

Wellington's Brigade Commanders: Peninsula And Waterloo

Salamanca was the most decisive battle of the entire Peninsular War. Wellington smashed Marmont's French Army and his pursuit of its shattered remnants led to the famous cavalry charge of the King's German Legion at Garcia Hernandez. There would be two more years of sieges and hard fighting before the Iron Duke crossed the Pyrenees into France but from Salamanca the British and their Portuguese and Spanish allies always had the upper hand. Ian Fletcher examines this important battle in detail and also discusses the campaign which led up to it.

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.

Wellington is a giant because he was one of the greatest military commanders in British history, an important figure in the emergence of Britain as a great imperial power, a man who dominated British society and politics for 35 years. He was the only one of Napoleon's contemporaries who can be mentioned in the same breath as a general - a master of logistics, politics and coalition warfare as well as strategy, operations and tactics. The book's focus is on Wellington's military career, and it looks at all of these aspects, placing them in the context of the military and political developments of the time. It explores Wellington's personality – a key to understanding his success - and briefly examines his post-Waterloo career as a politician. It concludes that Wellington was not only a military genius, but an icon whose fame endures to our own time.

In this book, first published in 1907, all three parts of Wellington's Campaigns, hitherto published separately, are brought out together in one volume. The consolidated volume covers all campaigns fought during the Peninsula War in Portugal, Spain, and the South of France between 1808 and 1814 and concludes with the Waterloo campaign in 1815. It also contains an additional Appendix concerning the influence of certain Spanish operations and special circumstances in Spain upon the movements of Moore and Wellington. Richly illustrated throughout with sketch maps and plans.

Wellington's Campaigns, Peninsula-Waterloo, 1808-15

Wellington Against Massena

Wellington

A Biographical and Historical Dictionary

attached to the head-quarters of Lord Wellington during the Peninsular War, from 1812 to its close

The Peninsular War

The Rise Of Wellington

The literature of the Peninsular War is rich with vivid source material – letters, diaries, memoirs, and dispatches – but most of it was written by British soldiers or by the French and their allies. As a result the history and experience of the Portuguese forces – which by 1812 composed close to half of Wellington’s Army – have been seriously under-represented. That is why this pioneering book, which publishes for the first time in English the after-action reports written by the commanders of Portuguese battalions, regiments and brigades, is so important. For these detailed, graphic firsthand accounts give us a fascinating insight into the vital contribution the Portuguese made to the allied army and shed new light on the struggle against the French in the Iberian Peninsula. The authors provide an introduction tracing the history of the Portuguese Army prior to the Salamanca campaign of 1812, while tracking its organizational changes and assignment of commanders from 1808 to 1814. They include detailed notes on the after-action reports which set them in the context of each stage of the conflict.

The Peninsular War began in 1808 with Napoleon at the height of his power and ended with his attempted suicide in 1814. This narrative recalls the horror, excitement and drudgery of history’s first guerrilla war.

Like the authors previous book, The British Army Against Napoleon, Charging Against Wellington draws heavily on primary sources, manuals, memoirs, and regimental histories to bring to life the officers and men of the regiments that fought.The book is divided into three sections. The first contains biographies of 80 generals who led the French cavalry, focusing on the time they served in the Peninsula and its impact on their careers. Two went on to become Marshals of France and many were promoted and given greater responsibilities. For others, their careers were damaged while serving in Spain or Portugal nine were relieved from their commands. Nearly half of the generals were killed, wounded, captured, or died from their wounds in Spain: a high price for glory.The second section looks at the ever-changing organization of the cavalry, where the various regiments and brigades were located and who commanded them. This is not as easy a task as it may appear, because a considerable amount of the cavalry was provisional regiments, consisting of squadrons drawn from other regiments. By April 1814, the Peninsula cavalry was down to 4,000 men a shadow of the force that invaded six years before. Charging Against Wellington chronicles all the changes, showing which units left, when they left, and how their departure impacted the Army.The third section looks at the service record of the 70+ French cavalry regiments that fought in Spain and Portugal. There is a table for each regiment that tracks the regiments colonels, composition, organization, strength, and casualties while in the Peninsula, and when its various squadrons arrived and departed.

