

St. John Baptist. Midsummer Day. Quarter Day. Cambridge Easter Term ends ^{Cold}
 Another pretty solid night, ^{no} early
 morning all evening & passed to-day.
 Managed to get pretty well fixed up.
 Mother came up in the afternoon to say
 "Goodbye." We had no officer mess. night.
 Right managed to supply Mother & I with
 some bread & jam & tea. So we had it
 together in my pretty-well-emptied
 tent. She left about a quarter to eight.
 I felt the parting very much. Dear old
 Mother. I'll never forget her parting
 words. I've tried to be a good son to her
 & she said I had succeeded. Thank God
 for that. I didn't do much at night
 after. It was bitterly cold & there seemed
 to be a hum of voices all night.
 With the transport working all night.
 All the men are excited, as we embark
 to-morrow. We found up Brattleboro
 in Mass at full strength in the afternoon
 a crowd of people were there to see
 us & to say goodbye.

Well today an extra-ordinary Reville was sounded
 by our massed buglers; ^{at 5.30 am.} It was hardly needed
 as everybody seemed ready. We fell in in full
 marching order with everything ^{at about 7.9} on. I had the roll
 called. Every man present. We formed up in Mass
 & at about 8 o'clock & moving out of Camp at
 7.15. My Gove. they looked fine. We embarked at
 Liverpool & steamed out about 9 am. Arrived ^{every red engine} ^{with their}
 Station ^{amid awful din.} & started our march to the boat. The Cerami's
 Father was waiting for me at the Station. He marched
 a bit of the way with me. That march through the
 streets. I will never forget it. The crowd simply
 mobbed us. We could only march in single file
 & then about 30 yds between platoons & even between
 sections of four. Some of the scenes were very pathetic.
 One poor old woman came with her son all the way
 to the boat. We marched along Elizabeth St then doubled
 back to Castlemagh St to shake the people off & then
 back to Elizabeth St & then across Hyde St. The
 men were simply worn out with it all. However even
 girls carried the soldiers rifles & kits etc & flags
 everywhere. I picked Glen up ~~at~~ near the Station.
 He was cut up & Father terribly. Mother was waiting
 near the wharf for me. I just had time to kiss her.
 We formed up on the wharf at Wolloombroo Bay.
 I called the roll. Every man present & correct
 they behaved splendidly. We were joined onto the Cerami lying
 in Neutral Bay. Everything was topnotch. At last we got into our right
 quarters & the inspection was made by the D. Board. Capt. Lloyd was
 with him & shook heads. We got sent 'C' Lunch for the men at about
 4.30 pm. I had nothing to eat till 7.30 (off mess) Just as I was getting the
 men fixed our boat gave a sneeze & something seemed to tell me we were off.
 Everybody rushed on deck & lived rigging etc. I ~~for~~ felt sure to find a
 boat alongside & saw Father & Mother on board. I could just hear
 their voices. We swung round & got under weigh at 4.45. We
 cleared the Hecks at about 5.45. My Wont seeing the people gave
 me a surprise. I could see them plainly through my glasses & called
 out to them. They saw me & heard me, I think. We sailed due South so
 we are off ^{off} Melbourne. It was raining but cleared off a temper
 and spang up & we sailed fair into it. The spray got a
 foot away before they knew where they were. The boat is remarkably
 steady. She's a fine vessel. The sea is pretty fine but it's all
 wrong. The 18" 19" some are. as c, L.A. & overboard would be 2.700

at sea. It was beautiful night last night. The moon was
 shining brightly just like day. The wind still continues
 very strong. we are still going south. We passed Cabo
 in the morning & expect to reach Wilsons Prom^{nt} about
 10 to night. I slept well last night after a hot
 salt water bath. Roused up about 6.30. I was up fairly
 early. Our Men is fairly decent. Nice food. I am satisfied
 with Ross, Atherton etc. We got paid at night for the
 nice days from the 15th. I have been feeling a bit
 squemish all day but got a bit better towards evening
 I haven't missed a meal yet. About four o'clock off
 the Coast we began to pitch a bit, but not much. A
 good many men are seasick. I wrote to Mother to-day
 & as there is a road going ashore at Incecliffe Vic
 to-morrow. We kept running into showers all day.
 The spray keeps coming over the bows. The men seem
 quite settled down to their new life. Koebach had to
 go to Hospital with a bad cold. There was no work much
 done to-day owing to the bad weather. I have a cabin
 with ~~to~~ with Tubber, Robinson & McNeill. The food is good
 We are perfectly content. No room for anything much.
 Passed three boats. We are making about 12 knots.
 I stayed on deck pretty well all day enjoying it
 & also because I didn't feel so sick there. The men
 down below seem pretty happy playing
 cards & reading a quito etc. There was a loud ^{gale} when
 some porpoises started playing around the bows.
 We lost sight of land. The sea was beautiful at
 night & the wind was not quite so bad. It was a
 beautiful clear night, the moon shining brightly
 It seems hard to believe sometimes that we is "at sea"
 @ Feeling very squemish but slept well.
 Had quite a lot of crossing letters. Major McPherson was
 off to the head camp. There was a messenger mail
 They were working till all hours. I wrote home with
 a keepsake, photo & message to the Baker
 We were paid to night from the 15 to 24. 9 days.
 Not L.S. home.

At Sea

○ 4h 27m A.M. (Greenwich)

Up at about 8 this morning, feeling fairly fit. Had breakfast almost immediately. Very windy today. Passed W Asw's Point at about 9.30 am. & at 11.30 am we put the mails; Capt & Bilton & a few others off off into Suceaduff, via. The boat "Victoria" picking them up. Just missed a rough 10h owing to feeling queer below. Spent most of day on boat deck, which is steady although very flowy. The wind played a regular tune on the ropes there. Up to P^t Phillip we had it pretty rough, a head wind all the way, with the spray coming over a lot, but we slowed down outside the NP heeds & it was rather calmer; at about 3.30 pm we struck it very heavy, the boat creaking like a live thing. Wind & spray very heavy. Balloon caps on the order of the day as a lot of the men's hats & FD caps got blown overboard. The sun shines out occasionally, but the wind is very keen. Personally gum boots, balloon cap, overcoat, muffer & Frang cap I find the best. We have had to keep putting our watches back since leaving Sydney. 20 minutes up to now. At 4^h 30 pm the waves kept flying over her bows pretty solid. She seems to be making ~~plough~~ ^{plough} ~~the~~ ^{due} west now, and still rattle. I have been to visit the crew in their quarters at frequent intervals during the day. They seem all happy but hungry. We have two 4. of guns in the stern. We must have about 2,700 men on board. 18th, 19th, Kempfsmith, Hull & Crsc. Some very heavy seas were struck to night. She absolutely shuddered & stopped.

4 p.m. she is pitching a good deal.

Quarter Sessions Week

At Sea

Had a bad night last night. Very sick. We have run into pretty stormy weather this week-end. The waves are running pretty high & occasionally dashing over the bow. There is still a regular gale on, but not quite as bad as yesterday. The waves are bigger though & the boat is rocking a lot. At about 11 we struck a rain squall. It only lasted about 10 mins ^{luckily}. I managed to struggle up to the boat deck now & again & visited the men three times this morning. A good many of them are squeamish. Our Dr is busy in Hospital with needles. There were a good many empty seats at ~~the~~ lunch today. I for I haven't missed a meal, but I feel "rotten". None of us seem to be able to settle down. We are in the Austral Bight, I hear today, but we seem to be sailing on a different course to the usual steamer. Land nowhere in sight today.

We held a rifle cleaning party this morning in the ^{men's} quarters.

Afternoon

Fallen went but I was too unwell to attend. I called down at midday & the men seemed all pretty happy, playing games (draughts etc). Betty cold today. Visited the men again at about 5.30 to 6. hrs & then went to bed. Couldn't eat any dinner. Slept well.

at sea

Still dirty weather & very squally still
 Slept well last night but woke up feeling
 pretty squiffy. Managed to get dressed &
 crawl up to boat deck, & then visited the
 men at their breakfast at about 7.30 a.m.
 They seemed contented. No complaints. A good
 many absent, sick. Breakfast at eight. Eat
 a little. Sea rough this morning. Boat
 pitching a lot. Spray dashing over bow cabin-
 wardly & occasionally a big wave. Rain squalls
 prevalent. We are fairly into the Aust. High
 now about 150 miles from land. Wind strong on
~~the~~ deck now. One can see a squall coming across
 the water. The ~~weather~~ ^{weather} is still too bad to hold
 any courses. Fall in this morning. Rifle
 inspection. General inspection about 11 o'clock.
 Everything O.K. The weather improved slightly
 at noon, the sun coming out. We all took
 advantage of it. During the afternoon the
 wind moderated a bit. Fall in went at 2 p.m.
 but it came on to rain again so we were
 dismissed. I took a glass of sea water to day
 & it seemed to fix me as I felt much better
 after & enjoyed my dinner. Hall is still
 sick, Surf, Falconer, & P. Cuthbert also are still
 sea-sick. Rockwell was kicked out of Hospital
 to-day also but he is still bed, poor chap.
 After visiting the boys at their tea I had a
 game of cards. At Mess we started lectures
 going, wauluck. After Mess a sing song
 myself included. The temperature seems
 to be rising slowly. Every day we have to
 put our watches back about 26 mins.
 A regular library of books about the present
 War are being given to each officer to study.
 They look rather interesting. Managed
 to use the my trunk, also the Comfits & a
 box to-day.

at sea

Still driving along, no land visible & no boat sighted since leaving Pt Phillip Heads. Sea & wind moderate & slightly. Men & happy to-day. Headies have broken out. ^{2nd} Roberts is now down to it. We held a morning parade & carried on with physical training from 9.30 to 11.30. In the afternoon I taught the platoon on their mess deck, the first two circles of semaphore signalling. A big sea came in & went all over me. Huge yokes. They like the signalling anything new they like (frankly) Nall & C. Solomon. Move on still pretty much. Well; Roberts have had colds. The sea got up also the next at nightfall & the boat got the back rock in she has advanced yet. In the middle of the night she shipped a huge sea, which almost flooded out some of the decks. Col. Chapman lectured us, after Mess, on Outposts. The Our tank played during dinner & played well. "This is the top" & "Dreaming" being favorite. We have the toast of "The King" now at dinner; the band playing the National Anthem. Witnessed a very interesting boxing bout between Joth & Simpson on the boat deck into a Modicum affair. Played cards all the evening, the boat rocking a lot & very watery on deck. Got to bed about 11^h after a drink. The men are much better fed now, as everything has been adjusted. The food is really fine. Captain ^{7th} Stubbs is very ill, poor chap. Got some of active service books to-day. They seem rather interesting, especially the notes from the front. He had to imagine at times, that we are on a boat, especially in the Officers Mess. Most of us find sea voyaging rather monotonous. Believe we have passed Albany to-day.

