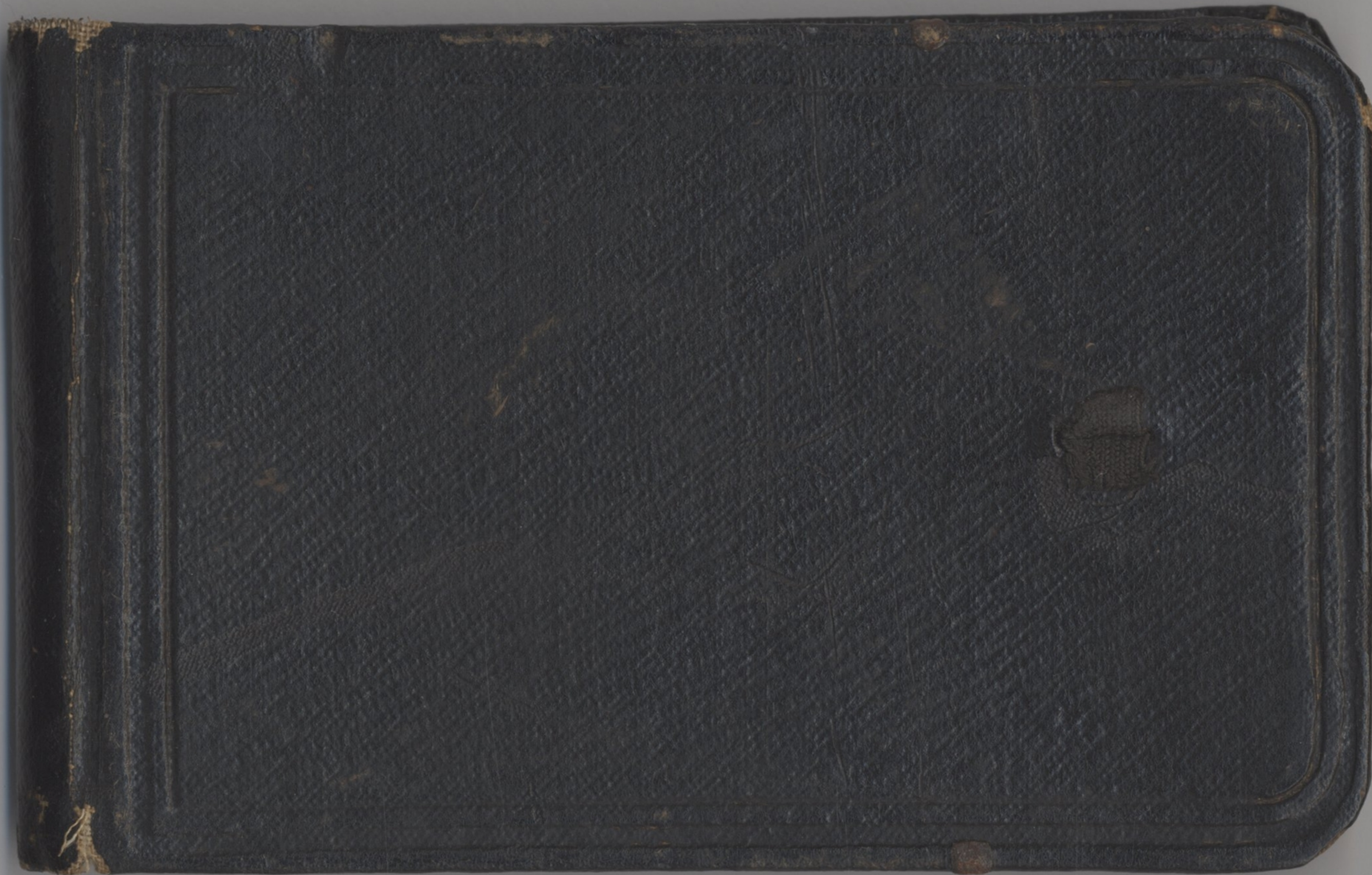




C. A. Walcho B. Lay
THE 30th Bn.

COMMERCIAL

30 74

NOTE BOOK

DISCOUNT TABLE

SUM	2½%	5%	7½%	12½%	SUM	2½%	5%	7½%	12½%
1/-		½	¾	1¼	10/-	3°	6°	9°	13
2/6	¾	1½	2¼	3¾	16/8	5°	10°	15	21
3/4	1°	2°	3°	5°	17/6	5½	10½	15½	22½
5/-	1½	3°	4½	7½	EVERY 20/-	6°	1°	16	26
6/8	2°	4°	6°	10°	EVERY 10	5½	10½	15½	25½
7/6	2½	4½	6¾	11¼					

Nº 3 A. N. 976

45 CHARTERHOUSE SERIES.
MADE IN ENGLAND.

Copy 4th 1916 THORS
Sighted at Sydney on
board H.M.A.T. *Maritima* A. 74
at about 16/16 a.m. enroute
for the front, moving with
H.M. A. I. F. 33rd Bn. 9th Bn.

5th 5-16. Friday
Then being our first day out
a good number of men were
sea-sick including myself
Sea fairly choppy. Wednesday
island sighted also several
ships.

6th 5-16. Saturday
Another ship sighted also
couple of whales. Sea fairly
calm.

