiment of Foot			Sevastopol	Yellow
38th (the 1st Staffordshire) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Yellow
39th (the Dorsetshire) Regiment of Foot			Sevastopol	Green
41st (the Welsh) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	White
42nd (the Royal Highland) Regiment of Foot	Alma		Sevastopol	Blue
45th (the East Essex) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Yellow
48th (the Northamptonshire) Regiment of Foot			Sevastopol	Buff
49th (the Princess Charlotte of Wales's or the Hertfordshire) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Green
50th (the Queen's Own) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Blue
55th (the Westmorland) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Green
56th (the West Essex) Regiment of Foot			Sevastopol	Purple
57th (the West Middlesex) Regiment of Foot	Alma		Sevastopol	Yellow
62nd (the Wiltshire) Regiment of Foot			Sevastopol	Buff
63rd (the West Suffolk) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Green
68th (the Durham) Regiment of Foot (Light Infantry)	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Green
71st (Highland) Regiment of Foot (Light Infantry)			Sevastopol	Buff
72nd (the Duke of Albany's Own Highlanders) Regiment of Foot			Sevastopol	Green
77th (the East Middlesex) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Yellow
79th Regiment of Foot (Cameron Highlanders)	Alma		Sevastopol	Green
82nd Regiment of Foot (the Prince of Wales's Volunteers)			Sevastopol	Yellow
88th Regiment of Foot (the Connaught Rangers)	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Yellow
89th Regiment of Foot			Sevastopol	Black
90th Regiment of Foot (Perthshire Volunteers) Light Infantry			Sevastopol	Buff
93rd (Sutherland Highlanders) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Balaklava	Inkerman	Yellow
95th (the Derbyshire) Regiment of Foot	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Yellow
97th (the Earl of Ulster's) Regiment of Foot			Sevastopol	Yellow
Rifle Brigade (the Prince Consort's Own)	Alma	Inkerman	Sevastopol	Black

which were the same for all generals – a crown surmounting crossed sword and baton, the exception being brigadier-generals who had no insignia on the epaulettes.

The buttons for a field-marshal bore crossed batons within a wreath, those for generals having the crossed sword and baton within the laurel wreath.

These dress coatees can have been seen but rarely in the Crimea, although Fenton photographed General de Lacy Evans wearing his and looking less than spruce.

The cocked hat was black with black diagonal ribbons on the front sides, double gold bullion loops with appropriate button and eight-inch white over red swan feather plumes and gold and crimson bullion tassels in the points. This was worn with the blue frock-coat as was the dress gold sash with crimson stripes and the sword-belt of crimson with three gold-embroidered stripes with gilt plate and silver VR, crown and motto 'Dieu et mon droit' within an oak-leaf wreath. The sword-slings matched the belt, and the sword was of ivory-hilted Mameluke pattern with brass scabbard in the field, or black leather with gilt mounts for levees, evening wear, etc. The sword-knot was gold and crimson with an acorn.

Field-m Marshals wore the white buckskin breeches and jacked boots for state occasions, but it seems extremely improbable that Lord Raglan ever wore them in the Crimea. Otherwise blue cloth trousers with two-and-a-half-inch gold lace stripes were worn from 15 October to 30 April, or Oxford mixture, almost black, with red stripes for undress wear. For summer wear the earlier white linen trousers had been replaced by the so-called lavender, but these, too, proved unsatisfactory and were in turn replaced by blue.

The undress frock-coat was of dark blue with two rows of buttons as on the coatee and plain blue velvet collar and cuffs, a field-marshal having the gold aiguillette on the right shoulder and shoulder-cords on the left, and the generals twisted gold cord shoulder-straps on both shoulders.

The spurs worn by all were brass or gilt with straight necks two inches long, and gloves were white.

The forage cap was dark blue with gold-

embroidered peak and gold band of two-inch oak leaf lace. Cloaks were of blue cloth lined scarlet.

The saddlery of general officers consisted of the following items: The Shabraque, which can have been seen rarely if at all in the Crimea, of blue cloth with two rows of gold lace, rounded front and pointed rear having the appropriate badges of rank embroidered on the rear points –

Field-marshal	Crown above crossed batons and three stars in the bottom and side angles of the crossed batons. The whole shabraque to be edged with gold bullion fringe.
General	As above but no bullion and crossed sword and baton.
Lieut.-general	As above but two stars only.
Major-general	As above but one star only.
Brig.-general	One star only.



Three officers on the staff of Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown

I believe these officers to be from left to right, Captain Markham, Colonel Airey and Captain Ponsonby. The two outside the hut wear regimental frock-coats of cavalry pattern with staff belts and cocked hat or forage cap with oilskin cover. It is just not possible to distinguish the badge on the sword-hilt of No. 3. All three wear red striped overalls, No. 2, Colonel Airey, if it is he, having leather cuffs, and No. 3 jackboots. Colonel Airey wears a civilian 'pepper and salt' waistcoat and 'Balachava' jacket.

The surcingle was of blue web, worn over the shabraque, and the bridle black leather with gilt buckles, etc., and gilt bosses with the appropriate badges of rank. The brideon was blue with blue rosettes, the collar white and the black breastplate and crupper had gilt bosses and buckles.

Colonels on the staff had single-breasted coats with embroidered blue collar and cuffs with gold epaulettes without any device. The cocked hat had a gold lace loop and the white over red plumes were only five inches long. The sword had a three-quarter basket hilt with the device of crossed sword and baton, straight blade and a brass scabbard for other than levees, etc., when black leather with gilt mounts was worn. The sword-

knot is of interest, having a gold and crimson bullion tassel with VR embroidered in gold on one side and a crown on the other. The sash was plain crimson and the sword-belt similar to that of generals, but with only two instead of three lines of gold embroidery. Spurs were as for generals.

The frock-coat was single-breasted with stand collar and plain cuffs. The collar was at times worn turned down showing the stock and white shirt, and sometimes a laced waistcoat with close-set buttons down the front which is not mentioned in regulations. The forage cap was similar to that of generals but with a narrower gold lace band. The overalls were also the same with gold or red (undress) stripes one inch wide. Incidentally



**Lieutenant-General Barnard and staff**

The General wears an undress cap with oilskin cover, black cravat and civilian jacket. His undress overalls have red stripes and are strapped and cuffed with black leather. The officer on his right, No. 4, is evidently an officer of Dragoons or Dragoon Guards, and wears a cavalry blue frock-coat with black loops and figuring on collar and cuffs, overalls with broad red stripe, and blue gold-laced forage cap with embroidered figure and

button on the top. He has a fine pair of boots. The left-hand figure, No. 1, wears double-breasted staff frock-coat without any belts, long boots without spurs, and a gold-banded blue forage cap. The officer beside him, No. 2, wears a new introduction, the blue patrol jacket with black braid and loops introduced in the regulations of 1855.

the leather strapping inside the legs and the leather cuffs are not mentioned in regulations, but they were widely worn as may be seen in the photographs.

The saddle-cloth was blue, almost square and with a one-inch gold lace border, the holsters having black bearskin covers, or patent leather in the tropics. The bridle was black leather with gilt bosses and blue brow-band and rosettes, the collar being white.

Officers of the Adjutant-General's or Quartermaster-General's Departments wore the same uniform as generals if of that rank except that the oak-leaf embroidery was replaced by embroidered loops of chevron form on collar, cuffs and skirts, six on each cuff and skirt. If below the rank of general then a scarlet coatee with blue facings was worn, having nine buttons set in threes, and six embroidered loops on skirt and cuff (three on and three above the cuff) and embroidered collar for the adjutant or quartermaster-general of a force. For deputies the buttons were in tens set evenly and the loops on cuff and skirt four only. The loops had falling tassel-effect ends except for deputy assistants who lacked this refinement. Deputies under general's rank had two-inch bullion epaulettes with the Queen's cipher within an oval. The button for all (below general's rank) was a frosted gilt convex button with bright laurel wreath. The cocked hat had a gold loop and button and white over red swan feather plume, five and a half inches long. The sabre with gilt three-quarter basket hilt had crossed sword and baton within the cartouche.

Sword-scabbards were brass for deputies and assistants, steel for deputy assistants. All had the black gilt-mounted scabbard for evening, etc. The staff sword-belt was crimson with two rows of gold embroidery, and the sash of crimson silk. All were authorized the blue frock-coat, single-breasted and with collar of the same cloth and regulation buttons. The shoulder-straps were embroidered with gilt crescent but no bullion fringe.

Trousers were as above with scarlet or gold lace one and three-quarter inches wide. Spurs were brass, straight-necked two inches long.

Majors of brigade had a uniform similar to deputy assistants but with buttons bearing VR



**Brevet-Major Adolphus William Desert Burton, 5th Dragoon Guards**

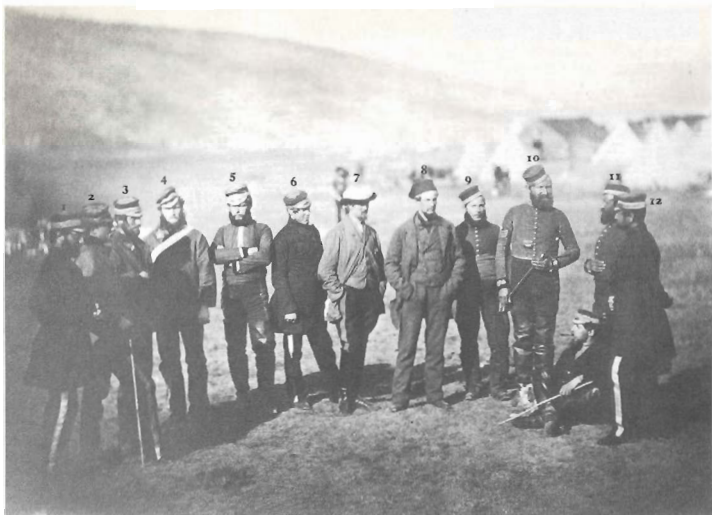
He wears his brass helmet without plume. His scarlet coatee has a dark green velvet collar, gold embroidered, and his white gauntlets cover the embroidered loops on the forearms. His blue undress trousers have a one-and-a-half-inch scarlet stripe and his boots are non-regulation. The sword- and pouch-belts are the undress white buffalo leather pattern with plain black pouch. No sabretache is worn. His steel-hilted sword has a steel scabbard. Note the scarlet gold-embroidered valise carried under the plain black sheepskin, and the plain brown leather bridle, with brass bosses.

and crown, and gold epaulettes with bullion fringe according to the officer's army rank. The sword-scabbard was brass and in common with all the above the sword-belt plate was gilt with silver crown VR, 'Dieu et mon droit' within an oak-leaf wreath. Undress was as above. All had the blue red-lined cloak.

The saddle-cloths for staff officers below the rank of general were plain blue with a one-inch gold lace and no badges. The holster covers were of black bearskin or leather in the tropics. Black leather bridle with blue brow-band and rosettes, gilt bosses and white head collar.