Dominion Day, Canada

At Sea

Had to turn out to early morning parade this morning at 6.30 a.m. General fatigue & roll call was all that was done. A fair. Afterwards went up on boat deck & found a very heavy long swell on, the wind very mild & not at all cold. The boat is going very slowly this morning owing to the heavy seas she stepped last night about 2 a.m. (The last two days I have not worn overcoat or Balaclava.) If she drives quietly through the water, she skips the seas all the time, with this heavy swell. By 9 a.m. she is rocking (9 a.m.). The sea came right on the main deck, so the lads tell me, last night & washed all those sleeping there, right out. A lot of the men prefer to sleep on deck owing to the stuffy troop-decks, it was hard luck for them as they sleep right on the boats. I slept through it all. She was making about 18 knots, but had to slow down today N.W. this morning. Moon shining brightly when I got up. Saw moon. Fair day. Physical training & morning parade, and the medicine balls, the men enjoyed it. At noon today we sighted land again for first time ^{on short R} somewhere about Albany, W.A. I think. Great excitement. We didn't stop though, unluck. Passed Pt O Cook at dusk, more excitement. The boat is pitching & rolling a lot this evening. Don't feel too strong in it. Afternoon parade completed from Alphabet & then got Dr Roberts to read some of "What I say, soldier" to us all. C. L. Thomas, ^{Mr} Tatham, Noll & Cuthbert still pretty sea sick. No truck a rain squall to night. The temperature was quite warm this morning but it has dropped a lot this evening. Major M. P. Heron gave us a lecture this evening on "Outposts" very kind to-night. The men seem to be getting very slack on it & lazy. It to be expected. We got down to land to-night about a few miles off I think.

At Sea

Slept well last night. Pretty rough during the night. It always gets rougher at night on account of its being harder to keep vessel up into them. No land visible. Have said Goodbye to Australia perhaps for ever (who knows). Very choppy sea ~~today~~ a sea of white tops ^{in fact} ~~to wave~~. Commenced with physical leaving Surg. Welsh in charge, all officers had to be vaccinated & inoculated. I only required vaccinating again. Doyle got his commission today & is an our boy strong the now in place of old Andy. After dinner I had to get out some of the comforts for goats. Capt. Walden & I went to work & got all the writing paper & envelopes out, also shaving soap. Capt. Fitzpatrick gave a lecture to the log on Outposts as it got very rough again ~~later~~ ^{the} afternoon. I watched some very interesting boxing bouts amongst the officers on our boat deck. They were very funny. ~~What a~~ ^{There are} generally a couple of boobies (a sea bird bigger than the gull with wings like a monoplane) hovering about the boat. They never seem to move their wings, yet in the strongest wind they climb high up against it with ease. A monoplane is exactly similar. Saw the most glorious rainbow yesterday in fact have seen several. They seem to go right along the wake. Most exquisite colours. What a chance for colour photography. After dinner we gave a concert to the officers of the ship. O'Donnell made a grand hit. He's good. I sang "When My Career's over My Ngin also sang. The boat struck the worst night it had yet. The chief Engineer invited four of us down to his cabin. He has a fine apartment. Heard some very interesting facts about the War ^{How little we know!} from him. He said this voyage is the worst, as regards continuous bad weather, he's experienced for 10 years. The boat nearly stove in her head during the night. The boat deck was even wet with spray. Read an interesting book on "Future". It is getting slightly warmer. Honoured Capt. Walden's grandsons for the platoon.

184
3 July

3 Saturday [184-181]

[7th Month] 1915

Did not get up to breakfast morning parade. Felt
pretty ^{unwell} whether it was the last night, seasickness
or sea sickness I don't know. We had the longest
night yet. The stopped some big seas. She is
driving along very slowly to-day. White sea.
Sun out but big roll on. The boat pitching &
rolling unmercifully. It takes a pretty bad
sea to shift this boat. She is such a whopper.
We had rifle inspection & inspection this
morning. I took charge. Doyle joined
us to-day & took charge of 15th Platoon. After
parade on boat deck. Watched single stick
Col. Rolfe officiating. No parade this afternoon.
Ment to sew & mend. Terribly rocky this after-
noon. Made up notes, wrote letters etc.
After dinner, played cards till bed time.
Lubbers came back from Hospital yester-
day & joins us to night. Terribly roll on
to night. Tack by roll coupled with the
sound of smashed crockery. Still feel
unwell.

(5h 51m A.M. (Greenwich). Declaration of American Independence

Didn't get up this morning till about 12.
~~2~~² a.m. Felt very crook. Heard the church
 parade singing the old hymns & felt
 very homesick. A fairly decent day at last
 sun shining warmly but a big roll on
 heavy swell, no white horses though in
 the morning. Heard a chap in the Surgeon's
 Mess playing the piano beautifully from
 La Boheme, Butterfly to ragtime. Enjoyed
 it. Sgt. Jack, I hear, visited the men at their
 lunch. Root Park, they seemed happy in
 it. After lunch the boat played. The boat
 put the pace on to-day, hear we are two
 days behind time, owing to ^{the} head winds
 so stiff here to. Got my wool cloxette
 I feel like a convict. Went in ^{to} deck &
 walked about for exercise. I took in
 Blayney at single sticks. Neither
 of us is much good. After tea
 went to bed early. This trip is getting
 monotonous. I don't like the sea much
 I'm afraid. I rest a bit yesterday. Very
 quiet to-day. A man died & was buried
 at 8 p.m. I didn't see it. His body was
 dropped into the ocean, per chap. The usual
 sea funeral. Roberts is very ill.

186
5 July

5 Monday [186-179]

[7th Month] 1915

Dividends due at Bank

I alternate of the Day to-day so had to be up early. Found a calm sea which got calmer during the day, the sea just like crossing the Heats on the way to Manly. After breakfast we had a general parade in full marching order, lining the decks so as to know when to go in case we have a warship or a boat drill. The band played patriotic & National Air themes the whole time. After being marched backwards & forward a number of times, we found a resting place & were then dismissed. I went round the Decks at lunch today in my capacity as O.O. The food the warden is very good indeed, cheese, fruits, especially ^{fruit} they had baked rabbit for lunch. After lunch we had a medical inspection, all still not too good, nor Mills. I gave them a syringe while working. I also took a late afternoon tea on Bass and cheese. The tray drink on board is very good & much cheaper than in Australia. Nothing but sea, sea, sea the days. Getting warmer each day. The boat simply tore through the water to-day. Very dull to-day. I feel very queer with again to-day. Must be vaccination. Got some snap shots this morning. Saw a very interesting boxing bout between our drummer & another member of our Coy. Also Ngui met a Sgt. Maclester on back deck. An evening has been put over the main deck. A concert was held in the evening, the 1st band playing. And a very fine concert too. It was held in the well deck I discover I have some excellent artists in my platoon. Ketchikan & Aaron concision. There is a strong wind blowing from behind us (for the first time) - Our smoke goes ahead of us. We hardly feel it on board.

Given by the 1st Coy
1915

^{was the evening}
 Slept on the Cook deck last night. A good many others
 went up as well. It wasn't too after a stoppy cabin
 but it come on to rain & the wind blew it in on me
 waking myself & Ross up. We moved our bunks.
 Woke up to a dull morning at reveille. Had a
 bath with McVinn, stopped a beaut on the nose. Had
 a bath & a shave & got dressed for breakfast. Its
 marvellous how ingenious these chaps are at smuggling
 jets on board. I saw a porcupine last night &
 I hear "Meek" our Reg. dog is also aboard. One
 dog has already been thrown overboard. Not too
 well this morning again. Right off my bunk
 never seem to enjoy a meal now. Brob is rolling
 a bit to-day. Had a rifle inspection in the
 morning & then had lectures. Capt Fitzpatrick
 gave us a lecture on Outposts again. After lunch
 we carried on with rifle exercises, I had to
 attend the funeral of one of our "C" boys men.
 This is the second man, who has died of men-
 -ingitis. It was very solemn & sad. But
 it is the sort of thing I expect we will see a lot of,
 soon. At night after Mass after Major M. H. H. H.,
 19th gave us a lecture on B.A. Attack. Big
 my bed up to Cook deck & spent a troubled night.
 It is getting much warmer now & the boat put
 on the pace yesterday. The engines were stopped
 for about 10 mins. for the burial. This sea trip is
 getting a little monotonous. Nothing but sea, sea, sea
 from morning till night, not even a boat or
 proposal to relieve the monotony. The wind is
 still following us & is pretty easy going, a bit of
 a dip & a roll occasionally. Noll still a bit sick.
 The 18th plays at Mass & well too. Had a box to-day
 got my nose bleed as usual. It is too tender for boxing.
 I wonder how the War is going now. At the funeral.

