

The Young Hussar The Peninsular War Journal Of Colonel Thomas Wildman

So great is the weight of reading on the subject of the Waterloo campaign that it might be thought there is nothing left to say about it, and from the military viewpoint, this is very much the case. But one critical aspect of the story has gone all but untold – the French home front. Little has been written about the topic in English, and few works on Napoleon or Revolutionary and Napoleonic France pay it much attention. It is this conspicuous gap in the literature that Charles Esdaile explores in this erudite and absorbing study. Drawing on the vivid, revealing material that is available in the French archives, in the writings of soldiers who fought in France in 1814 and 1815 and in the memoirs of civilians who witnessed the fall of Napoleon or the Hundred Days, he gives us a fascinating new insight into the military and domestic context of the Waterloo campaign, the Napoleonic legend and the wider situation across Europe.

In *Women in the Peninsular War*, Esdaile looks beyond the iconography. While a handful of Spanish and Portuguese women became Agustina-like heroines, a multitude became victims, and here both of these groups receive their due. But Esdaile reveals a much more complicated picture in which women are discovered to have experienced, responded to, and participated in the conflict in various ways. Originally published in 1837 in two volumes, this is the 1845 edition which combines both into one handy volume. It is the account of Norbert Landsheit, late sergeant in the York Hussars and 20th Light Dragoons, who saw service in the Peninsular War. He related his military life to the Rev. George R. Gleig, whom he met whilst an inmate at Chelsea Hospital in London, where the Gleig was rector at the time. Landsheit had an amazingly long career, and his memoir provides a fascinating insight into the experiences of a German soldier within the British Army.

General Maximilien Foy was a renowned and experienced French general with a long and distinguished career. An artilleryman like his master Napoleon, he fulfilled his duty to France despite disagreeing with Napoleon, and fought across Europe from Switzerland, Germany, Portugal and Spain. He spent a major part of his career fighting in the Peninsular armies at Busaco and with Masséna in Portugal. His military career came to an end after heroic fighting at Waterloo in 1815, after which he became involved in politics and writing. Foy set about writing a history of the Peninsular War, which had been covered in great detail by British and Spanish writers but not so well by those of France. Although his untimely death in 1825 cut short his endeavour to two books, they are a valuable addition to the literature on the period, filling the gap of a French perspective on the bloody “Spanish Ulcer”. Author — Général de Division Comte Maximilien Foy, 1775-1825. Editor — Comtesse Élisabeth Augustine (née Daniels) Foy Text taken, whole and complete, from the edition published in 1827, London, by Treuttel and Würtz Original Page Count – xv and pages. Illustrations — 1 Facsimile.

Basing his story on contemporary letters, diaries and reports and a comprehensive bibliography, John Mollo takes the reader into the heart of the Hussar Brigade in peace and war, depicting its many colourful characters with a sure hand and describing every facet of day-to-day life, in barracks and on the battlefield. This is a story based on the harsh realities of war in the early years of the nineteenth century.

Written with great elegance, the touch of a natural story teller and the imprint of a true lover and student of military history, this is a book to treasure.

Captain Sherer's record of service in the Peninsular War is second to none. A hard campaigner, he served with the 34th Foot at Busaco, Badajoz, Albuera, Arroyo Molinos, Vittoria and the Pyrenees, during which he was taken prisoner by the advancing French. In this, his service was no different to huge numbers of officers, a good number of whom left their memoirs to posterity. What marks out Sherer and his recollections is their quality. His descriptions of himself, his men and, above all, the actions that he took part in are of the first order, quoted with great frequency by historians - an example of which is below (from his description of the hard fighting at Albuera): 'The French grenadier caps, their arms, and the whole aspect of their frowning masses. It was a momentary, but grand sight: a heavy atmosphere of smoke again enveloped us, and few objects could be discerned at all, none distinctly... This murderous contest of musketry lasted long. We were the whole time progressively advancing and shaking the enemy. 'At a distance of about twenty yards from them we received orders to charge; we had ceased firing, cheered, and had our bayonets in the charging position, when a body of the enemy's horse was discovered under the rising ground, ready to take advantage of our impetuosity. Already, however, the French infantry, alarmed by our preparatory cheers, which always indicate the charge, had broke and fled.' A fantastic memoir that deserves reading and re-reading. Author — Captain Joseph Moyle Sherer (1789-1869)

In her study of English theatre during the Peninsular War, Susan Valladares contextualizes the theatrical treatment of the war within the larger political and ideological axes of Romantic performance. From its nuanced reading of Richard Brinsley Sheridan's *Pizarro* (1799), to its accounts of wartime productions of Shakespeare, description of performances at the minor theatres, and detailed case study of dramatic culture in Bristol, Valladares's book reveals how theatrical entertainments reflected and shaped public feeling on the Peninsular campaign.