7-5-16 Sunday

Sea fairly calm ✓

Nothing else important. Have
survived sea-sickness absolutely

8-5-16 Monday

Red cross ship sighted,
in fact sailed very close to us
on port side, enroute for
Sydney. Nearly all on board here
longing to be on board her.

9-5-16 Tuesday

Sea beginning to become
choppy. Travelling becoming
monotonous also. —

10-5-16 Wednesday

Sea fairly rough & almost
through "Great Australian Bight"
expect to arrive at Albany
to-morrow. —

11-5-16 Thursday

West. Australian coast sighted
this morning. Arrived at Albany
at mid-day & straightway started
to coal. Albany a small place
by appearance, no chance of
landing. a couple of contagious
disease cases to go ashore here
for treatment & enter hospital

12-5-16 Friday

Strong wind blowing,
Still in Albany but expect
to sail to-morrow. Great feeling
to be in still water after the ocean

13-5-16 Saturday

Very pleasant day. Left Albany
about 10/15 a.m. for Colombo.

N. A. Coast in view until about

7 p.m. Cape Lauer light house
in view until 2 a.m. morning. Scenery
very fine. —

14th 5th 16 Sunday

Another pleasant day. We have now left the Australian Coast & waters & are now sailing through the "Indian Ocean" Sea Calm.

15th 5th 16 Monday

Sea here is very calm & we are having very pleasant weather. It can be felt getting warmer daily.

16th 5th 16 Tuesday

Sea still calm & weather still keeping up the reputation given it in preceding paragraphs. Concert held on aft well deck which exposed some fair talents among our men. The band participated also, playing

selections & marches.

17th 5th 16 Wednesday

Sports meeting to be held on the 24th inst. on board. Meats of boxing tournament to be commenced to night. A. H. Morris had exhibition spar. Other bouts very tame. Started to become bolder. Winners secured to return Fremantle.

18th 5th 16 Vaccinated to day Thursday

Second night Tournament.

Jim Wallin won his bout easily. Not being thrown in, in second round. Sea very calm. Lot of suggestion made as to reasons for returning to Fremantle.

19-5-16 Friday

Third night Tournament
Walton won his second bout
chap went down in third
round without any apparent
reason. Best thing he could
have done any how. Very good
bout this one. Sea still
calm. Half holiday to
celebrate birthday of Brigadier
Gen.

20-5-16 Saturday.

Expect to arrive Fremantle
to-morrow. Drilled all day as
per usual. Hope to go
ashore at F. mantle.

- 11 -

21-5-16 Sunday.

Fair swell on. Ship sighted
on port side about 7.30 a.m.
Had a look through a pair of
binoculars at her seems to
be a collier or small trading
vessel. Expect to arrive at
Fremantle some time to-day.
Church parade on aft well deck
as per usual. Teller at
10.30 a.m. for latter. Arrived
Fremantle about 6.30 P.M.
Seems fair sized place by
the number of lights seen as we
were entering harbour.
Very fine sight to enter port
about this time seeing the
march lights & the lights of the
town in the distance & gradually
getting nearer. - 11 -

22nd Memory

All hands were up very early this morning to get a glimpse of the town by day light. I slept on deck.

The Battalion to be taken ashore by a company at a time. A company going first.

A company went ashore at 9 o'clock & returned at 12. It is now our turn. All anxious to get there as we have not been on land since we left Sydney. It is costing each man 6^d expense to go ashore for ferry fare so we are anchored out in stream.

We boarded ferry boat at 12.30 & were taken ashore & then marched through the town to the recreation ground where sports were held amongst ourselves & after a time we were given by the officer, a glass of ale & sandwiches & cake to eat. We left the ground about 4.30 & arrived on board "Camaraderie" (A 74) about 5.30 p.m. We were not allowed to leave the quays when we were taken, or wander about the town, although one chap did. He died.

23.5.16 Tuesday

C & D Companies & Reinforcements went ashore this morning about 8.30 & returned at 12.30 bringing home with them a number of drunks, chaps who left the ground when they were taken & went around the town to the pubs of which there are a great number. As all these men came on board they were searched & those that were drunk or had drunk on them were put under arrest. The cells were filled but the accommodation not being adequate, the remainder

were put under open arrest until to-morrow. There were about 60 caught all told. H.M.A.S. Encounter is berthed here & she was here when we arrived. We left F. manila. about 7.30 P.M. amid great cheering from those on board the Encounter with answering cheers from here & Patriotic airs played by our band.

24.5.16⁴ ^{Wines} came aboard.
Wednesday

Rumour afloat that the 35th Batt have been sunk. The defaulters of yesterday were tried today & the majority of them were given

24.5.16

~~Thursday~~ Continued
14 days field punishment
that being all the the
fatigue work on board
had to be done by them
for the next 14 days.

Empire Day to day Sports part

25.5.16. Thursday

Am not feeling too well
have been down to D^r this
morning. Went to D^r again
on afternoon sick parade
& he gave me admission
into hospital suffering from
Influenza. Temperature 103°
Vaccination pretty bad also.
Went to bed but had
very little sleep.

— — —

26.5.16 Friday

Am in hospital.

Seems fairly rough outside
by the rolling of the boat.