Capt Walden sent service, a squad gave three volleys
 with bugle call & then a lot of all buglers gave
 the "Last Post".

At sea still
Indian Ocean
still

Woke up to a wet morning. Rain started last night & kept on pretty well all day. I'm alright on deck with my sleeping bag on shelter. Got up to Kigby's rudeness & had a wash after a bad night. The chaps got a bit during the night. Tried to stop them of course got full benefit. After breakfast, we went on to boat drill, the man putting a tape tells them Capt Fitzpatrick gave us a lecture on Wounds, how to dress them. It was very good too. Had a shampoo & then got ready for lunch. After lunch it turned out swelteringly hot & rained like fury at about five the rain cleared off & a head wind, slightly on our starboard sprang up. It turned out a beautiful evening & the sun sank in a blaze of glory. Glorious colouring. Saw the first flying fish to-day. They seem to fly like swallows, just clear of the water. Saw a lot about 3 o'clock in a heavy smell making breeze, continues. Afternoon parade Capt Fitzpatrick finished his lecture & also gave demonstration on resuscitation from gas poisoning. Had lecture after dinner on Outposts our usual Coy pow-wow. The men are getting very interested in their work & I have supplied them with some of my teach books. Crazy particularly. The men are looking much happier & healthier. I gave them a short talk on Scouting. Put on drill jacket for first time for Mess. A concert is on to-night by 19th B.M.V. Couldn't attend. We seem to have struck the tail end of a monsoon. The wind seems to be getting now and winter. Very hard to-night. The work is not a bit cold. Got dummy cartridges for men yesterday. Must get them on to it. Especially new men. Had some fine drinks to night. The sun was blazing when it struck me

Woke up to a beautiful day, blowing
 a bit from our port side. It freshened up
 a lot during the morning. The sun is out
 properly now & the sea lovely blue. There
 is a fair swell on. The flying fish are
 on the go properly now. They fly like
 swallows, some of them go about 150 yds.
 Put on my drills to-day & thinner undershirts.
 Went to the early morning, 10 o'clock. After breakfast
 had some physical training in the middle
 of which, the alarm ^(five) went. We were up on
 deck in about 4 mins, with our life belts.
 They did it splendidly (the 18th). After the band
 had played us a few pretty tunes we des-
 cended to our work decks & carried on with
 our work. I showed them some of the Japanese
 exercises. It made them work alright.
 Afternoon. We went on to bayonet fighting, ^{on deck} the
 trouble was though the decks are so overcrowded
 its very hard to carry on. At 3 o'clock we went
 down below & went on to Musketry, using
 dummy cartridges. I put the new men on
 to it too. I supervised & managed to get in a
 short lecture after dismissal to a few
 earnest ones, on sea file sketching &
 Coy in Attack. Had some afternoon tea &
 seeing everybody rushing up to the boat
 deck with field glasses, found them &
 found the 4. 7 gun ^{new} was quite prohibiting.
 They only fired three shots at a target they
 dropped over, two were good. I got a good view
 right on top of the roof of the 'bridge' (not a word)
 a King ship's officer allowed me. It looked a
 long way to the water. By four the shell made a
 fearful splash in the water. It was lovely afternoon
 calm with a nice breeze. Flying fish in plenty. A lot of the officers
 turned up for mess in whites & looked fine. One Meyer amongst them
 nearly 19th the other. I had to give a lecture to Coy officers on Coy in Attack
 officers - a beautiful dark night, calm breeze. Men sleeping on deck & Messes
 on boat deck

Took a few maps & put almost myself again
 But about 10 o'clock

190
9 July

9 Friday [190-175]

[7th Month] 1915

At Sea
Shall
Indian Ocean

Fire Insurances expire

Subalson of the Day. Very calm to-day & very warm indeed, ^(a sweltering heat) hardly a cloud in the sky. all day. Sea like a mill pond. Took a few snap shots during the day. The other ones turned out fine, developed by Pte Ferguson. Will have to wait till we reach Cairo to print them though. No land in sight yet since leaving Fremantle. By the stars, which I saw through window, we are not in a line yet south of India, we seem to have bent over towards China. Visited the men at breakfast & dinner. Had a bit of a tussle with "B" boy. We got up a party headed by James ^(V. Officer) & visited the engine room, which the chief very kindly showed us over. There was one room, the cooling room, so cold that the whole of the interior was covered in snow & ice, even the thermometers were covered over with it. Snow used to seem so funny here in this heat. The engines are a marvel, but in too. The chief gave us a very interesting lecture about them. After lunch, as I had no men to drill, I started to learn the Morse code & studied all the afternoon & then had a constitutional with Capt. Ross. Had a thankful cold salt water bath this morning. At night the 18th Battery gave a deck court & boxing contest. It wasn't bad. Lieut O'Donnell has a box foot & so has 7th Lieutenant, both being the Hospital. All the lights of the ship are covered pretty well with a few burnings & showing out (I may be wrong here) but she doesn't seem to show any colour lights. Nearly all the officers are now sleeping on deck. It is a case now of cold drinks. The men on the whole get good food, but not a lot. Heard a beautiful gramophone on the Sergeant's end of deck. Courses in Psychology quite beautiful.

At sea
Indian
ocean

Oxford Trinity Term ends

Woke up early this morning, with Revelli at 6 a.m. Got the men on to a few more physical. After breakfast, as most of men had been on guard yesterday, + were resting I got some of 13 planked on to me. I gave them a lecture on Coy in Attacks + then went on deck for Signalling + Physical Training. Dismissed them at 11.15 + then climbed up to boat deck, had a read, took a few snops of the machine gun + fell asleep + washed for lice. A fairly dull day to-day, mist + pretty warm. The sea like a mill pond. Hundreds of flying fish about + bigger. Had a little physical letter from Col. Kotke this morning, before breakfast. Still no land. Had a read on boat deck, as there was no parade, except sew + mend. It was very warm to-day. There is a wild rumour that we are going to Aden on the 15, transfer + then go back to India (I wonder how true.) Am trying to pick up Morse. At dinner a lot of the chaps now turn up in white deck (Witton's report). Everybody seems to be busy now with lectures. All the Coy's split into groups. Got Skilton's photos this morning, they were very well developed. It's very funny to look round + see everybody with their hair close cropped, even the Padre (Chaplain Waller). Roberts is about today but doesn't look too well yet. The trouble on parade is to get deck space. Righty looks after me like a Father, he's very good. Got my drill coat washed to-day. It looks fine. Had a good read to night + got to bed fairly early. Last night it came on to rain slightly, great fun among those sleeping outside the awning on boat deck, shouting + singing all over the place.

192
11 July

11 Sunday—6 aft Trin [192-173]

[7th Month] 1915

Very hot to-day. Sweltering & muggy
Went on early morning, but only carried
out signalling for a few minutes
& then dismissed. Had a read & then
breakfast. Church parade at 11 a.m.,
Cap. ~~W. Adams~~ taking it. He spoke
very well. Had a bath & then lunch.
We will cross the line sometime
to-night. Father Neptune will come
aboard to-morrow. Saw electric light
in the water last night, probably phosphores-
cence. The sea like a mill pond to-day.
Spent afternoon writing home etc.
Crossed the line at 10.40 p.m. Father
Neptune arrived on board accompanied
by his satellites. Received a notice
to attend court (a fake). He was
accompanied by hideous music &
holts court to-morrow. Had a yarn
to the wireless operators also in afternoon.
Got some very interesting news there.
The Chief Operator has had some very
exciting experiences at the start of the
War, escaping German cruisers.

The boatmen were even hearing to erect dummy guns.
The other boy was telling me about Non,
he had a friend wounded there. He said
the Germans came shoulder to shoulder
The British were extremely about 10 p.m.
& blowing away for all they were worth.
Such marvellous faith did the Belgians
have in the British that they used to crawl
into our trenches during a battle & had to
be ejected finally. Of course some were killed

1915 [31 Days]

12 Monday [193-172]

193
July 12

● 9h 31m A.M. (Greenwich)

Was not an early morning, new arrange-
ment. Came on to rain last night,
great movement amongst the sleepers on
decks. I am alright with my sleeping bag.
Very dull all day, sea calm, but a
rain storm came on about 5 o'clock & the
sea came up a bit. King Neptune
fell very all day pretty well. I fortun-
ately or unfortunately rather managed to
get influenza & felt very "off". They
tried to get me a couple of beans, but
I managed to get out of it. Nearly all
the officers were sound by the men, which
in my opinion is not too good for discipline.
I got a few snaps of them at work.
I visited my team for the day but
they didn't come till the afternoon after.
I had seen the doctor, who advised me
to keep out of it. Poor Sergeant Valen
is still very ill, doubt pneumonia, only
a boy too. He was in No. 17 School with
me & came top of the School, but he was
too young to get a commission with the R.F.F.
so came as a Sergeant. Had Musketry in
the afternoon while the 19th were going through
Father Neptune's court, felt very nice, so
retired to my cabin. Came up to hear a
lecture by Col. Kothem "First Aid". It
was very good too. After dinner we had
a lecture by Doyle on Advanced work.
Poor old Captain Felphobich is also now
in Hospital, pretty sick too. Also Capt.
Ross & Atkinson. A bit cooler by night.
The chap who dressed up as Father Neptune's
wife, was splendid & looked a girl to a
T. As I wish this the Regia is working
"Little Guy Home".

