

**The
Somerset Diary
For
1915.**

**Russell Lang & Co. Ltd.,
Somerset Building,
Winnipeg.**

[throughout the diary, passages of text have been circled and labelled in pencil with the letters 'C', 'Q' and 'X']

Memoranda

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January, 1915.

Winnipeg, Man
Friday 1

Up early. Max 15 Min. 18. Busy all day. Received all officers at the mil Institute, at 2.30 Then we all went over to the Government House and were received. There were many officers, at least twice as many as usual on account of the mobilized regiments. I then with my Staff. Ketchen and Murray called on the Church of England Archbishop Mathison, Archbishop Langevin is not receiving to-day, on the Chief Justice lady Mrs Mathers, Sir Daniel and Lady Macmillan, Mrs McCarthy and Miss Macdonald Sir Daniels neice(sic). Cheerfully and kindly received everywhere. Called on Mrs Ketchen Ketchen is promoted to-day to Lieutenant Colonel, and is at last recognized as DAAG for administration. We are all glad everyone delighted. Appointment and promotion popular throughout as it should be. Weather pleasant but cold.

Winnipeg.
Saturday 2

Up at 6, A.M. Busy all day. Max. 10° above zero Min 10° below.
Busy all day. Not much going on except training.
Worked hard.

Winnipeg,
Sunday 3

Up early. Max 4° 20° above, Min 4° below zero. Wrote many letters
Wrote Lt General Baden Powell for a syllabus of training, also to Major Gen. Colin Mackenzie for Ditto.

Many people came last night and spent the evening. Dr. White, W.J. Maclean, all the young officers of Lord S. Horse, Major and Mrs Keebler of the 32nd regiment, Mr. King, Miss Dobbs, who recited John Baptiste Trudeau. Flora sang a lot. Major Jarvis Mr and Mrs Wallis Mays

has a bad cold and had to stay in bed all day. Her cold is the worst that I have ~~had her~~ known her to have.

Winnipeg.
Monday 4

Up early. Max. Min Wrote a letter of introduction for a Mr Brotherton who has a machine gun for exhibition, to Lt Colonel Helmer of the small arms committee, in Ottawa.

I am informed that we are to organize the staff of the 6th bde. of infantry but they do not tell us who is to be the brigadier. I am anxious to know all about it and hope that I shall soon hear about it.

I have refused to discharge a man whose wife has ~~wired~~ been married to him since he enlisted in the 28th regiment or battalion. I believe that the man is in collusion with his wife and has cold feet I have written the department of Militia for a ruling.

Letter from Gus re John and Reginald.

Telegram from the A.G. ordering that Major Murray be removed from office as Dist Staff Adjutant. The Minister is mad to do such a thing. Murray was appointed ~~by the Staff adjutant~~ by the Prime minister direct on the recommendation of the Minister of Justice. I ordered Lt Col Ketchen to inform Murray and remind him that it was none of our doing.

Murray is a good man-a good hard working officer. Wrote letters until one AM.

Winnipeg.
Tuesday 5

Up at 8.15 Max 18° above 0. Min 15° above zero. Inspected officers mess Q.M. Store, and the battalion on parade the 27th accompanied by LCol Ketchen. The men are very soldier like indeed. Frank Steel is doing well. After that I saw the artillery at work and cautioned the officer in charge of one of the detachments Captain Dixon to be careful about the behaviour of the men and not to go into court to get them off if they are guilty. At work the men are very good.

In the afternoon spent half an hour with the 28th regiment. They are very good too but not quite up to the 27th in the niceties of soldiers work. Major Wayland states that the adjutant is a good man, a good officer and improving fast.

Wrote Bob Rogers about Murray, Keebler and Ruttan. The latter has been told off as the D.O.C. an absurdity. He is good at his present work but any man would have to lean on his DAAG. I wired Rogers about the D.O.C and D.SA and about the latter being removed without warning or reason. Letter to Rattray and Mrs. Davis.

Winnipeg.
Wednesday 6

Up at 6.30. Max 14° above Min 2° below Busy all forenoon. Visited the 32nd battalion. Told the Colonel about the importance of good discipline. Nice letter from Lord Milner re his telegram to the effect that Kitchener did not want any Canadian officers in charge of the contingents that are to go abroad. He spoke well of me to Milner, etc etc. Major Eaton called upon me Telegrams from Rogers, and others.

Letters from the old country, one from Major Strutt South Africa to the effect that business is dead in Johannesburg and that he is Chief paymaster for the Forces and has one hundred

paymasters under him, and that fifty thousand men are under arms in the South African Union. Humfrey has sciatica Kirkpatrick is a Colonel now and has done well.

Lord Milners letter is rather a disappointing one to me. I was in hopes that I could get a look in at the war, but of course there is a lot to do here- and I may be allowed to go to the front later.

Went up with Flora and Gertie to the 27th to tea. Mrs Taylor Sams niece said that Dr Popham had said that the men are badly fed

Winnipeg,
Thursday 7

Up at 6.30 Max 14 above zero Min 2° below 0. Busy all day. Inspected the 32nd at work on parade and at extended order. They were working very well indeed Fine men. Weather fine. I directed that they must do their work quicker and that many of the extended order movements should be done and also the battalion very quickly to lie down and spring up they should be very quick and the battalion drill and the platoon and company drill at the double. Captain Eaton called to see me before leaving for Calgary and he said that the Associated Press Chief here who is his cousin states that the scoundrel Preston who wrote about Lord Strathcona has said in his book that the officer who responded to the toast of Lord Strathconas Horse at the banquet at the Savoy was drunk when he did it. I must be after him. The scoundrel is libellous, and should be ruined.

Friday 8

Up early. Max. Min
Busy all day at the office.

Saturday 9

Up early Max Min
Busy all day, much work on hand. Funeral of poor old friend Archibald Macdonald of Qu'appelle Fort I was one of the pall bearers, so was W.J. McLean. Caught a cold in my head standing outside without a cap. I am sorry that poor Archy is gone a fine type of man he was, open hearted brave, and resourceful.

Sunday 10

Up at 7.00. Max. 32 above, Min 4° below zero. Wrote letters all day on all sorts of subjects, and to friends including Major Gen Baden-Powell, Rev. Stewart Patterson Godfrey M. Steele. Henry C. Steele Mr Steele of Hamilton Ontario and others. Many persons called amongst them Lt Colonel and Mrs Cowan. The latter is a great woman. She asked me for a brigade for her husband but I gave her no satisfaction further than to say that a young man who was lucky enough to get one of our fine battalions was well off, and that it would take Sir John French and any other soldier plenty of time to handle a brigade under fire and do credit to himself in fact it was a very serious responsibility altogether Some of the officers who had brigades in Camp and had to be nursed all through the term of training imagine themselves well fitted for the work of commanding a body of new men under fire Cowan is a good Chap but is not fit for any kind of brigade yet

Monday 11

Up at 6.30. Max. 28° above Min 4° below zero. Mays very ill with grippe Busy. Wired Gen Hughes about dinner to him by the officers of the Garrison here. Reply from Secy that the Minister is in hospital. I wired secretary to say that we are sorry to hear that he is ill. Wrote Comr Perry C.M.G. about young Gill who desires to join the Royal North West Mounted Police Mrs Molly Glen Niblett rang Flora on 'phone' and told her that the book Forty years in Canada would come out soon, and a copy come here. Letter from Harwood. I sent P.O.O for two hundred and five dols and twenty cents to Professor John Collinson MA who is principal of Highfield school. This is to pay for the winter term. Harwoods book is a wonder a fine thing for such a lad.

Went in the evening to a tea and musicale reception by the daughters of the Empire at Mr and Mrs E L. Taylors residence 511. Wellington Crescent road. A very large number of ladies and gentlemen attended and I was asked to receive with the vice regents All were keen to treat the officers well and no pains were taken to have everything smooth Mays was very ill indeed and could not go The girls went with me.

Winnipeg
Tuesday 12

Up at 7.30. Max 28° Min 8° above Breakfast at 8 o'clock. Fine day. Troops drilling as usual. Col Ruttan has a memo for the officers of the mobilized regiments re a report that some duties have been neglected I approved of the memo.

I inspected the company of the Princess Patricias regiment and said good bye to them. They leave tomorrow morning for Halifax on their way to Europe to join the regiment Major Lindsay is in command of the Company

After the ceremony three cheers were given. I had tendered them good advice and asked them to be a credit to the country of their adoption and that any men who disgraced Canada deserved to be taken out and shot.

I was the guest at the dinner given by Sir Daniel McMillan He toasted me and it was well received. I responded, but I do not think that I did myself justice. I came home with Dr. W H. Montague in his motor.

Mays disturbed at the girls being so late. Dr Montague asked me to dinner. Letter from Burchell Royal Fusiliers He speaks well of the men from Winnipeg and MD 10- And has been recruiting training Letter from Macdonell –

Winnipeg
Wednesday 13

Up at 7.30 Max. 18° Min. 8° above

Called up on phone by a Legion of Frontiersmen who reported that there is a german in the Princess Patricias Co now leaving for Halifax. I called up Lt Colonel Ketchen who gave orders to have a search made, the man was found and brought back from the station to be dealt with. He was a German all right. I regret that greater care was not taken.

