

Clement Silas Anscombe – British Army in India 2

The regiment moved to Manchester in April 1888. There is no evidence that Clement Silas moved with them. What we do know is that by October 1889 the family were back in India as their daughter Gwendoline Winifred Elaine was born in Sialkot on 18th October.

Baptisms solemnized at *Sialkot*

WHEN BAPTIZED.			SAID TO BE BORN.			Child's Christian name.	Sex.	PARENTS' NAMES.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	Signature by whom Baptized.
Year.	Month.	Day.	Year.	Month.	Day.			Christian.	Surname.			
1889	Dec	9	1889	Oct	18	Gwendoline Winifred Elaine	Daughter of	Clement Silas Anscombe	Amelia Agnes	Sialkot	Troop Sergt Major 2 ^d Dragoon Guards Queen's Bays	Thos F. Dale Chaplain
1889	Dec	13	1889	Nov	27	Edith	Daughter of	Edward	Butts	Sialkot	Corporal 2 ^d Dr. Guards Queen's Bays	Thos F. Dale Chaplain
1889	Dec	17	1889	Nov	9	Henrietta George Francis	Son of	Henry Edward	Marion Louise	Sialkot	Sergeant 2 ^d Dr. Guards Queen's Bays	Thos F. Dale Chaplain
1889	Dec	27	1889	Nov	29	Sydney	Son of	Alfred	Winifred	Sialkot	Barrack Sgt 2 ^d Dr. Gds Sialkot	Thos F. Dale Chaplain
Exd 2000			1889			<p>I Thomas F Dale do hereby certify that the foregoing are true and faithful copies of all entries in the Register of Baptisms kept at Trinity Church Sialkot as therein entered and made between the first day of October and last day of December 1889.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Witness my hand</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Thos F Dale Chaplain</p>						

Gwendoline Winifred Elaine Anscombe Birth Baptism

From Gwendoline's birth record we can see that Clement is once again a Troop Sergeant Major, this time with the 2nd Dragoon Guards Queens Bays. So it is likely that at some point in late 1888 or early 1889 Clement Silas transferred to the 2nd Dragoon Guards as they had been based in Sialkot since 1885. This also ties in with the fact that when he was awarded his Long Service and Good Conduct medal in 1893 the inscription reads "3384 Tp S Maj C.S. Anscombe. 2nd Dgn Gds".

The 9th Lancers and 2nd Dragoon Guards were both cavalry regiments. The main task of the lancers was to charge enemy infantry and cavalry formations. They were also used for typical light cavalry tasks such as skirmishing and scouting. Although they wielded a fearsome lance as their chief weapon, lancers were normally equipped with sabres and pistols or carbines. These weapons were for close combat, whereas the lance had its greatest impact in the charge.

Dragoons were originally mounted soldiers primarily intended to fight on foot. They were named after their main weapon, 'the dragon', which was a type of firelock musket common in the 16th century. In these early years, dragoon horses tended to be cheap beasts of burden rather than fine cavalry chargers. However, by the late 18th century most dragoon regiments had evolved into conventional cavalry, able to charge and fight on horseback.

They were armed with short rifles known as carbines and heavy swords. The British Army had light dragoons, used for scouting and reconnaissance duties, and dragoon guards, who fulfilled a heavy cavalry role by delivering shock action on the battlefield.

The 2nd Dragoon Guards were designated the Queen's Regiment of Dragoon Guards in 1746 as it evolved into a dragoon unit. It was later named the 2nd Dragoon Guards (Queen's Bays) in 1767 to reflect the custom of its soldiers riding only bay horses.

Clement Silas Anscombe – British Army in India 2

1751.07.01	2nd (The Queen's) Regiment of Dragoon Guards	
1756	England?	
1760?	Germany	
1763	England?	
1793	Flanders	
1796	England	
1815	Belgium	
1815	France	Army of Occupation
1818.11	UK	
1857.07	at sea	
1857	India	
1857	Sepoy rebellion	
1859	India	
1870	England	
<1881>	Longford	
1882	Aldershot	
1884	Shorncliffe	
1885	India: Sialkot	
1893	Rawalpindi	
1895	Egypt	
1896	England: Shorncliffe	
1897	Leeds	
1899	York	
1901.11.18	at sea (embarked at Southampton)	ship: Orotava
1901.12	South Africa	
1902	South Africa	
1908	England: Hounslow	
1910	Aldershot	
1914	Ireland: Dublin	
1914	England: Aldershot	
1914.08.16	France and Flanders	1 Cav Bde. 1 Cav Div. BEF

2nd Dragoon Guards Postings

In 1893 the 2nd Dragoon Guards moved from Sialkot to Rawalpindi and presumably Clement and family moved there with them. Then in 1895 they transferred to Egypt but it's almost certain that Clement didn't transfer with them but transferred to the Royal Horse Artillery. About this time a Battery Sergeant Major C Anscomb in F Battery of the Royal Horse Artillery was awarded the India Medal 1895 for action in Punjab Frontier 1897 – 98.

