

The Rifle Brigade at Waterloo

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was in Antwerp I had another chylde and had great care to keepe it from the baptisme of the papists: for in hatred that the inhabitants there do beare to the anabaptists the magistrats used to enter at midnight into houses where any children were suspected to be kept unbaptized and if he found any such, he used to put ym in a sack and cast them into the water and so drown ym, from which cruelty to saue my chylde I did as followeth viz. Whereas it is the custom there to hang at the streete doore where a woman lyeth in, a litle peece of lawne It was so y' our howse opened into 2 streets therefore I hanged forth a peece of lawne uppon either side or doore, to ye end y' the neighbours on either side might suppose y' it went out at thother doore to be baptized And it so pleased god yt there was a secret congregation of protestants: unto which congregation by y^e helpe of some godly weomen there I procured my chylde to be secretly carryed and there to be baptized by a protestant minister, I not knowing godfather nor godmother. And thus I continued in Antwerpe till the death of Queene Marie, which was not a little ioyfull to me to heere of.' This narrative was printed from the manuscript, but with a number of errors, in Adam Stark, The History and Antiquities of Gainsburgh, 2nd edition, 1843, p. 452. It is followed in the manuscript by an account (apparently unprinted) of 'Deliuerances sent to Sr Wm Hickman from his chyldehood observed by the said old gentlewoman his Mother', beginning with a seizure at the age of five or six and ending with an adventure while on a journey to Russia with Queen Elizabeth's ambassador at eighteen or nineteen. The manuscript has been numbered Add. MS. 43827 A; a partial copy, with several variations, accompanies it and is numbered ERIC G. MILLAR. Add. MS. 43827 B.

51. THE RIFLE BRIGADE AT WATERLOO.

PROMINENT upon the badges of the Rifle Brigade, sometime the 95th Regiment of Foot, stands the most treasured of its many Battle Honours, 'Waterloo'. The conduct of the 2nd Battalion throughout the day, in particular its valour in that evening charge which put the Imperial Guard to flight, richly earned the distinction. At an early stage the command had devolved on Captain Joseph

Logan, who, on 10 July 1815, from his 'Camp in the Square of the Thuilleries, Paris', sent an account of the part played by himself and his riflemen to a friend in London. Thanks to the generosity of Lady Warner, a kinswoman of that friend, Capt. Logan's letter has now come to join the important series of communications obtained (at a much later date) by Capt. William Siborne from officers who had participated in the action (Add. MSS. 34703-34708). The letter runs:

My Dear Silvester,

Ever since the Glorious Battle of Waterloo I have been so occupied (being on the Advanced Squad of the Guard of the Army) that I could not find time before to give you an account of myself. About 12 OClock on the 18th June the action commenced. Our Brigade (Gen. Adam's) was formed in Columns of Battalions in rear of our Guns. Here we were cruelly mauled with shot & shell. About five minutes after we went into action I succeeded to the command of the Battalion in consequence of our three fie[1]d officers being severely wounded. We were now attacked in Square by Lancers & Cuirassiers, supported by 18 Guns which played into our Square at one hundred yards distance. We repulsed this attack but suffered cruelly; one shot knocked down nine men. We were attacked again four different times, but my little Battalion maintained their ground. The General, finding we were so terribly exposed, sent me an order to fall back upon our Guns. Soon after Bonaparte advanced with his Imperial Guards & commenced a heavy attack. Lord Wellington rode up to me & ordered I shoul attack them immediately. I moved on with the 52d & 71st Regiments on my right, & such a carnage I never before beheld. The roaring of Guns &c was so great that the man next to me could not hear my orders. After some desperate fighting the french began to retire, & you may be certain we stuck to their skirts.

That Noble fellow Lord Wellington moved on with the 95th & frequently sung out 'Move on, my brave fellows'. I trembled for his safety—myself I did not care about. My God! had he fallen, what a bitter day it would have been for England. Lord Hill, Sir H. Clinton & Gen. Adam were also with us & conducted themselves like Hero[e]s.

About Eleven OClock at Night we halted & lay on the wet ground surrounded with dead & dying. The next morning we moved on & continued marching until we reached a Position in front of St Denis, one league from Paris. I was sent down with the command of two Battalions of Riflemen to occupy the Town of Epinay on the Seine. My Piquets were shoved close to St Denis & were occasionally attacked but always maintained their Post.

I formed an acquaintance here with the Prince de Salm, whose family & property I had an opportunity of saving. He has given me a General invitation to his Hotel in Paris—the poor Princess was terribly alarmed.

We crossed the Seine on the 3^d, when Paris Capitulated. We entered Paris a day or two after, & I had the honor to command the first Regiment of the Allies which entered Paris. We marched up to the Thuilleries & mounted Guard over the Palace. We are now encamped within twenty yards of the spot on which Louis & Queen were beheaded with about 20,000 others.

We lost (2^d Battalion) 14 officers & 225 Men, killed & wounded. I am recommended for a Majority. Lo[rd] Hill thanked me personally, as did also Gen. Adams (sic), for the conduct of my Regt. I received a slight wound below the ancle but would not return myself wounded, not wishing to alarm my friends. I am now quite well & never left the head of my Regiment. Poor Sir T. Picton—he was indeed a Great Man—the Army will remember him as long as memory lasts. . . .

Believe me to be

Your sincere & much obliged friend J. Logan.

Captain Logan, it is fitting to recall, was mentioned in dispatches, decorated with the Waterloo Medal, and gazetted to the brevet rank of Major with seniority from 18 June 1815, the day of the battle. Later he commanded the 63rd (West Suffolk) Regiment, and when he died, on 1 September 1844, he held the rank of Colonel and was an A.D.C. to Queen Victoria. The letter has received the number Add. MS. 43830 Y.

A. J. COLLINS.

JNTIL 1929 the Department of Manuscripts possessed the merest handful of the writings of Thomas Jefferson Hogg, Shelley's second biographer—a few letters to Macvey Napier, as Editor of the Edinburgh Review, two letters to Leigh Hunt, and a single letter to J. F. Newton. Five years ago, however, Mr J. Wheeler Williams (who had already in 1901 presented Edward Ellerker Williams's 'Diary', Add. MS. 36622) gave to the Department Hogg's letters to Jane Williams, later his wife but more famous as Shelley's 'Miranda'; now he and Mrs A. Saxon Snell (both grandchildren of Jane) have made two very interesting additions to