Very fine day. Attended the dinner to the 90th regiment given to the officers by Sir James Aikins I was toasted after the King and gave a long account of the west in the early days, and was attentively listened to by all.

Many other speeches were made including Lt Colonels Ruttan, Aikins (Hon Lt Col) Major Blanchard and others Much stress was laid upon the 90.th overseas batt, the 8th Battalion They

entirely forget that more than half of the corps sent abroad was made up of 350 of the 96th a strong Contingent of 98th one hundred and seventy five of the 99th and yet those units are ignored by the 90th officers. I am surprised at them some are good men too. Met Dr Simpson and told him about the rascally behaviour of Lt Col. Gwynne in writing to Keefler

Thursday 14

Up early. Busy at the office all day long. Nothing at night.

Winnipeg
Friday 15

Up at 5.00 Max 18° above Min 4° above zero. Telegram from Minister to arrange about the programme for him on Sunday and Monday Mr. E. L. Taylor came at my request about it, and then went to Premier Roblin. My programme is for the Minister to open the drill hall after he has addressed the Canadian club, and then at 7.30 drive with us the officers of the Garrison at the Royal Alex at 7.30 I mailed to Mrs. Jane Harvie a P.O.O for fifteen to pay for turkeys and fowls. Sent it to P.O.box 100 Orillia P.O. The Free Press has an attack on Preston for his lies about Strathconas Horse at the banquet at the Savoy in London. He states that the officer who proposed the healths of the CMC, and replied to the toast of the regiment behaved in wild and drunken manner and had to be put out etc etc We must charge him with Criminal libel. Got a copy of the part of Prestons book which deals with Lord Strathconas Horse and mailed it to Murray Ross Brandon, Man.

Went with Gertrude to Lt Colonel McLeans dinner to the officers of the 106th and their wives. It was a nice function. Gertrude was escorted by Sir Rodmond Roblin. Poor Mays being too ill to go, and Flora being at another function.

Saturday 16

Up at 6.30 Max 14° above Min 4° above last night. Trees covered with heaviest hoar frost that I have seen The mayor of Arcola Mr. Carson came to see me about recruiting there and I arranged with Lt Col Ketchen to have some taken there and kept for a while They left apparently pleased Lt Col Ruttan was told yesterday that he is to take over D.O.C as temporary measure. He had decided to accept the offer.

Sunday 17

Up at 7.30 max 18° min 4° above zero. Took General Sam Hughes and party to see the 27th regiment at their meals at the College AG^r They were good. The S.M might have more experience

Went home at 1. P.M. and did not leave the house. Wrote a number of letters. I made arrangements with the Minister to have a trip around to see the different regiments at their work or at meals, and after the address which he is to give to the Canadian club he is to open the new drill hall and see the troops march past him

I went to meet the minster at the ~~train~~ Royal Alexandra hotel and as I expected I found him the Hon Sam Hughes surrounded by his relations some Conservative heelers, and Dr. Simpson. The typists were there and Lt Colonel Cowan I was amazed that he should be there. Such an unsoldierlike trick, so low. There is something behind this, some intrigue.

Winnipeg
Monday 18

Up at 6 AM Max. Min At ten AM took Major Gen Hughes around the barracks of the 28th regiment (batt) the 32nd and last but not least the artillery. Saw the meals at the exhibition ground everything looked well. The food excellent the Gen jollied the Free Press reporter and suggested that he stay [*caret: a*] week and eat with the men that ~~party having~~ paper having stated that the food was not good and that two Jews had the contract who had been in gaol. This was false The food was good enough for anyone no matter what rank – good beef chickens etc etc. Upon completing our inspection the Minister went back to the Royal Alexandra addressed the Canadian club. He mentioned my name in connection with training and organization and the vast assemblage gave me an ovation clapping and cheering to a tremendous extent. It was the finest I have seen given to anyone.

After lunch the general formally opened the drill hall I had four thousand troops in it They looked splendid. Everyone was pleased a march past on Portage Avenue followed and then we the garrison gave a banquet in the evening I was

Winnipeg
~~Tuesday 19~~

I was in the chair and after “The King” proposed the health of the Guest, the Minister of Militia. I also spoke on introducing him and was complimented on my speech by Ralph Connor and others.

While the Minister was here he as usual made public references to good men. D. McLean was no good Lt Colonel Snider was a cook, he said, had never fought was only a transport man did not handle the regiment at all, was slow. So I was very busy defending people. I find that Cowan was at the bottom of all the trouble. Clifford Sifton is said to have done much for the Minister of Militia and has recommended Cowan and to compromise matters the Minister appointed Ketchen to the Command of the infantry brigade. This relieved the dilemma Strange things.

19th Jan.

I met Snider and told him that the brigade was not obtained by Ketchen on application, nor had I recommended him for it. It is no use talking to Snider at all until I hear more.

Went to the theatre Walker to hear the Chimes of Normandy. Mrs Harwood Mrs Wallis Flora Frank Major French

Wednesday 20

Up at 8.00 Max 20° Min 12° below Wrote Rogers about Snider Ketchen and all the rest of the troubles and also to the Minister who went west on Monday night after the banquet.

Frank left for Montreal today at 8. AM. I hope he has passed his examination.

Cold day, north wind

Thursday 21

Up at 7.30. Max. 18° above 0. Min. 14 8° below 0. Busy all day at organization. We have much cause for worry. Wrote Gen Sam Hughes to the effect that I had recommended Snider for the

bde 3rd Contingent, Sissons for 1st Mounted brigade Young, Man. Dragoons for brigade major of the same, and that the 32nd battalion go with the second contingent.

Winnipeg,
Friday 22

Up at 7.30. Max 14° above Min. 10° below.

Dined at the Sir James and Lady Aikins Nice time The Chief Justice,

Winnipeg
Saturday 23

Up at 5. AM. Max. 18. Min 12° below 0. Busy all forenoon Got a foolish letter from Lt Col Carman to the effect that he wishes to choose his own officers. I would not trust him to do it at all. He has been asked to select the officers of the 16th Light for approval by head quarters.

Bad reports coming of the 1st Contingent, bad discipline the cause. Pattersons and Macleods battalions have been broken up and will be sent as feeders. The 8th the 5th and 11th Batts all from this district are good. Letter from Burchall to that effect, also that Edmonton regiment would have been all right if Commanded by Reginald Harwood. I fancy a good man is better than a trickster.

Winnipeg
Sunday 24

Up at 6.15 AM. Max, 4° ~~above~~ below zero. Min 30° below 0. Wrote letters all day, semi official, business and social Mrs. Wallis was with us all day. Many came to see us in the evening. Majors French and Jarvis Lt ap Ryce Pryce, Evans and others. Music vocal and instrumental Wrote Norman Gossage [*added in pencil: GIUY(?)*] Lt Col Macdonell the latter at great lengths, the former re the chance of joining, the MP, and gave with his letter one introducing him to my friend Colonel Perry Wrote Mrs Zack Wood condolence etc re poor Woods death.

Letter from Arthur Duncan Kinghorn Scotland to the effect that Haldane is a disgrace to Scotland, that he has fostered all along the notion that the Germans were peace loving people. Duncan also says that the regiment at Highfield is a poor class.

The British patrol on north sea have intercepted the German Cruiser squadron which was attempting to raid the east Coast of Britain. The Germans ran for it and one of them the Blucher was sunk with great loss of life, and the rest in a damaged condition took refuge in harbour.

Winnipeg,
Monday 25

Up at 7.45 Max. 0° Min 24° below Busy all day. A young fellow named Le Baron who was dismissed for drunkenness from the 28th and reenlisted in the artillery came and begged to be allowed to remain in the artillery and if permitted would make good Another man came but he is an old soldier of good family and leniency would be useless. He is a menace to the lads who have never served before. and I told him so. Physically he is a fine specimen.

Birchall in a letter to me says that there is favouritism in the contingent and that from a private and public point of view it would have been a good thing if I had the Command. I thank

goodness that I have not. He states that the 11th battalion has been left behind as feeders, and Boyles sent to the front, an outrage. As Birchell says it is far superior to any other in the brigade.

I asked Dr Simpson to come up and told him that he had better write Mr Rogers and state that the battalions etc organized for the 3rd Contingent I hear are to be merely feeders which will mean that they have been organized under false pretences and they should go intact as units to the front, and depots for feeders be formed

Winnipeg.
Tuesday 26

Up at 8.00 Max. 38° Max 4° below zero.

Busy all day long. Dr Simpson called and told me that Snider went down to the office Simpsons and tried to make out that the Minister of Militia appointed Ketchen to command the western infantry brigade on my recommendation. Simpson told him that such was not the case in fact that I and Ketchen had tried hard to get him Snider the brigade, and Ketchen was to have been recommended for the cavalry i.e Mounted brigade Gen Hughes wired that he is on his way to Prince Albert and I could meet him in Brandon with his letters. Had a lot of pain in my chest last night studied all evening.

