

David Osler – Military Career (1877-1909)

(Extracts from his military documents held in the National Archives in Kew.)

Date	Event	Regiment	Notes
Feb 1, 1877	Enlisted at Forfar, for 7 years	Scots Fusilier Guards	A laborer, Presbyterian, stated age 18 (the minimum), 5ft 7 ^{1/4} , fresh complexion, hazel eyes, fair hair
Feb 20, 1877	Joined Regiment in London	Scots Fusilier Guards	Private No 3990
Nov 1, 1878	Appointed Lance Corporal	Scots Guards	
Feb 15, 1879	Good Conduct award		Received an extra penny per day
Oct, 1879	Found ' Drunk on Duty'		Lost rank and Good Conduct award
Nov 18, 1880	Promoted Lance Corporal	2 nd Battalion Scots Guards	Chelsea Barracks
July 1, 1881	Transferred	1st Battalion Scots Guards	
Dec 4, 1881	Promoted Corporal		
July – Nov 1882	Egyptian expedition	1 st Battalion Scots Guards	Campaign included 'Tel el Kabir' on Sept 13, 1882
???	Awarded Egypt Medal with bar for Tel el Kabir ('82)		
Feb, 1883	Extended enlistment to 12 years	1 st Battalion Scots Guards	
April 1, 1884	Promoted Lance Sergeant	1 st Battalion Scots Guards	
Sept 26, 1884	Promoted Sergeant	1 st Battalion Scots Guards	
Feb-Aug 1885	Egyptian expedition	2 nd Battalion Scots Guards	Campaign included Suakin (March 1-14, 1885) and Hasheen (March 20, 1885)
???	Awarded Suakim ('85) bar for ('82) Egypt Medal		
???	Awarded Khedive's Bronze Star		Conferred by Khedive of Egypt to all those involved
???	Obtained 2 nd Class Certificate of Education		
March 5, 1888	Re-engaged for 21 years service	2 nd Battalion Scots Guards	To automatically qualify for a long service pension
Nov 20, 1888	Promoted Colour Sergeant	2 nd Battalion Scots Guards	So achieved senior NCO status, he was never to be promoted to Warrant Officer rank.
Sept 1, 1892	Transferred as Colour Sergeant Instructor	Permanent Staff, 2 nd Volunteer Battalion Black Watch (Royal Highlanders)	Drill Instructor, Forfar Volunteers
Feb 15, 1898	Completed 21 years service	Permanent Staff, 2 nd Volunteer Battalion Black Watch	Permitted to continue to max age for service (50 years)
April 1898	Awarded Long Service and Good Conduct Medal		5 pound gratuity
Feb 14, 1909	Final discharge	5 th Volunteer Battalion Black Watch	After 32 years of Exemplary service and at 50 years of age