

Waterloo Medal

Impressed: “Simon Stanisby 2nd Bat Grenada
Guards”

Awarded to: Private Simon Stainsby, of Derby
First or Grenadier Regiment of Foot Guards



Nigel Aspdin, the current owner of the medal writes:

This Waterloo Medal has been given by me for sale by auction in 2015, the year of the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo, June 18th 1815.

I am the great-great-great-great nephew of Simon Stainsby and live in Derby a mere stone's throw away from where Simon was born and lived, at times, in the former Parish of Saint Werburgh, Derby.

The whole proceeds of sale are to be given to military charities so that they benefit regiments connected with Derby, Simon Stainsby's home town. These include The Grenadier Guards who traditionally recruit in Derby, and The Mercian Regiment into which the Sherwood Foresters now find themselves incorporated, and with whom more recent members of my family had

involvement in 1914-18, 1939-45 and post war.

The medal has passed down through my family and in the process some of its exact history had been lost, but has been recently re-discovered or corrected by me.

When I took custody of the medal in 1978 from my father I was told the following:

- The name on the medal was wrong, the soldier was Simon Stainsby and not Simon Stanisby as impressed.
- It had come into the family..... *“because it had been left for safekeeping with my grandmother, or great grandmother, for safekeeping, by a maid, the medal having been won by the maid’s brother who had fought at Waterloo”*.



In 1978 I wrote to the Grenadier Guards archives officer who confirmed the misspelling of the name, and further confirmed the following information:

"No. 199 Simon Stainsby.

Enlisted in Grenadier Guards on 7 December 1815 aged 18 at Dover from the Derby Militia.*

(*Editors Note: This is wrong and likely should have read 1813, see Derbyshire Regiment of Militia Enlistments into the Regular Army at Dover, December 16th 1813, The Derby Mercury January 12 1814, no 4262)

Height 5' 9"

Complexion: Dark

Eyes: Hazel

Hair: Black

Trade: Frame work knitter

Born: St Mary in the County of Derbyshire

Service abroad: France 1814, Waterloo and Paris 1815, Army of occupation 18161818."

"He remained a Private for all of his service which was due to a rather irregular career which I will not disclose and was discharged on 12 November 1835 aged 40 years suffering from chronic catarrh, palpitations and rheumatism with a pension of 1s/1d per day"



*The
First*

Regiment of Foot Guards at Waterloo.

The Grenadier Guards are formally to be referred to as 'First or Grenadier Regiment of Foot Guards' The Regiment gained the name "Grenadier" in July 1815 following a Royal Proclamation. This was the result of the defeat of the Grenadiers of the French Imperial Guard at the Battle of Waterloo. (Some allege that they had actually engaged the Chasseurs of the Guard, who wore bearskin caps similar to the Grenadiers of the French Imperial Guard)

The Grenadier Guards are the most senior regiment of infantry in the British Army.

stores, for six months from the 15th of August. It also notifies, that on the 27th inst. the Danish Minister invested the Prince Regent with the ensigns of the Order of the Elephant, and presented him with decorations of the order wherewith his Royal Highness was empowered to invest the Duke of Wellington—that the Prince Regent, the same day, knighted Major General Peacock, and permitted him to accept the Portuguese Order of the Tower and Sword—and that he has appointed Charles Durie, Esq. Consul in Norway. The Ensigns of the three regiments of Foot Guards are in future to have the rank of Lieutenants, for the distinguished conduct of those regiments in the battle of Waterloo, and the 1st regiment is made a regiment of grenadiers; in commemoration of their having defeated the grenadiers of the French Imperial Guard.

WAR-OFFICE. JULY 29.

'The Times', report July 31, 1815

Discovery that Simon Stainsby was an ancestor

In early 2015 I read a book “The Smiths of Derby, A Journey Through Time” by Maxwell Craven (Smith of Derby Group Ltd, 2011). The book charts the history of John Smith (1813-1886), an apprentice clockmaker to John Whitehurst, and the family firm he founded in the late 1840s and still a company well known locally and internationally, a clockmaker with a global reputation for creating innovative and majestic timepieces

From my cousin relationship with the present day direct descendant family of John Smith I knew that my great-great grandmother, born Maria Orme, had married John Smith in 1838. Their daughter Maria Amelia (b 1850) married William Slater, my great grandfather, a builder in Uttoxeter Old Road, Derby, terra cotta pipe maker at Denby, and quarry owner at Coxbench. Together they built and lived at the house in Vernon St, Derby, where I now live.