Winnipeg.
Wednesday 27

Up at 7.45 AM. Max. Min.

Busy all day. Mailed a letter to Donnelly accompanied by one to Gen. Alderson and one to Colonel Armstrong O.C. Canadian Divisional Engineer recommending that Captain Chas Donnelly attached to the Canadian Engineers Salisbury Plain, be permanently placed in the Engineers of the Contingent. I sent a true account of the Services of Captain Donnelly.

Mr. Maclean called from Saskatoon and was told. all about the detachment to be stationed there, 3rd Contingent Major Murray brought me the ~~fact~~ particulars of his services in the army, a good batch of testimonials, they are extremely good Murray has been misrepresented

Thursday 28

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Brandon.
Friday 29

Up at 6° AM. Min 38° below zero, max 10 below. Left for Brandon at 8. AM, arrived at noon by C.P.Ry Mr. Wallis C.E on board for same place. At 3 P.M Inspected the Cavalry squadron under Lt Colonel Stevenson a fine body of men. I saw orderly room, guard room, hospital sick, Kitchens lavatories, the men were inspected in the ranks, all tall and strong, bronzed and healthy. I addressed and gave them some good advice with regard to their behaviour and their work in the field, discipline etc. All were very in fact perfectly steady. Officers looked well The adjutant Capt Laws, and the second in Command major Andros' are ex non Coms of the R.N.W.M.Police and very fine men.

Dined with the 1st Mounted Rifles, and my health was drunk in cold water as per custom.

Winnipeg,

Saturday 30

Up at 5.30. Breakfast at 7.00 Sir James Aikins was in the dining room, but did not have time to breakfast. The Minister of Militia arrived from Prince Albert at 8. AM and I called accompanied by Major Major Macleod of the Corps of Guides, and handed our letters. I got him to O.K. the appt of the Montagues, the brigade major mounted brigade Lt Col Young, Captain Bingham Staff Captain the Mounted brigade. After he had breakfasted I brought him and Aikins in a motor to the drill hall and he inspected and addressed the soldiers saw everything, and then the prisoners of war who are in separate dormitories Germans and Austrians apart. The Minister was very much pleased with everything and at ten had a reception. He called off a dinner that he intended to give in Winnipeg. I went down in his car at 12.40 P.M. and arrived here at 4.30. I went to my office then and worked until. 6.30 on back correspondence. Wrote the Minister re actual command of the west I do not want it but he seems to think I should do it Ketchen went down to see him Homer-Dixon went home to Toronto

Winnipeg.
Sunday 31

Up early Max Min Wrote letters all day. Fine day. Many called at night. Minister of Militia went off at 8 AM. to Ottawa He travels in private car with his A.D.C, and two stenographe(?) ladies. I am told that he is much pleased with the Corps all through the west but spoke ill of Harwoods Edmonton Corps making comparisons between it and Griesbachs to the advantage of the latter. I did not "let on" that the former is my brother in law.

February

Winnipeg
Monday 1

Up at 6 AM. Max Min Busy all day. Letter from the Dukes Secretary to the effect that he was coming to look at the troops here as he has heard much of them (the duke had. I replied to the proper effect.

There are many little worries but the present Corps are I am glad to say to be kept intact, and not sent as mere feeders.

Winnipeg,
Tuesday 2

Up at 6. AM. Max. Min Cold wind. Had a touch of palpitation of the heart and lay down to rest.

Went to Sir Rodmond Roblins Dinner to the 106 of which he is honorary Colonel. On the way back I took Ketchen and Young (Lt Cols) to their quarters, and Ketchen told me that Gen Hughes on Saturday night told him that Colonel Williams and Major Gen. Lessard were always giving the west the pin pricks and knifing us, that Williams had got drunk at a dinner the Minister gave and openly accused Major Gen Lessard of cowardice. That is the man (Williams) who made all the mess at Valcartier and to enable him to spoil things he was antedated so as to be senior to me. This is all rectified now thank God.

I told Ketchen that I would make his brother orderly officer to me while I am Inspector General. He has served in the SA War is a good banker having been manager in Brinsworth(?) and BC, and should help well at checkKing the a/c of the paymasters and officers.

Wednesday
Winnipeg.
Wednesday 3

Up at 7.20 Max. Min Got to work at 9.30 P.M. Fine day, snowing a little.
Wind S.E.

Decided not to let any more men out for drunkenness unless there are very strong reasons, for it is just possible that some would have saved enough money to keep them until the spring opens and they get drunk so as to be kicked out of the service

I have advised Ketchen of this and have given an order to that effect to him which he will promulgate as brigadier.

Snowing hard at two P.M. Letter from Rattray to the effect that he will have command at the base in France He says that the 90th regiment under Lt Colonel Lipsett is far the best and Burritt a close second, which is to be expected. Capt

Shaw is Provost marshall (asst) in London and states that he has had a devil of a time and that the discipline of the eastern officers and men is terrible all on account of the undue familiarity amongst them. Rattray states 1100 sick 1800 on the Contingent were absent without leave about the 12th but on the 18th only five hundred.

Mess Dinner in the Royal Alex 32nd Batt

Winnipeg,
Thursday 4

Up at 6.00 Max 30° Min 4° above zero. Busy all day. Much work to do. Letter from several persons

Winnipeg.
Friday 5

Up at 8.00 AM. Max. Min Office at 9.30. Report that Lt Col Snider has been talkKing to junior officers in the Institute and in his officers mess about Lt Col Ketchen commanding 6th Infy brigade to slander him in the worst way. On receipt of this from Ketchen I ordered that the officers who were present would report to me Major Parsons came, and Lieut ap Ryce Pryce The former stated that he heard Lt Colonel Snider use vile talk at the mess table of the 27th in the presence of a large number of his officers. Pryce heard him in the Institute. I then wrote Lieut Col Snider and gave him to understand that I was determined to have this end once and for all, and that he must explain himself, or take the consequences.

There is an 'At Home' to-night at the Royal Alexandra Hotel by the Daughters of Empire, Imperial Chapter.

North Wind. Cold but fine. Snow fell last night.

Winnipeg
Saturday 6

Up at 4. Max. 24° Min. 4° above zero. Snider tries to excuse himself and say that he never said a word against Lt Col Ketchen. I do not believe that statement. The officers who heard it are absolutely truthful and would not invent such a lie, when there were dozens present to corroborate them.

Busy all morning. The 32nd are to leave soon and go, I suppose as details to England, an infernal shame and outrage on the officers. I am going to see about this.

Winnipeg
Sunday 7

Up at 8. O'clock Max 24° Min 4° above zero. Wrote all morning. Must see Dr Simpson. This outrage must be put a stop to at once.

Many came last night to see us, Officers, Civilians and ladies. Fine day. Fine night Told Ketchen to see about Dr Simpson coming here.

Lt Colonel Osborne called the troops at Salisbury being shifted at the beck and call of people in Canada. That sweep Boyle of the 12th stated at his table that he had pull with Bennett and Rogers, and that the fellow is unpopular. The 11th Osborne states is to be details and is one of the very best corps in the Contingent. I hate the whole thing. It is appalling

Winnipeg,
Monday 8

Up at 8AM. Max Min Busy. Went through the list of the 3rd Contingent placing officers. Talked over all matters with Lt Colonel Ketchen. Have taken Berry as a clerk for myself. He reports at once Talked over dukes visit and the , General Baden Powell writes to say that he has the letter re the new army and cavalry training and has written Colonel Curtis asking him to send me the books Very kind of him and just like good BP. Have a letter saying that the troops are under the Imperial authorities and all clear of Canada A good thing. G.T.P. tell us that the 32nd is not to go just yet. I had wired and asked that the duke see them before they leave.

Told Sergt Berry to take charge of all my work as secretary keeps all books posted up and ready for the ~~front~~, I.G. insption and keep a list of books needed for each regiment.

Letter from Sam Hughes to the effect that charges have been made against Ketchen to the effect that he left the Mounted Police under a cloud, the army do. and sold ammunition (Govt) all false. I wired and will write. The villain is HD [*next page*] Homer-Dixon is the liar

Winnipeg.
Tuesday 9

Up at 7.00 Max. 20° Min 4° above zero. Mailed letter about Ketchens case to the Minister with papers complete shewing that the whole thing is an outrageous lie.

Opening of the Legislature to-day, 100 men Guard of honour 27th overseas batt Wired Harwood Steele in reply to his about outrageous doings at the school, constant annoyances, Wired the Prof Collinson to see him and talk matters over with Harwood and if things cannot be remedied he is to go to Orillia and then come home. Too bad.