General Rowland Hill, 1st Viscount Hill of Almaraz was imaginative, brave – and perhaps more surprisingly for the period in which he lived an d fought – compassionate towards those under his command. He was a man who frequently led from the front in some of the deadliest battles ofthe Napoleonic Wars. Hill was given his own ‘detached’ corps and fought his way through Spain, Portugal and France, winning battles against the odds – such at St Pierre, where he defeated the redoubtable Maréchal Soult when outnumbered two to one. When ministers at home asked that Hill be allowed to leave the Peninsula and lead an army elsewhere, Wellington dismissed the idea with ‘Would you cut off my right hand?’ Hill fought at Rolica, Corunna, Talavera, Bussaco, Almaraz, Vitoria and Waterloo. He succeeded the Duke in 1828 as Commander-in-Chief. Based upon theHill papers made available to Joanna Hill – the General’s great, great niece – and a wide range of other primary sources, Wellington’s Right Hand is an important addition to the literature of the Napoleonic age and in particular to that of the Peninsular War.

Wellington as Military Commander

Wellington: The Iron Duke (Text Only)

The Dispatches of Field Marshal the Duke of Wellington: Peninsula, 1890-1813

Wellington’s Peninsular War Generals and Their Battles

Sir Denis Pack and the War against Napoleon

Wellington’s Generals

Wellington in the Peninsula, 1808–1814

The great figure of Wellington has tended to overshadow the achievements and personalities of the commanders who fought beside him. But Sir Thomas Picton, who commanded the 'Fighting Third' Division during Wellington's campaigns in the Peninsula, is a character too forceful to sit comfortably in shadowy obscurity. A hard-boiled, hard-swearing professional soldier, he was second only to Wellington himself in the number of stories he attracted about him in his lifetime. Son of a family of Welsh landowners, he was commissioned into the British Army in 1771 at the age of thirteen. Although a dedicated soldier, his early career was undistinguished. A tour as Military Governor of Trinidad led to his trial in 1806-8 for allowing a woman to be tortured. This might have been the end of him as a soldier but George III stood by him and he survived. Wellington then asked for him in the Peninsula, where he soon gained a considerable reputation in command of the 3rd Division. Rough and abrupt in manner, perhaps because of the scars left by the Trinidad affair, he had an astonishing flow of invective when roused. All this made him something of a character, even though his life was almost entirely devoted to the army, and, partly because he never married, he played no part in fashionable society. He was killed at Waterloo, just before his fifty-seventh birthday, while leading a charge at a critical moment of the battle. This is, surprisingly, the first biography of Picton since 1835. It draws on much original research to recount the story of one of Wellington's divisional commanders against the background of the Peninsular War and of the Peninsular Army, in particular Picton's own 'Fighting Third' Division, a formation still in existence. The book is illustrated with battle maps of the campaigns in which this larger-than-life general played an important part. --Dust jacket.

During the eighteenth century there was no love lost between Britain and her army. Edmund Burke had laid down that 'an armed and disciplined body is, in its essence, dangerous to liberty.' Admitting, without enthusiasm, that they had to have some kind of army, it was provided with a system of control ostensibly designed to ensure that it could not menace civil liberty -- a complex system which led to Wellington's victory over the French because he was able to manage the administrative Hydra in England. His self-set task was 'to do the best I can with the instruments that have been sent to assist me.' Michael Glover unravels the web of complexity over which the commander and his forces won a notable victory -- as well as the French. He describes the recruiting of officers and other ranks, the achievement of advance by purchase, the promotion system, and how these component parts worked in together. He demonstrates how this machine operated in action and rounds off his account with a portrait of Wellington himself.

In this compelling book, Richard Holmes tells the exhilarating story of the Duke of Wellington, Britain's greatest ever soldier.

The Guards fought in every major British campaign on the continent during the Napoleonic Wars. They carved their place in history under commanders such as Sir John Moore and Wellington from Corunna and Talavera during the Peninsula War to their legendary defence of the Chateau of Hougomont throughout the battle of Waterloo. Ian Fletcher examines the uniforms and insignia of the Guards as worn both on campaign and on ceremonial duties in this worthy addition to the Elite series, which features a wealth of accompanying illustrations including 12 full page colour plates by Bill Younghusband.

