

EXTRACTS RELATING TO SUSSEX ORDNANCE  
FROM A CARRIER'S ACCOUNT BOOK.

A. D. 1761.

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BY WILLIAM POWELL BREACH.

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FROM an old account book, which belonged to Robert Knight, a carrier at East Grinstead in the middle of the eighteenth century, I am enabled to make some extracts which may be of interest as showing the considerable trade which was then done in supplying the nation's ordnance from our Sussex ironworks. The book itself contains not only the carrier's accounts, but also cash accounts and memoranda of various kinds in much confusion and irregularity, and would by no means meet the requirements of an income tax surveyor of the present day. In addition to the cartage of guns to Woolwich, Robert Knight carried large quantities of oak and beech timber from the various estates in the neighbourhood of East Grinstead to Vauxhall, Lambeth and Westminster and much bark to Bermondsey, and was apparently in a very considerable way of business.

The following are the entries relating to the guns carried to London. It was usual to load back with "Coles," but I have not repeated those items. The sizes of the guns are always specified and in some cases their weights and the amounts charged for carriage.

Messrs. Masters & Raby Dr. to Robert Knight.

1762.

May	y <sup>o</sup> 19	Brought back from Woolwich 2 chaldron of Coles to the Furnis
May	y <sup>e</sup> 22	Brought back from Woolwich 2 chaldron of Coles
June	y <sup>o</sup> 2	Brought back from Woolwich 2 chaldron of Coles

Dec.	y <sup>e</sup> 9	2 24 pounder guns carrid from the Warren Furnis <sup>1</sup> to Woolwich .....			
	y <sup>e</sup> 11	Brought back from Woolwich 1 chaldon of coles			
	y <sup>e</sup> 13	2 24 pounder Guns .....			
	y <sup>e</sup> 14	Brought back from Woolwich 1 chaldron of Coles			
	y <sup>e</sup> 15	2 24 pounder Guns .....			
	y <sup>e</sup> 17	Brought Back from Woolwich 1 chaldron and 2 sacks of Coles			
	y <sup>e</sup> 20	3 long 9 pounder Guns .....			
		Brought back from Woolwich 16 sacks of Coles			
		Recevd of Dr. Burd in part for the Messrs. Masters & Raby .....	5	5	0
			} by draft.		
1763.					
Dec.	y <sup>e</sup> 9	3 9 pounder Guns .....	c.	q.	l.
		& 1 4 pounder Gun .....	66	0	0
	y <sup>e</sup> 11	1 18 pounder Gun .....	58	0	0
		1 9 pounder Gun short .....			
	15	1 18 pounder Gun .....	56	0	0
		1 9 pounder Gun .....			
	y <sup>e</sup> 27	Carried up from the Warren furnis to London Ballis .....	61	0	0
		Brought Back Steall .....	35	3	8
		Recevd in cash £2. 2s. 0d.			
	y <sup>e</sup> 28	2 12 pounder Guns .....	66	0	0
	31	1 14 pounder Gun .....	61	0	0
		2 3 pounder Guns .....			
1764.					
Jan.	y <sup>e</sup> 4	1 18 pounder Gun .....	60	0	0
		1 12 pounder Gun .....			
		1 4 pounder Gun .....			
	y <sup>e</sup> 7	1 18 pounder Gun .....	61	0	0
		1 Long 9 pounder .....			
April	y <sup>e</sup> 2	Recevd of Allick Raby .....	£	s.	d.
			3	3	0
April	y <sup>e</sup> 25	Carrd from the Warren Furnis to London 8 guns 4 pounders .....	T.	c.	q.
			3	12	0
May	y <sup>e</sup> 2	Cared from the Warren Furnis 8 guns ..	3	14	0
			16	0	16

There are no further entries in this account until 1768, when it will be noted the style of the firm was altered.

1768.

Messrs. Raby & Rogers.

Dec.	y <sup>e</sup> 5	1 Journey of Carriage of Guns from the Warren furnis to Woolwich and Back Carriage of Coles .....	£	s.	d.
			6	0	0

<sup>1</sup> Warren Furnace stood about two miles north of Grange Road Station, on the borders of Sussex and Surrey.