Wednesday 10

Up at 8°. Max 24° Min 16° Busy all day. Wired duke as to a dinner by the officers. Got reply, he has prior invitation to govt House from Sir Douglas Cameron. I went out to Happyland to see if we could march past there on parade but we cannot do it snow too deep and gritty, so have decided to parade the troops on Main St in close column of platoons and march past in same formation. Did not think the 28th which we met were as smart as they should be. I called on the Davidsons at night (Hughes) and spent the evening there returned at 12.30 Arrangements about the parade for the duke being made. Impossible for them to be seen in drill hall as it only holds good for two thousand eight hundred men, whereas the troops could parade on Main St and then march past. Hodgins the Dreadfully Clever Rooster who is A.G. is more or less bothering him about things of which nothing can be done at present. I shall be glad when all has been fixed up.

Winnipeg
Thursday 11

Up at 7.45. Max. 20° Min. 0. Busy. Stewart of McClelland Goodchild and Stewart called about my book, and seems to say that it should sell at six and seven dollars per copy. I do not believe it. Wired Dukes. Secy to say that I suggest that we parade on Main St. and I have ordered a parade there. Hodgins has been wiring about the affairs to Ruttan who turns them over to me.

Went to lecture about the war by American War Correspondent, very vivid, good views of the destruction, Termonde- Liege, Antwerp, Louvain and other towns by the Germans. A description of the hellish conduct of the Germans he also told, in good style. Came home at 10.30

Winnipeg.
Friday 12

Up at 7.00 Max Min. Poor Colonel Scotts funeral. I was one of the pall bearers with Sir Daniel McMillan, Dick Jones, Capt Nash and Judge Walker St James cemetery was the place.

Gen Sam Hughes has ordered through the subaltern at Prince Albert that two hundred and fifty more men are to be taken on at that place as recruits. Just like him, most extraordinary man no idea of the proper way to do things.

Went with Mays to the Lord Selkirk Association banquet and dance. Made a speech because the Lord Selkirk Association lecturer could not come. I spoke of old times and pleased them all very much the Red River jig was great and Mays enjoyed the affair. I had tickets for another dance but we preferred to remain where we ~~are~~ were. The people were kind and the numerous Munroes, Sutherlands, Gunns, Mathesons, Pritchards and Polsons made us very comfortable indeed. Sherrif Inkster was in the chair. I took Mrs Mathers into dinner. She was very jolly and original.

Inspected and lectured the officers and N.C.O of the 27th on conduct, discipline and what the duke expects

Winnipeg,
Saturday 13

Up at 7.30. Max. Min At 10.00 Inspected the Non Coms of the 28th
Lectured them spoke to every man personally and asked him his Corps and service. I spoke ~~the~~ to the officers upstairs and told them what I expect of them on parade on Monday for H.R.H the Duke of Connaught, and also on everything in the shape of discipline and soldierly behaviour

that I could think of There was not a full parade of Non. Com officers on the ground. Went to the 32nd then and did the same. They are ahead and the Non Coms were in full strength. I spoke to them individually, and I find them very smart. Checked Major Garner for making excuses re belts on over coats. I drove back in motor and met Capt Alton late Royal Field artillery who wishes to get a little something to do. He served with Sir Redvers Buller in S.A. and seems all right.

Sunday 14

Up at 7.30. Max Min Stormy in the forenoon improved in the P.M. Busy writing letters official and otherwise. Went with Ketchen to meet His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn. The Lieut Gov. the Premier and the mayor Mr. Waugh were present. After the duke had approved of my orders for the review of the troops we returned home. and I met a lot of friends who had called as usual on Sunday evening.

Winnipeg
Monday 15

Up at 6. AM the weather has improved. Went with the Duke of Connaught to inspect the barracks of the troops in camp A very thorough inspection was made of everyone and every thing except the 27th battalion which owing to the depth of snow would be harder to get at. We shewed the duke the food and he was pleased with it. Lunched then at Govt House

In the afternoon at 3. P.M, the troops of the 2nd and third Contingents were drawn up in lines of masses along main from Portage Ave to Main St bridge 5600 strong and the duke was received by a salute. After that I accompanied him in the Inspection of all. I had intended the march past to be in column of platoons but the crowd was so great that we could only go by in column of route. The police did not do well in handling the crowd The Duke was pleased with all he saw and said he would put in orders for the purpose having all ranks know it all.

Went to the theatre night of the Artillery, had a box. Dr and Mrs Davidson, Lt Col and Mrs Ketchen were our guests Mays Mrs Harwood and Colonel Mitchell were with me too.

Winnipeg,
Tuesday 16

Up at 8 Max. 40° Min. 4°- above zero. There was a dinner at Govt House to the duke I was not asked although I am an A.D.C to His Royal Highness. Ketchens appointment is confirmed by the Minister to-day I am glad that he has been so just. It is too bad that he had such annoyance on a/c of liars and slanderers. I wrote Minister about Belcher and the command of the school here cavalry, unless he is wanted for elsewhere.

Signed papers re New Departure Fire Extinguisher co. I am President of it, and four of us have the secrets of the solution Gave H.H. Cockburn and WK Gordon letters to Sir T. Shaughnessy George Bury, C A. Harwood Gen Macdonald, etc. so that they can raise stock.

Winnipeg,
Wednesday 17

Up at 7.45 Max 44 Min. 28 Wrote Minister of Militia to say that the Fire extinguisher New Departure, is good and as Gordon wishes to see him I am informing him that I am the President

of the Co. I do not want him to give a contract and not know that I am such, as it would not be fair.

Fine day. Chinook wind snow thawing fast.

Walked out in the evening as far as the Corner of River Ave. and Osborne Street.

A Russian named Un(?) called to see me. He has come from Johannesburg. I shall have to make sure of him. I invited him to call so that I can size him up.

De La Rey was a rebel on German pay and so was de Wet.

Winnipeg.
Thursday 18

Up at 7.30 Max 44° Min 28° above zero. Wind has changed and is north, the day is dark but thawing hard. Letters from England. The Rev R. Stewart Patterson of Heathside, Heathside road Sanderstead Surry. He is strong against the Germans and asks me if I could do anything for his son who is in Labatts battalion. I will write Birchall at once, as he is in temporary command of the battalion, and ask him to keep an eye on the young fellow and if he deserves it do his best.

Winnipeg
Friday 19

Up at 7.00 Max 26°. Min 20° Busy all day. I took Colonel Ruttan Drs. Campbell, Mrs Mackay, Mrs Wright, and Mays to see the messes, kitchens and food of all the Corps in town. They looked at everything tasted all the food the sirup(?) tea butter etc and were greatly pleased with what they saw.

Norman G. Gill arrived and stayed all day with us. He is a fine boy.

Winnipeg
Saturday 20

Up at 7.45. Max . Min . Busy all forenoon. Took Col Ruttan and a few ladies, Mrs Campell, Mrs Mackay, Mrs Wright and Mays to see the 27th We found all nice, saw everything, tasted the food and saw everything in store, the boots bad and good the rifles, the orderly room, the quarters in fact everything in the battalion I spoke to Sergt Major Quinney firmly as usual about his having made excuses for the men when improperly dressed in town. He claims that he did not do it for himself but for the men, and I replied that it is in the hands of the officer and he should have made no excuses

My book has come.

As the complaints in Free Press have proved to be false about the food, I have come to the conclusion that the attacks in that paper are political and directed at Bob Rogers through us.

Winnipeg
Sunday 21

Fine day. Max. Min. Up early. Read my book Very much disgusted with the publisher he has cut out the best of it for the sake of space. It should have been two volumes instead of one. Many people called upon us in the evening. Messrs McCabe, Manville, and Harrower ~~called to see me~~, came to supper and spent the evening Arthur Levin of Johannesburg called to spend the evening I am preparing to go west tomorrow

Monday 22

Up early. Max. Min. On train west at night. Left by 10.15 train accompanied by Major Macleod, S. Sergt Berry and Sergt Hammond.
Received two hundred for expenses
Paid paymaster one hundred and sixty eight dollars which had been advanced to me by Captain Gagnon Paymaster of the district (10)

On train CPR
Tuesday 23

On train west. Arrived at Regina in the morning. Major Laird and son met me and informed the former that I would be at Regina on my way back to Winnipeg.

Arrived at Med Hat at 10.30 P.M. 'Phoned' Lieut Col Sissons asking him if he had been appointed brigadier of 1st M. Rifles yet, for which I recommended him, and he replied that he had been notified at headquarters and had been asked if he would accept and he replied in the affirmative and asked for orders. I told him that Brandon or Winnipeg would be his headquarters.

On train CP.Ry
Wednesday 24

Arrived at Calgary at 5.00 AM and our car was switched off on a siding, CPR Palliser hotel Colonel Cruickshank called upon me at 8.30 and I arranged to inspect the 30th battalion second contingent at 10.00 I did so accompanied by Colonel Cruickshank D.O.C and Major Macleod, Lt Col. A.H Bell, Major in Lord S Horse was in Command. The battalion was drawn up at the arena of the exhibition grounds in Mass Line of Company Columns The men are of good physique I addressed the battalion from the judges stand and gave them my opinion of them and a lot of good advice as to their conduct at home and abroad The Corps was pleased and the spectators cheered me, so did the battalion very heartily

In the afternoon at 2.30 I inspected the th Mounted Rifles, Lt Col Macdonald in command on foot Fine men. Poor boots. I then inspected the th battalion 3rd Contingent, Lt Col King-Mason. The battalion is of good physique, boots bad from Ottawa. The frocks of the men are too tight I think. The duke was of the same opinion in Winnipeg.