Men, Organization and Tactics

Wellington's Right Hand

Peninsular and Waterloo General

The Waterloo Armies

Also Moore's Campaign of Coruña, for Military Students

Wellington's Headquarters

Wellington: pocket GIANTS

Dismissive, conservative and aloof, Wellington treated his artillery with disdain during the Napoleonic Wars - despite their growing influence on the field of battle. Wellington's Guns exposes, for the very first time, the often stormy relationship between Wellington and his artillery, how the reluctance to modernize the British artillery corps threatened to derail the British push for victory and how Wellington's views on the command and appointment structure within the artillery opened up damaging rifts between him and his men. At a time when artillery was undergoing revolutionary changes - from the use of mountain guns during the Pyrenees campaign in the Peninsular, the innovative execution of 'dang'er-close' missions to clear the woods of Hougomont at Waterloo, to the introduction of creeping barrages and Congreve's rockets - Wellington seemed to remain distrustful of a force that played a significant role in shaping tactics and changing the course of the war. Using extensive research and first-hand accounts, Colonel Nick Lipscombe reveals that despite Wellington's brilliance as a field commander, his abrupt and uncompromising leadership style, particularly towards his artillery commanders, shaped the Napoleonic Wars, and how despite this, the ever-evolving technology and tactics ensured that the extensive use of artillery became one of the hallmarks of a modern army.

Wellington added a Judge-Advocate-Marshal to his staff in 1812 "to ensure that courts-martial were conducted with proper forms and due appreciation of the validity of evidence - in which the commander-in-chief considered that they had often failed . . . Larpent, who has left an interesting diary of his duties and his personal adventures [he was captured briefly in 1813 but immediately exchanged], discharged the function of this office . . . down to the end of the war" (Oman, Wellington's Army pp. 159-160). "When in the Peninsula, Larpent wrote descriptive letters to his stepmother, Anna Margareta Larpent. Publication of this important first-hand account of Wellington 's headquarters was deferred until after Wellington 's death. The letters were edited, with a biographical preface by Larpent 's half-brother, Sir George Larpent, first baronet (1786-1855), in 1853 and passed through three editions in the same year" (Oxford DNB). Author -- Larpent, F. Seymour 1776-1845. Editor -- Larpent, George, Sir, 1786-1855. Text taken, whole and complete, from the edition published in London: R. Bentley, 1853. Original Page Count - 309 pages.

Written almost a century after the events they describe, Lewis Butler's two volumes on Wellington's Peninsular War campaigns have rightly been judged a classic of military history. The story of how the Iron Duke turned disaster into triumph, and defeat into a final victory, has surely never been told with more authority. Volume Two begins with Wellington besieging and storming Badajoz and Ciudad

Rodrigo. These successes are followed by the difficult but decisive campaign culminating in Wellington's victory over Marshal Marmont at Salamanca and his entry into Madrid. After a difficult winter, Wellington once again resumes the offensive, defeats Marshal Soult at Vitoria and chases him over the Pyrenees and out of Spain. But Soult's stubborn resistance continues at the battles of Nivelle, the Nive, and Orthez as the fighting moves towards Toulouse where Wellington fights his final, victorious battle of the war as news of Napoleon's abdication arrives. Both volumes are liberally illustrated with maps and sketches of the battles and other operations. What Napoleon called his 'Spanish ulcer' has never been more minutely described and dissected, with the author paying a military man's due attention to the sinews of war as well as to the action.

The author of Waterloo delivers an in-depth history of the military commander 's tactics and strategy in the Peninsular War. After gaining strategic and tactical experience in Colonial India, Arthur Wellesley went to battle against French forces in the Peninsular War. With his decisive victories there, he ascended to the peerage of the United Kingdom as the 1st Duke of Wellington. Inthis volume, historian Jac Weller delivers a complete account of Wellington 's career on the Iberian Peninsula, covering all the battles in which he took part. Talavera, The battles of Busaco, Salamanca and Vitoria are among the famous conflicts Weller brings to life in the lively chronicle, combining meticulous research with extensive visits to the historic battlefields. Supplementing his accessible narrative with photographs, Weller demonstrates how this great commander finally achieved victory after six years of battle against Napoleon 's army.