Aides-de-camp to general officers had a dress uniform of scarlet, single-breasted with blue collar and cuffs and one embroidered frog-drop loop on





**Major Burton and officers and non-commissioned officers of the 5th (the Princess Charlotte of Wales's) Dragoon Guards**

This 'off-duty' group shows a wide range of assorted costumes from the complete civilian garb with Turkish fez of No. 8 to the correct regulation undress of Nos. 1 and 13. No. 7 commits the unspeakable military crime of wearing a mixture of military and civilian costume. The sergeant, No. 10, wears his gold-laced forage cap and scarlet shell or stable jacket with green collar and cuffs and gold lace and ten small regimental buttons down the front. Note the small pocket pouch for percussion caps on the right side. The thigh boots are non-regulation, but his overalls appear to be the correct dark blue with red stripe. The figure to his left, No. 9, wears ordinary regimental overalls, but is conspicuous for having acquired a cummerbund or waist-sash, possibly of red as the colour appears the same as the jacket. It is worn in the style of the Chasseurs d'Afrique, who were with the French Army and much admired, and from whom it may have

been 'acquired'. The officer, No. 5, is similarly accoutred. All officers with the exceptions noted wear the gold-laced blue forage cap with embroidered peak and netted purl button and figure on the top. Nos. 1, 6 and 13 wear the regulation blue-black-laced frock-coat. Their overalls appear to be gold-laced dress pattern. None of the figures is carrying arms and only one, No. 4, presumably the orderly officer of the day, wears a belt, though whether the gold-laced dress belt or the white undress it is impossible to say. Nos. 2, 3 and 4 wear 'Balaclava' coats as described by Fenton '... what we call the Balaclava livery, a grey coat lined inside with fur, very light and comfortable and of no particular shape.' No. 4 shows the laced officer's shell with two buttons under the cuff. The front has a row of very small pear-shaped buttons set close, and fastened with hooks and eyes. This officer and No. 7 appear to have undress overalls with red stripes.

each side of the collar, on the cuff; and gold epaulettes with bullion according to army rank. The buttons bore a crown, and the remainder of the dress was as for other staff officers. The plume in the cocked hat was white over red, stiff and upright and five and a half inches high.

Military secretaries to the Commander-in-Chief wore the normal uniform of a general officer if such was their rank, but if below the rank of general they wore a single-breasted coat with

gold-embroidered blue collar and cuff slash, having buttons of frosted gilt with burnished laurel leaves set in pairs. The red and white plume in the cocked hat was stiff and upright, five and a half inches long. The gold epaulettes had an oval badge of the Queen's cipher. The remainder of the uniform was the same as for other staff officers.

Military secretaries and assistant military secretaries with the rank of field officer wore a

double-breasted coatee with the single gold-embroidered pattern on the blue collar and cuff as that worn by assistant adjutants-general. The buttons had the crown and the epaulettes the Queen's cipher.

The staff sword had a brass scabbard and the knot was embroidered with VR and crown.

The blue undress frock-coat worn by staff-officers was dark blue, single-breasted and quite plain for officers below field rank, field officers having a double-breasted pattern. The sword-scabbard with undress was steel.

The provost wore in dress uniform a scarlet single-breasted coatee with plain gilt buttons and subaltern's epaulettes. The cocked hat had no plume. The sword was the normal infantry pattern - gilt three-quarter basket hilt with VR and crown on a cartouche and gilt-mounted black scabbard. The sword-belt was of white buffalo leather with gilt plate, worn over the shoulder, and had two slings. The sash was crimson silk with tassels. In undress the provost wore a blue single-breasted frock-coat with laced shoulder-

straps with gilt crescents and a black sword-belt worn round the waist. No forage cap is mentioned in regulations, but probably one of ordinary non-royal infantry pattern was worn.

In addition to all the above staff there were certain other persons ranking as officers but designated under civil departments. These come under four different categories: Medical Commissariat, Pay and Judge-Advocates' or Legal Department.

Regimental medical officers wore the uniform of their regiments with certain minor modifications as listed under various branches of the service. But the medical staff who were not attached to regiments had a double-breasted scarlet coatee with black velvet collar and cuffs, two rows of ten evenly spaced buttons and gold epaulettes with badges of their equivalent army rank:

Inspector-general of hospitals as for a brigadier-general but with a crown and star.

Deputy inspector as for a lieutenant-colonel with an embroidered crown.



#### **The Albert helmet**

This helmet was authorized in 1847, but not generally received throughout the Dragoons or Dragoon Guards until 1850. It was of brass or gilt, the same for all regiments except for the regimental title on the scroll around the VR in the centre. All regiments had black plumes until 1855, but the 1st Dragoon Guards may have arrived with their new red plumes if they took them at all. The 4th were authorized white, the 5th red and white while the 6th remained black. In that year the dragoon helmet was changed to white metal and the plumes for the 1st remained black. (Courtesy W. V. Carman)



**Officers of the 4th (Queen's Own) Regiment of Light Dragoons**

In this group four officers, Nos. 1, 2, 7 and 10 wear the dark blue frock-coat with black lace and olivets, No. 7 for some reason having the loops fastened back instead of the normal fashion of drooping, as for example, No. 10. Two officers wear a dark blue black-braided patrol jacket. Most wear the undress forage cap, dark blue with gold lace band, netted button and figure on top, and embroidered peak. Nearly all wear the undress overalls, dark blue with leather cuffs and strapping and yellow double stripes, even the gentleman in 'muffi', and Nos. 3, 4 and 7 wear

non-regulation boots. No. 8 wears the double-breasted dress coatee with scarlet collar and cuffs and gilt buttons, and the collar gold laced as were, presumably, the cuffs. What he wears on his head is not for me to say, but the sartorial palm must be awarded to No. 4 who wears a French officer's kepi with so knowing an air. The undress sword-belt and the regulation steel sabre with steel scabbard and gold knot are clearly seen on the right-hand figure.

Staff surgeon, first class as for major with star.

Staff surgeon, second class as for captain.

Assistant staff surgeon as for lieutenant.

Purveyor of hospitals and apothecary as for lieutenant.

The gilt buttons had a crown and the words 'Medical Staff'. The cocked hat had a black silk loop and a black netted button, and no plumes are mentioned in regulations. The sword was of infantry pattern with gold and crimson knot and

black gilt-mounted scabbard. The black waist-belt had a gilt plate with the silver VR, crown and oak-leaf wreath as worn by staff.

The undress blue frock-coat was single-breasted with shoulder-straps as for the dress epaulette, and the forage cap was blue with black silk oak-leaf lace band with VR and crown embroidered on the front. The blue cloak was lined scarlet.

In the Commissariat Department dark blue double-breasted coatees with collar and cuffs of black velvet were worn, the lining and turnbacks

being white. The gold epaulettes had black velvet embroidered straps and the buttons were marked 'Commissariat Staff'. The cocked hat had gold loop and gilt button.

The ranks of commissaries were indicated on the same principles as general officers:

Commissary-general, buttons evenly spaced.

Deputy commissary-general, buttons in threes.

Assistant commissary-general, buttons in twos.

Deputy assistants had buttons spaced two and one with one only on the cuff.

The dress trousers were gold laced, but the undress trousers quite plain. The blue frock-coat was also quite plain, single-breasted, and the sword-belt of black leather, worn round the waist under the coat, had two slings. The sword was infantry pattern with black gilt-mounted scabbard and gold and crimson knot.

The Commissary Department also had clerks



**An officer of the 4th Light Dragoons with an orderly and (?) civilian servant**

He wears the foul-weather cap with dress-cap lines and the blue shell or stable jacket with scarlet collar and cuffs which for some reason appear very light in the photograph. The blue overalls had double yellow stripes. His undress belts are of white buffalo leather, the pouch plain black patent leather. Carried on a strap over the right shoulder is a binocular case which can be seen under the left arm - Lord Lucan had issued an order in June 1854 that no officer was to appear on duty without a spyglass, watch and compass. His triple-barred steel sword-hilt has the gold cord sword-knot bound tight in infantry style, and not loose as was usual in the cavalry where it was actually used twisted round the wrist. His blue valise edged gold and embroidered

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is worn under the rear of the scarlet vandyked black lambskin, while the blue and scarlet lined cloak is carried under the forepart. The soldier in shirt-sleeves wears regimental overalls and fatigue cap.



**Captain Brown and his servant, 4th (Queen's Own) Regiment of Light Dragoons**

The only regimental item visible is the blue yellow-striped overalls of the servant, with leather strapping and cuffs, turned up because they are too long. The white sheepskin coats appear to be of superior quality. Note the 'rustic' seat, doubtless made on the spot.

who were below the equivalent of commissioned officers. These wore, when overseas, a uniform similar to that of deputy-assistant commissary-generals but without the epaulettes or shoulder-straps.

The uniform of the Paymaster-General's Department was similar to the above except that the coatee had blue velvet facings, with the buttons spaced evenly on breast skirt and sleeves for paymaster-general, in threes for deputies and in pairs for assistants. The buttons had the words 'Paymaster-General's Staff'. The epaulettes were also similar to those worn by officers of equivalent rank.

## The Cavalry



**Quartermaster John Hill of the 4th Light Dragoons**

He wears blue gold-laced forage cap with his coat of blue with scarlet collar, cuffs and piping in the back seams. His boots are distinctly non-regulation and are possibly sea-boots; there appears to be a joint at mid-calf. Note the pistol holsters worn at the front of the saddle and which are rarely seen, being normally covered by the lambskin. They appear empty.

Officers of the Judge Advocates' Department wore the unattached uniform if they were military officers, that is the scarlet and blue dress of an infantry officer of their rank, with gold epaulettes, and cocked hat with upright white feather and gold loop and button, and black leather sword-belt with slings worn round the waist over the coat and crimson sash.

If not of military rank but a mere civilian legal luminary a similar uniform was worn, but the cocked hat had black button and loop and no feather. The waist-belt was worn under the coat and no sash was worn at all. The epaulettes were plain gold.

The undress uniform was the blue frock-coat, plain; military officers having the badges of their rank on the shoulder-straps.

The cavalry of the British Army consisted of the Household Cavalry, that is the 1st and 2nd Life Guards and the Royal Horse Guards, none of which regiments saw service in the Crimea, and seventeen line cavalry regiments, of which some thirteen did. The line cavalry was made up of Dragoon Guards, Dragoons, Lancers, Hussars and Light Dragoons with their own distinctive uniforms. The thirteen Crimea regiments are listed below with the battles in which they took part and the distinctive colour of their facings.

How far the appearance of the British cavalry fell short of the elegant contemporary prints may be gauged from Lord Lucan's remarks. Thus at Adrianople in August of 1854: 'The men are not cleanly in their appearance or in their persons . . . their clothes are unnecessarily dirty and stained; their arms are not as clean as they ought to be; their belts, leathers and appointments, both of horse and man, are rusty and dirty. . . . In the infantry no such mistaken ideas prevail.'