194
13 July

13 Tuesday [194-171]

[7th Month] 1915

Ramadan (Turkish Lent) begins

At Sea
Anzhan Sea
(Helium).

Very seedy to-day think I am contracting measles. In the morning had gave them a lecture on First Aid, then Webster to give a lecture on Lay in Attacks. At lunch time ^{one of} the Drs. saw me lying down, looking pretty sick so he bundled me off to the Hospital. Found Capt Fitzpatrick there, also Laupson, Harrison, Lohr. Poor de Fitz is very ill. High temperature. In the afternoon as we were lying there the machine gun got to work from the boat deck. It made a great noise like a terribly loud ^{rapid} knocking at a door. They were firing at a kite a kites to the boat. They got 60 hits out of 460 shots which wasn't bad, considering the wind had risen to a gale almost & the boat was rocking. I read & slept all day & got doped at intervals.

They passed me out to-day from Hospital, is my temperature was normal, but I still felt pretty weak. Swollen throat & head & feeling pretty weak. I went up to the boat deck & had a lie down. The sea is very ~~swollen~~ choppy & during the day it rose a lot, the wind getting very strong almost a gale at night. The spray coming right over & the boat rocking & rolling a lot. I turned up to parade in the afternoon. I got them practising the Schaffer method of resuscitation & gave them a lecture on Coy in Defence; Sgt. Webster then took some of the men & took them in rapid loading & firing. (They still want plenty of practice in this). Major McDonnell gave the officers a lecture on Coy in Defence in the afternoon. After dinner, at which by the way, we drank the President of France's health, it being his ~~the~~ birthday, & gave them three cheers. Major McPherson gave us (B Coy's officers) a lecture on Coy in Defence in detail. We passed a boat about 9 to-night. Great excitement. It's the first one we have sighted since leaving Auckland (to my knowledge). It is very rough to-night, the wind is ~~almost~~ rising to a gale, the boat is rolling & pitching badly. I find it hard to write. We ought to reach Auckland tomorrow night or Friday morning. We have struck a monsoon (south-east) on our port side & I got an awful ducking to-day coming from "C" boat deck, had to change. Poulak Fily is still pretty sick. Bryden now has recovered from our take-I shall think I'm getting them

196
15 July

15 Thursday [196-169]

[7th Month] 1915

at Sea
July of Aden

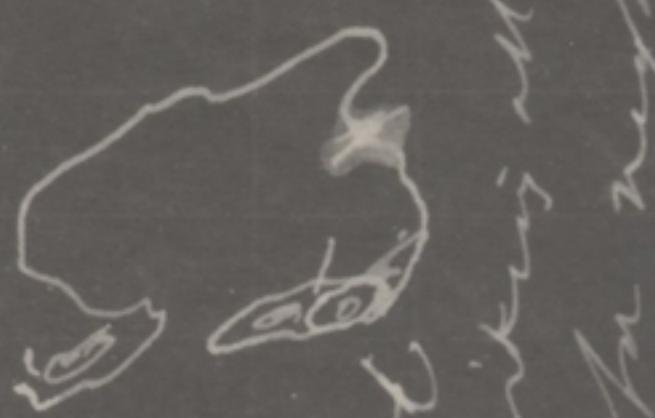
Very blowy during the night but slept on
 foredeck, not with standing spray. All night
 every half hour, so the 3rd officer told me they
 were sounding, trying to pick a book up.
 They had an anxious night on the Bridge
 owing to the haze & south-west monsoon
 blowing all night. They were afraid we
 might get driven on to Lokotra Island
 as ~~that~~ we were passing between it & the African
 Coast. General fatigue on early morning
 came in sight of African coast at 8
 a.m. ^{sun} First land nice Acacia. Every
 body out with glasses. We were about 12
 miles out. The sea was very choppy
 & heavy wind blowing but at about
 10 the wind had dropped & the sea was
 as calm as millpond. Some grasshoppers
 came aboard even & a lot of sea birds were
 seen. It is a very forbidding coast, snow
 barren looking. We passed round
 Cape Guardouf into the Gulf of Aden
 during the afternoon & the land soon
 dropped out of sight again. A lead
 breeze blew while we were near it though
 one could smell the lead in it, warm &
 pleasant. It got frightfully hot during
 the day & is still sweltering. At night
 though a stiff breeze is blowing again
 from ahead. We had some Muckoby
 in the morning & I gave them a lecture on
 Coy in Dejean. In the afternoon we had
 a washing day as it was so hot & I gave
 lectures to our Coms in Sergeants Mess on
 Coy in Attack. I got a change sent over
 to a Mock Court Marshal. I am one of the
 victims. It is to be held to-morrow
 night at 8.30. ^{Mr} Ross & Lodge are the 2 others.
 Thought to be good. I got it for dodging King
 Nephew. We are now heading for Aden (8 hrs).

Mr Muckoby is in Hospital. I don't feel quite myself yet. Had a
 cold bath in the afternoon.

Gulf of Aden.

Had a pretty rough night, ^{Very hot & muggy too} Very Windy. Very hot during the day, a moist sweltering heat. No parades during the day, just a rifle inspection & in the afternoon pay for the men. Poor Lieut. Valder died this afternoon & was buried at 8 o'clock, poor chap. We sighted the outside Heads of Aden at about 11.40 & at twelve we were right on to them. A cruiser was hovering about in the distance, just discernible with the naked eye. Aden is very hilly & rocky, with the slightest trace of vegetation. I shouldn't care to live there. It is terribly hot & arid & barren there. Purely a garrison town. The town itself is enclosed in a bay. There were a number of vessels in the bay. We circled round for a hour two hours, while they signalled our orders to us. Got a few ropes, but it was very hazy. We saw a couple of natives in canoes, rowing towards Aden. We left it behind at about 2 o'clock, ^(we are evidently going through to Suez) At about 9 o'clock we passed the Island of Perim in the Straits of Bab el Mandeb. They have a ~~seacoast~~ ^{light house} on it. At the time of writing 9.30 hrs. we are passing through the straits into the Red Sea. We are running into a ^{strong} head wind & it is slightly cooler but very moist indoors. At 8.30 hrs. Major Lane gave a lecture on Rearguards. Captain Ross is again in hospital with a temperature & it will fall & hurt his leg & had to go in. The Court Marshal is postponed indefinitely in account of poor Valder's death. Our band played splendidly to-night, all the old waltzes, they played "Othello", it made me feel very sad & think of the old water, everything seems to have got so rough at hand. We saw some peculiar fish at Aden & also got some news from the Droms

No meals with either
mushack.



At Aden we the wind had a most peculiar smell, blowing from the land mainly off the Desert. Very hot too drinking all day. Had a nice sleep in afternoon & most of the night.

Nothing much though. We passed quite a number of boats during the day. We haven't seen our destination yet. Evenings were only with glass low.

198
17 July

17 Saturday [198-167]

[7th Month] 1915

Red Sea Pretty warm during the night & heavy. Woke up at 5.30. Up at 6 a.m. Orderly Office today. We passed a few islands, just bare rocks stuck in the water, on our starboard. It just struck me to-day that I haven't seen a tree or green stuff since leaving Sydney. The rocks or islands were very barren. We passed through the straits during the night. Saw large schools of dolphins during the day. We also found numbers of boats, a couple signalling to us & making us look & asking a few news news. It is very warm today but a sharp head wind is blowing all day & just saves us. It is nothing but drink, drink all day, mostly lemon or lime juice (which is issued to the men). The wind though warmish keeps us cooler. I have never perspired so much in all my life. There is an epidemic of measles on board going through the officers. ^{got together to} The platoon up under the non-coms ~~also~~ so that they could lecture to their own men. Gave a short lecture to non-coms in Mess hall in afternoon as there was no parade. The Colonel gave us a pow-wow at 8 p.m. Capt J. ^{is} about to-day for a while. Saw a marvellous cloud effect to-night at sunset, really beautiful. We are fully in the Red Sea now but no land visible on either side. The sunset was fine to-night, the sun pure gold & a most peculiar coloured sky. Got my head about to-night to be in fashion. Had a pretty busy day.

Barke gave me last look of my hair as kept ^{now} when ~~is~~ from a few distance, seems to be cluster of flat topped buildings, with tops close in, some of the houses red tiled. On the heads there seem to be forts & mounds like a regular fortification. The ~~night~~ ^{days} are very busy.

A fine day to-day. Very warm but a cool breeze saves our lives. It's marvellous how cool it has been so far, particularly as we are in the Red Sea. We passed a number of boats during the day. Some of them signalled to us + we ask the war news. The British ships all dip their flags. The sea was like a mill pond all day. The Church service was held at 4 pm. I read + slept all day. No land visible all day. At night we had the No. 1 Court Martial on myself. I reckon I won my case easily but was found guilty + sentenced to drinks for the court + put under the hose, but the best part was reserved on account of distressed circumstances of my "wife". It was very ludicrous (at least some of it). The night is perfect to-night with the moon shining on the water. There is hardly a cloud visible in the sky even. Our poor steward died ^{very suddenly} last night with heat apoplexy, he had consumption so retired out very quickly. Capt. Ross is still pretty sick, measles, I think. We all had our glasses out ~~last~~ all day, gazing at every boat intently. There seems to be a lot of traffic through here. It bucks the wind to see a boat occasionally. Had a nice bath this afternoon. Have a lot of heat spots on me to-day. We still have the head wind but it is gradually subsiding.