Rowland, Viscount Hill

Peninsular General

The Battle of Waterloo- and the Great Commanders who Fought it

The Untold Story of Wellington and his Artillery in the Peninsula and at Waterloo

Wellington's Operations in the Peninsula 1808-1814 Vol 2

Sir Thomas Picton, 1758-1815

Wellington's Light Division in the Peninsular War

The seven-year campaign that saved Europe from Napoleon told by those who were there. What made Arthur Duke of Wellington the military genius who was never defeated in battle? In the vivid narrative style that is his trademark, Peter Snow recalls how Wellington evolved from a backward, sensitive schoolboy into the aloof but brilliant commander. He tracks the development of Wellington's leadership and his relationship with the extraordinary band of men he led from Portugal in 1808 to their final destruction of Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo seven years. Having described his soldiers as the 'scum of the earth' Wellington transformed them into the finest fighting force of their time. Digging deep into the rich treasure house of diaries and journals that make this war the first in history to be so well recorded, Snow examines how Wellington won the devotion of generals such as the irascible Thomas Picton and the stary but reckless 'Black Bob' Crauford and soldiers like Rifleman Benjamin Harris and Irishman Ned Costello. Through many first-hand accounts, Snow brings to life the horrors and all of the humanity of life in and out of battle, as well as shows the way that Wellington mastered the battlefield to outsmart the French and change the future of Europe. To War with Wellington is the gripping account of a very human story about a remarkable leader and his men.

In this short but eminently concentrated biography, Field-Marshal "Bobs" Roberts V.C., who was among the best loved of all British commanding officers reviews the military achievements of one of the most successful British generals, the Duke of Wellington. Eschewing any attempt to cover the Duke's later life in politics or his private life, Lord Roberts focusses on the Duke of Wellington's rise from lowly rank to Napoleon's nemesis at Waterloo. As the author himself begins his book, "The military career of Wellington naturally divides itself into three periods--the Indian period, the Peninsular period, and the period during which he commanded the Allied Forces in the Netherlands, terminating in the battle of Waterloo. I propose, therefore, in three chapters, relating in turn to each of these periods, briefly to describe the principal incidents of this great soldier's life, and to show how the experience he gained first in the East, and afterwards in South-Western Europe, so developed his natural talents and administrative capacity that he was finally able to meet and overthrow the French Emperor, whose genius for war had up to that date been regarded as absolutely unrivalled."

Over two hundred years ago, on 21 June 1813, just southwest of Vitoria in northern Spain, the British, Portuguese and Spanish army commanded by the Duke of Wellington confronted the French army of Napoleon's brother Joseph. Hours later Wellington's forces won an overwhelming victory and, after six years of bitter occupation, the French were ousted from Iberia. This is the critical battle that Carole Divall focuses on in this vivid, scholarly study of the last phase of the Peninsular War. The battle was the pivotal event of the 1813 campaign - it was fatal to French interests in Spain - but it is also significant because it demonstrated Wellington's confidence in his allied army and in himself. The complexity of the manoeuvres he expected his men to carry out and the shrewd strategic planning that preceded the battle were quite remarkable. As well as giving a graphic close description of each stage of the battle, Carole Divall sets it in the wider scope of the Peninsular War. Through the graphic recollections of the men who were there [] from commanders to the merest foot soldiers [] she offers us a direct insight into the nature of combat during the Napoleonic Wars.