The Dragoon Guards and the Heavy Dragoons wore in dress uniform a brass helmet with upright falling black horse-hair plume which was not worn in marching order. As with the light cavalry this headdress was provided with a white linen cover in the East.

This helmet replaced the earlier type of French cuirassier pattern with flowing horse-hair mane worn about 1847. It was still worn by the 6th Dragoon Guards who were in process of conversion to light cavalry, a process never completed, but the 2nd (Royal North British) Regiment of Dragoons, the Scots Greys, retained their bearskin with nine-inch white feather.

The coat was scarlet, single-breasted with short turnbacks of regimental facing colour laced, yellow for men and gold for sergeants and above. The collar and cuffs of officers' coatees in the Dragoon Guards were of velvet. Dragoon Guards officers had four embroidered loops on the sleeve set two and two, with smaller loops on the skirts, the Dragoon officers having sets of three in gold lace. The collars were embroidered or laced in



**Two officers of the 4th Light Dragoons**

The mounted officer wears the regimental forage cap of dark blue laced gold, with gold-piped crown seam and gold button and braid figure on top. The peak has a gold-embroidered edge and there is a black patent leather chin-strap, worn in this case over the peak. His stable jacket of blue with gold lace and scarlet collar and cuffs is bound about the waist with a cummerbund or sash possibly of scarlet in Chasseurs d'Afrique style such as we have already seen in the Dragoon Guards. His enormous boots

are non-regulation. The regulation undress sword-belt and sabretache were black leather. Note the *very* slight curve of the sword and the sword-knot bound tight as remarked elsewhere for this regiment. No equipment or shabraque is carried on the horse which appears somewhat light-weight for the rider. The other officer wears a 'Balaclava' jacket over blue overalls with single narrow stripe which seems to indicate an 8th Hussar.



front top and bottom to the line of the coatee shoulder-seam, other ranks having yellow lace, so that in front the facing colour was imperceptible. On the shoulders officers wore gold bullion epaulettes with straps and crescents embroidered (on velvet in Dragoon Guards) of the regimental facing colour, with the regimental badge embroidered in silver within the crescent. Other ranks wore brass crescents and scaled straps.

Overalls were of dark blue, with officers having a broad gold lace for dress, officers' undress overalls having a red stripe. Other ranks had scarlet stripes. Officers' overalls were cuffed with leather except in the case of those worn by officers in evening or levee dress. Boots were short, ankle length with brass spurs. The sword carried by officers was a pierced basket hilt of steel with steel scabbard and white leather strap with gold tassel. The sword-belt was two-and-a-half-inch-wide gold lace, with an edging of the facing colour with a gilt frosted plate with bright rim and the VR surmounted by a crown and surrounded with oak leaves in silver. There were three matching laced straps for the sabretache. The shoulder-belts were of gold lace, edged as the sword-belts, two and a half inches wide and with gilt buckle, tip and slide. The gold lace was of regimental pattern. The pouch had a morocco leather covered box of facing colour with velvet (or cloth for Dragoons)

face laced all round with gold and with the same device as the sword-belt plate embroidered in gold. On dress parades all ranks wore white gauntlet gloves and officers had gold crimson-striped sashes with gold tassels under the sword-belt. All the belts for other ranks were white buffalo leather and their pouches of black leather, plain, with gilt regimental badge. The plain black sabretache does seem to have been worn by some officers . . . I have seen one with gilt Napoleonic eagle badge reputedly worn by an officer of the Scots Greys at the charge of the Heavies at Balaclava.

For undress uniform officers had two upper garments – the shell jacket or stable jacket of scarlet (blue for the 6th) with regimental facings, and the blue frock-coat looped and laced in black. Other ranks had only the stable jacket, which for officers was laced all round with gold lace. It fastened down the front with hooks and eyes and had a close-set row of small pear-shaped buttons set down the front edge and gold-plaited cord shoulder-straps. For other ranks there was no lace and the jacket fastened with ten regimental buttons. The single-breasted frock-coat had six rows of black loops and four rows of olivets, the loops hanging loose in the middle. Collar and cuffs had ornamental figuring in black Russian braid. With the undress garments officers wore

#### The Hussars

The centre group here are, from left to right, a dismounted officer of the 10th wearing pelisse, undress patent leather sabretache and no plume. The officer beside him wears the blue gold-laced stable jacket and the white trousers abolished during the 1840s, and which were never, in any case, worn on mounted duties in the cavalry. Note the black patent leather chin-strap to the blue gold-laced forage cap, and worn under the chin. The next mounted figure is an officer of the 8th in full regalia. The sabretache and housings for those regiments in the Crimea are given in greater detail in the text. The centre figure of an officer of the 10th shows the very elaborate black leather headstall, decorated with cowrie shells worn by officers in this regiment in full dress. Note that the dress leopard-skin is edged with gold fringe. There is nothing remarkable about the trooper behind him, but the dismounted sentry shows guard order in pelisse without plume, and the carbine belt and sabretache with two rings and slings are clearly shown. Note that other ranks of British hussar regiments never had dress sabretaches as did their confrères in, for example, the Prussian service.

At the top left a party of the 11th are wearing review order while the first figure below wears the scarlet shako of regimental pattern worn by the 15th, a privilege extended to the 10th while serving in India. The white trousers had been abolished by the time of the Crimea, on the medical grounds that as they were nearly always damp from being pipeclayed they induced divers unwholesome ailments in the wearers.

The centre figure of an officer wears the undress frock-coat, blue with black braid loops and olivets, worn in the 7th, 10th and 15th with a roll collar and an upright closed collar in the 8th and 11th. The two latter regiments were not officially authorized the gold-laced scarlet waistcoat with close-set small button down the front prescribed for the three roll-collar regiments, and which can be clearly seen on this figure.

The bottom figure in the left margin is a trooper of the 8th. He wears the undress blue cap with yellow band and button. The top seems to have become somewhat smaller by the time of Fenton's photographs in 1855.

Across the bottom of the plate two unspecified regiments engage – the one in combat, the other in ceremonial. Note how the saddle-cloths are turned back to protect the embroidery. They were not worn in the Crimea.

In the right-hand margin the top figure is a trumpeter of the 11th in grey busby and crimson (cherry) overalls with yellow braid. The figure below shows the blue cloak and cape, lined scarlet except for the 8th who had white, and the 11th with crimson. The bottom figure wears the Prussian-style frogged undress type of dolman and pelisse which seems to have been peculiar to the officers of the 11th. With them the undress belts and sabretache were worn.





#### Officers and non-commissioned officers of the 8th Hussars

All officers wear the blue gold-laced forage cap with gold button and figure on the crown, except for figure No. 3 who wears civilian clothing and a French officer's kepi. The mounted figure, No. 5, wears what appears to be his regimental blue greatcoat (lined white in the 8th) without the hip-length cape attached. He wears a waist-belt. He has no wallets, pistol holster or other equipment and no shabrack. The horse appears to have no headstall but merely a bridle with possibly a bit and single rein. Five officers, Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6 and 10 wear 'Balaclava' coats. The

officer by the tub, No. 7, possibly the Quartermaster, wears dolman and laced overalls. The sergeant-major, No. 8, and the sergeant, No. 13, wear the stable jacket, blue with yellow braid and insignia in gold. The seated officer, No. 11, wears a shell jacket - note the olivets down the front. No. 9, seated, wears the pelisse, while the standing officer, No. 12, wears regimental blue frock-coat with black loops and the N.C.O. on the left, seated, wears either a 'Balaclava' or a donkey jacket.

undress white leather belts and sometimes an undress plain black leather sabretache on two slings only - the dress sabretache always had three straps. The undress pouch was plain black and no badges are specified. The undress cap for officers was of blue cloth with gold lace band, gold Russian braid figure and button on top and had a gold-embroidered patent leather peak and chin-strap. Other ranks had a round pill-box cap, blue with yellow band and button (gold for sergeants). Cloaks were scarlet lined white for all, according

to regulations, but I believe the 6th to have worn blue.

The regimental staff consisted of the adjutant, who wore the uniform of his rank, and the paymaster, quartermaster, surgeon and assistant-surgeon and the veterinary officer who all wore the same uniform as the other officers except that they did not wear the sash and wore the cocked hat instead of the helmet. This had regimental pattern loop and button in gold for paymaster and quartermaster, the latter only wearing the

drooping swan feather regimental plume of red and white. The medicos' helmet had black loops and buttons and tassels fore and aft but unlike the veterinary officer, they did not wear the regimental plume.

On parade occasions the saddle was covered with black sheepskin shabracks, edged scarlet, and officers had in addition elaborately embroidered saddle-cloths of blue with square corners and edged with gold lace as worn on the dress trousers, two rows for Dragoon Guards and one for Dragoons, but slightly wider. Note that apart from the adjutant the regimental staff officers did not wear the saddle-cloth, or at least such is prohibited in the regulations.

The valise was of scarlet cloth with gold-laced ends for officers, matching the saddle-cloth, and with yellow for other ranks. The 6th Dragoon Guards had a white vandyked border. The regimental number in Roman numerals, e.g. VI was set over the initials D G or D as the case might be.

For officers the brown leather bridle had brass head chains, bosses and chain bridoon. The face-pieces had a regimental badge and the steel bit had brass bosses. The head collar was of brown leather.

## THE LIGHT DRAGOONS

The two regiments of Light Dragoons still dressed as such were the 4th and the 13th.

The headdress was the black shako some eight inches in diameter and seven inches deep at the front, eight at the back. The cap was bound in gold lace for officers, yellow for other ranks, and the brass Maltese cross badge worn by other ranks became a heavy gilt and silver plate for officers, who had the edge of the peak embroidered in gold. Cap-lines of gold or yellow with acorn ends were wrapped twice round the shako, crossing at the back. The white plumes were of horse hair, officers having swan feathers for dress except in the tropics. Trumpeters of the 4th had red.