This highly detailed study provides a clear account of how the British Army was organised, who commanded it, and how it functioned in the field during the Peninsular War. Focusing principally on infantry, cavalry and artillery, including foreign units in British pay, it provides a detailed and comprehensive order of battle. Doctrine, training, tactics and equipment are discussed in depth, and medical services and engineers are also covered. Concise biographical details of key commanders, over 60 unit tree diagrams, organisational tables, plus numerous illustrations make this an essential reference work for students of this period.

The Peninsular Campaign was conducted over terrain ranging from the sun scorched plains of Andalusia to the picturesque snow covered passes of the Pyrenees. Drawing on the experiences and observations of fifty-six officers and men who fought during the years 1808 to 1814, *The Peninsula Years* is a thrilling and fast moving narrative of the bloody campaigns in the Iberian Peninsula, as well as showing insight into the everyday hardships common to the ordinary British redcoat. The contrary nature of the infantryman of that time is effectively illustrated in the long and arduous retreat to Corunna with its accompanying scenes of drunken and licentious behavior yet, when the occasion called for it, he was capable of outstanding feats of suicidal bravery as demonstrated at Albuera or in the murderous assault against Badajoz. Wellington may have referred to the men under his command as scum, but without their fortitude, bravery and endurance he knew that Spain would never have been swept clean of France's elite divisions, thus paving the way for Napoleon's eventual downfall and defeat.

Napoleon's eagles had triumphed over every adversary faced until his fateful decision to depose the Bourbons from the throne of Spain. He started a war that was to prove fatal to his ambitions, a war with the religious people who knew only the war of the knife. The Spaniards were unsuccessful in prosecuting a war on regular military lines, being crushed in a number of pitched battles against the French forces, but they started a campaign of guerilla warfare that was to make the French gains limited to the ground they stood on. Messengers would be attacked, stragglers murdered, provisions delayed, convoys waylaid. This form of warfare seemed alien to the French and, with the exception of Marshal Suchet in Catalonia, they could find no proper way of subduing the Spanish people. Michel de Rocca was a young hussar officer in 1808 and arriving early in the Peninsular War. He writes of the constant draining warfare: the need to be constantly on guard, the suspicious actions of the villagers, and the ambushes. Rocca appears to hold a grudge against the attitude of the Spanish, believing the war there to be rather inglorious and unjust; this was not the general feeling in the ranks of the French army, and was probably due to his Swiss ancestry and his association and later marriage to Madame de Staël (a staunch opponent of Napoleon). However, the brutal reprisals of the insurgents and the constant alertness wear him down as time goes on, and he is not unhappy to be removed from the war due to injuries sustained in an ambush. Author – Albert Jean Michel de Rocca (1788-1818)

Volume 2 of 2. Eye-witness accounts and memoirs of the Peninsula War by ordinary soldiers who took part in the campaign have deservedly acquired a high reputation for the vivid picture they give us of life in Wellington's army and their insights into a brutal and merciless war. These two volumes of 'Peninsular Sketches' are the cream of the genre. Collected by William Hamilton Maxwell, a colourful and well-regarded Anglo-Irish military historian and writer who may well have served in the Peninsular himself, they are now published in a modern revised edition. Volume One of this smart and conveniently sized re-print includes a lengthy and learned introduction by the modern military historian Stanley Monick, which comprises a biography of Maxwell himself, an outline of the course of the war, as well as well-informed notes and a commentary on the sketches themselves. Both volumes also have full indexes compiled by Dr Monick. Volume Two follows the course of the war from the capture of Madrid, Wellington's victory at Vittoria and the British army's passage over the Pyrenees and its final triumphal march to Toulouse. Long out of print, and a rare collector's item in the antiquarian book market; these fascinating volumes are now within the price range of every enthusiast of the Peninsular War and Napoleonic warfare generally. For the serious student of the subject these are not to be missed.