Denis Pack was one of a phalanx of senior Anglo-Irish officers who served with great distinction in the British army in the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars, earning a reputation as one of the Duke of Wellington's most able brigade commanders. Despite his remarkable and varied military career, he hasn't received the individual attention he deserves, but this omission has now been remedied by Marcus de la Poer Beresford's full biography. Pack, who was born in 1774, served extensively in Europe as well as in Africa and South America. He was one of the few brigade commanders to serve first with the Portuguese army, and then with Wellington, in the Peninsula, at Quatre Bras, Waterloo and afterwards in the occupation of France. His life was cut short by an early death in 1823, which may have been the result of the many wounds he received in his thirty years as a soldier. This perceptive and meticulously researched study draws on previously unpublished material from archives in the United Kingdom, Portugal and Ireland. It complements other works on notable officers of the period, as Pack served with Cornwallis, Baird, Beresford, Whitelocke, Chatham, Picton, Henry Clinton, and others as well as Wellington. In addition it offers an absorbing portrait of Pack himself and gives the reader a fascinating insight into the many campaigns he took part in and the military life of his day.

Wellington's Lieutenants (Illustrated Edition)

Wellington's Operations in the Peninsula 1808-1814 Vol 1

Wellington and the Vitoria Campaign 1813

The After-action Reports of the Portuguese Army during the Peninsular War 1812-1814

From the Peninsula to Waterloo

The Story of Wellington (Illustrations)

The French Cavalry in the Peninsular War, 1807-1814

Written almost a century after the events they describe, Lewis Butler's two volumes on Wellington's Peninsular War campaigns have rightly been judged a classic of military history. The story of how the Iron Duke turned disaster into triumph, and defeat into a final victory, has surely never been told with more authority. Butler's first volume begins with the Spanish popular revolt against the imposition of Napoleon's brother Joseph as their king and their appeal to Britain for aid. Early British disasters culminate in Sir John Moore's retreat and death at Corunna. Wellington fought back at the battles of Talavera and Busaco, but was compelled by Marshal Massena to retreat once more into Portugal, and only his foresight in constructing the impregnable lines of Torres Vedras, and denying the country before them, saved the day. The first volume concludes with Wellington taking the offensive again at the battle of Fuentes d'Onoro and Albuera. Both volumes are liberally illustrated with maps and sketches of the battles and other operations. What Napoleon called his 'Spanish ulcer' has never been more minutely described and dissected, with the author paying a military man's due attention to the sinews of war as well as to the action.

A military historian assesses the leadership style of the man who defeated Napoleon. The Duke of Wellington's victory at the Battle of Waterloo cemented his reputation as a great general, and much subsequent writing on his career has taken an uncritical, sometimes chauvinistic view of his talents. Little has been published that fully pins down the reality of Wellington's leadership, clearly identifying his weaknesses as well as his strengths. George E. Jaycock, in this perceptive and thought-provoking reassessment, does not aim to undermine Wellington's achievements, but to provide a more nuanced perspective. He clarifies some simple but fundamental truths regarding his leadership and his performance as a commander. Through an in-depth study of his actions over the war years of 1808 to 1815, the author reassesses Wellington's effectiveness as a commander, the competence of his subordinates, and the qualities of the troops he led. His study gives a fascinating insight into Wellington's career and abilities. Wellington's Command is absorbing reading for both military historians and those with an interest in the Napoleonic period.

O.a. biografietin van Mary J.M. de los Dolores de Leon Antón, Lady de Lancy.

Recent research into the Duke of Wellington's armies during the Peninsular War and the Waterloo campaign has enhanced our understanding of the men he led, and this new biographical guide to his brigade commanders is a valuable contribution to this growing field. Ron McGuigan and Robert Burnham have investigated the lives and careers of a group of men who performed a vital role in Wellington's chain of command. These officers were the brigadiers and major generals who, for a variety of reasons, never made the jump to become permanent division commanders. Their characters, experience and level of competence were key factors in the successes and failures of the army as a whole. Their biographies give us a fascinating insight into their individual backgrounds, their strengths and weaknesses, and the makeup of the society they came from. Each biography features a table covering essential information on the individual, his birth and death dates, the dates of his promotions and details of his major commands. This is followed by a concise account of his life and service.