Get very good treatment
from the nurses here.

Am feeling a little better
to day Geo Adams entered hospital

27.5.16 Saturday

Still in hospital.

Fairly heavy storm on outside
& water sloshing over

apt well deck periodically

One wave caught three or
four men & washed

them up against the

iron work thresholds

& injuring them somewhat

over

27th 5-16 Continued

Two had to enter hospital
through it. The spray
coming over port side
scented everybody off there.

28-5-16 Sunday.

Still in hospital but
feeling much better.

Too rough for usual
church parade.

29-5-16 Monday

Am in
hospital still but have
developed some irritation
of the skin & lost the
influenza. It is still
rough outside. One wave
washed poop deck &

water came down through
ventilator into hospital.

30-5-16 Tuesday

Have been discharged
from hospital which is
a great relief as it is not
a very pleasant place
to be although one gets
very attention there.

An order has been issued
that every man must
take his seating prop stool
with him when he sits
on deck as there have
been three cases of
Pneumatic fever reported
to-day, apparently from
sitting on wet deck.

31st 5th 16 Wednesday.

Am not doing any duty yet as I was discharged from hospital without any duty until to-morrow. Sea calm again.

Final of Tournament to night. Have been to hospital to see George Adams, suffering from cephe leg. caused by falling down the stairs.

Final of Boxing Tournament. There were to be three bouts but only one occurred that being between James B. Coy & Smith, Transport. It ended by the towel being thrown in by Smith.

seconds making James the winner. Walton had bad luck in not being able to fight as he broke his thumb in his last bout. I think he would have come out victorious.

1st 6th 16 Thursday

Sea calm to-day. Looks very much like rain. Have resumed duty again. Have just a bit of a shock. The fire alarm warning violently & all hands rushed to their own parade grounds with life belts on only to find that it was an emergency call for the crew only 3.30. Another fire call has been given, this

Continued

Time it was for all hands.
This is the second time it has
been given since we came
aboard, it is to train the
men to the knowledge of
knowing what to do & when
to go in case of fire or
submarine attack etc.

Have been down to see Adams.
He is feeling much better.
Played my first call.
All bugles had to sound
the alarm. Got on very
well.

2.6.16. Friday.

Sports tomorrow. Effort &
myself have been picked

with four others out of our
platoon to represent it in
the rifle exercise event.
Have put in an extra
hours drill to become
efficient in rifle exercises.
Adams still in hospital.
Sea calm. Beautiful Day.

3.6.16. Saturday.

Wings Birthday. Day opened up
by raining but has cleared up
now. Sports to be held today
& concert at 7.30 P.M.

1 o'clock. Crew preparing
obstacles for obstacle race.

B. Company made very bad
showing in rifle exercises
got third place. Won by

Continued

D Company. B Company
disqualified in tug. O-war
on account of having too many
men pulling. 17 against 12.
One of our men had his leg
broken through rope breaking
that was holding pulley block
in the tug O-war.
Three or four whabs together
sighted off starboard side.

Another accident in abet race.
One of the competitors
fell & cut his head. He had
to have it stitched. Jim
Walton won the O-war being
the best caused more
fun than any other.

Prizes were distributed at

7.30 P.M. All handy prizes
such as safety razors mirrors,
cigarette cans etc. Walton
received a handsome mirror.

14.6.16 Sunday.

Sea calm. Thirty second day
on board. Have been to usual
church parade. Lay day today.
We draw 10/- every 10 days.

The remainder to be given us
when we land. Slept on
deck but had to shift about
5.15 A.M. on account of rain.
Spent the night playing nap.
There is a fair amount of
card playing here every night.

5. 6. 16. Monday.

All hands seem in a fairly good mood on account of nearing Durban we expect to arrive there on Wed next. Sea very calm. Rained for about an hour this morning 3.30 P.M. The Parade has been dismissed. It is raining & blowing like —
Just arrived on deck after tea. Saw a number of porpoises. I think we will have a rough night by the way of blowing & the look of the sea. Adams still in hospital. Bill Higgins

operated on thigh vaccination.
Pretty bad arm. Rain cleared. Thirty day on board.
5. 6. 16. Tuesday.

Expected to arrive at Durban to-morrow early. The boat rolled to some order last night & doing the same now. Another Freemour afloat. This time, that we are to land at Capetown to complete our training. It is amusing to listen to the rumours that get about. 8.30 am. Moral righted. But since we left Fremantle. 11 o'clock am. Ship seems very close to us on starboard.

Continued

side. She is a smaller vessel than ours. We fell in this morning at the usual hour 9 o'clock, & were all marched to the aft well deck where a written message which gave a brief account of the great Naval Battle which occurred off the Danish Coast was read out to us. It was received last night. There was great rejoicing when it was read out when the "Hun" fleet turned & retreated in disorder when the British main fleet was sighted. Cheers were given

for the King & for our fleet & the band played patriotic airs. To celebrate the event we were given a half holiday & a special edition of the "Armada" is to be printed a copy of which I am sending.

7.6.16 Wednesday

Expected to arrive at Durban about mid-day to-day.

A number of flying fish seen off port side. One of these fish flew on board one time & was a great novelty since it was too long out of water & you could tell where it was by the smell.

