THE RETURN OF THE 43rd YEOMANRY.

THE NORWICH WELCOME.

The Norwich members of the 43rd Company of the Imperial Yeomanry with four troopers of the 45th, the party numbering altogether 67 arrived at Norwich on Saturday evening, and were given a most enthusiastic reception. They had earlier in the day been warmly received at Bury St. Edmunds, where the programme included a thanksgiving service at St. Mary's Church and luncheon in a marquee in the grounds of Abbey House, attended by General Gatacre and other officers, and they were also the recipients of epicurean mementoes by Mr. Mackay Low, and the bands of the 1st V.R.N.R. and the Volunteer Artillery. Inside were waiting the band of the 25th Hussars and a large number of officers and others, anxious to catch a first glimpse of the khaki troopers to present the officers on the platform were Colonel Hill, Colonel Keppel, Major Cubitt, Major Raven, Barnes, Major Prior, Major Clark, Major Beaven, Major Cooke, Major Archdale, Major Tuthey, Captain and Quartermaster Hudson Harfoot, Captain Lieutenant Ireland, Lieutenant Woodrow, Lieutenant Ireland, Lieutenant F. G. Grimwade, and Lieutenant Rippingall, F.W.O. It had been determined that the returning troops should be driven to the Drill Hall, where the Mayor was to receive them, and for this purpose a brake and pair had been brought up by Mr. Bacon. But at the last moment it was thought that horses should be offered means for Mr. Low's cavalcade, and that the char-a-banc should be used by the horseless, the disabled, and the wounded. The station about 10 minutes past 6, and as the bands played "Rule Britannia" the troopers could hear the cheers and hearty greetings of those who had been selected on the platform to welcome them. They were under the command of Captain Barnes, with Captain Harvey, and they quickly formed up and marched into the station approach for further clearing by the crowd.

The procession moved out of the gates in the following order:—Mounted police, Loyal Suffolk Hussars, the bands, Loyal Norfolk Regiment, the 43rd Yeomanry, mounted cavalcade, and the brake. The route taken was Prince of Wales Road, London Street, and St. Giles, to the Drill Hall, and all along frequent cheers greeted the troopers, and the delighted crowds which were of special density opposite the General Post Office and at the Guild Place. At the Drill Hall the troops made a guard of honour of the 1st V.B.N.R., under Lieut. Smith, they were received by the Mayor, who said Mayoress (Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Dawson Paul), with a number of prominent citizens, and many of the men's own relatives, specially invited by the kind-hearted Mayor. The Band of the 25th Hussars, meanwhile played "The Boys of the Old Brigade," A long table had been laid out with plates and bottles of claret, champagne, and glasses, and in front of this the men were halted and drawn up in single file. Among those who were present in appearance with ringing cheers were the Mayor and Mayoress (Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Dawson Paul), the Sheriff and Mrs. S. Cozens-Hardy, Sir Harry Bullard, J.P., the Dean of Norwich, Sir Peter Eade, Rev. Canon Patteson, Mrs. George Chamberlain, Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie Rose, Colonel Hill (Lord Mayor's Own Norfolk Yeomanry), Mr. Hugh Barclay, Canon Duckett, Mr. E. Wild, Mr. G. Green, Mr. G. Jarrold, Mr. Russell Colman, Mr. Ewing (Gresham), Major Pooch, Mr. J. H. Brockbank, Mr. Herbert Tuck, Mr. C. H. Tuck, Mr. Ernest Tuck, Mr. E. Aldis, Mr. G. H. Morse, Mr. W. H. Jones, Mr. G. Poole Wayne, Mr. H. Bullard, Mr. Hill, Mr. E. Winch (Chief Constable), Mr. R. Beck, Mr. Basil Dean, Mr. Hugh Dean, Mr. Hugh Gurney, Mr. George Cozens, Miss Mary Cozens, Mr. C. Burn, and many others. Mr. C. H. Chamberlin was journeying from Scotland, and did not arrive in time for the time to be present. The Mayor and Mayoress having shaken out each soldier's hand in turn, the bottles of champagne was distributed, and "The Health of the King" was honoured.