The defeat of Napoleons French army by the combined forces of Wellington and Blcher at Waterloo on 18 June 1815 was a turning point in world history. This was the climax of the Napoleonic Wars, and the outcome had a major influence on the shape of Europe for the next century and beyond. The battle was a milestone, and it cannot be properly understood without a detailed, on-the-ground study of the landscape in which it was fought and that is the purpose of David Butterys new battlefield guide. In vivid detail, using eyewitness accounts and an intimate knowledge of the terrain, he reconstructs Waterloo and he takes the reader and the visitor across the battleground as it is today. He focuses on the pivotal episodes in the fighting the day-long struggle for the chateau at Hougoumont, the massive French infantry assaults, repeated cavalry charges, the fall of La Haye Sainte, the violent clashes in the village of Plancenoit, the repulse of the Imperial Guard and rout of the French army. This thoroughgoing, lucid, easy-to-follow guide will be a fascinating introduction for anyone who seeks to understand what happened on that momentous day, and it will be an essential companion for anyone who explores the battlefield in Belgium.

An autobiographical novel about Norbert Landsheit, an old soldier at the Chelsea Pensioners Hospital who relates the fascinating experience of his military life. Born within the German states, this young cavalryman first goes to war as one of Hompesch's Hussars engaged in the disastrous campaign in the Low Countries against the armies of Revolutionary France. Transferred into the British Army this horse-soldier then sees years of campaigning during the long wars against the First Empire, including hard service in the Peninsular War. As a light dragoon and once again as a hussar, Landsheit takes us on an engaging journey through early nineteenth century warfare filled with detail of camp life and adventures on and off the battlefield.

Lieutenant Swabey's personal diary is a unique account of day-to-day events during the Peninsula War and the epic battles that marked this defiant campaign against Napoleon. The volume also includes Swabey's retrospective reminiscences of the war—an addition of amusing anecdotes which complement the diary. Witnessing the fierce cruelty of the Spaniards, encountering hunger and sickness, Swabey's account takes us from July 1811 to August 1813 when he was invalided home, and includes The Siege of Ciudad Rodrigo, The Siege and Storm of Badajoz, The Battle of Salamanca, The Battle of Vitoria and The Siege of St. Sebastian.

By means of the personal diaries and letters of three officers in the 18th Hussars, the reader traces the progress of this famous cavalry Regiment through the gruelling years of campaigning in Portugal, Spain and South West France. The scene then shifts to Northern France and Belgium culminating in the decisive victory at Waterloo. The ferocity of the campaigning in the Peninsula is vividly described by these diarists. Their escapades between and during campaigning make fascinating reading and throw interesting light on military and social conditions at the time.

"Adventures in the Rifle Brigade, in the Peninsula, France, and the Netherlands from 1809 to 1815" by J. Kincaid. Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten?or yet undiscovered gems?of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-quality digital format.

George Woodberry was commissioned into the 18th Light Dragoons (Hussars) as a cornet on 16 Jan 1812, and joined Wellingtons army as a lieutenant, seeing action in the key battles of 1813 and 14 Moralles, Vittoria, Nivelle, Nive, Orthes, Croix dOrade and the final battle of the war at Toulouse. He was wounded at Mendionde in a clash with French cavalry as Wellington advanced into France. He also served in the 1815 campaign, being at Waterloo and the march to Paris. What is most remarkable is that Woodberry found time to record events at length in his journal almost every single day. This enables the reader to trace accurately the movements of the 18th Hussars and Wellingtons army in general with precision. It also provides an insight into life on campaign in Spain, France and Belgium with the British Army of the early nineteenth century His lively, detailed and entertaining account of his time in Wellingtons army is matched by the unusual story of the history of his journal. It was published once before, in 1898, but in French by a Paris-based publisher. The original journal, in two leather-bound volumes, has since been lost, but the French edition has now been translated back into English by renowned Napoleonic historian Gareth Glover and is published in the UK for the first time.

"British Regiments at the Front, The Story of Their Battle Honours" by Reginald Hodder. Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten?or yet undiscovered gems?of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-quality digital format.

Reproduction of the original: A History of the Peninsula War by Charles William Chadwick Oman

This detailed diary offers an insight into the day-to-day mechanics of military life during the Regency period. Thomas Wildman was a wealthy young captain with the Hussars Brigade, whose outfit was sent to join Wellington's Peninsular campaign late in 1813.

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