The blue double-breasted coat had two rows of eight regimental buttons, and collar, cuffs and, for officers and trumpeters, piping in the back seams, of the regimental facing colour, nominally buff but actually white in the 13th and scarlet in

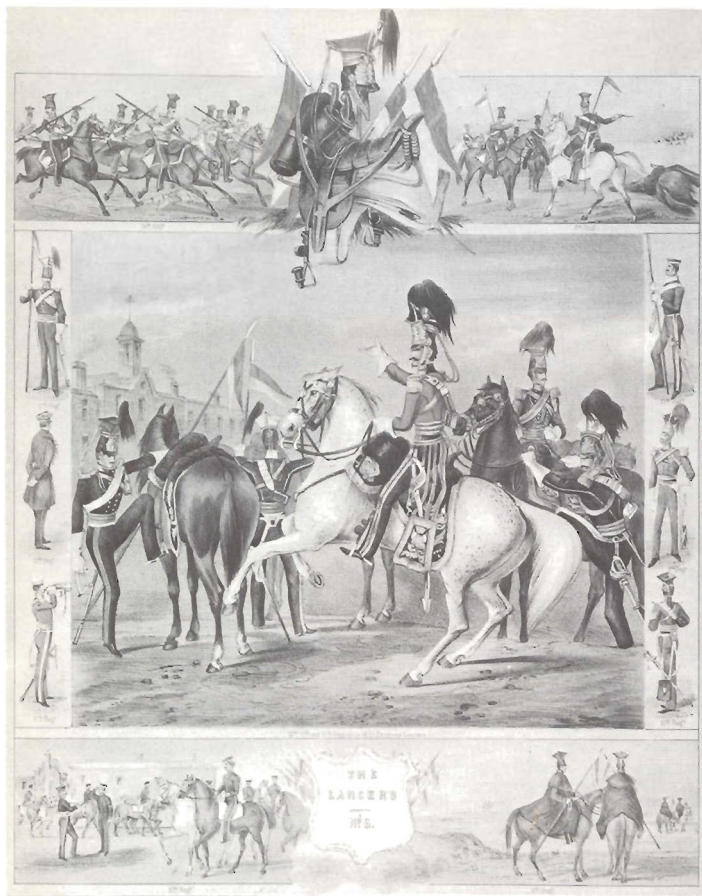


**An officer of the 11th Hussars**

He wears dress jacket and slung pelisse, dress belts and bushy with plumes (the white top is lost against the background). It would be interesting to know for certain that he is wearing the undress black sabretache which is more probable than that he wears the dress item. Note the crimson vandyking to the black lambskin worn without saddle-cloth, and the horse-hair throat plume. The overalls of crimson or cherry do not appear to have any leather reinforcing and are probably the gold-laced dress garment. Note how the cap-lines pass under the right arm to be looped up on the left breast.

the 4th, with gold lace and figuring for officers of the 4th. The 13th were quite plain. There were three buttons on each side of the vestigial tails, the top buttons on each side being connected by a strip of fringe, gold or yellow, the original purpose of which escapes me now as doubtless it did the wearers then. Overalls were dark blue with double gold or yellow stripes and leather cuffs and strapping of black for officers on service. Ankle boots were worn with officers' spurs of brass and other ranks' of steel. Swords were the triple-barred steel-hilted sabre with steel scabbard, and sword-knot of gold or white leather.

The girdle was of gold/yellow with two crimson/scarlet stripes. Officers' waist- and shoulder-belts were leather of the colour of the regimental facings –laced gold with a central stripe of the facing colour



in silk, the shoulder-belt having silver mounts and pickers (and chains) shaped like arrows. The object of these, made of soft silver, was to ram them into the touch-hole of enemy cannon and to snap them off, thus effectively 'spiking' the gun and rendering it useless until the touch-hole could be rebores. The belts of other ranks were white leather with brass mounts, and plain black pouches, while officers' pouches were silver, chased and engraved, with gilt VR and crown for dress.

The dress sabretache of officers was most elaborately embroidered, but a plain black model similar to that of other ranks was worn for undress. In fact an order had been issued in September 1854 abolishing the use of the sabretache in all regiments except the hussars before arrival in the Crimea although they were still worn at Varna in June of that year. The ammunition pouch did not officially have any badge.

For undress all ranks had the stable jacket or shell similar to that already described for the Heavies, but in blue with regimental facings. No mention is made in the regulations of any piping in the seams for officers. Other ranks' jackets fastened with ten buttons. The undress frock-coat for officers was again similar to the Heavies, and the undress overalls were striped as those of the men, double stripes of white in the 13th, yellow in the 4th. (Note that the 13th had grey overalls of an experimental pattern.)

For officers the undress item of particular interest is the foul-weather cap, a specially made headdress reproducing exactly the appearance of

the dress headdress when covered with an oilskin cover. These were taken on service and worn with the gold caps' lines instead of the dress caps', the men and officers having their oilskin covers, and at Varna the linen tropical pattern covers.

Officers' undress caps were of blue with gold lace band and figure with netted button on top and with gold-embroidered peak and plain black chin-strap. Other ranks had blue pill-box caps with yellow bands and buttons.

Cloaks were dark blue lined scarlet with collar of regimental facing colour.

The regulation undress belts for officers were white leather for shoulder-belts and black for waist-belts, no badges being specified. An undress sabretache was given in regulations, and despite the abolition order some officers seem to have retained them as may be seen in photographs taken by Roger Fenton in 1855.

Regimental staff officers wore the regimental uniform, but had no gold lace on the shako, no girdle and no plumes; I believe that medical officers wore black-laced shakos and black cords although I cannot recall the authority for this.

Officers' dress saddle-cloths were very fine, of blue cloth rounded in front and rear, the front parts embroidered with VR and crown in gold while the rear parts had the regimental badges and insignia. The whole was edged with two-inch gold lace. Over this was worn the scarlet-vandyked black lambskin shabrack. The undress sheepskin had no vandyking, but was plain as was that of other ranks, whose dress saddle-cloths were

#### The Lancers

In the centre of this fine plate are the 12th (left), 16th (centre) and 17th (right) Regiments of Light Dragoons (Lancers). All wear the dress blue coat except the 16th, whose coat was red with blue facings and piping, and all wear the dress shabrack. The sabretache was abolished for troopers in 1834 and only officers and non-commissioned officers retained them; see the centre figure and the sergeant, lower right. The elegant dress caps worn by officers were not apparently taken on the Crimean campaign, the foul-weather cap with dress lines being worn. In any case the 12th did not arrive until after the three great battles of Alma, Balaclava and Inkerman.

At the top right a party of lancers discharge their pistols more in sorrow than in anger since the enemy are well out of range. They wear oilskin covers to their caps, their shabracks are folded back and their lances slung. The lance could be slung on either the left or right side, and in the top central trophy the buckets of leather for the lance butt can be seen attached to each stirrup. At top left a similar group are engaged in a charge.

In the left-hand margin the top figure, a trooper of the 17th, wears full dress, while the centre figure shows an officer in the undress frock-coat with black breast loops and roll collar showing clearly the crossed Russian braid across the top of the undress forage cap. The bottom figure of a trumpeter is remarkable for the white-topped forage cap, while the ordinary blue cap of troopers is shown on the top figure in the right-hand margin. The centre right figure is an officer of the 9th in full dress. The bottom figure is a sergeant in drill order without plume. Note the black leather sabretache.

At the bottom left the 12th in watering order with shell or stable jackets and forage caps ride on blankets only without saddles. At the bottom right two lancers of the 9th are on piquet in cold weather wearing the greatcoats and capes of blue with scarlet collars. In the trophy at the top of the print can be seen the way in which the rolled cloak was attached to the front of the saddle when not in use. In British lancers the lance pennants were red over white.

scarcely less elaborate than those of officers, the gold being replaced by yellow and the foreparts having no VR and crown. It seems most improbable that saddle-cloths were worn at all by any ranks in the Crimea. The valise was blue with circular ends with Roman numerals over the letters LD, e.g. IV LD

with an edging of gold or yellow. The cloak was carried rolled under the lambskin in front of the saddle.

## THE HUSSARS

The Hussars were by far the most lavishly and expensively dressed corps in the British Army,

and two regiments, the 8th and the 11th went to the Crimea. The 11th were remarkable for their cherry-coloured breeches, a sartorial treat that so overwhelmed a recent film producer that he put the entire Light Brigade into them! Their Colonel was the Earl of Cardigan, commanding the Light Brigade in person, while residing on his private yacht in Balaclava harbour.

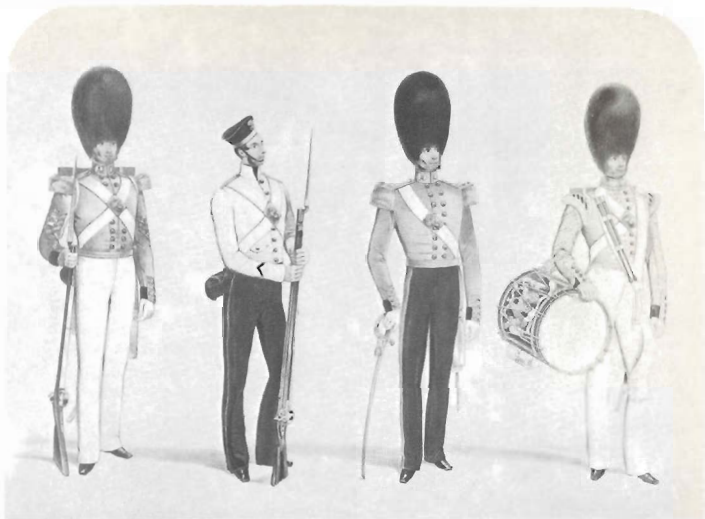
The headdress of both Crimea regiments was the fur busby with scarlet bag or fly and white over red plume in the 8th, white over crimson in the 11th. Chin chains were gilt for officers and brass for men with lion's-head bosses, and the cap-lines gold or yellow. These caps had, in the tropics, white linen button-on covers fastening at the side, which were much in evidence at Varna.

The dress jacket and pelisse were very similar,



**Lieutenant John Yates, Adjutant of the 11th Hussars**  
He wears his brown fur busby without plume, dolman and sash. His crimson overalls have the double yellow stripes introduced for undress in 1849 in lieu of the former red. His sabretache is the undress patent leather model. His somewhat dispirited horse

appears to be a grey and has the undress black lambskin edged crimson. His shirt-sleeved soldier servant wears a regimental forage cap.



#### The Grenadier Guards

In this print of 1854 the second figure from the right shows the drum major in full ceremonial costume wearing the gold-laced velvet coat and black velvet jockey cap traditional to the musicians of the royal household, and still worn to this day. The drum majors of the Guards have long since returned to wearing gaiters instead of the trousers worn here when in full dress which has a less curious effect. The right-hand figure of a bandsman in full dress has the gold lacing which lasted up to the Second World

War. On the left a pioneer in drill order wears the white shell jacket worn until 1914, and the blue undress forage cap with scarlet band and piping round the crown seam. On the left below the pouch can be seen the bottom of the leather cover for the curved billhook carried on the waist-belt. The insignia on the arm are of blue cloth. The private in marching order carries his rolled grey greatcoat on the black pack. The small pocket at left waist for percussion caps has a buff leather flap.

the pelisse being edged with fur and slung by gold or yellow cords. Both garments were of plain blue unrelieved by any other colour save the gold or yellow braid and lace. For officers the gold loops were of dull gold interspersed with bright gold gimp, this giving an extraordinarily rich appearance. The jacket had five rows of buttons, the centre row being full ball, the other rows half ball, while other ranks had three rows only. The same applies to the pelisse which was fastened with hooks and eyes in practice. The pelisse was never worn over the jacket or dolman unless slung over the shoulder, but was worn as a garment in its own right. All ranks had two gold or yellow

toggles at the back of the waist round which the cord of the barrelled sash was wrapped before looping up the ends to the right front waist. This crimson sash with gold or yellow 'barrels' was never worn over the pelisse.

Overalls in the 8th were blue with single stripe of yellow or gold for officers in dress, and crimson or cherry coloured in the 11th with single stripes of yellow/gold. In levee dress officers wore richly laced pantaloons with Hessian boots, but these would hardly have been appropriate in the Crimea.

