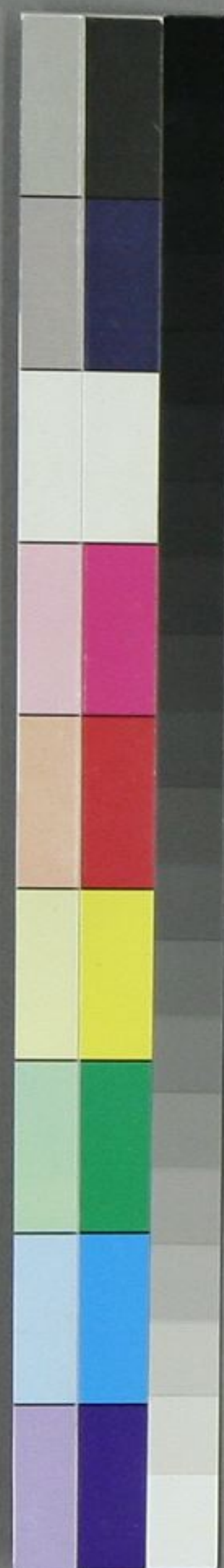


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"While the Battalion was thus recruiting its health in the Crimea, an interesting scene was being enacted in the Great Hall, at Buckingham Palace, where the Queen, accompanied by H R H Prince Albert, with the true sympathy she always evinced towards her soldiers, received fifty wounded men of the Guards, invalids from the East, twenty of whom were Grenadiers, and fifteen from each of the two Regiments. The services of the men, and the nature of their wounds, were explained to Her Majesty, and nothing could have exceeded the kindness of manner of the Queen towards each individual present, who, thus in the personal recognition of their services by their Sovereign, received the greatest reward they could have aspired to.

H R H Prince Albert, ever solicitous for the welfare of his regiment, sent out forty seal-skin coats, lined with fur for the use of the Officers of the Third Battalion, which, on arrival, were duly appreciated by



by those who had the good fortune
to receive such a token of the
interest taken in them by their
Colonel, and the husbands of
their Sovereigns

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"Major-General Byng had commanded a Brigade of Guards at Waterloo forty-one years before, now as Colonel of the Coldstreams, full of years and honours, watched the proceedings from a carriage, in company of the Minister of War. At a given signal the Crimean Brigade, commanded by Major-General Craufurd, under the orders of Major-General Lord Killy, advanced into the intervals of the former line, which presented arms; the bands (bands) played, the people cheered, and flags waved from balconies, windows, and house tops; on reaching this position in line, each service Battalion was counter-marched, and the whole Division of Guards stood in line, each Regiment complete. Generals Lord Killy and Craufurd having then handed over the Crimean Battalions to their respective Colonels, their duties ceased, and they joined the rest of the staff, the Duke of Cambridge taking command of the Troops.

H. R. H. Prince Albert then rode off to receive the Queen. Her Majesty shortly after arrived with a large suite. On reaching the saluting point the Guards presented arms, the bands striking up the National Anthem.

"Anthem. After the march past,
the Battalions formed line, advanced
to the flag staff, and again saluted
the Queen, who shortly afterwards
left the Park amidst the deafening
shouts of all assembled, and the
several Battalions proceeded to
their new quarters: the First
Battalion Grenadiers, under Colonel
O'Rielly to Aldershot; the Second
Battalion under Colonel F. W.
Hamilton, in the absence of
Colonel W. Thornton, to Dublin;
while the third Battalion, under
Colonel Hon. G. Foley remained in
London with its head-quarters
at Wellington barracks."

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The reception of the three Battalions of Guards by their Sovereign, their Country, and their comrades on their return to their country will be an appropriate termination of the account of their deeds in the Crimean campaign.

The 9th July (1856) was fixed for the ceremony, and the three Battalions having assembled at Aldershot, proceeded that morning to the Nine Elms station, where they were met by Major-General Craufurd and his staff.

The four home Battalions of the Brigade - three from the West Regt., and the Second Battalion Grenadiers Guards, from Windsor, assembled at 11 o'clock in Hyde Park, under the command of the Field Officer in Brigade Waiting, were formed up in line of quarter distance column, leaving sufficient distance between each for the service Battalions to take up a position in line with them, and in this order await the arrival of their comrades. The Crimean Brigade, after leaving the station, Lieutenant-Colonel St. Ponsouby leading, with the first company of

"of Grenadier Guards, proceeded
by the Horse Guards and the Mall
and entering the southern gate of
the railing in front of Buckingham
Palace, the troops marched past
the Queen, who, with the King of
the Belgians, the Duchess, and
Princess Mary of Cambridge, the
Princess Charlotte of Belgium,
the Count of Flanders, Prince
Oscar of Sweden, and the Royal
Princes and Princesses, came out
on the Balcony to receive them.
As the Grenadier Guards appeared,
Her Majesty waved her handkerchief
again and again; the Battalion
drew up in front of the Palace
and responded with a joyous
shout, the surrounding crowds
taking up the cheer.

On reaching Hyde Park, through
dense masses of the assembled
populace, the three Battalions
proceeded to take up their
position, facing, and opposite to,
the intervals in the line of
columns already formed.

H. R. H. Prince Albert, as their
Colonel, placed himself in front
of the home Battalions of the
Grenadier Guards; H. R. H. the Duke
of Cambridge in front of the
Fusilier Guards, while Lord
Strafford, the veteran, who, as
Major