Continued

10 o'clock. Have arrived at Durban & are now seeing sights that I have never seen before. There a great number of blacks here.

All hands to go ashore this afternoon on a route march. 7 o'clock P.M. Have been on route march around Durban which is a very fine place indeed. We marched through the town to the beach & back to the park where we rested for a quarter of an hour & then marched back to the boat. Very nice harbour here.

Thursday 8-6-16

We are to go ashore this morning & have general leave. This will be the first time we are free since we left Sydney.

All hands seem a bit excited about it. The trams, which are electric double deckers are free to us, also the swimming baths which are very fine.

Stuart & self went ashore at 9 o'clock am. & took a tram to the town which is about two miles away. We walked about the town seeing all the sights & then

Continued

Took a "Richshaw" which are drawn by Julus to the ocean beach. This beach is one of the finest sights I have ever seen & the surroundings are beautiful. We spend most of our time riding about in "Richshaw's" which were a great novelty to us. Drunk was refused us as the place is under martial law. The Julus who draw the Richshaws wear big horns & ~~decorations~~ decorations. We arrived on board at 2 o'clock but was sorry to leave

the town as we found the people very hospitable. Ever since we have been here there have been a number of people throwing oranges, lollies, cigarettes & etc up to us. They don't seem to be able to do enough for us. Things are very dear here. Geo Adams was unable to get out of bed but he was carried upon deck on a stretcher. He was very pleased with the sights. 8. O'Clock. About 30 men rushed the gangways & went ashore

Continued
Continued

I would like to be in
their shoes to-morrow.
F

Friday 9.6.16
Of those men that went
ashore last night there
are about 10 have not
returned including a
sergeant. & we are about
to sail in a few minutes.
All those that did return
were put under open
arrest for breaking ship.
8.0'clock a.m. We are now
leaving Durban harbour
on our way to Capetown

which is about 3 days
sail from here. There is a
very heavy swell on & we
are pitching into it with
the water coming right
over the front of the boat.
A number of whaling boats
sailed very close to us on
their way to the whaling
station. We are very close
to the coast & the scenery
is fine. The men who
went ashore last night
have been tried & the
majority were given 21 days
field punishment. 8 men
have been left behind at
Durban. Have been to

Continued
Continued

see Adams. The sea
is beginning to become
rough. My first day as
ordnance bugler on board
board.

Saturday 10.6.16

We have had a very
rough night. Every body
had to shift off the
main deck as usual
awake & it is practically
the same now. Sea Calmed
down during the afternoon.

Sunday 11.6.16.

Church parade as
usual. Memorial service
for the death of Lord

Kitchener. Sea has calmed
down. Ship sighted travelling
same direction as us.

Have now overtaken her &
are right alongside about
half mile distance between
us. She is a much smaller
vessel than ours. Expected to
arrive at Capetown about
four o'clock to-morrow.
Coast has been in sight
ever since we left Durban.
Have left other ship some
distance behind almost
out of sight.

Monday. 12.6.16

Encountered heavy fog about
4 P.M. & are not very far off

Continued

Capetown. Fog lifted &

Capetown sighted about
6 P.M. Beautiful sight.

City situated at foot
of enormous mountain
& fine sight to see it at
night & all the illumination.

Cannot go alongside wharf
on account of fog again, so
will have to anchor in

mid-stream all night.
There are several other boats
alongside us out here. These
boats turned out to be Australian
transports with the 35th Battalion
& the 9th Brigade field artillery
on board. Am informed that

all the boats carrying troops
of this Brigade meet here
& go to our destination

together under escort.

Tuesday, 13th 6. 16

Awoke this morning to find
heavy fog still on & will have
to wait until it lifts before
we can go alongside wharf.

All hands up early too, to
try & get a first glimpse of
Capetown by daylight, 10 a.m.

Fog lifted & are on our way to
wharf. Arrived there & are
alongside. Big passenger boat
alongside us coaling.

Capetown seems a fairly
large place. Don't know

Continued

if there is any chance of
going ashore here. One
of our crew died last night
in hospital on board here
I have just been taken ashore
for burial. It makes
one sad to see the coffin
being carried ashore. He
died after Pneumonia &
Pleurisy. 3.30 P.M. I am now
sitting up on the board deck
after parade watching the
natives coaling our boat, &
of all the unearthly noises
you ever heard these men
make them, they are all
the time running & trying
to beat the other fellow

on with his load of coal
& getting all the time. They
look like a lot of ants.
They are very dirty & wear
anything from a piece of
rag to any old clothing
that they can get hold of.
They carry the coal in bags
here. At Durban they used
baskets. Two of our chaps
have just been taken ashore
to hospital. The troops off
one of the transports that are
here were granted leave to-day
but we weren't.

Wednesday 14th 6 16

I had a surprise last night
Jerry Lyons of Bengara whom
I know well. & is with the
36th Battalion came aboard
our boat. They left Sydney a few
days before we went to
Colombo & then to here. He was
looking very well. Gave him a
couple of letters to post.