From genealogical information Maxwell Craven had included in his book I made an important discovery I did not know:

□ Maria Orme's mother was Catherine Stainsby, baptised April 15th 1794 at St Werburgh's Church, Derby. Catherine's brother, baptised at St. Werburgh's on August 21st 1796, was **Simon Stainsby**. They were the children of John and Christian Stainsby.

(John Stainsby himself had been in the army, stationed in Ireland after the 1788 Irish Rebellion, and had married a local girl there, Christian Brannon of Broadstone , Dublin)

It appeared beyond coincidence that the story of the medal having been left by a family maid was wrong, the medal was clearly in my family because Simon Stainsby was the uncle of Maria Smith nee Orme, my great great grandmother. Simon never married or had any descendants to whom the medal might have passed, explaining why it passed down the family via his sister and niece.

Simon Stainsby's post army life

After Simon left the army in 1835 he again took up work as a framework knitter. The Grenadier Guards record that being his trade despite the fact that he was only 17 when he joined up in 1813. He had likely started work in that trade at 14 or younger.

Framework knitting was once one of the most important industries in the East Midlands. It started in Nottinghamshire where William Lee of Calverton invented the stocking frame in 1589. After a patent was refused by Elizabeth I, Lee took his invention to France in 1608 where he later died. His brother brought the machines back to London but the industry gradually moved back to Nottinghamshire and spread to Leicestershire and Derbyshire until by the end of the 18th century, these three counties contained over 85% of all the frames in the UK. The industry began to decline after 1810 and in the second half of the 19th century, steam powered knitting machines allowed the industry to progress to a proper factory based phase. Framework knitting all but disappeared with just a few knitters carrying on producing specialist work for niche markets.

In the 1841 census Simon was living in Ockbrook, a village on the east side of Derby. He is recorded as living in Green Lane at the house of John and Ann Cotton, with two younger framework knitters (*F/W.K.*), and a child Mary Chapman aged 8.

20	John Cotton	45	Widower		
	Ann	45			
	Simon Hainsby	15		F/W.K. +	
	William Arnold	20		D. +	
	James Walker	25		D. +	
	Mary Chapman	8			16 ✓

Simon Stainsby in 1841 census, 'F/W.K' living in Green Lane, Ockbrook, near Derby.

(Research shows that 8 year old Mary Chapman was almost certainly a grandchild of John and Ann Cotton, daughter of John and Alice (nee Cotton by John and Ann) Chapman, who married in Ockbrook in 1832.)

In some local history notes of Ockbrook the following explanation of the trade in the village is mentioned:

The framework knitters of the 1840s were not so fortunate. Most of them hired their frames from Mr. Richard Fenton of Church Street or John Stevens of Green Lane. They worked in their homes or in the stockings' shops built in their gardens. There are still some of these shops in Green Lane and another was long ago reconstructed in a garden in Victoria Avenue by the Lewesley family who had their frames at the Cross Keys. The knitters made hose and gloves in silk and cotton. The payments were small and their wages were estimated to be between eight and nine shillings a week after their frame rent and expenses had been deducted. They sold their work to warehouses in Derby, Belper and Nottingham. A little more could be earned by selling direct to customers.

Ockbrook history notes, courtesy of Peter Ball, Ockbrook

It has been said to me by a local historian, Peter Ball, that legend has it that the stockings for Queen Victoria's wedding were made in Ockbrook!

After visiting Ockbrook to identify the house, the most likely candidate property in Green Lane is this house shown below. The second extra floor, added to this property, which would originally have had larger windows with little or no brickwork between them, are typical of rooms provided for frame work knitters, natural light being a necessity, and the structure provided for this. This photograph of the likely house shows the addition of the second floor, although the modifications to the façade and windows is unsympathetic to the building as a whole and certainly unrepresentative to how it would have been in the 1840s.



House (brick, centre) in Green Lane, Ockbrook, most likely where Simon Stainsby was living and working in 1841.

A better example of how the windows may have been, and what the inside may have been like, is shown in these photos at the Framework Knitters Museum at Ruddington, Nottinghamshire.



Windows typical of a framework knitters' cottage, and framework knitters' machinery. Courtesy of The Ruddington Framework Knitters' Museum.

By 1861 Simon was aged 64 and living in Derby, at 50 Fowler Street, Derby, as a boarder. Fowler Street was almost completely demolished in slum clearances circa 1960, the only real evidence of it remains in the sign on the street's former corner with Ashbourne Road.



116	50	52	1	Simon Stainsby	Boarder	18	Simon Stainsby	Boarder	18
				Sarah Webster	Boarder	18	Thomas Holt	Boarder	18
				George	Boarder	18	William	Boarder	18
				William	Boarder	18	William	Boarder	18

Simon Stainsby in 1861 census, living at 50 Fowler Street, off Ashbourne Road, Derby.