"F." BATTERY R. H. A.

Roll of individuals entitled to the India Medal of 1895 with clasps inscribed "Punjab Frontier, 1897-98," "Malakand 1897," "Samana 1897," and Tirah 1897-98 under the terms of Army Order No. 77 of 1898, as amended by Army Order No. 96 of 1898.

Regimental or Departmental number.	Rank.	Name.	Corps to which claimant actually belongs.	Corps or Department with which claimant served during the operations.	Whether already in possession of the India Medal 1895 (naming the clasp).	Entitled to Medal	Entitled to clasps.				Remarks
							Punjab Frontier, 1897-98.	Malakand 1897.	Samana 1897.	Tirah, 1897-98.	
OFFICERS											
	Major	F. L. Cunliffe, ...	"F." Battery R. H. A.	"F." Battery R. H. A.	No	Yes	Yes				(e)
	Captain	A. S. Tyndal, ...	Depot Battery R. H. A.	Do	No	Yes	Yes				(e)
	Lieut.	G. F. Dixon, ...	"F." Battery R. H. A.	Do	No	Yes	Yes				(e)
	Lieut.	G. Gillson, ...	Do	Do	No	Yes	Yes				(e)
	Lieut.	R. St. C. Halman, ...	Deceased	Do	No	Yes	Yes				(e)
N. C. OFFICERS AND MEN.											
98659	Driver	Adams, J. ...	"F." Battery R. H. A.	"F." Battery R. H. A.	No	Yes	Yes				(e)
87052	Gunner	Aldred, W. J. ...	Depot Battery R. H. A.	Do	No	Yes	Yes				(e)
2591	Battery Sergeant Major	Anscomb, C. ...	"F." Battery R. H. A.	Do	No	Yes	Yes				(e)
97716	Gunner	Avis, F. ...	Do	Do	No	Yes	Yes				(e)

Clement Anscomb India Medal with Punjab Frontier 1897 – 98 clasp

Clement Silas Anscombe – British Army in India 2

According to the New Annual Army List for 1896 and 1897 "F" Battery of the Royal Horse Artillery were stationed in Sialkot. Clement would have been familiar with the Royal Horse Artillery as he fought alongside them in his various campaigns in Afghanistan

The Punjab Frontier clasp 1897 – 1898 was awarded for a number of actions on the frontier, but there is no record of which actions Clement was involved in to receive the medal. At some point, probably in 1898, he was transferred to the Cawnpore Light Horse as their Sergeant Instructor as this is recorded on his burial record.

BURIALS at Cawnpore (Christ Church) 56/190

When Died.			Christian name.	Surname.	Age.	Quality, Trade or Profession, &c., &c.	When Buried.			Cause of Death.	Name and designation of person by whom Buried.
Year.	Month.	Day.					Year.	Month.	Day.		
1898	July	17 th	Dorothy	Esperance	3 1/2 years	Daughter of Mr J. Klein Photographer	1898	July	18 th	Convulsions	G. H. Westcott.
1898	August	3 rd	Robert Andrew	Franklin	8 months	Son of Charles August Franklin Sanitary Inspector Cawnpore	1898	August	3	Congestion of the brain	A. Crosthwaite
1898	August	21 st	Clement	Silas	42 years	Sergeant Instructor of Cawnpore Light Horse	1898	August	21 st	Hepatitis	Joss Westcott
1898	September	1 st	Emily	Auger	25 years	Wife of Andrew Auger Engineer, S. & L. B.	1898	September	1 st	Scarper fever	A. Crosthwaite
1898	September	6 th	Albert Edwin	Charlesworth	16 months	Son of Edith & Charlesworth Mill Master, Rodden Mills, Cawnpore	1898	Sept	6 th	Dysentery & Convulsion	Arthur A. Blair.
1898	September	18 th	Frederic	James	42 years	Merchant	1898	Sept	19 th	Asthenia	G. H. Westcott.
<p><i>And</i> <i>Registrar</i> <i>of</i> <i>the</i> <i>Reverend</i> <i>Arthur</i> <i>Austin</i> <i>Blair</i>, <i>Minister</i> <i>of</i> <i>Christ</i> <i>Church</i>, <i>Cawnpore</i>, <i>do</i> <i>hereby</i> <i>certify</i> <i>that</i> <i>the</i> <i> foregoing</i> <i> (as</i> <i>annexed)</i> <i> returns</i> <i> containing</i> <i> details</i> <i> are</i> <i> true</i> <i> and</i> <i> faithful</i> <i> copies</i> <i> of</i> <i> all</i> <i> the</i> <i> entries</i> <i> in</i> <i> the</i> <i> Register</i> <i> of</i> <i> Burials</i> <i> belonging</i> <i> to</i> <i> and</i> <i> kept</i> <i> at</i> <i> the</i> <i> Church</i> <i> of</i> <i> Christ</i> <i> Church</i>, <i>Cawnpore</i>, <i> within</i> <i> the</i> <i> Archdeaconry</i> <i> and</i> <i> Diocese</i> <i> of</i> <i> Calcutta</i> <i> as</i> <i> therein</i> <i> entered</i> <i> and</i> <i> made</i> <i> between</i> <i> the</i> <i> first</i> <i> day</i> <i> of</i> <i> July</i> <i> and</i> <i> the</i> <i> thirtieth</i> <i> day</i> <i> of</i> <i> September</i> <i> in</i> <i> the</i> <i> year</i> <i> of</i> <i> our</i> <i> Lord</i> <i> One</i> <i> Thousand</i> <i> Eight</i> <i> Hundred</i> <i> and</i> <i> Ninety</i> <i> eight</i> <i> -</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Witness</i> <i> my</i> <i> hand</i> Arthur A. Blair.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Minister</i> <i> of</i> <i> Christ</i> <i> Church</i>, <i>Cawnpore</i></p>											