12.30. Have just returned from
a route march around a part
of Capetown. The impression
gives me war is as good as
over. We did not see the
main part of the town only the
outskirts around a point called
"Three Anchor Bay" & "The Point".
We have not been allowed

leave up to date. I don't think
there is much chance of getting
it. All hands seem very down-
hearted about it. People very
hospitable about it. We received
plenty of food, cakes & sweets
on the march. 9 P.M. Two more
transports came into port ~~last~~^{to}
night. They were the 41st & 36th
Battalions. There are now
five (5) transports here loaded
with troops. We are to be the
flagship of the troops here
here. Parade as usual this
afternoon.

Thursday 15th 6 16

The bugle sounded this
morning at the usual hour

Continued

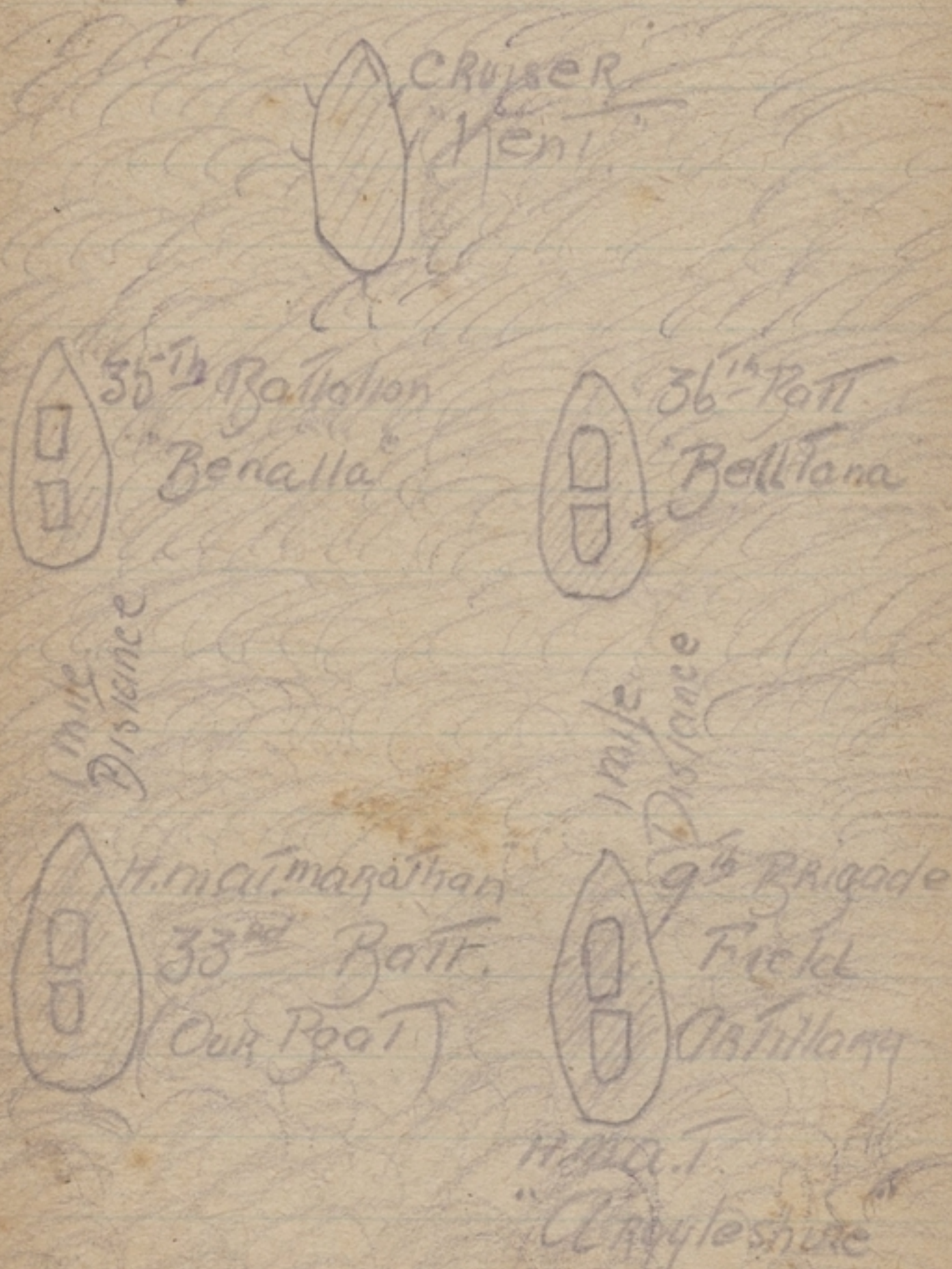
for the troops to fall in for parade but a very large majority had decided not to fall in unless they were given leave. This caused almost a riot & things were very exciting for a little while until the Lieut. Colonel (our head man) came & had a few arrested for mutiny. I spoke a few words to the men. He was hooted & counted out but no satisfaction could be got as regards leave, only that he said, he could not grant it. ~~Several~~ Troops of some of the other ships were granted leave & this hurt

our men. After he had spoken a few words the men could be seen going in drabs & drabs to their companies, & in no time everybody was back with their company & drilling as per usual as if nothing had happened. They were made drill an extra half hour almost on account of not falling in at the usual hour. Drill as usual this afternoon. We left the dock & pulled out into the bay where two of the other transports are, just after lunch. This to lay & subside the riotous feeling amongst the men. Have been to see Oldams still in hospital.