The men and the Mayor's guests having refreshed themselves, the MAYOR ADDRESSED the troopers on returned Yeomen. He said—Captain Burton, Captain Harvey, and gentlemen of the 43rd Company of the citizens of Norwich I offer you the heartiest of welcomes upon your return to the good old city, and our sincere congratulations upon what it has pleased providence to bring you safe and sound through all the dangers which you have encountered you both on land and water since those memorable days when you left us. You left the city accompanied by the anxious thoughts of those you left behind, who, however, mingled with their natural sorrow by their patriotic enthusiasm. (Hear, hear.) We are just happy that you left us at a moment when the nation had need of their services. (Hear, hear.) You know full well that you were starting upon no mere military promenade, but that you knew the realities of a stern and dangerous campaign before you, and had to meet a determined foe, and a clever foe. We have watched your careers during those trying months—rather we should say that we have allowed to know—with pride and satisfaction, and here let that the proudest moment in which Norfolk was afle in your hands. (Cheers.) Now, after all these trying times you are back with us again. The thanks of your fellow-citizens and their feelings for you are represented and shown in the manner by which you have been received (Cheers.) I feel that the greatest compliment was paid to the Yeomanry by Lord Roberts when he expressed his wish to have more of such men to enable him to finish the war. (Cheers.) Norfolk has been honoured. We are to have a regiment of our own which he called the "King's Own." (Cheers.) If it is formed of such men as those I see before me we shall indeed have a regiment to be proud of, and the King will have extreme satisfaction in being its godfather. (Loud cheers.) Ladies and gentlemen, I have the honour to give you "The Health of the 43rd Yeomanry," especially of the gallant Norfolk men who form it.

The toast was drunk with musical honours.

Captain Harvey, who was loudly cheered, said he had never seen such a reception as had been given them, and it was one which they would be proud of and never dared to hope for. They were very glad to come home. They were about the first out and the last home, and they were glad to be back in Norfolk once again. He begged to give "The health of the Mayor and Mayoress."

Captain Harvey also responded on behalf of the 43rd Imperial Yeomanry, and thanked the Mayor and the citizens at Norwich for the magnificent reception they had accorded them on their return. He returned from South Africa. He was in a rather anomalous position that day, because he did not go through the whole campaign with the 43rd. He was with the deepest regret that he found he had to leave the company and go and be invalided on the medical authorities. He was glad to know, however, that he was having the honour of command in the charge of an officer in whom he had all along placed the most implicit confidence. (Hear, hear.) When he got to Cape Town an old and well-known general asked him whom he had left in charge of the company, and when he replied, "Lieutenant Burton," the general remarked, "He's the right man, he is not, for such a job." He was very glad he (Captain Harvey) replied, "He may be young, but he has got an accumulation of head on his shoulders, and his heart is in the right place." (Laughter.) He was pleased to see so many citizens in Norfolk on receiving the second troop being mainly made up of Norwich and Norfolk men. He believed there were thirty or thirty-five in the troop. They were folk men in the company altogether. The Norfolk men combined themselves very well together, and at time he was in command, and were a credit to their county. He could not let the occasion pass by without thanking the people of Norwich for the very handsome presents they had given to the company. (Cheers.) They gave the greatest pleasure to (Cheers.) The citizens of Norwich had been very kind indeed. In particular he must thank Mrs. Burton, of Dunston Hall, and Mrs. Chamberlin, of Victoria—And Mrs. Harvey. The citizen men went through the hardships of the campaign in the very best spirit. They were cheerful and grumbled; they were never discontented, but were full of practical and obedient, and it was a pleasure to command them. He had been honoured with one of the greatest honours of his life. (Cheers.) Hear, hear,) and he could assure Colonel Barclay, who had been selected by the King to take the command, that he would have men who would cross home that day would join the regiment—(hear, hear,)—while he was certain, in the event of another emergency, every one of them would volunteer again. (Cheers.) He only hoped that on that day he would have the pleasure of taking them out again. (Cheers.)

The SHERIFF proposed a vote of thanks to the Mayor, and the DEAN seconded, and referred to the fact that three weight shortly be a thanksgiving service in the Cathedral. He wished the Mayor could be present, but M.P., was Parliamentary Agent. (Laughter.)