Calgary 24th
~~Thursday 25~~

I inspected the Field Ambulance in the forenoon, men small but serviceable(sic) stout lads. I addressed every Corps on the parade.

After the inspection of the MR I inspected all the barracks canteens kitchens and I am pleased with them although not quite so good as those of the 27th 28th and 32nd in Winnipeg. The messing costs less as the men are on rations and the cooKing is done by squadrons and companies. I had no time to see the officers but hope to do so later.

I met many old friends who were pleased to see me.

The Palliser hotel is a palace fire proof and a credit to the C.P.Ry.

We left Calgary for the coast at 7. P.M. I have the drawing room.

Thursday 25th 1915,
Vancouver B.C.

Arrived here at midnight of this date and was met at the train by Colonel Ogilvie D.O.C R.C.H.A. (Buff) Lt Col Duff-Stewart, Lt Colonel Tobin, and others all jolly and kindly. I put up at the Hotel Vancouver and was soon comfortable.

Friday 26

Up at 6.30 AM. and accompanied by the D.O.C. and Lt Col Duff-Stewart, brigadier of local troops inspected the 29th batt. commanded by Lieut Colonel Tobin, Late Lord S. Horse. The men were in mass, and looked well boots good, physique good drill above the average. Men like regulars, but superior like all the rest of the 6th infantry brigade. Arms drill very smart marched past good in spite of the small space, like regulars Tobin is doing well and has good officers and N.C.O.

Inspected the Duke of Connaughts Own Rifles Colonel Hulme. The latter is to be formed into a batt of the 3rd Contingent, men steady

Inspected canteens. Dormitories mess rooms kitchens etc etc of the 29th after delivering an address on parade. I was cheered and the large crowd of people were pleased. I saw some wretched horses palmed off on the Yukon detachment which was on parade. 29th instructions good, messing done regimentally.

Inspected provisional infy school in the afternoon, and the batt of the 3rd Contingent and Lt Colonel Kirkpatrick's Mounted Rifles. The latter are not horsed yet After

Vancouver BC
Friday 26th
~~Saturday 27~~

Horsed yet, men are of good physique. I addressed the parade and laid down the line of conduct for all ranks. Many people were present.

Only the 2nd Contingent is fully equipped. The boots of the 29th were made by Leckie of Vancouver and are far superior to any I have seen. The men had no complaints of any kind.

After the inspection of the units and school I left for New West Minster accompanied by the D.O.C Lt Col. Duff Stewart and my staff, and inspected some of Cos of Infantry for the third Contingent under Lt Col I then inspected the messing etc et. and barracks dormitories which are in the course of preparation,

In the evening I attended a dinner at the club to Tobin's regt and had to respond to the Canadian Forces. I met many friends there. I had to catch the boat for Victoria at midnight, D.O.C and staff with me. Tobin came too.

Sat 27th

Arrived at Victoria at 7 AM. and at 10 inspected the 2nd CMR Lt Colonel Bott Comg. Fine corps, only 70 horses. They are as in Vancouver and New Westminster at the exhibition grounds

Victoria,
Sat 27th Cont

~~Sunday 28~~

The men are of fine physique have been mobilized since September, equipment good, boots by Leckie of Vancouver very good, messing good Officers as at all other stations keen at their work and well up. The parade was under the Command of Lt Colonel Holmes, who received me as usual with a salute. The fault so prevalent of giving the present before the inspecting officer is in front of the centre of the line was repeated here and I spoke of it. Holmes who is a fine officer was of course sorry.

The artillery 5th regt had some men on parade, also the 88th All were of good physique and steady in the ranks, good discipline is evident throughout the district.

Inspected the batteries in the P.M accompanied by Ogilvie and Staff. All in good order men smart, quarters snug Only two guns fit for the place, 9 inch very very good. Detachments smart. Dined at Doigs(?),

Sunday 28th Feb. 1915,

Took the boat for ~~Victoria~~ at for Vancouver after lunch and arrived at 5.00 Nice trip. Col. Duff-Stewart met me and took me to the hotel. Saw the Clarry Steeles

March

Vancouver.

Monday 1

Up early. Went with Lieut Colonel Duff-Stewart to see Tobins men at work There was a scheme of the half battalions, commanded by the majors.

In the afternoon Colonel Duff Stewart drove me to the battery English Bay, around the park and along the marine drive a beautiful road skirting the sea shore.

The men at the guns belong to the 72nd and were busy at drill Guns too small and badly placed for defence. There is a strong guard which turned out smartly.

I dined with Elmes and Mrs Henderson. Had a pleasant time An English gentleman and lady came afterwards and spent the evening. I did my best to entertain and all were pleased

Elmes eldest son dined also. He is married. I retired to bed at 11.30

Vancouver,

Tuesday 2

Up early. I addressed the Canadian club. at luncheon and spoke on the work being done, was fluent and well received Fred Wade and many old friends were there. Driven in motor around the environs of the city at 4.00 PM and, dined at the 29th who had a concert.

Alex Miller drove me about the city as above.

~~Calgary~~

On train,

Wednesday 3

Up at 5.00 Left Vancouver at 8.30 Lt Colonels Duff-Stewart and Tobin saw us off.

Calgary.

Thursday 4

Up early. Met many people most of them worried about the purchases of horses for the 2nd Division and for the market or depot being moved. I met Lt Colonel McRae here and informed him that I would be at Brandon on Monday night and all day Tuesday, to see the horses purchased by him for the Second division and he expressed a wish that I see them at Regina and at Brandon.

Colonel Cruickshank called and stated that it would cause trouble if Fanes(?) squadron of the 3rd M.R. were moved from South Edmonton. I agreed that it would. The whole of the men I met were complaining and worrying about rumours that the troops of the middle west are to be sent to Sewell. Our people are getting to be very narrow minded.

Macleod and I called upon Mrs Lee and Mrs Atkinson Charming people, the latter a beautiful woman. We then dined at the Lt Colonel George Macdonalds. Mrs Howe was there and looks well.

Medicine Hat,
Friday 5

Up at 5. AM Arrived here at 7.00 AM, and we were met by Lieut Col. Sissons, and he motored us to the hotel Assiniboia. The best in town but not much.

At 11.00 I inspected the regiment 3rd and found the physique good drill fair. Major Whittaker was nervous, much snow and mud. Lunched at the officers mess, men well set up and neat. Their training has been delayed by a lot of work they had to do building stables. Visited the stables. They were not very clean. I then saw the men at dinner and in their quarters food good, quarters very clean, no complaints. This was before lunch. After lunch the men were on parade and ranked past in sections and single file There are many poor horsemen amongst them. The drill was not well done. There is nothing to complain of in the horses. They are sturdy brutes, some have a Clyde strain though.

Left at night for Moose Jaw.

Regina,
Saturday 6

Up at 5.00 arrived at Moosejaw(sic) at 6.00 breakfasted at the hotel and at 9.00 inspected the half battalion in the drill hall and saw them at work out doors and in. Inspected kitchens, offices, messes, ante rooms officers. Met Patterson late R.N. W.M Police at Macleod. He is the quartermaster for the Corps. I found everything in very good order as far as possible. There is no uniform no rifles, but the men were neat and clean. Left for Regina at 11.00 and on arrival at noon in a train load of ill mannered noisy boys we put up at the King hotel. Colonel Carman and several officers met us at station and motored us to the club, where Carman gave us a nice luncheon. At 2.30 inspected the troops. They are of the third Contingent and very good physique but not yet equipped nor armed. They are making good progress at drill on foot. I inspected fifteen hundred horses bought for the second division by Lt Col. McRae. They are good especially the gunners and draught horses. There are also some good ones off the prairie for saddle, a little rough yet in their Coats but are improving.

Brandon –
Sunday 7

Up at 5. AM. Arrived here at 4.00 P.M by C.P.R. and put up at the Prince George CN.R. hotel and met at station, Lt Colonels Clark and Stevenson, and some officers. Arranged for the work tomorrow, met many officers of the Corps at Brandon.

Brandon –
Monday 8

Up early. Inspected the Mounted Rifles and infantry and saw them at work outside. Day fine. Many ladies in evidence The 1st. C.M R Lieut Colonel Stevenson very smart on foot they have no horses yet. They have some pipers and a small band. The music was too slow. I had it corrected.

Went out to the rifle range after lunch and saw A squadron 1st. M.R at musketry the shooting was poor at five hundred yards.

Did not sleep well.

Had long chat with Lt Colonel McRae, he seems anxious for me to see the horses.

Winnipeg
Tuesday 9

Up early. Saw twelve hundred fine horses, gunners draught and saddle, at the exhibition grounds, led by Clarkes infantry Corps. I was pleased, so were the large crowd which surrounded the arena. I saw the stables they are in good order.