Finding a photograph of Fowler Street was no easy task, the local public records (Derby Local Studies Library and <http://www.picturethepast.org.uk>) did not have a copy. But ex Derby City Council buildings officer turned local historian of note did have a number of photos and he kindly met up with me. I thought nothing would turn on a photograph of Fowler Street until I saw one of the outbuildings at the rear and was excited to find that it was a framework knitters' building! Simon Stainsby was working when he lived in Fowler Street as he is recorded in the 1861 census as a "Silk Lace [Frame*?]Chelsea Pension". I cannot say that this was where he worked, but it is a possibility. It is also interesting to note that in 1852 there was a John Cotton living at 33 Fowler Street, and it is quite possible that I may find that this is the son/nephew (born Ockbrook 1828) of the John and Ann Cotton with whom Simon was living in Ockbrook in 1841. (Further research required).



Fowler Street, Derby, 1970, prior to demolition. The left hand image showing what appears to be a framework knitters' shop, probably at the rear of houses and backing on to Slater Avenue.

Death

Simon died on January 25, 1867 according to the records of the Chelsea Pensioners. I have been unable to find his place of burial so far. His mother was buried at all Saints, Derby (now Derby Cathedral) and he might have been buried there, possibly in her grave. I have been unable to trace a burial at Nottingham Road or Uttoxeter Road cemeteries.

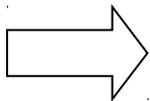
Other information

Simon's service at Waterloo was remembered and respected in Derby military circles. The Derby Mercury of June 20 1860 carries a long report of various activities of the Derby Rifle Corps, events at Kedleston Hall, a review in London by Queen Victoria, and an Inaugural Dinner at the Royal Hotel, Derby, to which a number of Waterloo pensioners, including Simon, were invited.

MR. PARKES, MR. ARCHER, and many others.

The following Waterloo pensioners were invited:—
2nd Life Guards, Samuel Sheppard; 1st Dragoon
Guards, Joseph Jepson; 12th Dragoons, George Hough;
1st Foot Guards, David Fox, James Handford, Simon
Stainsby, William Goodwin; 4th Regiment, Richard
Birkin; 23rd Regiment, Thomas Davies, James Roberts;
52nd Regiment, William Collick; Rifle Brigade, Samuel
Hardy; Royal Horse Artillery, George Cockayne.

Before dinner the able band of the corps, under the
direction of Mr. W. W. Woodward, played a fine over-
ture in front of the Hotel, and during the evening an admi-
table selection of music was performed in the ante-room.



Above: Derby Mercury of June 20 1860. Below The Royal Hotel, Derby. (corner)



DERBYSHIRE MILITIA.

A N Alphabetical List of the Volunteers from the Derbyshire Regiment of Militia, Enlisted under the Act of the 54th of the King, chap. 1. stating the Parish and Hundred each was serving for, and the Regiment into which they have enlisted, taken at Dover the 16th Dec. 1813.

*Men raised by Beat of Drum, who are not placed to, or serving for any Parish.**

Abells Samuel, Guards.	Malby Joseph, Staff Corps.
Austin Thomas, Ditto.	Marshall John, Guards.
Bullock John, Staff Corps.	Maycock John, Staff Corps.
Booth John, Guards.	Measures John, Ditto.
Brearley Thomas, Staff Corps.	Malby Samuel, Guards.
Dodd Charles, 53d Foot.	Slack John, Staff Corps.
Davies Thomas, 53d Foot.	Swindall John, Guards.
Dalt Thomas, 53d Foot.	Stainsby Simon, Ditto.
Deaman Thomas, Staff Corps.	Scott James, 53d Foot.
Dale Samuel, Guards.	Swindall Samuel, Guards.
Dunnecliff Thomas, 53d Foot.	Skellett John, 53d Foot.
Dakie William, 53d Foot.	Smith William, 53d Foot.
Ellis William, Guards.	Smith Thomas, Guards.
	Ditto

Extract from Derby Mercury report of January 12, 1814; Issue 4262, reporting those Derbyshire men enlisting at Dover from the Derbyshire Militia on December 16th 1813.

