

TROOPER WAKEFIELD'S WAR

When I recently obtained this Reply portion of a British Reply Paid postcard, little did I realise it was part of a wider correspondence already recorded in the pages of the RSCJ. [RSCJ 301 / 228-230]

15523 Trooper Wakefield A.W. was a member of the 70th Company Imperial Yeomanry (Sharpshooters), which originated in Edinburgh. The Imperial Yeomanry was a volunteer mounted force of the British Army which was created on 2nd January 1900 that mainly saw action during the second Boer War.



Posted Fort Victoria 10 August 1900 / Bulawayo transit 13 August 1900.
Kendal Arrival 8 September 1900,

The postcard is addressed to Trooper Wakefield's mother in Kendal, Westmorland and gives an interesting insight into the morale of British troops at Fort Victoria. The message on the reverse reads :

"Victoria Wed. Aug. 7th 1900.

Again more fit & thriving than ever, if possible. They are taking volunteers for this batt. from the Transvaal provisional police, & there are rumours that the war is over. The rumours are so persistent that I am beginning to believe there may be possibly something in it. Rumour also says that we shall not be able to get home till our year is up, but if the war is over I shall have a jolly good try ! I wonder how Edward is ? Yours A.W."