200
19 July

19 Monday [200-165]

[7th Month] 1915

9h 9m P.M. (Greenwich)

~~Red Sea~~
July of July

Woke up very early this morning with bad
neuralgia or rheumatism. Did not go on
early morning. After breakfast the Colonel
had a talk with us about dismounting. He
picked up the platoon about 10.30 am & found
them all busy, gave them a lecture about
saluting. Pretty warm to-day, sunny,
sea beautiful colour, blue, & not a ripple.
We passed into the Gulf of Suez during
the afternoon, land visible on our port side
at 2 pm & still visible at nightfall. My
first glimpse of the land of the Pharoahs
came as rather a surprise. I expected to see a
flat land, very sandy, but it seems quite
mountainous near the coast. We passed two
small islands quite close, one with a light house
on Capt. Fitzpatrick is about here to-day.
In the afternoon split platoon up under section
cars for Mersa Matruh till 3 pm, then gave them
all a lecture on Reports & Field Sketching.
The new men are coming in well. Got a list
of shortages. Rigby printed a lot of photos
for me to-day very well indeed too. After
parade went on deck & watched the efforts
to fly a kite. Quite a breeze sprang
up at night & perfectly cool. The new moon
the luck cruise had coming through the
Red Sea. It is a perfect night with
moon shining over the water. It's a treat
to stand on boat deck & look out at the
scene. Major W. Pheasant is not too well
to-day & touch of malaria I think. Have
had to print unaccountable photos, they are so
good, far more interesting. Got to bed fairly
early. Mr. Willie came down to-day for a
while, he still looks ill.

Capt. Ross 19th was put to
to-day, medals & J. Scott as this
arrangement

The Holium family, they sleep or hid any heavy work
around Lager with them or at jobs with my

Woke up at about 5.45 a.m with the sun shining on
my face, so got up & found the land quite
close on port (left) side & converging in on the
starboard, so knew we must be near Suez, after getting
men on parade at 6.30, rifle cleaning & general fatigue
got glasses to go. Reached Suez at about 7.45
& dropped anchor. Suez seems to be divided into two
parts by a narrow sandy strip or isthmus, along
which a train runs. Behind strip the canal is, as
per rough sketch. X is main part & round it the canal
starts, a warship (mine) was off the port.
On both sides it is rather hilly back from the
shore of either side a sandstone ^{from yellow to} reddish-yellow
in colour. It was most picturesque scene (about
mid day), with all the shipping anchored about
& the hawkers in their booths about the boat,
clad in their flowing & many coloured clothes.
They insisted the boat, in spite of the water
police trying to hunt them & we witnessed

some very funny scenes, the men bargaining with them over
their wares & pulling their legs & shying bread & sending
other things at them. Bought some postcards from them
not bad. Had a few visitors & one lady & her children came
along side in a launch, amid others, she looked very nice
& a sight for our eyes. She is evidently wife of the Canal de
Suez official. In the morning had no parade, in afternoon gave
men their black kit bags. Some of the officers went ashore in
the afternoon, the two R's of course, blocking me. Captain
(Snowy) Clayton came on board. He was wounded at the
landing at the Daranelles & is now discharging ^{on the staff} duties.
There is a great crowd round him at present listening
to his adventures. He looks well. We are to go on to
Alexandria & disembark there & then on to ^{Heliopolis} Cairo by rail.
Our ^{of 20 men} anchor party under Capt W. Keen went to-day & by rail.
It is a beautiful night for night with all the lights on shore
& cool wind. The men are having a concert to night. My eyes
are ^{getting} sore. Fleets are starting to arrive. Ader was attacked just
before we reached it & there are snipers all along the canal, so we
took on a load of sandbags & will go through tomorrow.

The boys were all snoring & were mostly asleep.

P. 1. At 4.15 am as the boat started off for the canal. It was quite cold, I had to get my overcoat. Everybody up. We swung into the canal at about 5.15 am. The trip through the Canal was one of the most interesting of my life. I discovered I was officer of the guard. I thought I was in for a good thing. I was when we reached P. 1. We passed thousands of black troops, mostly Indian, along the shores of the canal. Punjabs, Gurmehs, Bannese men & also a few territorials ^{Wolfs & Lancers} & some of the Buffs. They were very enthusiastic & yelled out questions as to where we from. They were all expert signallers. They were nearly all in swimming. We passed a camel corps, evidently a patrol in the desert. On the right side it is very low but on the left it is a regular road, most of the way, & a few trees all the way along. All the places we passed had French names. At Jowala I saw three British officers, telegraphists, & a post, in camels. They looked fine. Got about 20 P. 1. spots. The canal's maximum width is about 100 yds. This boat is the largest ever passed through. It made a tremendous splash. Near ~~the~~ ^{P. 1. spot} we scuffed the bottom. As we reached our morning's stop P. 1. said we had to pass his French & one British warships so I had to get the guns out & fire at them three times. We reached there about 5.30 p.m. And in a minute we were surrounded with yelling natives in boats. No leave allowed. Some of the men were ashore (we were quite close) I had to put them in drink as they came back. We got about 44. Had a lovely night. Found there is a stop's appearance. He has a beard ^{also}. We ^{could} ~~could~~ hear the noise of them. They all yell & sing some sort. The noise was indescribable.

Mediterranean

Very busy this morning. After breakfast I had a sleep. Up early, about a dozen native boys swam about the boat all day, diving for coins. They are simply waddlers in the water. Never missing. One chop for 2 bob, dived clear underneath the boat some of the other side. Some Italian surges surrounded us all the morning. The girls catching the coins in an umbrella. The natives in their rowing boats, row the exact opposite to us, starting up too. P. Said is a very busy centre, apparently, boats docking about all day. No show leave, unfortunately. The colours are very vivid. In the afternoon had a washhouse in full working order. All my boys come. At 4 o'clock or so began to move away, we found up on salubrious points & as we found a French Warship, ^{here placed the} represented area. At about 5.30 we were out in the Mediterranean. As we passed out, we got a lovely view of P. Said from the other side. This is a fine town & good building, running along a beach. It is a fine night to night, cool. We are in the danger zone here, so all lights covered. The men had great fun at P. Said throwing bread & stuff at the dealers. One of the musicians, an Italian chop in a straw hat, got one fair on the head, smacking the crown of his hat. He roared & roared about calling out from bob. I don't see it, but it must have been funny. The devils took my eye though. They never tire & were yelling the whole time. The natives were delighted when a loaf of bread came on their boat. They put it away most carefully like they did everything else. I never heard such a plea for noise. Everybody seems to do nothing but yell at the top of their lungs. A little boy came aboard & did stunts of sorts. He was wonderful & a bright little chop, about 9 or 10 I should say. We were all burning to land, but no luck. We are going on to ~~Helio~~ Helio, I mean from Cairo. Our work, went down at Suez. There was quite a lot of shipping at P. Said. Very sick all the morning, vomiting badly. Expect to land to-morrow & reach Alexandria early in morning.

Helipolis
Egypt

Rived at 5 o'clock & woke to find we were
 opposite Alexandria. At 8 o'clock we were tied
 up to the wharf. The powder lock right with
 all lights hidden. As we drew up to the wharf
 hundreds of beggars came from row to row & were
 continually being hunted off the boats.
 Some very amusing scenes occurred as they
 struggled for old clothes. There were a lot of
 hospital ships in the harbor & a big
 troop ship, crowded with Tommies, Dutch
 Quackling Dutchies, was quite close to us.
 The reinforcements landed first then our
 right half battalion disembarked & went
 (the ~~wharf~~ ^{roadway} is runs right to the wharf) at 2.30
 p.m. At lunch we had champagne & marked
 the Captain's health. We entrained at
 4 o'clock & steamed out at 4.30 p.m. Poor
 Willis had to go to Hospital at Alexandria
 as he is not quite right yet. The trip to
 Cairo & from there back again to Helipolis
 was most interesting. They have a
 marvellous irrigation scheme from the
 Nile. The railway runs across the Delta
 & is very fine. It is 80 miles in length &
 runs through miles & miles of crops &
 land under cultivation. Just like Chinese
 gardens without fences. I saw papyrus
~~the~~ Arab villages, cemeteries etc. The villages
 were all like one huge house made of
 mud & all dwellings joined together all
 the way along. Children begged for tobacco
 & tried to sell their ~~is~~ for about twice their value.
 We arrived at H at about 10 o'clock & marched
 straight to our camp, beside the 17th. We got
 to bed about 2 a.m. We are stuck right
 in the centre of a sandy desert. Last evening
 they gave us a meal & Cognac. Black waiters
 tall stately Arabs, very attentive. Platoon strength
 & some were sent to the main camp. (C. Coy, 1st
 B Coy, 2nd Coy, 3rd Coy, 4th Coy, 5th Coy, 6th Coy, 7th Coy, 8th Coy, 9th Coy, 10th Coy, 11th Coy, 12th Coy, 13th Coy, 14th Coy, 15th Coy, 16th Coy, 17th Coy, 18th Coy, 19th Coy, 20th Coy, 21st Coy, 22nd Coy, 23rd Coy, 24th Coy, 25th Coy, 26th Coy, 27th Coy, 28th Coy, 29th Coy, 30th Coy, 31st Coy, 32nd Coy, 33rd Coy, 34th Coy, 35th Coy, 36th Coy, 37th Coy, 38th Coy, 39th Coy, 40th Coy, 41st Coy, 42nd Coy, 43rd Coy, 44th Coy, 45th Coy, 46th Coy, 47th Coy, 48th Coy, 49th Coy, 50th Coy, 51st Coy, 52nd Coy, 53rd Coy, 54th Coy, 55th Coy, 56th Coy, 57th Coy, 58th Coy, 59th Coy, 60th Coy, 61st Coy, 62nd Coy, 63rd Coy, 64th Coy, 65th Coy, 66th Coy, 67th Coy, 68th Coy, 69th Coy, 70th Coy, 71st Coy, 72nd Coy, 73rd Coy, 74th Coy, 75th Coy, 76th Coy, 77th Coy, 78th Coy, 79th Coy, 80th Coy, 81st Coy, 82nd Coy, 83rd Coy, 84th Coy, 85th Coy, 86th Coy, 87th Coy, 88th Coy, 89th Coy, 90th Coy, 91st Coy, 92nd Coy, 93rd Coy, 94th Coy, 95th Coy, 96th Coy, 97th Coy, 98th Coy, 99th Coy, 100th Coy)