Swords were triple-barred light cavalry pattern with steel scabbard and gold or white leather knot

and strap. In levee or review order the 11th had a fine ivory-hilted Mameluke-pattern dress sabre.

The sabretache of the 8th was scarlet cloth with gold lace edge. In the centre was embroidered VR upon which was superimposed the lion on a small crown and above this a large crown, all in gold. Below the small crown were the Roman numerals VIII and below this the Irish harp flanked by shamrocks in silver, and two scrolls with battle honours. The dress pouch was similar. The 11th sabretache had a crimson face on morocco leather, lace round the sides and bottom,

but not the top, with regimental lace in gold. A gold-embroidered crown surmounted blue scrolls with the regimental title, beneath which VR reversed and intertwined was worked in gold thread. Beneath this were further scrolls with battle honours and a sphinx in silver metal. The dress pouch was of a special silver pattern with gilt metal mounts repeating the motif of the sabretache and edged with gilt die-stamped laurel leaves instead of lace. Other ranks had plain sabretaches.

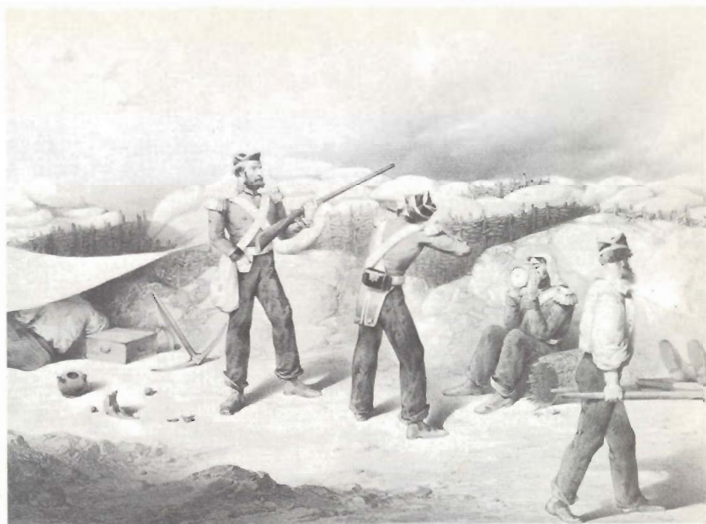
Officers' shoulder-belts were gold laced with



**Captain Burnaby, Grenadier Guards, with his Nubian servant and orderly**

The gallant Captain wears his regimental greatcoat of blue lined scarlet and the undress folding blue cap piped red with a grenade badge. He seems to have a light-coloured blanket slung over the right shoulder. His sword has gilt hilt and brass scabbard, with

VR and a grenade on the cartouche. The orderly wears massive boots and a goatskin coat, a fur cap and regimental cross-belts. The Nubian servant wears a woollen cap and what looks like an old regimental greatcoat without cape.



#### The Coldstream Foot Guards

In this print they are shown with the minimum of equipment manning the trenches before Sevastopol. The white-laced forage cap is of particular interest. One company of the Coldstreams in London blossomed forth into moustachios and imperials after the

style of Napoleon III. Eventually the eye of a general officer focused long enough to observe the phenomenon and they were abolished.

buckle, top and slide of gilt in the 8th and silver in the 11th, the latter only having pickers and chains, while the belts for other ranks were plain white and the pouches black. White gloves were worn by all in dress uniform.

Note that in the 8th the sergeant-majors' chevrons had a harp in white metal between the chevrons and the crown above. Trumpeters and bandmen in the 8th apparently had the cording of their garments of mixed yellow and scarlet, while the 11th are shown with grey busbies.

All ranks had an undress stable jacket, blue, single-breasted and laced all round with gold for officers who had gold olivets. In addition officers had a blue black-looped frock-coat with figured collar and cuffs.

The forage cap of blue (crimson in the 11th)

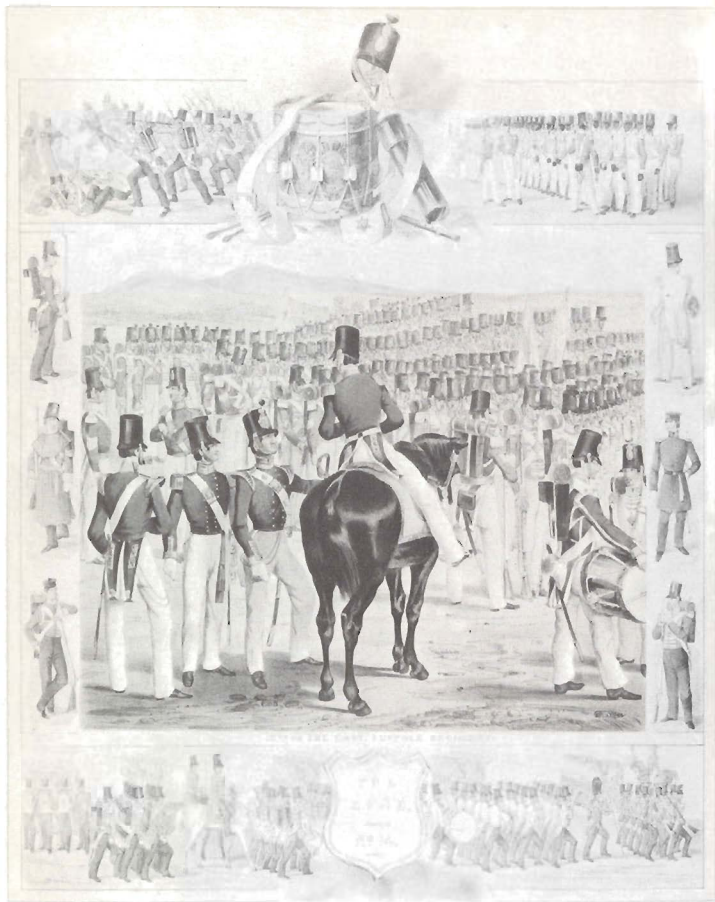
had a gold regimental lace band for officers with gold ornament and button on top and a line of gimp on the crown seam. Officially it had a gold-embroidered peak, but some officers seem to have favoured a peakless model similar to the men's, which had yellow worsted braid and button. The men's stable jackets were also braided all round, on the collar, and had a looped chevron on the top of the cuff.

It may be noted that officers sometimes wore the pelisse with forage cap, dress-belts and pouch, but the undress sabretache. Officers' undress belts were black patent in the 8th, morocco in the 11th, and with a matching black pouch.

As for all the army, the water-bottle or canteen was blue-grey, and the haversack white linen.

The dress shabraques were most elaborate, of





- 1 Staff Officer in undress
- 2 General Officer in undress
- 3 General Officer in full dress



Officer, 4th (Royal Irish) Regiment of  
Dragoon Guards, full dress



Trooper, 11th (or Prince Albert's Own) Regiment of Hussars,  
'Balaklava dress'



- 1 Sergeant, Royal Engineers, full dress
- 2 Officer, Royal Artillery, full dress
- 3 Officer, Royal Artillery, Horse Brigade, full dress



- 1 Officer, 1st (or Grenadier) Regiment of Foot Guards, full dress
- 2 Private, 1st (or Grenadier) Regiment of Foot Guards, full dress
- 3 Drummer, 1st (or Grenadier) Regiment of Foot Guards, full dress





1



2



3

- 1 Field Officer, 77th (East Middlesex) Regiment of Foot, undress shell jacket
- 2 Private, Grenadier Company, 77th (East Middlesex) Regiment of Foot, full dress
- 3 Sergeant Major, 68th (The Durham) Regiment of Foot (Light Infantry) dress with forage cap



- 1 Bandsman, 68th (The Durham) Regiment of Foot (Light Infantry) full dress
- 2 Piper, 93rd (Sutherland Highlanders) Regiment of Foot, full dress
- 3 Rifleman, The Rifle Brigade, drill order





1



2



3

- 1 Corporal, 93rd (Sutherland Highlanders) Regiment of Foot, marching order
- 2 Trooper, 17th Regiment of Light Dragoons (Lancers), guard order, hot climate
- 3 Officer, 42nd (The Royal Highland) Regiment of Foot, drill order

blue for the 8th and of crimson for the 11th. The 8th had a design similar to that on the officers' sabretache in the rear corners, not quite so elaborately worked for the men, with VR and crown on the forepart. Over this officers wore a dress leopard-skin edged with scarlet and other ranks a plain black lambskin, a pattern worn by officers in undress.

The 11th had crimson saddle-cloths, the VR and crown on the forepart having laurel sprays below surrounding a silver sphinx. In the rear corners the sabretache design was repeated and fitted to the tapering shape. The crimson valises with the XI were left aboard when landing and the H were not recovered for some two months. They contained all the men's spare clothing. . . .

Officers' chargers had horse-hair throat ornaments, scarlet in the 11th and black in the 8th. The dress bridles of both regiments were of brown

leather with gilt bosses and face ornaments, the bits of all ranks being steel. Chains do not appear to have been used by officers but only by other ranks.

## THE LANCERS

Only two regiments wearing the lancer uniform went to the Crimea, the 12th and the 17th. The dress was very similar to that of the Light Dragoons except for the Polish type lancer cap.

The officers' dress cap of the Lancers was the square-topped cap of black leather, the top for the 12th of scarlet and in the 17th of white cloth, the distinguishing colours of the regiments. The patent leather peak was embroidered in gold and the neck of the cap bound about with a broad gold lace with a blue stripe. The corners of the top had a line of gold cord which crossed in the centre of

### Infantry of the line

This print was produced in the mid 1840s just before the abolition of the white trousers. In the centre is the 12th (East Suffolk) Regiment of Foot in review order, summer. The uniform is scarlet with yellow facings, that is, collar and cuffs. In the foreground is a field officer wearing the bullion-fringed epaulettes of his rank and the saddle-cloth of the colour of the regimental facings with gold-laced edge. The gold lace was sewn up on a very finely vandyked scarlet cloth which showed about a quarter of an inch on either side. The pistol holsters were covered with black bearskin except in the tropics, when patent leather was used. Of the three dismounted officers on the left, the centre figure is a centre company officer, distinguishable by the epaulettes and the red and white ball tuft on his shako, the lack of attachments on his shoulder-belt, other than the belt-plate, and the simple crimson waist-sash. The belt-plates were different for each regiment, sometimes being most complex in design, of gilt, silver and enamel, and costly. The other two officers are from the flank companies, the left-hand officer wears the wings and corded sash, of which the cords and tassels were looped up on the left breast and the white ball tuft of the Grenadier company, while the third figure has the wings, sash, green ball tuft and whistle and chain of the light company. The whistle and chain was also worn by Grenadier company officers and sergeants of both flank companies. All three have the black gilt-mounted sword scabbard. Field officers when mounted had a brass scabbard.

In the foreground are two drummers of centre companies. Note the white pouch which is also shown in the trophy at the top.