22		Continued		102		23	
Distinction	Names and Rank	Regiments in which the Claimant served	Battles and Sieges at which the presence of each Claimant has been attested by the Board.	Distinction	Names and Rank	Regiments in which the Claimant served	Battles and Sieges at which the presence of each Claimant has been attested by the Board.
307	✓ 43	Richardson John Private 1st Foot	Vincennes	319	✓	Wheatley Thomas Private 1st Foot	Vitoria, Orthez, Toulouse
308	✓ 74	✓ Rogers James Sergeant 13th Foot	S. Martinique	320	✓	✓ Thair Joseph Private 1st Foot	Vitoria, Orthez, Toulouse
309	✓	✓ Rutherford James Private 25th Foot	Guadeloupe	321	✓ 13	✓ Stansby Simon Private 1st Foot	V. Nive
310	✓ 81	✓ Reay James Private 1st Foot	Nivelle, Nive, Orthez, Toulouse	322	✓	✓ Stoen James Private 1st Foot	V. Salamanca, Vitoria, Toulouse
311	✓	✓ Richetti Joseph Private 1st Foot	Coruna, Busaco, Fuentes, Nivelle, Nive, Toulouse	323	✓	✓ Smith William Private 1st Foot	V. Salamanca, Vitoria, Orthez, Toulouse
312	✓	✓ Robinson Joseph Private 1st Foot	Vitoria, Orthez	324	✓	✓ Smith Thomas Private 1st Foot	V. Salamanca
313	✓ 80	✓ Reynolds Michael Private 1st Foot	Orthez, Vitoria, Busaco, Vitoria, Fuentes	325	✓ 13	✓ Stoppie William Private 1st Foot	V. Salamanca
314	✓	✓ Robertson John Private 1st Foot	Coruna, Busaco, Fuentes, Nivelle, Nive, Toulouse	326	✓	✓ Sturrock William Private 1st Foot	V. Fuentes
315	✓	✓ Rostall William Private 1st Foot	Coruna, Busaco, Fuentes, Nivelle, Nive, Toulouse	327	✓	✓ Sutherland William Private 1st Foot	V. Vitoria, Orthez
316	✓	✓ Rowley David Private 1st Foot	Salamanca, Vitoria, Nivelle, Toulouse	328	✓	✓ Spence Joseph Private 1st Foot	V. Salamanca, Busaco, Fuentes, Nivelle, Nive, Toulouse
317	✓	✓ Reynolds James Private 1st Foot	Busaco, Albuhera	329	✓	✓ Sturrock William Private 1st Foot	V. Vitoria, Fuentes, Orthez, Toulouse
318	✓	✓ Mackelup James Private 1st Foot	Vitoria, Toulouse	330	✓	✓ Hunt Humphrey Private 1st Foot	V. Toulouse
				331	✓ 17	✓ Sanderson Richard Private 1st Foot	V. Coruna
				332	✓	✓ Smith Robert Private 1st Foot	V. Fuentes
				333	✓	✓ Sanderson William Private 1st Foot	V. Vitoria, Fuentes, Orthez, Toulouse
				334	✓	✓ Smith Nicholas Private 1st Foot	V. Fuentes, Vitoria, Orthez

321 13 ✓ Stansby Simon - Private 1st Foot 1st Foot, V. Nive.

Extract from medal roll for the Peninsular Wars showing that Simon had fought at the Battle of The Nive (Near Bayonne, south west France). He had enlisted at Dover on December 13 1813. The battle initially took place on December 9-13 1813, but then became bogged down by poor weather for two months and action did not recommence until February 23 1814, by which time Simon would have had time to march over 550 miles to the south west of France, the Bayonne/Nive battle area.

Further Notes

According to records at Familysearch.org John and Christian Stainsby (often spelt Stanesby and Stanisby and other variations) had at least 6 children.

<i>John</i>	<i>Christened All Saints, Derby, April 23, 1790</i>
<i>James</i>	<i>Christened All Saints, Derby. March 3, 1792</i>
<i>Catherine</i>	<i>Christened St Werburgh's, Derby, April 15, 1794</i>
<i>Simon</i>	<i>Christened St Werburgh's, Derby, August 21, 1796</i>
<i>Charles</i>	<i>Christened St Peter's, Derby December 2, 1799</i>
<i>Christiana</i>	<i>Christened St Peter's, Derby December 2, 1799</i>

All Saints is now Derby Cathedral.

The following text from book "The Smiths of Derby, A Journey Through Time" by Maxwell Craven (Smith of Derby Group Ltd, 2011) may explain that the date of baptism is not a reliable indicator of the date of birth, and indeed Charles and Christiana may not have been twins even though their date of Christening is the same.

Page 19: ".....Everyone was by law then obliged to register baptisms, weddings and deaths with their local Anglican parish church, but in this era, this was often omitted either through ignorance or inadvertence, it is thus sometimes difficult to trace baptisms of Dissenters, Swedenborgians included. One clue is the practice of registering baptisms quite a long time after the birth, and there are hints of this in the family history"

-END-

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