Friday 16.6.16

We are still in Capetown waiting for word I am informed.
 Eight 8/9 A.M. Three funnelled
 Cruiser has just pulled in
 & is moored not very far from
 us. The boat carrying the 35th
 Batt. is moored between her
 & us. 11/30 A.M. We are now
 leaving Capetown on our way
 to England. There are five
 boats including the Escort
 The latter is the Cruiser
 "Kent" which participated
 in the fight against the
 German Cruisers around
 the South Sea islands
 some time ago. There is a

fairly heavy swell on.
 Following is the position of the
 boats.



Saturday 17.6.16

Had a fairly rough night last night & is not much better now. Almost all the Battalion have been paraded before the Commanding Officer charged with disobedience of orders, in not falling in when ~~ordered~~ ordered the day of the strike. I was amongst those but my case was discharged owing to the tale told by me. The majority of the men were given 4 days field punishment & loss of pay for the same number of days.

that being so. I will take them two pays or 20 days to pay it off as we only get 1/- per day here & get paid every 10 days, although our original pay is 6/- per day. We get the balance when we have allotted, when in land.

Sunday 18.6.16 X

Sea has calmed down & it can be felt getting much warmer as we are nearing the tropics. Church parade as usual in aft well deck. Had to sleep below as it was too rough on deck.

Rigged part of the deck was awash. Pay day to-day

Continued

received 15/ as we were 5 days over our usual time.

Played nap & lost nearly all.

Monday 19.6.16

Sea Calm & weather much warmer. We are sailing still in the position shown in preceding rough diagram, with the cruiser in the lead. Nothing else of importance.

Tuesday 20.6.16

Was awakened last night with two other bugles, by the officer of the day, to sound the fire alarm.

It was about eleven o'clock. All hands on hearing the

alarm came running up on deck to their parade ground with life belts on. Most of the men were ~~into~~ asleep as it was two hours after lights out were blown.

It turned out to be only an emergency call & after a few minutes we were dismissed again, & all went back to bed. Our hammocks used to be issued to us at 6 o'clock (or) every night but we don't get them until 8.30 P.M. now. We also don't get any meat for tea now, instead, Cheese & biscuits.

Continued

Sea is very calm. Our
boat dropped ~~behind the~~
some distance behind the
others last night & the
cruiser ~~dropped~~ almost out
of sight this morning but
we are now making up
ground lost. Geo. Adams is
still in hospital. The
boat directly in front of us
is the "Benalla". This boat
was once on fire off Durban
~~carrying~~ carrying about

eight hundred
immigrants. This was only
about eighteen months ago.
Winder Messagerie was telling
us of the splendid work being

done by British & Russians
on both fronts.

Wednesday 21-6-16

The cruiser Kent came
alongside us & was signalling
to our boat wanting to know
the reason why we are so
far behind the others &
said that we are keeping
the convoy behind. This
ship is supposed to be
the fastest of the lot but
our Captain blames
our slowness to the
bad coal we took
on board at Durban &
Capetown. Sea is very

Continued

Calm. It is like sailing through the harbour. It is much warmer & we expect to cross the line on Saturday. I believe all hands have to pay their obeisance to "Father Neptune" on that day.

Thursday 22.6.16

Sea is still very calm & also is still very warm. Nothing of importance to note. Usual routine.

6 o'clock, P.M. This afternoon a net was put up half way around the fore side of the deck & ^{all} hands were anxious to know what it was for. Presently nearly

all our officers came out in sporting attire & engaged in a game of cricket. Stumps were fixed in a stand ^{used} for the purpose & balls were made out of twine, but nevertheless were very hard. Marks were made across the deck denoting the scoring points. If the ball was hit past the first mark it counted one, & the second two, & so on. All hands were greatly amused to see such a novel thing as a game of cricket on board ship. It will give one an idea

Continued.
Continued

how calm it is here.
An officer and of our company
topped the score with 41.
Major Massey the well known
cricketer played also, but
it was getting dark when he
had his innings so he
was bowled out early after
scoring very little.

Friday 23rd 6th 16
Another hot day. The
~~improved~~ portable baths
have been again erected
& a compulsory bath for
every company has been
ordered, & I might state
that it was out of
order earlier, as there are

some men to my knowledge
having had a bath since
we came on board the
ship. 7 P.M. Another cricket
match has been played this
afternoon. This time between
the privates & the officers.
It resulted in an easy win
for the privates. There are
some fair players amongst
the men.

Saturday 24th 6th 16
~~the~~ To-day has been
the day of days since we
embarked. We awoke this
morning to find a glorious
day ahead of us & all
through the day

Continued

continued to be so. The parade fell in for the usual routine drill & on dismissal there was great excitement for a while. Both portable ^{baths} were erected & filled ready for the afternoon "Father Neptune's" proceedings but the men seeing them & knowing what they were for, started to get together in mobs & grab the first man they came across & carry him down to the bath & throw him in & give him a severe ducking, clothes & all. I was one of

the latter. 1 o'clock.

There is no parade this afternoon & everything is ready for the fun.