The regiment is drawn up with the light company for some reason at the back. At the field officer's right foot is a centre company sergeant seen from the back and showing clearly the sword, sash and three chevrons, while to the left of the picture is a sergeant-major with four chevrons but no crown above.

Note that in fusilier and light infantry regiments all officers below field rank wore wings, field officers and the R.S.M. having epaulettes.

At the top left the 58th Regiment is seen in action in cold-weather trousers, while on the right the 1st West India Regiment is on parade. At the top of the left-hand margin a sentry of the

97th presents arms, and below is a sergeant in grey greatcoat with the yellow facings of the 45th. The bottom figure of a private of the 22nd wears the scarlet shell with buff facings and the blue undress cap with blue 'tourie'. Across the bottom march the 8th (the King's) headed by their pioneers in brown leather aprons - many regiments preferred to have their pioneers in white aprons. Behind them is the drum major in scarlet coat, bearskin and gold-embroidered sash heading the band in their white coats with blue facings.

At the top right is a bandsman of the 44th in white with yellow facings. Regimental bands all wore the white coat with regimental facings. The drums and fifes, or bugles in light infantry wore scarlet. The centre right figure is an officer of the 24th Foot in undress blue frock-coat, single-breasted and quite plain except for the brass shoulder-scales with crescents. The black patent leather belt had a sliding frog to hold the sword, field officers having slings. The undress cap has a black oak-leaf pattern lace band which was replaced by a scarlet band in royal regiments. The peak was patent leather and the regimental number was embroidered in gold on the front except in those regiments authorized to wear a special badge.

The bottom figure on the right shows a private of a centre company of the 36th with grass-green facings.

The rank of non-commissioned officers was indicated by insignia worn on the right arm only except in fusiliers, grenadier and light infantry regiments and companies who wore them on both arms, as follows:

Sergeant-major	An embroidered crown above a four bar gold lace chevron on facing cloth. In the Guards the royal arms embroidered over four gold chevrons on blue cloth, the red coat showing between the chevrons.
Colour-sergeant	A crown above a regimental colour under which two crossed swords all centred upon three gold chevrons on blue cloth, the red coat showing between the chevrons.
Sergeant	Three gold chevrons upon blue cloth.
Corporal	Two white chevrons on blue cloth.



#### **The Albert Shako**

This headdress was introduced in 1844 having been authorized in December 1843. From 1855 onwards it was replaced by a French model. It was actually worn at the Battle of Alma and also at Inkerman.

The ball tufts were white for grenadiers and fusiliers, white over red for centre companies, green for light infantry and black for rifles.

the top. On the left front was a gold bullion rosette with VR embroidered in gold on blue velvet. Gilt chin-scales of curb-chain pattern were attached by lion's-head bosses. The magnificent gilt plate was mounted with the royal arms in silver and for the 17th the famous skull and crossbones also in silver. Gold cap-lines with rich plaited 'founders' and bullion tassels were attached round the neck of the cap. Other ranks wore a similar model with yellow lace and cords, which was provided with a white cloth cover for the tropics and an oiled-silk cover for foul weather. Officers, as in the Light Dragoons, had a special foul-weather cap, and this was worn by the 17th at Balaclava. The plume was black cocks' feathers for officers, black horse hair for other ranks, red for trumpeters.

The dress jacket was double-breasted with white or scarlet collar and pointed cuffs, turnbacks and piping in the back seams, and had two rows of nine buttons. Up to 1853 officers' collars had had two gold-embroidered buttonholes on each

side and gold-embroidered edging to the pointed cuffs, but in 1853 the embroidery was ordered to be removed, leaving the jackets of all ranks quite plain if not austere. As in the Light Dragoons there was a strip of gold bullion fringe or yellow worsted fringe at the back waist centre for other ranks. Officers had gold-embroidered epaulettes while other ranks had brass scale epaulettes with brass crescents, the 17th having the skull and crossbones on the crescents. These were worn at Varna but not apparently in the Crimea.

Over this jacket a girdle of gold or yellow with two crimson or scarlet stripes was worn.

The overalls were dark blue, with double gold lace stripes for officers in dress uniform, and double white stripes as for the rank and file in undress. Officers had leather strapping and cuffs on undress overalls. In the spring of 1854 the 17th were one of the units selected to have the experimental grey overalls together with the 13th Light Dragoons. The sword- and pouch-belts for officers were gold laced with a central stripe of white or scarlet,



**Brigadier-General Van Straubensee and officers of the 3rd Foot (the Buffs)**

In this interesting group the general wears regulation undress with collar rolled down with, most probably, a scarlet waistcoat with high collar showing. The sword is not that of a general but probably his regimental infantry sword (he was a Buff, had served in India and had commanded the 39th). No. 2 wears what appears to be a non-regulation double-breasted frock-coat of civilian pattern, with the undress cap of the Buffs, blue with black silk oak-leaf lace band, patent peak and chin-strap and the special Buffs' badge of the dragon embroidered in gold. His overalls are heavily strapped in leather. The other two officers, No. 1 and 6, wear the undress scarlet shell jacket with buff facings, gold shoulder-cords and gilt buttons. The left-hand seated figure appears to be wearing the obsolete lavender hot-weather trousers, and both he and No. 6 have metal sword-scabbards. I suspect that No. 1 is a field officer with brass scabbard and No. 6 the adjutant with one in steel. No. 6 carries his scarlet-

lined blue cloak in a very dashing and nonchalant style slung over the left shoulder. His sword-knot hangs loose, and he wears massive non-regulation boots. No. 3 is a sergeant-major in scarlet full-dress coat with buff facings and buttons in pairs. The gold crown over four gold chevrons can be seen on the right upper arm, but the lacing on collar and cuff flap does not show. He wears the dress shako with red and white ball tuft of a centre company, and his brass-hilted sword with white leather knot and black leather brass-mounted scabbard is worn in a frog on the white buffalo leather waist-belt with brass clasp. The bugler, well wrapped up, wears the undress cap with the brass numeral '3' which also appears on the shako plate, and not a dragon as might be expected. He wears his grey greatcoat, with white waist-belt for the sword and white haversack slung over the right shoulder under the cape. The bugle seems somewhat large by modern standards. The bugle cord should be dark green.



#### Officers and other ranks of an infantry regiment

Both officers wear the scarlet shell jacket with what appear to be lavender trousers. The jacket of No. 5 has shoulder-straps with a light edging and captain's badges, that of No. 6 has the new pattern small gold shoulder-cords. Their undress caps have the grenadier company grenade (No. 5) and light company bugle (No. 6) above an indistinguishable number. The facings for all appear to be white so this may be the 41st (the Welch) Regt. The three privates in dress shakos wear the scarlet full-dress coat with white square-ended lace loops in pairs, white waist-

belt with brass buckle and black pouch, white shoulder-belt with black pouch, and the bayonet carried upon the waist-belt. The white linen haversack is worn over the right shoulder and the water-bottle on a brown leather strap over the left. No. 2 wears the epaulettes and red and white ball tuft of a centre company, Nos. 3 and 4 the wings and white ball tuft of a centre company, and the green of the light company. No. 1 is a centre company lance-corporal wearing forage cap and grey greatcoat and cape; note how the cape is worn over the equipment.

sword and sabretache slings matching. The waist-belt and pouch-belt for other ranks were white leather with brass mounts. No carbine sling was worn as lancers were armed with the pistol and not the carbine. Sabretaches were not worn in the 17th even prior to the order of 1854 abolishing it except for hussars, although an Ebsworth sketch made at Hounslow in 1854 shows an officer wearing a full-dress 'tache with white face, although other ranks are not wearing them and they do not seem to have been worn at all by any ranks in the Crimea.

As in other branches of the service officers had an undress shell or stable jacket and a frock-coat.

The stable jacket was blue with white/scarlet collar and cuffs and piping in the back seams, and lace as for Light Dragoons, and with gold shoulder-cords with small regimental button. The blue frock-coat had black braided loops, and the forage cap was blue with gold lace band, gold-embroidered patent leather peak and gold gimp forming a cross on the top with a gold-netted purl button at the crossing. An oiled-silk cover could be worn. Other ranks had a blue cap with white band and gimp in the crown seam and no peak. Trumpeters of the 17th seem to have had a white cap with yellow band.

Spurs were yellow metal for officers in dress,

steel for other ranks at all times and for officers in undress. Officers seem to have had no undress belts.

Cloaks were blue lined scarlet with white collar for the 17th and were carried rolled under the lambskin shabrack in front of the pistol holster.

The regimental staff wore the same uniform as other officers except for the girdle and the cap having no gold ornament. This presumably refers to the lace only and not to the plate and chin-scales, unless a foul-weather cap is intended. The saddle-cloth is not prohibited as for Heavies.

Full-dress saddle-cloths were blue with rounded fore and rear corners. Officers had the crowned VR in the foreparts and the same above crossed lances with, in the 17th, the skull and crossbones with the label 'Or Glory' in silver on the crossed lances. The cloth was bordered with a broad gold lace. The pennants were in red and silver, the same device being borne on the blue circular valise ends. Over all was the plain black lambskin, which, unlike the undress item, had no white vandyked border. Other ranks' saddle-cloths had no crowned VR in the foreparts, and in the 17th the valise ends had not Roman numerals but 17. As with the rest of the cavalry, the 17th's valises were left aboard on landing, and only the sheepskins were taken. They were recovered some two months later.

The swords were the usual steel triple-barred pattern with gold acorn knots for officers and white leather for the men.

## RANKS IN THE CAVALRY

The rank insignia of cavalry N.C.O.s and others were as follows:

Sergeant-major	Crown above four chevrons on forearm. Gold-laced uniform.
Troopsergeant-major	Crown over four chevrons point down on upper arm, gold on facing colour.
Sergeant	Three chevrons point down.
Corporal	Two yellow chevrons point down.
Farriers	A horseshoe in yellow worsted.
Roughriders	A spur in yellow worsted.
Trumpeters	Crossed trumpets in yellow worsted.



**A private of the 28th (the North Gloucestershire) Regiment of Foot**

This private of a centre company wears full marching order. His dark blue forage cap has a black band and 'tourie'. The scarlet jacket with yellow facings has square-ended lace loops in pairs. A good conduct stripe is worn on the right arm. Waist-belt and single cross-belt are white buffalo leather. The water-canteen is blue-grey and the haversack white linen. Presumably the shells at his heels have been defused! Note how the tops of the tents were painted red.

## *The Artillery*

This branch of the service was still under the Board of Ordnance and subject to separate regulations which do not appear in the dress regulations for the rest of the army. However their uniform was based upon the Hussars in the Horse Artillery and on the infantry in the Foot Artillery.