To War with Wellington

In the Words of Wellington's Fighting Cocks

Salamanca 1812

Wellington's Foot Guards

Wellington's Brigade Commanders

The Formation, Campaigns & Battles of Wellington's Famous Fighting Force, 1810

Wellington's Brigade CommandersPeninsula and WaterlooCasemate Publishers

Wellington's clash with Massena was one of the most remarkable contests between two commanders in the Peninsular War. These two formidable generals carried on a campaign of maneuver, battle and attrition across Spain and Portugal in 1810 and 1811 which had a decisive impact on the outcome of the war. Wellington's reputation was enhanced, Massena's was ruined.David Buttery's close analysis of this extraordinary encounter offers a penetrating insight into the personalities of these two outstanding soldiers. Using a variety of sources, in particular eyewitness accounts from both sides, he reassesses the famous confrontations at Ciudad Rodrigo, Almeida, Busaco, the lines of Torres Vedras and the final bitterly fought battle at Fuentes de Ooro.He sheds new light on this pivotal episode in the Napoleonic Wars and his account corrects the one-sided view of the campaign that has survived to the present day. In particular, he reconsiders the true cost of the scorched earth policy that was employed against the French.

Denis Pack was one of a phalanx of senior Anglo-Irish officers who served with great distinction in the British army in the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars, earning a reputation as one of the Duke of Wellington's most able brigade commanders. Despite his remarkable and varied military career, he hasn't received the individual attention he deserves, but this omission has now been remedied by Marcus de la Poer Beresford's full biography. Pack, who was born in 1774, served extensively in Europe as well as in Africa and South America. He was one of the few brigade commanders to serve first with the Portuguese army, and then with Wellington, in the Peninsula, at Quatre Bras, Waterloo and afterwards in the occupation of France. His life was cut short by an early death in 1823, which may have been the result of the many wounds he received in his thirty years as a soldier. This perceptive and meticulously researched study draws on previously unpublished material from archives in the United Kingdom, Portugal and Ireland. It complements other works on notable officers of the period, as Pack served with Cornwallis, Baird, Beresford, Whitelocke, Chatham, Picton, Henry Clinton, and others as well as Wellington. In addition it offers an absorbing portrait of Pack himself and gives the reader a fascinating insight into the many campaigns he took part in and the military life of his day.

Includes over 100 maps of the actions, engagements and battles of the entire Peninsular War. "The men who stood beside the Great Duke The Duke of Wellington was indisputably one of the most able military commanders in British history. He was not only a powerful intellect, but also a man of substantial character...To Wellington, delegation failed to come easily...He insisted on a knowledge of all things that might concern him and was prepared to issue directives on all matters. It is then, unsurprising that he eclipsed his immediate subordinates, senior figures and highly respected commanders in their own right, who were often given little latitude, and were regularly not fully briefed as to Wellington's strategy and grand tactics: for example, at Waterloo, amid flying shot, the duke terrified his staff by appearing to be the only person in possession of the plan of battle. All this, however, does nothing to diminish the clear contribution many of those closest to the Great Duke made towards the success of his campaigns. While having lessons to learn from Wellington they were more than capable military men-if not actually possessed of quite the same degree of military 'genius' as his commander in chief. This book chronicles eight of Wellington's lieutenants as they fought for him in the Peninsula and at Waterloo. Lord 'Daddy' Hill earned his nickname because of his extraordinary concern for the well-being of his soldiers; he was Wellington's most trusted general and was, unusually, given independent command by Wellington. The fiery Craufurd, leader of the Light Division, could always be depended upon to take the fight to the enemy-sometimes whether it was prudent to do so or not. Picton, the hard swearing Welshman...Accounts of the campaigns and actions of these notable soldiers are joined in this riveting book by those of Beresford, Lynedoch, Hopetoun, Anglesey and Combermere."-Print ed.

Charging Against Wellington

A Reappraisal of His Generalship in the Peninsula and at Waterloo

Supplementary Despatches, Correspondence, and Memoranda of Field Marshal Arthur Duke of Wellington ...

Women in Wellington's Wars

Wellington's Command

Wellington's Army in the Peninsula, 1808-1814

Peninsula ...