"Father Neptune" is one of our officers done up for the occasion & with him he has his wife (another officer) - a barber, barber's assistant, about six police (blackened) a doctor, a man who goes ahead of him with a waddy (a piece of bag filled with straw) - & 7 men whose duty it is to give the victim who is thrown in, as many ducks as

Continued

is given him after he
is tried. Following are
the proceedings. A stage
was erected alongside
& almost level with the
barracks. ~~The police~~ Father
Keptane & his wife
& their followers came
out & took their position
on the platform, the
former in the chair.
The police go all over
the boat & arrest anyone
they know who hasn't
crossed the line before
& bring him to Father
Keptane to be tried,
after he is tried &

sentenced to one, two,
or a certain number of
days he is supposed
to be examined by the
D^r to see if he is sane
or if his hands are in the
right place or not & all this
kind of foolishness.

After that he is handed
over to the barber's assistant
to be lathered, with a
big whitewash brush &
whitewash, after that he
is shaved by the barber
with a big wooden
razor & then pushed in
to the water where is
ducked by the men

Continued

there as many times
as he is sentenced.
The officers were put
through first & after
that the men. I went
through with the first
lot of men I was charged
with resisting the police
I was sentenced to be
shaved, & to be ducked
six times & to stand on my
head. I seemed to be
under the water for about
five minutes. Of course
every body wasn't put
through these proceedings
as there were too many
but those that ~~didn't~~
weren't

were just carried by
some of the men & thrown
in after it was all over.
I was thrown in twice.
A very pleasant afternoon
was spent.

Sunday 26.6.16.

Church parade as usual
Sea calm & weather
quite warm. Spent
the afternoon on upper
boat deck reading. Our
platoon doing guard.

Monday 26.6.16

Awoke this morning to
find it raining & it
continued all day.

Continued

Usual routine.

Parade etc.

Tuesday 27. 6. 16

Another nice day.

Parade per usual

Ship sighted some distance on starboard side. Our escort went over to investigate but has returned again so evidently everything was O.K. 6 P.M. There has been no parade this afternoon. Too wet to perform same.

Wednesday 28. 6. 16

It is still raining & also very dull. We

expect to arrive at a port called "Dakar" early to-morrow morning. This port is a small French settlement on the most western point of Africa. 6 P.M. Another cricket match has been played. This time between our officers & the ship's officers.

Thursday. 29. 6. 16

We expect to arrive in port some time this morning. Sea very calm & weather still hot.

8.30 am. Land sighted on port side. First since

Continued

we left Capetown thirteen days ago. 6 P.M. We arrived in port about 10 a.m. & anchored out a little way from the harbour. At 1 o'clock the anchor was taken up & we sailed in & started to coal about 3 o'clock. The coaling is done by natives here. They are a big class of men. There are two French men-of-war here. Our escort & the other troopships are anchored outside the breakwater.

We mounted a 4.7 inch gun on our aft board deck & nearly all hands have

been up to have a look at her. Although we haven't been ashore one can see that this is only a small place compared with the other ports. There are a lot of French here.

The natives load the coal in baskets. It is very hot here. They are mostly Sonégales. They are very black.

There are a number of them fighting against the Germans in West Africa.

FRIDAY 30.6.16
Another hot day. We should finish coaling to-day sometime.

Continued

The natives are doing well in the way of getting food. All day the men are throwing bread & meat & etc to them, after which they scramble & eat, no matter how dirty it gets in the scramble.

They are good divers also. Throw a coin to them into the water & they are out of their canoes & after it & after some time they will come up smiling with the coin in their hand. We steamed out of port about 6 P.M. amid cheers from the french cruiser & answering cheers

from our boat. We have changed our escort & now have the 1st class cruiser 'Swiftsure'. We are still in the same positions as shown in diagram.

Sea is fairly choppy.

Geo Adams is now allowed out of bed & he walks about the deck with us during the day.

Saturday 1. 7. 16

Sea fairly choppy & weather much cooler. Normal routine.

We have had ~~a~~ a dance amongst ourselves on deck after tea.

Sunday 2-7-16

Sea still choppy & is
getting much cooler. Very
nice church parade.

During the parade a speech
was made by the Brigadier
General asking us to do
our duty, every man of us,
& telling us of the ravaging
of the "Hun" & etc. Every man
listened intently, & if they
all have the same feeling
as me they will do their
utmost to exterminate
the "Germani" & all their
belongings. At the termin-
-ation of the church

parade a Union Jack
with our Battalion number
on it was presented to
us by the Captain &
Officers of the ship. Also

a letter was read out to
us from the Captain of
the ship to our Lieut Colonel
in which he wishes us
good luck & a speedy
return to our own country
& saying that our trip is
a round cruise of any
transport yet put to
sea with troops. The
canteen have run out of
cigarettes & tobacco so you
can imagine what it is

Continued

like amongst a number of men who haven't any thing to smoke. This is our 59th day on board ship. Oh what a relief to get to our destination day day to-day. The last on board ship.

Monday 3. 7. 16

Beautiful day & sea very calm. An order read out to us telling us that we are in the danger zone & to be very careful not to show any lights at night such as matches etc. All the ships are in darkness as a precaution against

submarines. We equipment issued to a number of the men, the remainder to receive it to-morrow. All to march off in full marching order when disembarking with full kit on. Expected to arrive at our destination about next Sunday. A cask was thrown overboard & allowed to get a thousand yards behind, when at that distance a shot was fired from our big gun, ~~and~~ it was smashed to pieces. A shot was fired from each

Continued
Transport at different
targets. They were evidently
trying the guns.