Dec.	y <sup>e</sup> 19	1 Days work for Timber from Crawley Down to the Furnis			
	y <sup>e</sup> 23	Carraige of Bum Shells from Gravetye <sup>a</sup> Furnis to London			
		13 pounders ..	27	peases	
		10 pounders ..	38	peases	
	y <sup>e</sup> 27	13 pounders ..	34	peases	
		10 pounders ..	21	peases	
		shott .....	21	peases	
	y <sup>e</sup> 29	13 inch Shells..	44	peases	
		10 inch Shells..	2	peases	
		Brought Back from London to the Forge			c. q. L.
		40-c. 0-q. 0-lb. of iron pigs .....	40	0	0
		And 1 plate of Iron & 1 mould to Gravetye from London .....	3	0	0
1769.					
Jan.	y <sup>e</sup> 2	13 inch Shells..	34	peases	
		10 inch Shells..	6	peases	
		32 pounder Shot	22	peases	
	y <sup>e</sup> 5	13 inch Shells..	40	peases	
		10 inch Shells .	10	peases	
		Brought Back from London to the forge Steall	40	0	0
	y <sup>e</sup> 8	13 inch Shells..	38	peases	
		10 inch Shells..	15	peases	
	y <sup>e</sup> 16	Shells and 1 mould and shott .....	80	0	0
		and 1 mould left at Fellbridge			
	y <sup>e</sup> 18	2 12 pounder Guns from the Warren Furnis			
	y <sup>e</sup> 23	3 short 12 pounder Guns from the Warren furnis.....	84	0	0
	y <sup>e</sup> 28	1 days work with Iron from the Warren Furnis to Gravety			
	y <sup>e</sup> 30	3 Long 9 Pounder Guns			
Feb.	y <sup>e</sup> 4	1 days work from the Warren furnis to Gravety of carrying of Iron			
	y <sup>e</sup> 7	Cared up from the Warren Furnis to London			
		1 Long 9 pounder Gun ....	28	0	0
		3 6 pounder Guns ....	42	0	0
			70	0	0
	y <sup>e</sup> 13	2 12 pounder Guns			
	y <sup>e</sup> 16	Brought from Gravety Furnis to the Warren Furnis			
		5 3 pounder Guns with the Heads on			
		1 2 pounder Gun			

Between the 17th of February and the 20th of March there are entries almost daily of the different sizes of

<sup>a</sup> Gravetye Furnace was about a mile north of West Hoathly Church.

guns with the "Hheads on" and "Hheads off" carried between the Warren and Gravety furnaces. The last entry of guns to London is—

March y<sup>e</sup> 21 Cared up from the Warren Furnis to London  
 2 12 pounder Guns  
 2 4 pounder Guns

Messrs. Clutton & Co. at Gravety.

1761.		Cared Guns from Gravety up to Woolwich					
April	y <sup>e</sup> 23	2	12 pounder Guns				
May	y <sup>e</sup> 1	2	12 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 14	2	12 pounder Guns				
June	y <sup>e</sup> 1	2	12 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 4	2	12 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 8	2	12 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 11	3	12 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 15	3	12 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 17	3	12 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 22	2	12 pounder Guns				
Sept.	y <sup>e</sup> 7	Cared up to London	9 guns	.....	c.	q.	l.
	y <sup>e</sup> 21	2	12 pounder Guns		59	3	1
	y <sup>e</sup> 24	1	18 pounder Gun				
		1	12 pounder Gun				
		Brought from London		2	Barrell of powder		
Oct.	y <sup>e</sup> 1	2	12 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 5	3	9 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 8	3	9 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 12	1	18 pounder Gun				
		1	12 pounder Gun				
	y <sup>e</sup> 19	2	18 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 22	2	18 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 26	2	9 pounder Guns				
		1	18 pounder Gun				
	y <sup>e</sup> 29	2	18 pounder Guns				
		8 guns cared up to London					
Nov.	y <sup>e</sup> 2	2	18 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 16	1	18 pounder Gun				
		1	9 pounder Gun				
	y <sup>e</sup> 23	3	9 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 26	1	18 pounder Gun				
		4	9 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 30	1	18 pounder Gun				
		1	9 pounder Gun				
Dec.	y <sup>e</sup> 3	1	18 pounder Gun				
		1	9 pounder Gun				
	y <sup>e</sup> 7	2	18 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 10	1	18 pounder Gun				
		1	9 pounder Gun				

Dec. y<sup>e</sup> 14 1 18 pounder Gun  
           1 9 pounder Gun  
       y<sup>e</sup> 17 2 18 pounder Guns  
       y<sup>e</sup> 22 1 18 pounder Gun  
           1 9 pounder Gun  
       y<sup>e</sup> 28 2 18 pounder Guns

1762.