Had a fairly quiet to-day in camp. We only had one parade, with the 19th, Col. Holmes addressed us & spoke well & straight. We then marched on to the sandy desert, formed up in column of companies & after the address marched back & dismissed. All the chips here, including men, have short drilled pants helmets & khaki shirts issued & look very smart. The sun is frightfully hot here. Not much work is done in the day. General leave each evening to Heliopolis & weekend leave to 9.30 pm to Cairo. There are a terrible lot of wounded in Heliopolis, ~~and~~ dozens of hospitals about. We have a decent mess with women butting the waiters being dark. The men & have women mess shops. Saw Archie Pacey ~~and~~ he looks well. Everybody seems to look alright. Went into Cairo about 4 o'clock to have a look round & take a few films in for the Major & Robinson. One can hardly walk along the streets for dust, butchers & soldiers. I caught a train at Heliopolis & ran right in to the centre of the city. Had dinner at night at Sheppard's Hotel. It was very fine & crowded with officers. A good orchestra & nicely served food. The people all sit about on the footpath in some parts. Saw a few of my old men about they all are well. Had a game of snooker in the Continental with Binwhite Moore & Baker. Met Lucas & Pyle of the 17th. A lot of wounded about but all cheerful & ready for more. They sell fine cigarettes in the city & good potatoes, gin & rum & all. Had some very fine Lager beer. The troops here have also a web container, which is much better. In front rear of our lines there are always ~~lots~~ of vultures flying about, big birds too. Sand seems to get into everything. Cairo has some fine building & a nice little park. It is a relief to see some greenery

206
25 July

25 Sunday—8 aft Trin [206-159]

[7th Month] 1915

St. James, Ap.

Up early this morning. Coy for duty & we were busy, got
my shorts & shirts to-day, 2 of each. The men will be issued
to-day also. We had to shift some tents & general clean
up, so could not go on divine service at 7.45, & didn't
get breakfast for hours. The sun is very hot to-day, makes
me very hot. Slept about all day. Had to go to Hel-
sonick at 7 km to guide our rearguard (from the ship) to
Camp. It's about 2 miles there. Missed Capt. McDowall
as they got in earlier, chased him about a mile & at last
had to march back & picket rearguard up & march them
over. Doyle & Blayney & Roffely arrived to-night also
Mr. Dowall. Had to get linen cleaned up. The sun comes
down in a blinding glare all day, no clouds & bright
moon at night. Drink all day. Feel well. Our band
is reported as the best in the brigade. Wrote Peter Collins
& borrowed some tobacco. Got a cablegram away to-day via
Rigby, cost 6/- Had a meeting of officers to-day.
All the men were issued with their shorts & shirts this
afternoon. Very little doing today, only sleep.
Doyle met a lot of British officers, he says they are all
solid for Austr. The navy say they are the best
in the world.

© 0h 11m P.M. (Greenwich)

This morning Ravelle at 5 a.m. now. Fall in at 6 a.m. Parade 6 to 9. Inspection by General Macmill. He was pleased with our show. Said we were much advanced troops, get around. Gave us a little speech. We then marched off + carried on with Salsbery (the syllabus has now been altered as to elementary pieces) Lunched the Platoon in Care of Amis + Outposts upon from 11 to 12:30 p.m. Afternoon parade 5 to 7 hours. Mess 7.45.

The men's food seems good here. Our boys looked very well. Everybody pleased with their big physique, can't make out where we get such big men from. We have five officers in this tent, a big one too, with four doors. We get all our water from big artesian bore, which I believe is main supply of 6 ams. It is rather hard, plenty of lime in it. Find it hard to get a lather. Went to Cairo ^{of the} with Doyle + Moore to see Analla's casualty lists at intermediate base at Hotel Victoria but found it closed. Knocked round a bit with Moore + saw some weird sights, got back rather late. It is always nice to be moonlight here. The waiters of our mess are Nubian + head man is a pure Egyptian. The Nubians all have scars on the faces or backs of their necks to denote tribe they belong to. Their chops are all called Abdul (meaning servant) + wear long white flowing clothes with a red fez on head. They are good fellows. Got measurement for full uniform to-day. Capt. Zippahick sick to-day. He looks very ill to me. The train to Cairo is only about 400 to 500 yds from our camp. It is really an electric train + goes rather quickly. The gear is ^{noise} (instead of iron wheels) + they like a boy trumpet. A good bit of dysentery in camp. Freight gets something wrong in first fortnight. we hear

We had platoon drill in afternoon + it was cruel on the men. I saw a lot of chops
I knew in Cairo in evening

which makes a

Very sick to-day but managed to crawl out in morning parade. Box head. Bazaar fighting Musketry & Bay Drill. Capt. Webster taking new men. Capt. Fitzpatrick on duty again to-day. Had some useful work but it is fearfully trying on the voice on this desert. Robinson gave us a ^{lecture} on Coy organisation & then I gave training to the Platoon but felt ill - almost light-headed. In afternoon I had to lie down while Battalion went on a route march. Couldn't eat any tea. The 20th arrived last night so now the Brigade is complete & all together. Capt. Solomon is still ill, haven't heard of Willis & couple of de'ly Coy are wounded in Lewis' PK & have been enquiring after me. Must go & see them.

In Hospital

Still all this morning, managed to get hold of Rigby, who got Doctor Duntz to see me. He took my temperature, at once ordered me into Hospital. An ^{motor} ambulance arrived in due course & ran me up to the Palace Hotel, which has been converted into a Hospital. After lying on a stretcher & having my temp. taken at the door I was carried into No. 15 ward, a ~~high~~ room on ground floor containing 8 beds with only 5 occupants in them, & was then put to bed. The chaps here are a very decent lot, Captain Aberdeen, pneumonia, from A.M. 6. Victoria & Lieut Cole, injured back, from L.H. N.Z. & ^{one} just back from the D and another, they have given me some very useful hints. Lieut Cole, while entrenching at night over there, fell over a cliff 30 ft & only just saved himself falling 300. Flannery, old 25th, was here, but left some days better. He & the other chap Best (who is from A.I.D. L.H. Infantry) have just arrived in ~~the~~ ^{the} like myself. My temp. is 100 ft. something. They think it's only Influenza, hope so. This building is a magnificent place. 2800 rooms & big ones too floor is cemented, hall sort of marble. Electric light. There are not very many wounded in it at present it's a sort of internicidal base. The nurses are very nice & rank as Lieutenants, the A.M. 6 printers acting as orderlies, they do all the dirty work. Our room is between a passage & the corner verandah. Crowds of people pass along all day in all stages of repair. Through that I should get the bed, which was occupied by Gardner, my old Lt. Capt. of 13th, now Lieut. He had his leg shattered & as it is now 2 ins shorter than the other, he was sent back to Australia.

Cole

(see end of the)

In Hospital

Spent bed night. Managed to walk round to bathroom & struck blunier - Ross there. He has the same complaint & seems very downhearted. The chaplain came to see me in the evening & brought messages & Righty also came with a few things. Have developed a bad cough. Temp. 98 in morning 101.2 in afternoon gain. Also chap came in during the day, none Deenes, strained heart. everybody seems to know him here. This is the convalescent ward, apparently. We can only rest all day. But gets up & goes out in his Brigadier's car occasionally, lucky devil. We are left pretty well alone to our own devices. Still feel weak. Letters Webster & Falconer wrote to me, very decent letters. The latter seems to be doing some very useful work, am sorry to miss it all. There is a funny little creature, an Italian, comes here in his capacity as barber to shave us all. They call him Macaroni. He's like a picture show all by himself. Most theatrical. Our waiter Toni or Charlie, a Nubian, is a very good chap. Just. Best is a decent chap & is on the land near Rockhampton. He has been in N.S.W. a good bit too. He is very kind. It is very hard to get any news & casualties here in Cairo, haven't seen a list since leaving Australia. Jimmy Fox was blown up by a mine & hurt a bit, he is now back again, I just missed him. Mr. Cullock is with the 17th. Wrote a short note home to-night. Am awfully short of cash. We all are. Haven't been ⁱⁿ 24 since the men were alright ^{at the usual time}. It's very dull lying here. Most of the nurses are from Victoria. Here, I think. They seem never to rest, particularly the night nurse she never stops. - This is also very pretty & very nice & kind.