Wednesday 4-7-16

I have been round with
my web equipment with the
remainder of the men.

An argument held early in the
day between two of our men
was settled with the boxing
gloves, causing some amusement
for the men. Both boxed well
& it was a very good fight.

Blood flowed freely during
the first round, from both
of them. The smaller chap of
the two named Kerihan (A Coy)
was almost knocked out

in the third round ~~when~~
when his seconds threw
the towel in, making the
other chap (Brown) (Transport)
the winner. Our escort
was seen to turn back at
lunch time & pick up a
small boat load of men.

I was informed by some of
our crew that it was
probably boat drill while
the sea is calm, or a
man had fallen overboard
& one of the cruiser's boats
had to be lowered to
rescue him & then the
cruiser would have
to return to pick them

Continued

up again. Anyhow that
is the only reason they can
see for the boat being
there. Sailing vessel seen
some distance on port side.

Wednesday 5-7-16

Sea so very calm & weather
very fine. A peculiar thing
happened at lunch time
to-day. A small vessel
was sighted some distance
ahead & slightly to the right
of us & the Cruiser made
straight toward her.

When we came near to
the vessel it turned out
to be a derelict. She

had one mast & it would
be seen that she had
two masts broken off.
Our scout stayed behind
us & investigated her
after that she fired 6
shots & sunk her. It gave
us an idea what a naval
battle would be like.
Seeing the Cruiser fire
six shots in succession
& the other vessel alight.

Thursday 6-7-16

Awoke this morning
to see a big passenger
ship almost alongside
us. She was a Greek
Vessel.

Continued

An order issued at lunch time, ordering all hands to wear life belts at all times, until we reach our destination, where we expect to arrive next Sunday morning early. Have omitted to mention ~~that~~ in yesterday's note that it was "Stupid" Morris's twenty first birthday. It is now 7 o'clock & we will have the sun for about another hour yet. It is daylight at 4 in the morning. As it will give one an idea how long the days are here.

Friday 7-7-16

Sea rough. We are now steaming through the bay of Beccay. It is never known to be calm here.

Final kid inspection on board. Arrangements being made for disembarkation. A dummy alarm for crew only at 7 p.m.

A sailing vessel passed us on starboard side. Sailed very close to us. Only a small vessel. On port side a steamer could be seen on the horizon. Seems a fair sized cargo ship.

The sailing vessel was flying the French flag.

Saturday 8.7.16

At about 8 o'clock this morning
4 vessels were seen coming toward us
These turned out to be destroyers
& one went alongside each trans-
port. After that the cruiser turned
around & left us & is now well
out of sight. These destroyers are
very small & very fast. There is a
certain amount of excitement on
board to day as everything is
being made ready to disembark
to-morrow & as we have now left
the positions of a convoy & are
racing to reach ~~the~~ port.
Our boat is well in the lead
having gained about five miles
in two hours. The sea is calm
& weather cool. Passed a school

of whales numbering about fifty.

~~Had my first glimpse of England at~~
at Sunday 9.7.16

Had my first glimpse of England
at about 7.40 a.m. Everything
is all excitement making
preparations to land. Eddystone
light house in sight. We are
on the main trade route & there
are a number of boats all
around us. We are travelling
along the Coast of Cornwall.

Church parade as usual
12 o'clock. We are now getting very
close to port. Very fine scenery.

1 o'clock. I have arrived at
Plymouth sound & put down
Anchor. Don't know how

long we are to anchor here
Later. I have weighed anchor
& are being towed up the
river. People are all along
the wharves cheering us.
Great sighs for all the
Australian "mugs". This
place very thickly populated
by the look of the houses
& other buildings. We
disembarked & entrained
for Salisbury plain
about 6.30 P.M. At Exeter
(a place along the line) we
were given a pot of tea &
bun by the Clifayours
committee which was very
acceptable. Our train

journey was about 150
miles through absolutely
beautiful scenery. We
detained at 2.30 am. on
Monday morning & marched
to "Bark Hill" camp
Salisbury plain a distance
of about 3 miles. & we were
tired when we arrived
I can assure you.
After the usual
messing around we were
allowed to our huts.
but were not given any
blankets so we had to
"don" down the bed way we
could & use our overcoat
for blankets.

10.7.16 Monday.

We are given a holiday today, but we have a lot to do in the way of getting blanketed etc. It is a beautiful day & I am going to have a look around.

Finale.

This ends my diary of my long voyage on board H.M.A.T. A. 74 after covering a distance of approximately 17,000.

miles; during which I gained a lot of experience & saw things I had never, I would always have been foreign to me. I do not intend keeping a diary any longer.

I will endeavour to keep you posted with the happenings of the future in my letters.

Clifford Alfred Walsh

"My Diary"
To
My Dear Mother
I all at home

~~Capt. D. P.~~
~~Empire Hotel~~
~~Waverley Rd.~~
~~London S. E.~~
~~" -~~

PRO 4370

1
Piper
C. B. Winkler

C. J. R. ~~London~~
 Empire Hotel
 Waterloo Rd.
 London S. E.