The Horse Brigade wore the blue hussar uniform with scarlet collar and cuffs, gold or yellow braided, and the black fur busby with scarlet fly, gold or yellow cord and white plume; an oiled-silk cover was provided. The cap-lines for other



**Captain Walker of the 30th Foot with two N.C.O.s and a private**

This group of the 30th (the Cambridgeshire) Regiment of Foot shows an officer, No. 3, a private of a centre company, No. 1, a sergeant of the light company, No. 2, and a sergeant-major, No. 4. The private wears the scarlet coatee as do the N.C.O.s, but the facings, which should be yellow, appear darker than the scarlet coatee. This may be due to the photographic plate being insensitive in some degree to colour, which often produces this effect. The facings of the officer's shell are obviously of a much lighter material. The privates' waist-belt now carries the bayonet in a frog and the pouch when worn was carried upon a shoulder-belt. His dark trousers, as worn by all, have scarlet piping which is just visible on the original photograph. His undress cap is blue with black band and probably the brass numerals '30' on the front but without any badge above. The white epaulettes and the bastion lace on the collar are clear and these bastions are repeated evenly spaced on the front of the coatee. The light company

sergeant wears his dress double-breasted coatee with collar turned down, a bold gesture in front of the adjutant. Note the bugle above the '30' on the cap. It is probable that the grenadier company wore a grenade instead. Note that he wears the waist-belt, whereas the sergeant-major, No. 4, of a centre company is carried on a shoulder-belt of buffalo leather with brass plate. The sword had a brass hilt and black scabbard with brass mounts, and a white leather sword-knot. The sergeant-major also has a peaked cap, blue with black band. He does not appear to be wearing a sash. Note the left cuff undone and the buttons on the coatee larger than those worn by the sergeant. The skirt ornament can just be seen but not sufficiently clearly to describe.

The adjutant wears his scarlet shell with gold shoulder-cords and the steel scabbard prescribed for adjutants. Note several buttons of the shell are undone.

ranks are shown as scarlet in numerous old prints. Overall's were blue with scarlet stripes, officers having gold in dress uniform. Officers' belts were gold laced and had gilt buckle, tip and slide, the dress pouch being blue cloth edged with gold lace and embroidered with the royal arms and a gun, with the single modest battle honour - 'Ubique'. The undress pouch was similar to that worn by other ranks, plain black with a gilt metal gun. The dress sabretache was similar in design to the pouch, and the undress model plain black with the royal arms in gilt metal. No sabretache was worn by other ranks, who had white sword- and shoulder-belts. Swords were of light cavalry

pattern, triple-barred hilt and steel scabbard. The hussar barrelled sash was worn round the waist.

For undress a simple blue stable jacket with scarlet collar and cuffs braided in yellow was worn, officers having lace all round and small buttons in cavalry style. With this was worn the undress forage of blue cloth with scarlet band, and for officers, embroidered peak. In addition officers had the undress frock-coat of blue with black loops and olivets, latterly worn open and the collar rolled to show the scarlet 'mess' waistcoat.

In the foot batteries the dress was similar to the line infantry except that it was blue with scarlet



**Lieutenant-Colonel Munro and officers of the 39th, and a private in winter dress**

All officers wear the undress cap, No. 1 having possibly a grenade above the numeral. Note how the caps vary in shape. Three are wearing 'Balaclava' coats and Colonel Munro, No. 2, carries a large haversack and a binocular case over the left shoulder and a water-bottle over the right. Nos. 1, 2 and 3 wear black undress belts over their coats. No. 1 also carries a water-bottle and leans nonchalantly upon his drawn sword. No. 4 has a fine pair of boots

and a similar pair are all that can be seen of the recumbent figure apart from his nose and cap peak. The private on the right wears a sort of fur cap possibly over another peaked cap, and carries a rolled blanket over the left shoulder on top of his regulation grey greatcoat and cape. The bayonet is worn on the waist-belt and the canteen can be seen under the bayonet scabbard.





**Officers of the 39th (the Dorsetshire) Regiment of Foot**

All in this group wear the scarlet shell piped with white and with green collar and cuffs and the twisted gold shoulder-cords. Undress trousers have red welts. All wear the undress black leather belts and are wearing or carrying white gloves, and all carry telescopes over the left shoulder. The adjutant (?), No. 2, has steel scabbard, the colonel, No. 3, would have brass. Note

that the colonel and No. 1 wear 'Balacava' jackets. Their forage caps of blue with black band and peak of patent leather has '39' in gold on the front, although No. 5 seems to have an additional badge, possibly the light company bugle horn above the numeral.

facings and the lace for other ranks was yellow. Officers had gold-embroidered collar and cuffs. The plume in the shako was a stiff upright one and not the ball tuft. Undress was as for the Horse Brigade.

## *The Infantry*

The Infantry of the British Army consisted of the three regiments of the Brigade of Guards, and the Line infantry regiments which embraced a number of different types – ordinary regiments of foot,

fusiliers, light infantry, Highlanders and Rifles. All, with the exception of the Rifles, wore the traditional red coat. In the Guards they had long since adopted a double-breasted coat similar to that worn by officers and without the white lace across the breast which was so conspicuous a feature of the line regiments. A similar plain double-breasted coat was worn by non-commissioned officers in line regiments and by all ranks in the Rifles *except* officers, who disported themselves in hussar costume, even including the pelisse. All wore the Albert shako except the Guards, who wore the bearskin cap from 1835, and the Highlanders who wore the feather bonnet. The Highland Light Infantry, the 71st, and the

74th, wore a diced shako of bell-topped shape which had a curiously old-fashioned look by mid century. The 72nd, who wore the trews with the 71st and 74th and not the kilt, wore the bonnet. Trousers were black with a red welt for winter, and blue for summer, the indigo colour having replaced in 1850 the lavender which had in fact been adopted for summer wear in 1845 on the abolition of the white summer trousers.

We can now enumerate some recognizable features for the infantry. The Foot Guards are unmistakable in bearskins, the line regiments' grenadier companies and the fusiliers having long since given up their special headgear. The grenadier companies were to be abolished, but the fusiliers would shortly recover their special caps. The Grenadier Guards, as today, had a white plume on the left side and their buttons evenly spaced, the Coldstreams a red plume on the right and their buttons in twos, while the 3rd regiment, the Scots Fusilier Guards, had no plume and their buttons in threes. The Highland regiments were distinctive in their tartan kilts or trews as were the Rifles in their rifle-green uniforms. This latter colour is so dark as to require an uncommonly sharp eye to distinguish it from black. The remaining regiments could be distinguished by their facing colour, that is the regimental colour used for collar, cuffs, etc., and the special badges worn on shako and cross-belt plate and, of course, any numerals visible. The colours of the facings of all regiments serving in the Crimea are given on page 4.

The ball tufts on the shakos are a useful aid to identification. White were worn by fusilier regiments and the grenadier companies of line regiments. Green were worn by light infantry regiments and the light companies of line regiments, and red and white (one-third red) was worn by the centre companies of all line regiments, although the 34th had a scarcely perceptible honour of having half red while the light company of the 46th had a rare treat, being allowed one entirely of red.

Fusilier regiments and the two flank companies of line regiments, that is the grenadier and light companies wore wings on the shoulders, while the centre companies of line regiments had fringeless epaulettes.



**An officer of the 42nd (Royal Highland) Regiment of Foot**  
This officer wears the undress forage cap of blue with regimental tartan band and gold-embroidered St Andrew and cross on the front. His scarlet shell has blue collar and cuffs and gold shoulder-cords. What appears on his left cuff cannot be deciphered but it appears to be damage to the plate, as appears on the kilt. Over the left shoulder is the crimson silk sash. The black waist-belt has a gilt plate with silver badge. Of particular interest is the method of wearing the dirk with a chain attachment of some sort. The undress sporran has black tassels (the dress item had gold).

These are general indications, and we will now consider further details. It should be remembered that the dress regulations in force, which unfortunately give details for officers only, were those of 1846 with some minor modifications, and it is these which were worn on landing in the Crimea, the Battle of the Alma being fought virtually in full dress.

In dress uniform the most usual headgear was the Albert shako with the two exceptions noted – Foot Guards and Highlanders. It is described as black beaver, six and three-quarter inches deep, and a quarter of an inch less in diameter at the



### Sir George Brown and his staff

We are fortunate in having identification for all the officers present in this group.

The general seated in the centre wears his double-breasted blue frock-coat according to regulations, buttons spaced in threes for a major-general, and gold cord shoulder-straps. Note the small single button on the sleeve above the back of the cuff. The crimson and gold sword-belt is worn over the sash of the same colours, the tassel of which is to be seen worn apparently *over* the belt on the left. The cocked hat is without plume. The undress scarlet stripes placed so far forward as to cover the knee. The sword is not visible, but one is safe in assuming that Sir George, a notable martinet, wore the regulation ivory-hilted Mameluke sabre with brass scabbard and gold and crimson knot.

The grizzled veteran behind him is a rifleman in the black-faced rifle-green uniform with black epaulettes and is probably an orderly. His fatigue cap is rifle green with black band and 'tourie'.

The two officers to the right of the picture, Nos. 7 and 8, Captains Markham and Ponsonby, wear the staff cocked hat without feathers and Captain Markham what appears to be the staff crimson and gold belt. Captain Ponsonby wears an undress plain belt and sabretache. Both have leather strapping and cuffs on their overalls on which no stripes are visible. Both wear looped frock-coats with olivets which are not the correct staff pattern and are evidently regimental. Possibly they did not have time to have new staff-pattern coats made. It is not possible to

see the pattern on Captain Ponsonby's sword nor to tell whether the scabbard is brass or steel. Frock-coats with six rows of loops are prescribed for hussars.

No. 5, Major Hallowell, wears a single-breasted infantry frock-coat over a scarlet gold-laced waistcoat with close set small gilt buttons down the front and what appears to be a star on the collar, a star being the badge of a major but worn up to 1855 on the shoulders. He has a light cavalry-pattern sword and what appears to be a black undress waist sword-belt. Hallowell's regiment was the 28th, but he wears the staff gold-laced forage cap with embroidered peak and leather strapped overalls with spurs, and a telescope slung over the left shoulder. A mixed costume.

The remaining three figures, Nos. 2, 5 and 6 wear the standard staff frock-coat and belts. No. 3, Colonel Browning, wears the cocked hat, showing clearly the gold loop and button, and the white over red feathered plume of a colonel on the staff, possibly indicating that he is orderly staff officer of the day. The red stripe on his leather strapped and cuffed overalls is as clear as the dent in his brass scabbard. Both the others wear the forage cap, and the seated figure No. 6, Colonel Airey, has his frock-coat open to show the red waistcoat. No. 5, Captain Pearson, has the collar of his frock turned down to show a white collar and black knotted tie or cravat and carries a telescope over the left shoulder. Note the very deep cuffs on Colonel Airey's overalls which do not appear to be strapped under the foot.

top, which was of patent leather, and a band of the same surrounded the top. The peak was of patent leather two and three-eighths inches in front and one and a quarter behind. Officers had a great star of eight points with a crown above, on which was a garter within a laurel- and palm-leaf wreath. On the garter was the regimental title and the number or badge in the centre, while such battle honours or distinctions as might be authorized were borne on scrolls.