Jan. y<sup>e</sup> 12 3 9 pounder Guns  
       y<sup>e</sup> 21 3 9 pounder Guns  
 Feb. y<sup>e</sup> 1 1 32 pounder Gun  
       y<sup>e</sup> 4 1 32 pounder Gun  
       y<sup>e</sup> 10 6 4 pounder Guns  
       y<sup>e</sup> 15 6 4 pounder Guns  
           1 3 pounder Gun  
 March y<sup>e</sup> 22 3 9 pounder Guns

April	y <sup>e</sup> 13	Cared up to London Guns .....		c.	q.	l.
	y <sup>e</sup> 26	3 9 pounder Guns .....	}	72	1	19
		2 3 pounder Guns .....		71	1	23
	y <sup>e</sup> 29	12 3 pounder Guns				

May	y <sup>e</sup> 3	Cared up to London	}	79	3	15
		4 6 pounder Guns .....				
		4 3 pounder Guns .....				
	y <sup>e</sup> 17	Cared up to Woolwich				
		1 32 pounder Gun				
	y <sup>e</sup> 20	Cared up to Woolwich				
		1 32 pounder Gun				

June y<sup>e</sup> 31 1 32 pounder Gun  
       y<sup>s</sup> 3 1 32 pounder Gun  
       y<sup>s</sup> 7 1 32 pounder Gun  
       y<sup>e</sup> 14 2 18 pounder Guns

July y<sup>e</sup> 5 2 32 pounder Guns  
       y<sup>e</sup> 8 1 32 pounder Gun  
       y<sup>e</sup> 12 1 32 pounder Gun  
       y<sup>s</sup> 15 6 4 pounder Guns  
           1 3 pounder Gun  
       y<sup>e</sup> 19 1 32 pounder Gun  
       y<sup>e</sup> 23 1 32 pounder Gun

Aug. y<sup>e</sup> 2 1 32 pounder Gun  
       y<sup>e</sup> 4 1 32 pounder Gun  
           1 9 pounder Gun

Apparently the Gravety "Furnis" was disposed of to Eade and Wilton, as the account is continued:

Cared up to London from Gravety Furnis for Eade and Wilton.

1762.

				c.	q.	t.	£	s.	d.	
Sept.	y <sup>e</sup> 1	7 4 pounder Guns .....		65	3	17	..	4	19	1½
	y <sup>e</sup> 9	1 32 pounder Gun .....		56	0	0	..	4	4	0
		1 9 pounder Gun long .....		25	2	0	..	1	18	3

			c.	q.	l.	£	s.	d.	
Sept.	y <sup>e</sup> 14	1 9 pounder Gun	28	2	0	..	4	5	6
		1 9 pounder Gun	28	2	0	..			
		1 9 pounder Gun	25	2	0	..	1	18	3
this Gravety team brought up to Fellbridge									
	y <sup>e</sup> 17	3 9 pounder Guns	76	2	0	..	4	18	9
y <sup>e</sup> 20		1 9 pounder Gun	28	2	0	..	4	8	6
		1 9 pounder Gun	28	2	0	..			
		1 9 pounder Gun	25	2	0	..	1	18	3
y <sup>e</sup> 23		1 9 pounder Gun	25	2	0	..	3	5	6
		1 9 pounder Gun	25	2	0	..			
		1 9 pounder Gun	25	2	0				
y <sup>e</sup> 27		1 9 pounder Gun	25	2	0				
		1 9 pounder Gun	25	2	0				
		1 9 pounder Gun	25	0	0				
			379						
y <sup>e</sup> 30		1 12 pounder Gun	36	0	0				
		1 9 pounder Gun	25	2	0				
		1 9 pounder Gun	23	0	0				
Oct.	y <sup>e</sup> 2	2 12 pounder Guns	72	0	0	..	5	8	0
		2 12 pounder Guns							
y <sup>e</sup> 11		2 18 pounder Guns					6	0	0
		1 32 pounder Gun							
y <sup>e</sup> 18		1 18 pounder Gun							
		4 4 pounder Guns							
Dec.	y <sup>e</sup> 6	1 32 pounder Gun							
	y <sup>e</sup> 28	2 12 pounder Guns							

Messrs. Ralfe Clutton & Dorront, as in my bill.

			T.	C.	Q.	L.
1763.						
Feb.	y <sup>e</sup> 7	Cared from Mill Place up to London to Seemans Warfe				
		50 Swevil Guns		52	3	12
	y <sup>e</sup> 28	Swevil Guns cared from Mill Place to London in all		5	6	3 23
May	y <sup>e</sup> 12	Cared from Gravety to Woolwich				
		2 12 pounder Guns				
	y <sup>e</sup> 16	2 12 pounder Guns from Gravetye to Woolwich				
	y <sup>e</sup> 19	2 12 pounder Guns from Gravetye Furnis to Woolwich				
	y <sup>e</sup> 23	2 12 pounder Guns				
Recev <sup>d</sup> the above.						

To Mr. H. Comber, of Cowden, a descendant of Robert Knight, my thanks are due for permission to make the foregoing extracts.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Knight here attempts a pictorial representation of a gun.