Mohamed
Abdul

Got examined by our doctor (St. Col) this morning
 Put on to milk foods. Temp 99 this morn. Went to
 the bathroom & had a bath & scrubbed my "nose"
 I feel quite funny without it. I noticed they
 only have Infuenza down on my chart
 Ben Riley happened to come in this afternoon, he
 gave a car to the Military & was sent over to drive
 it. He expects a commission. He's attached to the
 2nd ^{same as 3rd} ~~2nd~~ Lt. H. Regt. B. Co. N. Co. He took part
 in the defence of Ahen just before we got there.
 Rigby came to see me at night. He's a regular funny
 god mother. Temp still 99, so am improving slowly but
 still a bit ^{my} cough. Milk diet now. I hear that Roberts
 has also been sent in here. Mail has arrived in camp
 so ought to hear to-morrow from home. Got word of
 Charlie to-day. He was one of the orderlies at this very
 hotel for a long time & left for the front a few weeks
 back. He's supposed to be wounded. Can't get any
 casualty lists here. We get more news in Australia &
 better too. Saw a Graphic to-day with impossible
 pictures of the Dardanelles. Rigby went to Chris for
 me to see about photo films. Will get the film on
 Monday, brought me a Nestlé & my Kodak. Am
 absolutely "stony". One of our patients V. Dubois is the
 2. M. here. Very nice chap. Both went for a run
 to the C. Club this afternoon & had a fine view
 from there. He wants to take me out for a run, but
 will be leaving us in a day or so, cured. ~~How~~
 Feeling better, but tired of being here. A band
 played here last night, but this is such a
 huge place & the band some way away we didn't
 hear much of it. Had a fairly comfortable night.
 This hot in day has also a small out.

Trinity Law Sittings end

A. shake better to-day, cough still bad. Saw B. Riley again, told me all the news. Took Best out for a run last night. Three other chops came in last night. One of them got hurt in a riot in Cairo. Some of the men tried to smash up a few houses of the Wazya. A couple of the places caught on fire. There was a wild scene. When the fire brigade arrived they cut the hose. Six of the men were bayoneted by the patrol & brought in here. It would have been a good thing, in my mind, if the whole of that part had been burnt down. All the dreadful disease comes from there. The Padre called about 8 to see me. Had a shower in the afternoon & felt fit after. We hear of the worst side of war here. The wounded are the sufferers. Some of them suffer terrible agony. War is hell, from what these chops tell me. Slept outside this evening. Beautifully cool. Some nice girls were floating round this evening. Three of us in here have lung & cold troubles. Its funny to hear us all coughing in the morning & sneezing in the evening. There are no wounded here. There seems to be something brewing in the Dardanelles, so expect to hear something shortly. I am going to be in the The Officer, who was brought in to this base, as a result of the riot last night, was a volunteer assistant last night. They kicked him in the stomach. He's pretty bad.

Lammas Day. Scottish Quarter Day

One of my men, Bird, has to return to Australia, on account of his eyes. I wanted to bring him, as he has the right spirit, but I rejected himself, at Liverpool, for eye trouble. I was overruled however, he came along

Sunday here in Egypt is the same as any other day. French seems to be the universal language. Am feeling a bit better to-day. Sup. normal. Rest + slept all the morning. Rigby called to see me in the afternoon + left to go to Cairo for photos, but was stopped by picket, no soldier is allowed ^{on duty to leave night} in to-day. Rigby has been very kind, bringing me magazines + things. Roberts came along in his pyjamas to see me. He looks pretty well, he has had gastric trouble. The fellow is blame. Ross is pretty bad. Judge came in also to have a look at me. I struck him in the bathroom. I was at 14 School with him. He came away ^{3 of the 4} the same time as Jerry Fox, about 2.30. Judge is straight from the front, has something the same as I have. It appears Fox was in the same ward as I am in now just three weeks ago, with Influenza. He is now over there, doing well. Pop Lloyd is bomb expert for the 4th. Also doing well. Judge, of course, in some regiment. Capt. W. Thomas was sent back with bad heart, also Sup. Patrick had night. Well in Alexandria, Kelly W. R. R. Zaitoun. Hear all about the old school + old friends. There was trouble in Heliopolis last night, but quickly quelled. This hospital ^(at Heliopolis?) is only some years old, same as Heliopolis. It is built of a kind of sandstone. It wouldn't stand wet weather. Slept outside again to night. The dark side arrived with my bill sent 3/11. It cost me. It looks well. Macdonald set my razor to-day, only charged me 2 p. (5th). He's a fine little chap. He has the life out of him. Hide his things etc. Best went out to night. Such a nice chap. He ~~came~~ ^{took} me to his Club. Had a nice warm shower in the afternoon + a shave. ~~at the~~ St. Blaise.

Get me some Aust. paper, it was like a treat from home. No way how everything you want here, ~~is~~ smells rotten.

214
2 August

2 Monday [214-151]

[8th Month] 1915

(9h 27m p.m. (Greenwich) Bank Holiday, Royal Academy closes

Not too well this morning, but picked up
later on. The event of the day was Mosa-
ronis arrival (Signor Francesco Alberino) We had some
good fun with him, kidding his boy &
that. All he can say then is "Finish the
business; & look very tragic & sad. Judge
& Roberts came along to see me. My
first mail arrived to-night, nearly all
dated from 25 to 28 June. Two from Mother
one from Father, Glen, Mr. Birley & Gordon
North. It was a treat to hear from them
all. No like a breath of home. Read all
day, the Nevins & Well by Rex Beach. Very good.
The Peter called in & brought a ^{small} ~~little~~ New
Testament. Went up to the library & picked
out a few books. Very little news.
It is astonishing what really ridiculous
pictures, ~~reminiscent~~ like the "graphic" etc,
print as bona fide war scenes. These
chaps, who have seen the real thing, are
disgusted with them. We have a constant
visit, or rather to Coe, who can't move,
in a St. Albridge, N.3. He got shot right in
the ^{outer} corner of his right eye, smashing the bone,
& destroying its sight. No jolly hard luck
for him, as he is very cheerful & has a very
dry humour, all his own. We all like him.
Had a couple of cigs. to-night. Glenn Ross
is a bit better, he has greater entreaties.
Hear very good opinions of our battalions
from home. Very quiet here. The 18th
is getting on well, I hear.

Woke up pretty sick, but improved during the day. Judge came in to say "goodbye". He's off to Zetoun. He gave me a photo of Jerry Fox he took here. I took his photo & he returned the compliment. I also took Sister Kura, our nice night nurse, in the early morning. I did very little all day. A new man came in last night. A convalescent after a wound in the back. Leave, eventually, is stopped in camp, as Kirby has not been to see me since Sunday. Macaroni don't turn up to day, we're evidently frightened the poor beggar away, however he looked in for a moment, said cheers, late in the afternoon but wouldn't share anybody (no business). It is very monotonous flying here. Had a nice shower, the only break. There is nothing to do except read & one gets very tired of that. Bought a 1914 F. S. P. Book & a few magazines from a bookseller. Had some meat to-day.

in pyjamas.

One day is like another here. Wrote letters all day to-day. The Colonel & Capt. came to see me in the afternoon. The Col. has been pretty sick himself with dysentery he ought to be here, too. Perrotto Potts who used to be at Richmond, came into this week to-day. He is just back from the front & holds 2 stars with the 2nd L.H. Macdonald turned up to-day more theatrical than ever. Riffy turned up with my pay, & went to Cairo for my part. My spirit 12 out of the 32. Some weren't bad at all. Heard a wild rumour that Aschi Baba had fallen last night & 24000 casualties. However they called for all our ambulances. It may be true. Hope so. It was very warm to-day. Our band played here at Officers Mess. I recognised it, in the distance. It sounded well. Took a stroll round & had a yarn to the Sergeant. Roberts should have gone yesterday but developed a nasty cold so has to stay. Wrote to the Fathers for to-day as well as a couple of others. Heard from Riffy that P'to Willis is being sent home to England for good, medically unfit. That's my second. Hard luck, he's a good chap & one I can't ^{it is} afford to lose. But once one gets ill here & very hard to pick up one's strength, owing to the climate. The only hope is to go right away. They generally send the convalescents to Helwan or Alexandria. Helwan is about 28 miles down the Nile. But come in to see us, he is in charge of some prisoners (Turks). He looks better.

Received orders to proceed to the Convalescent Hospital at Helouan on Saturday. Uncle Peter called to see me during the afternoon. Enjoyed having a chat to him. My Word the Australians are making a rather name for themselves here in Cairo. Makes one ashamed to be an Australian. They missed some good things through their bad behaviour. I will say though, that the disturbances are generally started by returning men. Met a Bank Chef here from the 13th Buffs. He says only about 40 of the original 13th Buffs remain. Archie Seville was killed. Righty called about 5 o'clock with my clothes. Told me all the news of the 3rd de. Very hot to-day. A band played here, nearly this evening. It wasn't bad. Wrote to the Amos & Dr Brookes. P'ke Bell, the singer arrived ^{Friday night} to get Roberts & my eye, what for, I don't know. Very little news. The Doctor examined me to-day. My complaint I think is gastro-enteritis. The 2nd M. gave me a solid walking stick to lean on. He's a nice chap, he is not too well (heart, I think). Roberts comes in occasionally to see me. Two of the chefs left this morning for Helouan.

218
6 August

6 Friday [218-147]

[8th Month] 1915

Woke up very sick this morning vomiting
& had dysentery pretty well all day. The 2. M.
Dease, went to his own room to-day, I called
to see him at night. He has a very nice
room in the 4th story & looks comfortable.
Another chap arrived from the Dardanelles. A
Tosander Captain in the Artillery. He was telling
me that a high explosive shell landed in
his dug-out, knocking his order book, mangle
-ing his thigh & arm & also destroying all
his gear. Luckily he was nowhere near it at
the time. He is run down Rigby brought
my clothes over. He had two trips & brought
Jep. Folewa on the 2nd after leaving the
guard, at night I took a shower & bath at about
4⁰' dark put my clothes on & crawled into Camp.
There is a gharry, went round to the Museum
but found it closed. Had afternoon tea
at the Continental bought a thread, for
which they charged me over a bit, caught a train
& came home to Hospital. I felt very tired
& weak but it bucked me up. Sent letter
to the Mother to-day. The Hospital is very
quiet just now, very few here. They are ex-
pecting a big rush shortly. Saw the new boss
he doesn't look at all well. The flies are
very bothersome here. It is very slow being here.
There is a piano just handy here & some of the
chaps play really well. Good stuff too. Roberts
is still mooning about here ~~see~~ with a
blackbird round him like a Red Indian. The
bottom men a week & out to the suburbs from
5 till 10. Roberts saw them working past.
They are all doing well, plenty of trench work I hear.
The 2. M. presented me with a walking stick
like a blue gem. Very heavy but useful.