The coatee for officers was the double-breasted pattern of scarlet with regimental facings and white lining and turnbacks, laced or embroidered in gold. Other ranks had a red coat which was more of a brick red than scarlet, sergeants having a cloth closer to that used for officers.

Officers' rank was denoted by their epaulettes, thus: Field officers had a plain gold strap, solid crescent and the Queen's cipher within an oval, the fringe three and a half inches for colonels and lieutenant-colonels and three inches for majors. Captains had narrow silk stripes in the straps of regimental facing colour, metal crescent and two-and-a-half-inch bullion fringe. Subalterns were as for captains but with a smaller and less bulky bullion. Flank company officers wore wings as for light infantry or fusiliers with the bugle horn or grenade, but field officers of fusiliers and light infantry wore epaulettes. Few regiments had embroidery, but the Royal Fusiliers had for a time superb embroidered cuffs for officers with an intricate pattern of rose, thistle and shamrock, but this lasted only a short time due to the expense.

Trousers were specified as Oxford mixture from 13 October to 30 April, the 'official' winter which did not always coincide with the actual weather prevailing. These trousers had a scarlet welt in the outer seam. From 1 May to 14 October, the 'official' summer blue trousers had replaced the white of the regulations, but some of the grey tweed authorized for use at home and in North America may have seen the light in the Crimea. This would account for some otherwise unaccountable but obviously military nether wear.

The sword was a half basket-hilted sabre with slightly curved blade with VR and crown in an oval cartouche. It had a brass scabbard for field officers, steel for adjutants and black leather with gilt mounts for other dismounted officers, or for



Highland soldiers at Edinburgh in the 1840s.

This early photograph shows a flank company private in guard order and a sergeant in undress drill jacket with blue chevrons, crimson sash with a coloured stripe in the centre and diced forage cap. The brass buckle on his left shoe is just visible.

field officer in evening or levee dress. Rifles had steel hilts and scabbards and the badge was a bugle horn. The patterns of sword are well illustrated in our two figures. It is interesting to note that the price of a staff-sergeant's sword and scabbard immediately after the Crimean War was £1 12s. 6d., whereas drummers' complete were only 12s. 6d. and in the rifles which had steel instead of brass, only 11s. 6d. Officers had the gold and crimson knot wound tight round the bars, except for mounted officers who should have had them loose. The reason was to permit mounted men to slip the hand through the cord and give it a twist before grasping the sword-hilt thus ensuring that the sword would not be lost but merely hang from the wrist if let go.

The waist- or shoulder-belt was of buffalo



**Brigadier Garrett and officers of the 46th (South Devonshire) Regiment of Foot**

The figure on the left, No. 1 is William Russell, the famous *Times* correspondent whose reports had so profound an effect upon public opinion at home. The main interest of this picture is the

clear back view of the officer in scarlet shell with yellow facings and the black undress sword-belt. The figure on the right in a sort of white linen jacket seems to be a civilian servant.

leather with plate of regimental pattern, the waist-belt (field officers) having a gilt plate with silver VR, crown above and regimental numerals below.

The sash was worn round the waist and had tassels on the left hip for other than light infantry regiments and companies and fusilier regiments or grenadier companies. These wore a pattern with cords and tassels looped up to the left breast. Highlanders wore a shoulder-sash, and all were of plain crimson.

Undress uniform consisted of a scarlet shell

jacket with regimental facings or a blue frock-coat, quite plain, with a single row of gilt regimental buttons and fringeless epaulettes. With these were worn undress belts of black patent leather with a frog or, for mounted officers, slings, and the blue forage cap. This had a black band except in 'Royal' regiments where the band was red. The undress cap worn in the light companies of ordinary line regiments, the normal regimental blue cap and not the light infantry green, and the whistles and chains worn in the light infantry and light and grenadier companies by officers and



**Non-Commissioned officers and men of the 68th (the Durham) Regiment of Foot (Light Infantry)**

All ranks are wearing the scarlet dress coatee with collar and cuffs of green and laced with white square-ended lace loops, and red wings with white lace and fringe. The drummer, No. 4, seated has fringe mixed red and white. The sergeant, No. 3, and the corporal, No. 5, both wear the light infantry chain and whistle, but the lance-corporal, No. 6, does not. Unfortunately their

sashes cannot be distinguished. The whistles were also worn by light and grenadier company N.C.O.s in line infantry regiments. The undress caps are the light infantry dark green with black band and 'tourie'. Note that the drummer wears only a single cross-belt to carry the sword. The N.C.O.s have plain double-breasted unlaced coatees.

senior N.C.O.s were gilt or brass, those in the Rifles being silver or white metal.

The light infantry and the fusiliers wore, as already noted, wings and not epaulettes, except for field officers, and those worn by officers had fringe varying in bulk on the same principle as epaulettes. The straps were ornamented with diminishing chain in gilt, three rows being connected at the point of the shoulder to a ring beneath which was a gilt disc upon which was worn a bugle or a grenade. The 51st and 85th Regiments had a specially embroidered pattern

without the chain. The special badges of the fusiliers are noted in the table on page 40, but a further and unique distinction of the 23rd was the wearing of the 'flash': black ribbons worn on the back of the collar hanging down the back and reminiscent of the long obsolete pigtails. The 5th Fusiliers had embroidered grenades on officers' collars on both coatee and shell jacket, and as a counterblast to the 'flash' wore a ball tuft in their shakos of red over white instead of the normal fusiliers' plain white.

The Highland regiments also favoured the



**Men of the 68th (the Durham) Regiment of Foot in winter dress**

This astonishing group of Mongolian brigands are identifiable only by their arms and equipment. They have a curious assortment of headgear from the deerstalker of No. 2 to the sou'wester of No. 6, while the coats vary from long goatskin worn hair outward of No. 3, to the neat sheepskin of No. 1. The hide would be in varying shades of yellow. Both the regimental surgeon and paymaster had served in Afghanistan and they at least would be

no strangers to the 'poshteen' coat. The sergeant, No. 2, wears his whistle and chain from one cross-belt to the other, as does No. 6. The bugler, No. 3, has only one sword-belt. He wears a voluminous muffler round his neck, and what appears to be a non-regulation belt to fasten his coat. There is a fine assortment of boots.

wing for their flank companies, but with a thistle in lieu of grenade or bugle. The bonnet according to regulations had six ostrich feathers in all regiments and a rosette of black silk with a regimental button on the left side. The plume of vulture feathers was eight inches long for officers, and plain scarlet in the 42nd and white for others. The notable distinctions in Highland regiments were the plaid, the sporrans, the dirk and, of course, the belt-plates. In dress uniform officers' sporrans had gold bullion tassels, the undress models having horse-hair 'brushes' set in metal holders.

- 42nd White sporrans, five tassels of black two above three. Trews: Tartan no stripe.
  - 71st Trews: White stripe.
  - 72nd Trews: Scarlet Stuart.
  - 79th Black sporrans, five white tassels two over three. Trews: Cameron of Erracht.
  - 93rd Officers, badger with six red over white tassels. Trews: No distinctive stripe in dark tartan.
- Other ranks black with six white tassels.

The Rifle regiments had as already remarked a distinctive rifle-green uniform, with officers

dressed virtually in full hussar costume, green braided black and with black braided astrakhan edged pelisse. The buttons were black and not, as they so often appear to be in photographs, silver. The Rifle Brigade had black facings which distinguished them from the 60th (did not serve in the Crimea) who had red facings. The belts and accoutrements of Rifles were black. Officers wore waist-belts with slings for the sword and plain patent leather shoulder-belts and pouches of cavalry pattern with solid silver badges, whistles and chains.

Infantry regimental staff officers wore basically their regimental uniform with certain minor

variations. The adjutant wore the uniform of his rank, but the sword in a steel scabbard hung on slings from the shoulder-belt. The paymaster, quartermaster, surgeon and assistant surgeon wore the uniform of their rank with appropriate epaulettes, black waist-belts with slings worn under the coat, no sash and in lieu of the shako a cocked hat. The paymaster and quartermaster had the normal cocked hat with gold loop and button, the latter only having a five-inch hackle feather of the same colour as the ball tufts of the regiment. The medics had black lace loops and no feathers.

These then were the splendid uniforms laid down in the regulations, and as with the cavalry



**Officers of the 90th Regiment of Foot (Perthshire Volunteers) (Light Infantry)**

In this group all are wearing the scarlet shell with buff collar and cuffs, piped all round with white and with gold shoulder-cords. These shells were often of light alpaca in the tropics. Note No. 5 who anticipates the mess dress of later years by wearing his shell open with the collar rolled and his waistcoat, apparently scarlet, with collar turned down also. The fatigue caps are the light infantry green with black oak-leaf lace band and the bugle horn and regimental number embroidered on the front in gold. Both the right-hand figures have metal scabbards and spurs and

are evidently field officers, or one the adjutant, and the extreme right figure shows clearly the small gilt waistcoat buttons. Note how the centre standing figure carries his watch in a small fob pocket on the right of his jacket. The right-hand figure wears non-regulation boots and breeches with buttons below the knee. The red stripes on the trousers can just be seen on the original photograph. The trousers of the second from the left appear lighter than the remainder, and may have been the 'lavenders' introduced in January 1845 instead of white.





**Officers of the 71st (Highland) Regiment of Foot (Light Infantry)**

These officers all wear the scarlet shell jacket piped all round with a fine white piping and having buff collar and cuffs and gold-plaited shoulder-cords. Note the unusual shape of the cuff and the four buttons in the cuff plait of No. 1, who has his broadsword on the undress black leather belt. No. 2 with dirk and crimson silk sash is probably orderly officer of the day. No. 3 wears a 'Balaclava' jacket as does No. 4, while No. 5 wears a civilian donkey jacket. All have the blue undress forage cap with red, blue and white diced border, best described as red crosses with blue squares on the centres. The gold-embroidered cap-badge is a thistle above a light infantry bugle. All wear tartan trews of regimental pattern, blue, green and black with white stripe, but note the variation in colour, those of No. 2 having a very prominent pattern.

and staff we can see from the accompanying photographs to what state a winter in the Crimea reduced them.

SPECIAL BADGES AUTHORIZED TO BE WORN BY OFFICERS OF CERTAIN REGIMENTS IN LIEU OF THE REGIMENTAL NUMERALS ON THE FORAGE CAP AND SHAKO PLATE.

1st or Royal Regiment	St Andrew
2nd or Queen's Royal Regiment	The Lamb
3rd or Buffs	The Dragon
4th or King's Own	The Lion
6th	The Antelope
8th or King's	The White Horse
9th	Britannia
18th (Royal Irish)	The Harp and Crown
27th (Inniskilling)	A Castle
Fusilier Regiments	A Grenade within the centre of the ball
5th Fusiliers	St George and Dragon
7th Royal Fusiliers	The Rose
21st Royal North British Fusiliers	The Thistle
23rd Royal Welch Fusiliers	The Red Dragon
87th Royal Irish Fusiliers	'87'
Highland Regiments	An embroidered thistle with the number in the lower part except:
42nd (Royal Highland) Regiment	St Andrew

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