In this, the last of a trio of volumes dealing with three great contemporary men of action, I have attempted to tell the story, in its main lines, of the crowded life of Wellington. The narrative provides as substantial a view of Wellington as is possible within the limits of my space, but I hope that readers of my book will be so interested that they will go on to the perusal of its companions, for the careers of Napoleon, Nelson, and Wellington should be studied together. They are the three sides of a triangle of which Napoleon is the base. The Duke's career, when compared to the others, is "a plain, unvarnished tale," not altogether devoid of romance, certainly not of adventure, but lacking in many of the qualities which have endeared less notable men. It would be obviously untrue to state that Wellington lacked humanity, but he was certainly deficient in that attractive personal magnetism so evident in Nelson. Speaking broadly, he did not repose that confidence in his subordinates which was one of the great sea-captain's most marked characteristics, and he often said hard things of the men under him. Nelson is "the darling Hero of England"; Wellington will always be known as the Iron Duke. If it ever became the fashion to canonize military and naval men, Nelson's nimbus would be of rosemary, Wellington's of steel. The mob never broke the windows of Merton Place, but it shattered every exposed pane in Apsley House. The incident arose from his conscientious opposition to reform, and occurred in 1831, sixteen years after the battle of Waterloo. A little over a decade later, an immense mob cheered him as he proceeded up Constitution Hill. His acknowledgment was to point to the iron shutters of his house when he reached Hyde Park Corner. They had been put up after the bombardment by brickbats, and were never taken down during his lifetime. In a way, Wellington is the typical John Bull of our fancy. He gloried in an open-air life, he enjoyed sport, he was a man wedded to duty, stern and uncompromising once his mind was made up. We love to imagine that the average Briton displays the same characteristics, although we know at heart that he does not do so, and that the secret of our material success as a nation is our extraordinary power of absorption, of "setting our sail to every passing breeze," of compromising provided we get the best of the bargain. This is how the Duke appeared to a foreigner, the Duchesse de Dino, Talleyrand's niece: "He has a very exact memory, and never quotes incorrectly. He forgets nothing, and exaggerates nothing, and if his conversation is a little dry and military, it attracts by its fairness and perfect propriety. His tone is excellent, and no woman has ever to be on her guard against the turn that the conversation may take." In later years Wellington's memory failed somewhat. He was invariably precise, always a soldier, and never given to what is generally known as small talk. In a word, he commanded. A more intimate and less familiar view of Wellington is afforded us in the diary of Benjamin Robert Haydon, who painted the Duke's portrait at Walmer Castle in the autumn of 1839. During that year, he tells us, "six dear, healthy, noisy children were brought to the windows. 'Let them in,' said the Duke, and in they came, and rushed over to him, saying, 'How d'ye do, Duke? How d'ye do, Duke?' One boy, young Grey,9 roared, 'I want some tea, Duke!' 'You shall have it if you promise not to stop it over me, as you did yesterday.' Toast and tea were then in demand. Three got on one side, and three on the other, and he hugged 'em all. Tea was poured out, and I saw little Grey try to stop it over the Duke's frock coat. Sir Astley [Cooper] said, 'You did not expect to see this.' To be continue in this ebook...

In February 1810, Wellington formed what became the most famous unit in the Peninsular War: the Light Division. Formed around the 43rd and 52nd Light Infantry and the 95th Rifles, the exploits of these three regiments is legendary. Over the next 50 months, the division would fight and win glory in almost every battle and siege of the Peninsular War.

Key to the understanding how the division achieved its fame is understanding of the excellence and tradition that was established from its founding. It began on the border of Spain and Portugal where it served as a screen between Wellington's Army and the French. For six months while vastly outnumbered, it manned outposts, guarded fords and bridges, and fought numerous skirmishes. When it came time pull back from the border, the division endured a harrowing retreat with a relentless enemy at their heels. It was during this eventful year it developed an esprit-de-corps and a belief in its leaders and itself that was unrivaled in Wellington's Army. Wellington's Light Division in the Peninsular War uses over 100 primary sources to recount the numerous skirmishes, combats, and battles, as well as the hardships of a year of duty on the front lines. Many of these sources are from British and Portuguese archives and have never been published before. Others are from long-forgotten books published over 150 years ago. It is through the words of the officers and men who served with it that this major, and long-anticipated study of the first critical year of the Light Division is told.