Sir HARRY BULLARD having supported, the motion was carried with enthusiasm, and the MAYOR suitably responded.

The concluded the ceremony, and the men shortly afterwards dispersed to their homes, the streets were of the crowd who had waited outside.

It was announced that the Drill Hall on August 22th entertain the detachment at dinner, together with all volunteers who have returned since the arrival of Captain Dunlop-Hamilton.

At the morning service at the Cathedral on Sunday, the Dean introduced the names of the returned yeomen into the prayer for the Church Militant. They were as follows:—Captain Burton, Sergeant-Major Mantle, Quartermaster-Sergeant Vincent, Sergeant Wood, Farrier-Sergeant Low, Corporals Bullard, Bullard, Bullard, Bullard, Bullard, Sergeant F. Chamberlin, Saddler Roots, Troopers Aldiss, H. Bell, Carman, Colls, Green, Hunter, Millard, Smith, Smith, Smith, Sparrow, Thompson, Goodwyn, Edwards, Barnard, Cubitt, Bullard, (Postwick), and Wells (Colney). Captain Smith, The well-known hymn, "Now thank we all our God," was then sung.

REJOICINGS IN THE COUNTY.

CROMER.

Corporals S. Kidman and G. Beck, and Troopers Gormley Beck, of the 43rd Company of the Norfolk Imperial Yeomanry, arrived at Cromer on St. Margaret's Church Green, where the eighteen months' absence. The villagers met the young soldiers in the church, and were accompanied to Overstrand, Waterloo, and Roundtop to welcome them home. The village was gaily decorated with bunting and flowers, and the whole welcome was in most enthusiastic one.

METHEL.

On Saturday the village of Hethel was the scene of rejoicing on the home-coming of Trooper Millard, eldest son of Mr. G. Millard. It was very late before arrived, and consequently the inhabitants were unable to give him the welcome they had intended, but a crowd, waiting patiently in France-ash, had "held up" at least a dozen vehicles for fear of missing the warrior in the darkness. They hastily cheered Mr. Millard as he passed beneath the flag-

erected there. At Corporation Farm another enthusiastic welcome from the employees and villagers was accorded him.

DRAYTON.

The reception given to Corporal A. Beck, of the 43rd Imperial Yeomanry on his return to his native district, was a very enthusiastic nature. The village was gaily decorated with flags, an archway of evergreens and flags were thrown across the road. Corporal Beck arrived about 5.30 p.m. on a cart lanterns. The horse was taken out, and the carriage was drawn to the Cross in the village green, where Mr. J. H. Gay, Mr. J. J. Winter, the Hon. Mrs. Bethell, the Rev. E. W. and Mrs. Beauchamp, and a large crowd were assembled. The Rev. E. W. Beauchamp read the following address of welcome:—

We, the inhabitants of Drayton, desire to offer you a most hearty welcome, and our sincere congratulations on your return from South Africa. We have followed you in thought and deed, and prayed for you many months, and now rejoice. We would assure you of our great admiration of your patriotism and bravery, and our sincere sympathy with all sympathize with your loyalty in the joy which is now filling your heart. We are glad to see you looking so well after suffering from disease. God's protecting hand with you through all the dangers and hardships of the South African campaign.

Corporal Beck having replied, a move was made to "Sloney Croft," where refreshments were generously supplied by Mr. Beck.

DUNSTON

The arrival of Captain Burton at Dunston on Saturday evening was the occasion of great rejoicing in the neighbourhood. He was escorted from Norwich to Eaton Bridge by members of the 43rd Company, and was met by a large concourse of people, who cheered him loudly. On arriving at Dunston the hall gates were prettily decorated, bearing the inscription, "Welcome home." Captain Burton was greeted on entering his appearance at the gates, where a crowd had assembled. On the arrival of the hall a very pleasant reception was gone through, Captain Burton being presented with an illuminated address. Mr. H. M. Mitchener read and addressed before presenting it. The following were the addresses:—

To Captain G. C. Burton, Loyal Suffolk Hussars, 12th Battalion, Royal Norfolk Regiment.

