TWO OLD SWEATS:

1.—Corporal Smith of the Dirty Half-Hundred

[The following information obtained on a recent visit to England has been kindly forwarded by Mr. C. E. H. Smith of Torrens Park, S.A., who in September 1973 enquired through the Bulletin for information on his great-grandparents James and Mary Smith, whose eldest child was born at "Stockade, Wollongong" on 14 January 1836].

At the Records Office in Chancery Lane I was really excited to have the pleasure of actually searching the Army Pay Book of the Regiment in Wollongong. Incidentally, the War Records Office has so much information that when I found the following detail, the officer in charge asked me whether I would "like to see his papers"—I presume James Smith's enlistment and discharge papers. Unfortunately I didn't have the time to spare. The information I have took three days to locate. Now that I have the War Office reference numbers it would be a much simpler job getting more information.

In War Office Records no mention is made of Wollongong. In all instances the reference is to "Illawarra." From 1 June 1835 to 31 March 1836 the troops in Illawarra were a detachment of the 50th (Queen's Own) Regiment of Foot. My great-grandfather James Smith was promoted from Private to Corporal on 6 April 1834. He landed in Sydney from the ship Lady Nugent on 11 April 1835, and was transferred to Illawarra on guard duty. The officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the Illawarra detachment were:

Captain H. M. Otway.  
Sgts. Wm. Walker, James Macking.  
Cpls. Alex. Manish, Wm. Robertson, James Smith.  

—C. E. H. SMITH.

[The 50th Foot, alias the "Dirty Half Hundred" became in 1881 the First Battalion of the Royal West Kent Regiment (Queen's Own). Following amalgamations in recent years, their traditions have been inherited by the Second Battalion, The Queen's Regiment.  

Though the 50th was an English regiment, there is a high proportion of Irish names, and a few Scots, in Mr. Smith's list. Some are names which have since become well-known in the district—did any of them take their discharges and settle here?

Also, was Captain Otway identical with the unfortunate Lieutenant Otway whose tragic end is related by Alexander Stewart?]

2.—The Hussar of Hussar Farm

Miss C. Keevers of Telarah, Maitland, has written seeking information on her ancestor Sergeant William Keevers, a Waterloo veteran who came to New South Wales in 1822-23 after service in the 18th Hussars and the Inniskilling Dragoons, and received a grant of 100 acres at Dapto which