Waterloo is one of the most famous battles in history and it has given rise to a vast and varied literature. The strategy and tactics of the battle and the entire Waterloo campaign have been analysed at length. The commanders, manoeuvres and critical episodes, and the intense experiences of the men who took part, have all been recorded in minute detail. But the organization, structure and fighting strength of the armies that fought in the battle have received less attention, and this is the subject of Philip Haythornthwaite's detailed, authoritative and engaging study. Through a close description of the structure and personnel of each of the armies he builds up a fascinating picture of their makeup, their methods and their capabilities. The insight he offers into the contrasting styles and national characteristics of the forces that came together on the Waterloo battlefield gives a fresh perspective on the extraordinary clash of arms that ended the Napoleonic era

Although biographies of Duke of Wellington abound, there few biographies of the generals that fought alongside him and executed his orders (or in some cases disobeyed them). The author John William Cole was well placed to provide the details of their lives being a long serving soldier in the British Army: his portraits are full of descriptive detail, without being too biased, he discusses the contentious issues as well as the victories they achieved. From the fiery, foul-mouthed Picton, respected but not loved by his men, to the quiet dignified "Daddy" Hill, who was adept at taking care of his own troops as well as surprising the French; the British generals were a diverse group worthy of individual attention that the author gave them. This volume chronicles the lives of No. VIII. — SIR THOMAS PICTON. No. IX. — LORD LYNEDOCH. No. IX. — EARL OF HOPETOUn. No. X. — LORD HILL. No. XII. — MAJOR-GENERAL LE MARCHANT. No. XII. — MAJOR-GENERAL ROSS. No. XIII. — SIR EDWARD PAKENHAM. Author - John William Cole (????-1870)

Napoleon and Wellington

A Study of the Administrative Problems in the Peninsula, 1809-1814

The Private Journal of F.S. Larpent -

Wellington's Army in the Peninsula 1809-14

A Military Life

Following the Drum

Wellington Crushes Marmont

Explores the relationship between the French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte and the Duke of Wellington prior to and in the aftermath of the Battle of Waterloo, the most decisive battle of the nineteenth century.

Wellington's commanders were undoubtedly a breed apart. Among these heroes were cavalry officer Henry Paget, who kept the French horses from the heels of the retreating British infantry with a dashing charge at Benavente, and Thomas Picton, who concealed his injuries from his men while commanding to his last breath. This book examines the command and staff system of Wellington's army during the Napoleonic Wars (1799-1815), and the background, character and war records of his commanding officers. Numerous illustrations, including eight full colour plates, depict the officers' uniforms in vivid detail.

Wellington's achievements in the Peninsular War cannot be overestimated. At the outset in 1808 Napoleon and his Marshals appeared unstoppable. By the close Wellington and his Army had convincingly defeated the French and taken the war across the Pyrenees into France itself. He and his Generals had waged a hugely successful campaign both by conventional means and guerrilla warfare.This book contains the pithy biographies of some forty senior officers who served Wellington, in the majority of cases, so ably during this six year war. Many had experience of battle prior to the Peninsular and went on to greater heights thereafter. There is a section summarizing the major engagements that this 'band of brothers' took part in. The book is arranged in alphabetical order and each thoroughly researched entry places its subject's life in his historical and political context. The result is a highly entertaining, informative and authoritative book.

The Duke of Wellington, the most successful of British commanders, set a standard by which all subsequent British generals have been measured. His defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo in 1815 crowned a reputation first won in India at Assaye and then confirmed during the Peninsular War, but also he followed up his defence of Portugal by duking the French from Spain, Gordon Corrigan, himself an ex-soldier, examines his claims to greatness. Wellington was in many ways the first modern general, combining a mastery of logistics with an ability to communicate and inspire. He had to contend not only with enemy armies but, with his political masters and an often sceptical public at home.

Wellington's Guns

Peninsula and Waterloo

The Third Invasion of Portugal, 1810–1811

Never a Finer Army

Memoirs of British Generals Distinguished in the Peninsular War