The tenantry on the estate, the employes of Dunston Hall, and the inhabitants of Hethersett desire to offer you their hearty congratulations, their heartiest welcome home, and under their warmest thanks for the noble example you have set them during the months during which you have so gallantly shared in the hardships and dangers of the campaign, upholding with those serving with you the reputation of our gallant county.

(Signed) Rev. E. E. LOYD,
H. M. MITCHENER, Estate Agent.

Mr. Mutimer said he was sure he was expressing the thoughts of when he said how pleased they were to have Captain Burton amongst them once more. The address was then presented amidst much cheering. Mr. Mutimer, in presenting, thanked Mr. Mutimer for the kind words he had spoken. His reception was more than he ever dreamt of, and he thanked them all very much, especially the members of the Dunston Hall Band, who had come with him from Norwich. He could hardly find words to thank them for the splendid illuminated address which he had received from them, and he would treasure it as much as anything he had. (Cheers.) He intended to remain in the district for a few days, and hoped that the company that were present would do the same. At the call of Mr. Mutimer three cheers were given for Captain Buxton, Mr. and Mrs. Buxton, and family. Refreshments were then handed round. Mr. G. F. Buxton having briefly thanked all present, the company dispersed.

WELCOME TO COLONEL CUSTANCE.

There were great rejoicings at Weston on the return from South Africa of Colonel F. E. Custance, the commanding officer of the 3rd Battalion Norfolk Regiment. The gallant officer was met at Lowestoft Station by a party of 400 persons, which included the tenants of the Weston Estate and the Weston Volunteer Band was in attendance, and after formal greetings from the tenants, the colonel took the carriage, which was then drawn through triumphal arches to the Hall. The arches were gaily decorated, gathered here and welcomed the squire in song. Arrived at the house, Colonel Custance addressed the villagers for the cordiality of their welcome, and referred to the events of his experiences in South Africa. After this refreshments were served.

BISLEY RIFLE MEETING.

THE FINAL STAGES.

One of the most successful meetings that the National Rifle Association has held for many years transferred their camp from Wimbledon to Bisley concluded on Saturday, in an exciting tie for the Kings Prize, between Colour-Sergeant Burr and Corporal Ommundsen. When the men left in the King's Prize commenced shooting, the interest of the spectators centred all around the Silver Medal.

Mr. Private Ommundsen came up with the 90, and had been shooting so consistently right through the meeting, that his friends were confident in his ability to put on the extra point of Sergt Pollock, and both the Silver and Gold Medals. Just when everything was thought to be settled, and the only one in it, it became known that Corporal Ommundsen, of the 2nd Battalion, who had been shooting very steadily throughout the range, was making a bid for the prize. Sergt Burr had fired his sixth shot his aggregate was 297, while Ommundsen, at the same stage was only four points behind. With his seventh shot Ommundsen secured a "magpie," counting five, while Burr only scored a "magpie," and two "outers" separated the men, and the interest became intense, everyone present were now ready to cheer either the two men, and two shots to go. It was curious to note how a spirit of partisanship arose, each speaker, who had probably never seen, or say nothing about being acquainted with, the men, became a partisan. With the ninth shot both men secured "bulls-eyes," and the positions now were—Ommundsen 302, Burr 301. Scotchman was firing more quickly, and with his tenth shot put on a magpie, and thus only tied with Burr. Victory appeared to be a moral certainty for the Englishman, and there was much handshaking and mischances common to rifle shooting, Burr absolutely failed to hit the target altogether with his last shot, and he was left to the mercy of the wind. The prize was his, but instead of doing so he made his shot a bull's-eye, counting five. The scores were now that Burr and Ommundsen tied, and it was decided that they should shoot off the tie in 10 shots. Burr came down to the same target, and, with the slightly better conditions than in the first match, secured three shots, but sighting shots were allowed. Burr was the first to fire, and made a bull's-eye. Ommundsen followed with a "magpie." The next shot was to count, but Burr could get no better than a "magpie," Ommundsen responded with his shot, however, made no mistake, and got a bull's-eye, thus winning the prize. With the ninth shot both men secured "bulls-eyes," and the positions now were—Ommundsen 312, Burr 311