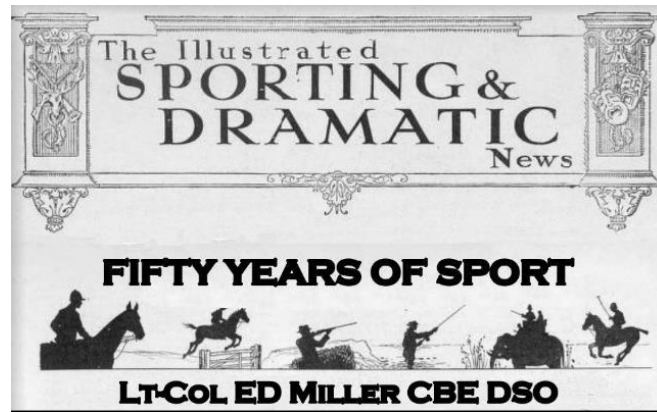


From the Archives

Fifty years of sport by Colonel Miller – part v

This is the continuing story of the reminiscences of Colonel Miller, one of the founding members of the Club. The *Illustrated and Sporting News* in 1923 serialised his sporting career and the personalities he met along the way. In this instalment, we look at the notable characters from the First World War.

The Earl of Cavan is next in line for his role at the War Office, his career in the army and his subsequent promotion. Under his former name of the Hon Rudolph Lambert, son of Lord Kilcousie and grandson of the eighth Earl of Cavan, he held the role of Chief of the Imperial Staff at the War Office taking on a leading role in the Guards Division. So brilliantly did he succeed in this role, that he was selected for the command of the British Army in Italy. Colonel Miller also describes him as a great all-round sportsman and goes on to talk about his brother, the Hon Lionel Lambert who he had met fifteen years previously playing polo at Sherbourne.



Another boyhood friend of the Colonel from their days playing cricket together was Tom Brand, now Colonel, the Viscount Hampden and twenty fifth Baron Dacre, Brigade Commander of the East Midlands Infantry Territorial Brigade. He played in the Eton Cricket eleven and joined the 10th Hussars where he achieved the rank of Major. In 1893, he played for his regiment when they won the Inter-Regimental Polo Tournament. Colonel Miller regarded him as one of the best soldier polo players of his day and harks back to his time in Hertfordshire where the Major now lives in the residence previously owned by his grandfather, the celebrated Speaker of the House of Commons, Sir Henry Brand, who was created Viscount Hampden in 1884 and became Lord Dacre on the death of his brother in 1890.

Tom Brand married a daughter of the Duke of Buccleuch, who lent the wedded couple a charming house called Cawston at Dunchurch where they were near neighbours of the Colonel for many years and regards Tom as an excellent soldier, sportsman and country gentleman. The Colonel then goes on to mention a small boy he remembers going out with the Hertfordshire Hounds dressed in a red coat – the only child he had ever seen dressed in this way. This individual at that time was Lord Cranbourne Salisbury who later assumed the title of Lord Salisbury.

It was some years later that Colonel Miller met with Lord Salisbury for his one and only meeting in South Africa just outside Mafeking when Lord Salisbury was in charge of a Territorial unit. The Colonel went on to follow the political career of Lord Salisbury regarding him as ‘the very greatest and best man in the world’ as opposed to the Colonel’s view of Mr Gladstone which was the complete reverse.

The Colonel then turns his attention to Ernest Crawley of Eyot who was Captain of the Harrow XI and represented the school and Cambridge University at racquets with Cyril Buxton as partner. He goes on to mention other names such as Leonard Crawley who joined the 7th Hussars as an exceptional horseman but unfortunately drowned in India. Eustace Crawley played cricket and racquets for Harrow and got his Blue at Cambridge for cricket, racquets and real tennis before joining the 12th

Lancers becoming well known as a steeplechase rider and polo player and was regarded by the Colonel as one of the most popular men he had ever met, leaving many to mourn his passing when he was killed at Ypres by a random shell in 1914. The Colonel refers to other brothers whose careers he did not follow but makes a point of calling out these three who were with him at Harrow.

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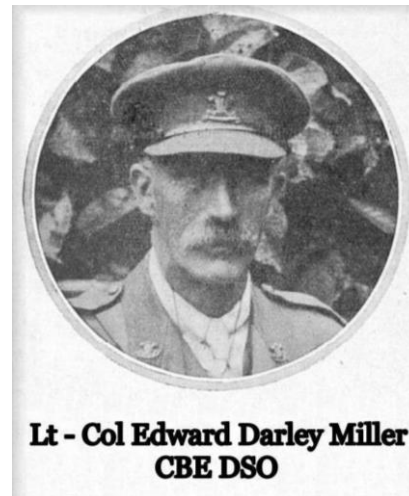


Lord Salisbury, c. 1886

Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

In office

25 June 1895 – 11 July 1902



Lt - Col Edward Darley Miller
CBE DSO

HON RUDOLPH LAMBERT



It is here at the Harrow School which Colonel Miller attended in 1879 where he reflects on four very happy years at the Headmaster's House and where he kept in touch with many who were there at the same time as him. He calls it a delightful school, saying that while he was there, Dr Butler was probably the most celebrated headmaster of the day, and he was privileged to know him well. It comes as no surprise to learn that the Colonel chose to send both of his sons to Harrow.

In the next edition of the newsletter, Colonel Miller continues his fascinating memoirs with references to his contemporaries at Harrow who have made names for themselves in world affairs and the realms of elite sport.

Steve Riedlinger, Club Archivist