We were lunched by the Council afterwards and I had to speak to my health so had McRae Sissons and Major George Carruthers. Caught train on CP.Ry at four P.M. and arrived here at 8.00 Motored home and met a warm reception.

Winnipeg
Wednesday 10

Up early. Max 50° Min 36°. Office at ten. Saw Colonel Ruttan and set to work at an enormous mass of correspondence, which was rapidly handled.

Winnipeg.
Thursday 11

Up early. Max 50° Min, 36. Busy all day, roads and the streets sloppy with snow which is melting fast. Busy at the correspondence.

Winnipeg.
Friday 12

Up early, hard at work all day. Max. Min. Mrs Niblett called to see me and I gave her my manuscript to correct my book with. Wire from Sam Hughes about Jarvis asking about his ability etc wired back that he is provost marshal for the second division and that I recommended him for the rank of Lieut Colonel, and I stated that he is satisfied with provost marshall. Mrs Niblett did not report me correctly tonight, she calls Lt Colonel Burstall a late Lord S Horse officer when I told her distinctly that Burstall was the O.C divisional artillery now in France, and is a member of the Canadian R.H Artillery. I must correct this.

Winnipeg
Saturday 13

Max 50. Min. 32 Up early busy all day and at 6.00 was at the Davidsons. Met Mrs McMeans, Mrs Campbell, Mrs. Crosthwaite, and others.

Wrote many letters. I am going along all right. Weather fine. Snow disappearing.

Sunday 14

Up at 8.00. Max 38.° Min 22° Busy noting changes to be made in my book for Mrs Niblett to take with her. Called at the Genests met Principal and Mrs Maclean Mr and Mrs Grant Hall, Mrs Pelletier, Miss Pelletier, and many others including Mrs Wilson Smith Frank Steele. Majors Jarvis and French came to supper at 6.30 and after supper some thirty people came to see us and a pleasant time was spent.

Wind has changed to the North east not a good sign here. Feel well. Mr Haslett says I look it. I need it.

Monday 15

Max 57. Min 30. Up early. Telegram from the Minister directing me to go to Ottawa to see him about organization Wrote many letters. Talked to Grey about the Fort Garry Horse. He gives a poor account of them. The name stinks with their comrades in the other corps. Dresden German Cruiser sunk she was one of the squadron that destroyed part of Admiral Craddocks Squadron and was afterwards at the Falklands where the German squadron was destroyed except the Dresden which escaped to the Pacific during the fight. Mays and I spent the evening with Mr and Mrs Haslett and enjoyed it.

Tuesday 16

Up early. Busy. Got from Ottawa authority to rent an office. Got a good one in block corner of Broadway and Colony St, four rooms. In the evening I was busy getting ready to go to Ottawa, on telegram of the Minister of Militia the Hon. Sam. Hughes.

On Train
Winnipeg to Ottawa, Ont,
Wednesday 17

Up at 5. AM. Took 8.10 train Major Jarvis with me en route to Toronto on leave. He is Provost Marshal of the Second Contingent for the war. Lieutenant Meredith is with him en route.

We found Judge Haggart and Mr. on board, nice men. Very few passengers except on the Toronto and Montreal sleepers.

Jarvis thinks I am for the 2nd Contingent but I cannot believe it.

At Fort William Lt. Col. Young met me and introduced Capt Wilcox of the army retired. He wants to be adjutant of the 52nd batt for overseas. He was advised to take a course of instruction at Winnipeg. A good adjutant is needed.

On train Wpg to Ottawa,
Thursday 18

Up at 6.30 Max. Min. Nothing to do but read and talk Dr Herridge the leading Presbyterian clergyman was on train. I had a chat with him and a number of ~~presb~~(?) Salvation Army officers one of them the Commissioner of the Army for Canada. Jarvis left with Meredith at Sudbury for Toronto, at 6.40 P.M.

Ottawa,
Friday 19

Arrived from Winnipeg at 6.00 and took rooms at the Laurier. Met Mr Bennett MP for Calgary at the train on his way to Montreal. Took a bath and then wrote up my diary.

Left at night by the invitation of Gen. Sam Hughes Minister of Militia and Defence to see the troops at Toronto. Sir Sam offered me Command of the 2nd Division and I accepted it. His brother was present, (John) and when I accepted the billet he went away I doubt if the Secretary of State for War, Lord Kitchener can accept a Canadian. Sir John French will not if he can accept it. If I could not make a better shew for the Canadians than Alderson, I would give(?) him. His command has been a failure. He has caused Canadians to get a bad reputation in England. They are not Englishmen by birth, but all the same the Canadians get the reputation.

Had a pleasant nights rest on the train.

Toronto.
Saturday 20

Arrived at 7. OC. breakfasted and then went to the exhibition grounds. and after lunch the troops paraded and I was given a rearing horse, not intentionally and met with a very serious accident. The horse had no mane and therefore when he reared I could grasp nothing to steady me and enable me to land on my feet. I took my right foot out of the stirrup and was coming all right to land on it when the horse knuckled down on his off hind leg and swinging to the right he caused me to fall on my left shoulder. My ribs got a severe squeeze injuring the internal muscles. The left clavicle was broken and I got a bad lump on the back of my head and a black eye. I did not become insensible and was helped into the mess and after a little attention was taken to the hospital and attended to, anesthetic, ether, x rays etc were applied and it was found that the ligaments of the left shoulder were so much torn that the bone would not remain set, and I knocked it out. ex rays proved that. Major Jarvis good old sort was present all the time as he was sure to be where he could do good.

Toronto Gen Hosple
Sunday 21

In hospital pretty well battered up but still in the ring Two fine girls the Misses Martin and Buchanan are my nurses the latter for the night, very good to me.

Lt Colonel Roberts C.A.MC who is to take a hospital to the war is my surgeon, a fine young man with an excellent reputation as a Surgeon. He is very attentive, and told me that I had to take chloroform on Monday I do not rest well but my pulse is normal and temperature the same.

Toronto, Gen. Hospl,
Monday 22

Upon breakfasting I was given Chloroform, and my shoulder was put in again all right. I was found by Dr Primrose to be very strong, heart sound arteries sound, and that I am much above average for my age. I ~~eate~~ eat little, sleep little but feel well enough. Lt Colonel Roberts is well pleased.

Toronto. Gen Hospl,
Tuesday 23

Still in hospital, many friends called. Large numbers of flowers decorate my ward which is one of the best private wards in the hospital. Jarvis and his sisters the Raes and many others called

Toronto. Gen
Wednesday 24

In hospital as usual. Many visitors many flowers, and good treatment.

Toronto. Gen Hosple
Thursday 25

Still in hospital.

Toronto,
Friday 26

Still in hospital.

Toronto, Gen Hosp

Still in hospital but improving Many callers, and kind enquiries Mays called as usual. I attended to all my correspondence through my secretary.

Toronto. Gen Hosp.
Sunday 28

Still in hospital, attended to all correspondence. Mays and many others called to see me.

Toronto Gen Hospl.
Monday 29

Still in hospital. Mays called as usual, so did many others

Toronto Gen Hospl.
Tuesday 30

Up early. Walked a little did not sleep well. Mays called. Correspondence as usual.

Toronto Gen, Hosple
Wednesday 31

Up early. Mays called, so did many. Attended to all my correspondence. Up for a while.

April

Toronto General Hosp.
Thursday 1

Up for a while. Lt Col. Roberts thinks that I can leave the hospital on the 5th inst.

Toronto.
Friday 2

Still in hospital but improving

Toronto,
Saturday 3

Still in hospital.

Toronto Gen Hosple
Sunday 4

Still in hospital. Many visitors but improving.

Queens Hotel Toronto.
Monday 5

Mays came and took me from hospital. The people were sorry to see me go.

Queens Hotel, Toronto to Ottawa.
Tuesday 6

Busy all day Left Toronto at 10.50 P.M. CPR for Ottawa. Night journey tough but stood it well.
Met Gen Hughes next day Put up at Laurier

Ottawa Ont
Wednesday 7

With Minister of Militia. He says that Kitchener does not want Canadians. I told him that although I had been offered and accepted the command of Second division for the war I did not wish to embarrass(sic) the government. In reply he stated that the govt would not back down for Kitchener. Attended to much correspondence all the rest of the day.

Hotel Laurier Ottawa
Thursday 8

With Minister all day about Staff, etc. Correspondence too.

Ottawa,
Friday 9

Busy with Minister of Militia and heavy mail from west,

Ottawa
Saturday 10

Busy all day. Jarvis told me that the duke was disturbed because I did not call. I wrote and explained everything to him and called and signed my name in the book.

Ottawa
Sunday 11

Received letter from Mil sec. re my letter. Mays Marie Gus and self called on the Sir Robert Bordens and were well received. Sam was there. Tea ~~Dined~~ with the Biggars and had a nice time. Got home at midnight

Ottawa
Monday 12

Busy all day at correspondence

Ottawa to Winnipeg, on CPRy
Tuesday 13

Up early. All day busy and saw the Minister of Militia about the Command of the 2nd. Division. Was invited to lunch by H.R H. the Duke of Connaught but could not go. Left for Winnipeg by CPR at 12.55 AM. Major Jarvis also left.