Much better this morning. Ripby come over early, expecting me to go to Helouan, with a lot of clothes. But evidently they changed their minds, as I wasn't there. Another chap arrived from the Dardanelles to-day, a Lieut. Edwards of the 4th Buffs. He told me all ~~de~~ about the boys. Capt. Crisp, the Tasmanian, gave me some very interesting information about the Artillery. We are using 3 inch guns over there against the Turks 4.2. But our fire is more rapid. He says the British are loud in their praise of the Turkish Infantry. There are none better. What they did & what they put up with in the first two or three days was simply marvellous. Saw Lonsdale, of the 17th, & had a chat. Didn't cutge out to-day except for usual bath & shave. A hospital train arrived here, & can see it plainly, just in rear of this hospital, from my bed. White cloud in evenings with the stars & crescent in the air.

Felt splendid first thing but went off again during the day. Robert ^{went out to the hospital} ~~left~~ ^{to have a visit}. Had an early visit from Rev. Potts + a long yarn about St. Richards. He has had trouble with his teeth. Ken Wharton came in + surprised me as well as himself. He originally belonged to the A. S. C. but they were split up here + he sent to England, where he should have gone but he contracted dysentery + was in hospital here for 3 months. He was then attached to the A. M. C. as he couldn't get to the front, + is doing well. Having had 2 yrs study for medicine, he hopes to get his commission. G. M., 19th, arrived to-day with hernia. The food here is very nice. Chicken every dinner, soup, lunch - dinner + jelly, ice cream etc. Nothing much doing to-day. Had to have my ears syringed out.

Roberts & Capt. Crisp were packed off to Helouan to-day, convalescent. Gill was operated on this morning at nine & came back reeking of chloroform & ether (how well I remember it!). He looks pretty sick on it. Another chap joined the festive throng, a Lieutenant L.H. Officer, on his way home. He got a piece of shrapnel through his left shoulder & can't move his arm above the elbow. Another hospital train arrived to-day with 300 for us, mostly dysentery. It was officially announced this evening that Achi Bata has fallen. It is the only real thing ^{the} ~~our~~ Allies have done in the peninsula, with the exception of the landing. Our chaps did their share & pushed on 2 or 3 miles from the shore but there were no reserves to back them up so they had to retire to their present position that is about 1200 yds from the water at Jalatope. Our chaps did not look where they were ordered to, owing to a mistake. If they had they would have been wiped out, as the Turks ^{all about it} knew & had a lovely defensive position prepared with scores of machine guns etc. Achi Bata is two or three miles from the right flank of our own boys, so the English must have captured it. It is the first ^{& consequently important} ~~great~~ step. I don't come to see me in the evening. This is the place to see the worst side of war. It's very sad. Read the "Broad Highway," it's a fine book, with good ideas. One of my platoon, Buder is in the eye hospital here, I discovered & the mouth of B Coy has been open for appendicitis. Edwards seems to have left us. It's getting appreciably colder now. Managed to smoke a few cigarettes to-day, so must be improving. Hope to arrive to-morrow.

● 10h 52m P.M. (Greenwich)

Edwards knows of again, having only moved his wound but went out to-day. Rigby came along to see me in the afternoon, bringing a magazine. He's a good little chap. Got my marching orders to Helouan to-morrow at nine a.m. I'm not sorry. Three or four hospital trains arrived during the day, mostly dysentery & enteric, I hear. Went & looked Deane up. He has five quarters on the top floor. Invested in a helmet & got a good one for 30 pence. A friend of ^{my} Fell's (13") went in for it. Ken Wharton looked me up. There seemed to be trouble here all night, apparently more wounded or sick arriving. One sees the worst side of war in the hospitals. It sickens one of war. You see it here with all the gilt off. I hear W. Knight is ill, of my platoon. Our waiter here we call him Charlie, is very funny. He insists upon picking one's plate at every course & ~~gives~~ ^{affords} us plenty of amusement. Two other chaps arrived in our room, one quite a boy, with 2 stars up. He got mentioned in despatches & has been over there, since the very start. At present he has dysentery & is run down. Nearly all the chaps, who come ~~in here~~ ^{back}, have bad nerves. It would be a fearful strain on them. Some of them seem quite childish. All our bats in the battalion, have been called in. The 17th are going to the citadel, to-morrow, I hear. The natives here are just finishing up a religious period, called Ramadan (I think). I don't know the exact place it takes, but I believe it means no food till 7 o'clock each evening. They go mad at the end of it, so the troops are kept away from Cairo. The hospital trains come just in rear of our back from here so are very handy.

Half Quarter Day

Helouan Up early this morning & at about 9.30, about 20 of us got the kick out & passed on to the convalescent hospital at Helouan. After a nice run ^{for about 30 miles} on a motor ambulance ~~to~~ from Heliopolis to the Cairo end of the Helouan Railway (Bab. something or other) we got aboard, after another $\frac{1}{2}$ hour run in the train we arrived at our destination & then 5 mins in another motor ambulance & we were at the Hospital at about 11.30 a.m. The Hospital was originally the Al Hayah Hotel Company's Ltd. It's a huge place & is built on a hill just outside Helouan. Capt. Aberdeen & I kept together & managed to get a room between us on the top floor (there seem to be about 4 stories on our side) Two officers per room. Fine electric light, so different to the other hospital, where they practically cut off all ^{artificial} light from us, so that we could not read very well at night. Here we can read or write till 11 p.m. We have a nicely furnished room, two big beds, wardrobe, chest of drawers table etc. & it opens on to a beautiful little balcony, with lounges, tables, chairs, ^{electric lights} blinds etc. ~~and~~ Two other bedrooms open on to the balcony, but as only one is occupied we have the whole place between the four of us. It is about 20' x 4". As I write here, I can see the two big pyramids & the sphinx on their left, about 10 or 12 miles away across the Nile, quite distinct though. Helouan is a fair sized town, but very native. There are five tennis courts here. Blunnie Ross & Wayne of the 19th come along with us here. Discontent Roberts still here, I think, he goes back to now. Strike one of my old men Wood here. He was transferred to the 17th just before they left, but got Meningitis in the Red Sea & has a fearful time. He certainly looks dreadfully ill & returns to Australia in a few days. He has almost his sight. One of the most interesting events I have had so far, & was the run in the motor ambulance from Heliopolis to Cairo. We passed camels, laden with goods, donkeys, Egyptian soldiers, burros etc. & crowds of natives, all laden. There are about 60 officers & hundreds of soldiers, all convalescent. Majority going back to Australia I think. We lay about all day, & read, between meals.

Grouse Shooting begins

Had a very slow day here. Nothing to do but talk, smoke or read. Roberts got a telegram from the Major giving him the tip to return before Sunday, as he was getting his discharge to-day in any case it just suited him. Everybody is full of the news that we (2nd Div.) are going over to relieve the 1st in Gallipoli + the 5th Bⁿ are leaving on Sunday. If it's true I ^{will} apply for my discharge to-morrow. It would be awful to be left. Poor old Capt. Aberdeen got some very sad news. His regiment got badly cut up. Out of 19 officers + 600 men only 2 officers + 50 men were left after an attack a couple of days ago. They only had 40 yds to go, so it must have happened in the space of 2 mins. Machine guns evidently did it. An officer, named Perry, of the old 13th, arrived here to-day + gave me all the news. Col. Buryage proved himself to be a very brave man + got a bomb on each arm + is still away wounded. A lot of the chaps I knew were killed or wounded.

We get afternoon tea + morning tea here but pay extra for them. Wrote a few letters to Mother, ^(including photos) Uncle Forge. Very windy during the night, the only decent word I've seen here yet. The food here is very good. A very rough sketch in the margin (see drawing to side) will give you some idea of the place here. I think the most pathetic I've seen right is to see a man, who has had his sight destroyed at the front. To my mind it is the worst thing of the lot to happen to a man. Got some very good minkies from the Doc. about the things I will want at the front. Only the bare necessities, extra a pair of socks + shoes.



Roberts telegraphed to Capt. Crisp that our
 b'de was leaving alright on the Sunday so I hustled
 round & managed to get my discharge
 although I should have stayed on for another
 fortnight. I feel alright but very weak. I just
 managed to catch the 2.15 pm train from
 Helouan. Capt Ross turned up this morning
 to see how things - Ross & Wagner ^{19th} were getting
 on. Poor Chung can't leave. I don't ^{know} how Wagner
 got on, there's some talk of sending him back to A.
 I was to have been braced too, I believe, but
 I got away alright. After doing a little shopping
 in Cairo in company with a chap from the 1st
 Bde I struck on the train, I passed on to
 Camp. Reported to C.O. Shepherden. They all
 seemed pleased to see me & I was glad to get
 back. Our boy was out doing musketry
 so haven't seen them yet. They'll be over there
 & come back to-morrow at dinner time. We are
 going on Monday morning alright.

(has been wounded
 & going back to A)