

## Wellington and Uxbridge. A Famous Wounding.

Read the information and sources below and then answer the questions which follow.

Lord Uxbridge was Wellington's cavalry commander at Waterloo but the two men were said not to like each other because Uxbridge had earlier run off with Wellington's sister-in-law! Near the end of the Battle of Waterloo, Uxbridge was wounded and had to have his leg amputated. The details of his wounding, and Wellington's reaction to it, are in dispute.

### Source A

**From a letter written by Captain Thomas Wildman, 19 June 1815. He was a member of Uxbridge's staff.**

*Just as the cavalry brigade were going down to the charge, Lord Uxbridge was struck by a grapeshot on the right knee which shattered the joint all to pieces. I did not see him fall & went to the charge, but soon missed him and perceived Seymour taking him to the rear.*

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## Source B

A print of 1816 showing Uxbridge wounded



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## Source C

From a letter written by Wellington to Uxbridge on 2 July 1815.

*We are going on very well. We have shut the French into Paris. They want to make peace.*

*I am very glad to find that you are going on well.*

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## Source D

From the diary of J. W. Croker, a friend of Wellington, written on 8 December

1818. Horace Seymour was the man who carried the wounded Uxbridge from the battlefield.

*Rode with Horace Seymour. He was next to Lord Uxbridge when he was shot; he cried out: "I have got it at last." And the Duke of Wellington only replied: "No? Have you, by God?"*

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## Source E

From the journal of Charles Greville, written on 18 November 1838. Greville had been talking to Lord Fitzroy Somerset at dinner. Somerset had been wounded in the arm at Waterloo and was not on the battlefield when Uxbridge was wounded.

*When Lord Anglesey was shot he turned to the Duke and said, "By God, I have lost my leg." The Duke replied, "have you? By God."*

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## Source F

From the notes of a conversation with Wellington made by his friend, Lord Stanhope, on 12 October 1839. Wellington did not know that Stanhope kept notes.

*Lord Anglesey was struck by a grapeshot in the leg as he was riding alongside of the Duke and conversing with him...the shot passed over the Duke's horse till it reached Lord Anglesey; and the Duke, seeing him reel, supported him in his saddle and prevented his falling.*

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## Source G

A later-Victorian painting of Wellington visiting the wounded Uxbridge shortly after Waterloo. The scene is imaginary.



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## Learning Resource Questions

1. What can you learn from sources A and B about what happened to Uxbridge? [3]
2. Does source C prove that Wellington was concerned about Uxbridge? [3]
3. How similar are sources D and E? [4]
4. How reliable do you consider source F to be? [3]
5. How useful is source G as evidence about Wellington's concern for Uxbridge? [4]
6. 'Though Wellington was beside Uxbridge when he was wounded, he did not care what happened to him.' Using all the sources, how far do you agree with this statement? [8]