Winnipeg.
Wednesday 14

Arrived here at 9.35 and was met by Colonel Ketchen and Major Parsons. Mrs Ketchen and Mrs. Niblett also came. The former drove us home. All glad to see us I am still in pain in left side.

Winnipeg
Thursday 15

Busy in Office in Waldron Block. Organization.
Left side painful, right arm do.

Winnipeg
Friday 16

Up early. Busy all day. In office in the Waldron Block. Busy at Correspondence in connection with organization of 2nd Division for England.

Winnipeg.
Saturday 17

Busy in office. I saw the 5th artillery brigade pass the Somerset block and the Post Office Mr Rogers and I were in a motor and saw them go by. They looked well for the time they were at work, horses are in better condition I asked the Hon. Robert Rogers if they are going to confirm me in command of the Second Contingent and he replied yes! and also in reply to a question stated that he saw His Royal Highness the duke about me and found that he had no objection to me. I stated that I understood that he had but Rogers says that is past.

I went back to the office. Mays Mrs Harwood, and Harwood were at the review. Bob Rogers was pleased with the horses.

Winnipeg,
Sunday 18

[entire entry crossed out:]

Up early. Max 76° min 51

My brother in law, Dr Harwood, Lt Colonel of the 51st battalion overseas regiment at Edmonton. He has Tilly with him and spent the day with us. Reginald does not know that his battalion is to go as details to reinforcement ~~ment~~ the front line.

Fine day.

Winnipeg.
Monday 19

Fine day busy in office Have been given electric treatment by Dr Davidson as usual, feel a little better on account of it Reggie does not know that his corps is to go as details only and not go to the front as a unit.

Winnipeg,
Tuesday 20

Up at 6.30 Max 65 Min, 52

Winnipeg,
Wednesday 21

Up at 6.30 Busy all day. Saw Mrs Niblett about the second edition of my book. Had many calls from persons on duty. Got authority to have Major Smith as asst P.V.O. on Staff. Moran telegrams to the effect that I can appoint him if I like to be cashier.

Went to have electric treatment from Dr. Davidson. Then called on Mrs Harrower with Mays and went to tea with the officers and their wives. and in the evening Bagnall called with Calvert and were pleased with their reception.

Colonel Ruttan has fixed Harwood for his training.

Hot Chinook wind all day very violent.

Winnipeg.
Thursday 22

Up at 7.30 Max 76. Min 71.

Rain last night. East wind all day rain all day.

Lt Col Burritt called to see me he states that his regiment did not get a square deal and I am sure he is right. He is to return on the 7th instant.

No news yet about de Bury or Dr Simpson going to the front

Winnipeg.
Friday 23

Up early. Saw Mrs Niblett about the 2nd, edition of my book, "Forty years in Canada" It is going on well. Telegram from Dr. Reginald Harwood Lt Col of 53rd battalion, Edmonton, asking me to recommend him to Hon Robert Rogers and Hon Dr Roche for the western senatorship. I did so. Reginald also informs me that he and his wife will be here in a couple of days, they leave Edmonton for here to-night. My book is having a good sale and is highly approved of by several papers in the old land as well as here.

Max 76. Min. 51. Weather raw and wet. Spent the evening at home. Wrote and wired Gen. Hughes about the appointment of the Count de Bury to the post of G.S.O 2nd Grade. It will be a great mistake to leave him behind in the ordnance corps.

Went to the Dr. Davidson for electric treatment, feel a little better about it.

Winnipeg,
Saturday 24

Up early. 6 7.30 Cold raw and damp, busy in the office. Wired Colonel Cruickshank MD 10 on behalf of one of his clerks who wishes to come with 2nd Div to the war. He had written Q.MS Berry about it and stated that the Colonel had recommended him.

Max. 70, Min. 36°

Mr Williams Barrister called and stated that he advises me not to say anything re a lawsuit with Preston until I came back again from England, says Preston is going to fight it and that I should be present and give evidence in person and if so that I will win.

Winnipeg.
Sunday 25

Reggie here and Tilly. Fine day. They spent the day with us. They came to see Mays and Mrs Harwood. Reggie has command of the 51st as lieut Colonel but does not know that it to go as mere details a great shame.

Winnipeg.
Monday 26

Busy all day. Max 74. Min 50° Reggie still here. I got some electric treatment and felt a little better.

Winnipeg,
Tuesday 27

Busy all day. Fine weather. Took electric treatment Reggie and. wife still here, but I did not see both.

Winnipeg,

Wednesday 28

Up early 6.30 as usual Max 74 Min 50° Electric treatment. Lots of work in the office Picked out my horses. Three of them They seem good.

Thursday 29

Up early Max. 74. Min 50.

Busy. Recommended Harwood to go as A.D.C

Went to Dr Davidson, Somerset block and got some electric treatment, then in office for a while and at 4.00 P.M had electric and other massage and electric treatment at the place on River Avenue Fort Rouge. It was marvellously well done

Dr Simpson called to shew me a telegram from General S. Hughes Minister of Militia to inform him that he could go as Surgeon Lieut Col. to the war The Dr has consented to go – Mr Work insurance agent Sun Life called to see me about a policy. Colonel Ruttan called to ask me to review the parade of the troops for a memorial service at Happyland. I consented. The Mayor Mr Waugh also called to see me about the same thing and I had sent him to Ruttan. Very windy day. The worst I have seen here for years.

Dined with Reggie Harwood and Tilly. Mays and her mother with us. A dance was on but we took no part in it. Not the proper thing to do with all our boys suffering from the wounds and death of this awful and iniquitous war.

Winnipeg,
Friday 30

Up at 7.30. Max 72° [*corrected from 52*] Min 40° [*corrected from 41*] Busy all day until 11.20 AM. Fine day. Made application for a policy of five thousand dollars. I put my date of birth at 5th Jan. 49 Colonel Biggar wires me asking when I shall be ready to sail one ship is the 6th and the other on the 13th May. I replied ready when required and ordered.

Memorial service at Happyland for the fallen Canadian heroes Five thousand six hundred of all ranks were on parade. The Daughters of the Empire who have met here for business were on parade, they came late. After the review there was a march past The band music was bad, too slow for proper marching and the ground too rough. I felt well. Mays, Mrs Harwood, Reggie and Tilly, Flora Gertie and Harwood were there. About twenty thousand people were on the ground. The day was delightful, 72° in shade the men very steady indeed. 25° per cent of third and 4th Contingents are going to England, one Co from each battalion.

Went to the pageant of Empire with Mays Reggie and Tilly at the invitation of Sir James Aikins. Shew indicated much work. Miss Edyth Lever sang well.

May

Winnipeg.
Saturday 1

Max. 68°(?) Min 68 [*corrected from 46*] Up at 6.15 Got wire that ship would be ready for me on the 13th at Montreal. Busy all forenoon. Dr Gardner examined me for life insurance to-day. I am getting ready to go to England. Had an hour at the electric treatment, and had a good trial of it. The operator does well. Gave Mrs Niblett my contract with Herbert Jenkins & Co. so that she can see about the increase etc etc Wrote several letters to people. One to Gus and one to

Lighthall about his son. Lord K of K. wrote through his secretary Fine day. It was cool last night. Reggie and Marie still here. No word yet about Harwoods appointment to the extra A.D.C place. Max 68° Min 38.

Laid Corner Stone of Wolseley School Kildonan, and addressed the assemblage, was given a silver trowel with inscription on it. The people were kind. One lady of 94 years came to shake hands McBeths and Sutherlands with numerous Munroes(?) came to see me. I inspected the cadets, and spoke to them.

Reggie and Tilly left for Edmonton at 10.00 by the

Winnipeg.
Sunday 2

Up at 7.00 Max. 72. Min 40° Busy in office all forenoon Saw Mrs Niblett about the book second edition. Day cool.

Sent Mrs Niblett copies of the agreement for my book Forty Years in Canada and got copy for Mays I also wrote Herbert Jenkins & Co

Winnipeg.
Monday 3

Up early. Max. 72° Min 41° Lunch with Colonel Rowley Bk of Commerce to meet the head of the Great Steel Trust. Several were present. Bill Alloway says the horses bought by Col McRae are fine, worth more than they cost the Govt. Gave a book to Rowleys guest Electric treatment in forenoon. Busy all afternoon. Spent a couple of hours in the Mil. institute.

Officers and men of the 2nd Contingent are very anxious to go to the front and of course cannot see the cause of the delay in being sent off.

Sent 'phone' to Dr Davidson to the effect that I cannot go to-day to have electric treatment. Will go tomorrow.

Winnipeg.
Tuesday 4

Up at 6.45 [*corrected from 7.45*] Max. 72° Min. 34 Got electric treatment at 10.00 It is pretty severe but one must grin and bear it. Fine day. Went to the 27th sports day –suited(?) well and large gathering of nice people were present including the Lt Governor and Lady Cameron We got home at 7.30

At 1.00 P.M I lunched at the club. It was given by Grant Hall Vice President of the CP.Ry to Sir Thomas Shaughnessy. Sir Daniel McMillan was there and reminded me that he was to purchase me a horse the best that could be got in the country.