110

Clement Silas Anscombe Death & Burial

According to his probate record he died in Cawnpore Military Hospital and from his burial record we can see that he died of Hepatitis. Although he died in 1898 probate on his will was not granted until 1923. This would have been when Amelia, then re-married, visited England for the first time.

1923.	
ANN Harold of Alveston Gloucestershire builder died 28 February 1923 Probate Gloucester 16 May to Eliza Sarah Ann widow. Effects £2430 11s. 9d.	ANNING Arthur Richard of 4 Glenside Mannamead Plymouth died 17 August 1923 Probate London 27 September to Percival John Nicholls Taylor draper. Effects £9996 15s. 11d.
ANNANDALE Arthur Burnett of Forest Hill Stonehaven died 25 March 1923 Confirmation of Martha Napier or Annandale widow. Sealed London 15 June.	ANScombe Clement Silas of The Cavalry Depot Canterbury died 21 August 1898 at the Military Hospital Cawnpore India Probate London 15 September to Amelia Agnes Baldwin (wife of Frederick William Baldwin). Effects £5.

The Cawnpore Light Horse were a local volunteer force. These local forces were set up to provide security in the event of local disturbances. Although the forces themselves were made up of volunteers the army provided them with experienced soldiers for training purposes. The following extract from a book about life in Cawnpore around this time gives more insight into the role.

Clement Silas Anscombe – British Army in India 2

Much of Mac's free time was taken up serving in the Cawnpore Rifle Club which, along with the Cawnpore Light Horse made up the Cawnpore Volunteer Corps. Their mottos were, 'Forewarned, Forearmed', and 'Defence not Defiance' respectively. The Corps was akin to the Territorial Army in Scotland. Again, we can find similarities between Mac's life in India and his days in Aberdeen. There, long before Mac's time, another textile mill owner named James Hadden served as Lieutenant Colonel of the Royal Aberdeen Volunteers, an organisation formed to protect the city in the event of an enemy attack on Britain.

In Cawnpore, there was competition amongst the Mills to see which could muster the most men to serve. Mill owners played their part too and the most able volunteers assumed ranks which they used in civilian life. GB Allen was an Adjutant and Alfred Butterworth, the Mill manager, was a Colonel. Mac commanded the Volunteer Rifles from 1899–1912, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. In later years, he was given this rank when his second marriage was announced in an American newspaper.

Formed as a reaction to the events of the Mutiny, the Rifles aspired to have a body of men trained to support the police and army should a crisis arise. Club members were mostly English, but there were also Anglo-Indians in the ranks.

Training was provided by a military man who put the men and their horses through their paces. The mock battles fought with neighbouring units were regarded as light-hearted recreation even though they were fiercely fought. Other activities at these events included cutting an apple with a sword and a surviving photograph immortalises the Cawnpore Light Horse team that won the All India tent pegging competition in 1901. Trophies were awarded to those with the best military skills and the club – house was resplendent with silverware won in shooting matches and mock battles by teams that were supported by loyal bands of followers.

Extract from "Cawnpore to Cromar" by Marion Miller

It's not clear if Amelia and the children moved with Clement on his various postings particularly as he probably spent a significant amount of time away from his base. It's quite possible that she remained in Rawalpindi while the children were growing up because that's where, in 1903, she married Frederick William Henry Baldwin.