Sir Hugh Macdonald told me that the Duke of Connaught did not object to my getting command of the second division of the Canadian Force to England on the contrary that he had expressed himself pleased with the prospect as I understood the Canadian Militia.

Winnipeg
Wednesday 5

Max 72. Min 35 Miserable day. Busy in office Dr Gardner says that sugar not much was found in my urine, and that the Ins. Co are strict about that I gave him another bottle of urine. Major Macleod called to see me. He wishes to go to the front on my staff, and has applied to the

Minister of Militia. I gave him a letter against an Icclander who is a German sympathiser, a Mrs Bull(?) wrote me about him.

Snow fell in the night but melted as fast as it came down

Wrote Herbert Jenkins and Mrs Niblett about my book and manuscript.

I went to the Electric Operator for an hours treatment. It is not joke, but I suppose will do some good after all.

Got authority to take Lt. Col. Correlli with me to England. He is on transport and supply staff of my division.

Winnipeg.
Thursday 6

Up at 6.30 Max. 72°. Min 36° Busy all day. Dr Davidson has ordered me to resume my diet as he formerly instructed me to do, he also gave me an electric application and has done me good. I must stick to a meat diet and eat no starchy food for the present. I did not go to Mr Coatup(?) to-day Wrote many letters to friends and gave orders on many points. Harwood lets his mother have to save for him sixty dollars a month Ray Montague one of my ADC is looking for a horse for which Sir Daniel McMillan is to pay Up to date it is hard to find one of them valuable enough. I hear that one of the artillery officers has been given leave to go to Vancouver and when there ran down to the Panama Exposition in San Francisco without leave! Some of the officers of the artillery are lacking in common sense. They must learn some, or they will be of little use to us.

Winnipeg,
Friday 7

Up at 6.00 shaved and went to bed again. Went to the electrician at 10.00 and got a good severe dose, but I think it will be beneficial to me. Major McLeod~~d~~ called gave me his photograph and informed me that a lot of Ruthenian Jews are the persons who started the great parade of unemployed(!)

I wired the Minister of Militia and asked him if he can do anything to appoint Major Macleod to my staff.

Gave Salvation army five dollars

Winnipeg
Saturday 8

Up at 7.00 Max. Min Strong wind busy all day. Took electric treatment and attended the North West Field Force banquet at the Grange hotel. I am still in pain in both shoulders and arms, but improving. Awful tragedy at sea. German submarines sunk the great ship Lusitania of the Cunard line by torpedo and caused the death of about thirteen hundred innocent passengers. The world is furious about the horror. We should have had destroyers all along there and have patrols along the line.

Winnipeg
Sunday 9

Up early 5.30. AM then went to bed again. Went to Church memorial service to Mr Stewart Tupper who died recently in England. The church was packed to the doors. A large number of friends came to me to say good bye.

Winnipeg-
Monday 10

Up at 7.15 Max. Min Fine day. Inspected the 5th brigade of artillery Lt Colonel Ducharme in command. I spoke to all ranks and gave them good advice, and also separately to officers & soldiers old soldiers, and gave a piece of my mind to two offrs one for drinkin the other for going to the US when on leave in Victoria.

Great riot in Victoria on a/c of the sinkin of the Lusitania all German shops and restaurants wrecked soldiers of the 48th took part.

Getting ready to leave tomorrow morning at 8.10

En route to Ottawa
Tuesday 11

Up at 4.30 and after a cup of coffee took train at 8.00 Mays and the children Sir Daniel McMillan, Col Mitchell and Colonel Ruttan saw me off. I am accompanied by Lt Col Corelli and my son Harwood who is an ADC extra. All were sorry to see us go and cheered us very heartily at the station. I am on my way to England via Ottawa to command the Second division of Canadian troops for the "Great War" A great honour to me and I pray to God that I may do my duty well and be a credit to my native land dear Canada.

I am supported by the Minister in Council who desire good discipline and good treatment for our troops. I will give it to them please God.

On Train C.P.R. to Ottawa
Wednesday 12

Up early read all day

On Train CPR to Ottawa
Thursday 13

En route, read all day

Ottawa to Montreal.
Friday 14

Arrived in Ottawa at 6.05 AM by C.P.Ry train and after breakfast reported to the Minister of Militia Gen. Sam Hughes, and was received politely and later I was present at the Council meeting at 10.30 at which the business of the second division was gone into The Minister read the correspondence between him and Lord Kitchener the Secretary of State for war and also a fierce cable which he sent to the latter when an objection was raised against the Canadian offr to command the Canadian division. The cable was a hot one but deserved I think.

It was stated by Major Gen Gwatkin Chief of the Staff that I am to command all the Canadian troops at Shorncliffe. Brig. Gen McDougall to command the depot under me. I am to get the

names of all the officers of the Second Divn and transmit same to Mil headquarters, Ottawa, as soon as possible.

The Minister spoke harshly of several officers including Gen Lessard hinting that he had been informed that the latter was troubled with cold feet. I defended him and stated that good soldiers had informed me that Lessard was a good officer in the field. It is too bad that such things should be brought up. Montreal at 8.30

Montreal
Sat
~~Saturday 15~~

Left Ottawa at 4.45 yesterday and came in the car of the Hon Mr Cochrane, Minister of Railways. Found him very pleasant and a man of sound ideas on all matters. His son Lieutenant Cochrane was with us. He is my ADC and seems to be a good young fellow, and capable to(sic). After dinner we arrived here and were met by "Gus" Harwood and went to his house to see Marie and the children. Came back to the Windsor at 10.30, Gus and Roddy escorting Harwood and myself. Went to bed at 11.

Saturday 15th

Up at 7.00 and wrote up my diary. Met many persons. Spent evening at Gus' Frank was there and Charlotte Herbert. We left for the boat at 10.30. Gus and Frank took street car but did not get down. A general mix up took place and I could not see them to say goodbye. People are odd.

Got on board at 10.30 went to bed at 1.00 read until much later Prof. Cranes(?) lectures re Germany. He pictures them in their true colours, as hating England, unreasoning hate. I think some men are absent. Carelessness.

On board S.S. Megantic, White Star liner,
Saturday
~~Sunday 16~~ 15.

Up at 6.15 Slept well last night and had a bath. Stateroom very comfortable indeed. Gave Corelli orders to see the Capt and arrange about orders for the discipline on board the ship, and issue full instructions as to good behaviour. None of the absentees were found last night.

Captain invited me to sit at his table and the O.C's and the rest of the staff sat there too. Food good. Corelli issued his orders as directed. All sentries orders were promulgated and the places for all ranks were set aside. The upper promenade deck for officers, the lower for the Non. Coms and men.

I met Miss Macdonald and had a chat with her. She is the sister of Lt Colonel J.F. Macdonald head of the Ordnance Corps.

Wrote Gen. Hughes and recommended Hodson for Sewell camp. Wrote to the effect that when in England I would expect his [*in pencil*: (Hughes)] support in all that is good and that I would do my best for the government of Canada.

Sent a letter to the hotel Frontenac asking him to telegraph Mays to the effect that we had sailed from Montreal last night, really this A.M. Wrote Mays Gus, and Galbraith about my mining land. Mays re taxes.

On board Megantic,
Sunday. May 16th

~~Monday 17~~

Up at 7.00 Massaged. Ship Sailed at 2.30 after receiving orders from Ottawa. Beautiful day, sailing down the great and magnificent St Lawrence sighted the Niobi HMC.S of war. Passed near Rimouski the buoy which marks the resting place of the Empress of Ireland, rammed last year by the Thorstad Norwegian coal carrier.

Church parade for all hands. I attended the pursers service in the Saloon, he read the prayers well God save the King was played at the conclusion.

A naval Lieutenant Commander lunched with us.

I have given orders for plenty of work tomorrow, boat drill and assemblage on the deck for practice. Met the ladies who are travelling with us.

L Colonel Allan commands the 20th battalion. The men are a good lot none were missing when we left Montreal. Pousette left some of the Ammunition Column men at Toronto, why I do not know.

Monday
17th May 1915.

Up at 6.30 The Captain was down for the first time to breakfast. He is a nice man Capt Metcalfe. I saw him at 11.00 and he informed me that he had his orders to land us at Plymouth and first make for

The White Star liner Megantic at Sea.

~~Tuesday 18~~
Monday 17th

for a point three hundred miles south west of Plymouth,

Men busy at physical drill on deck and fitting their life belts. They seem a good lot. The boat has taken two corps over during the war and this lot of all is the best lot, best disciplined. The 34th were bad, rough house all day, disobedient and ill disciplined. Boat drill and all sorts of work has to be attended to now and orders are issued. The Capt says the Lusitania should not have been where she was when torpedoed She should have been out of sight of the coast or nearly so.

Tuesday, 18th May,

Up at 6.15. Drill went on. Fire, boat & physical. 20th batt. slow at first and much confused but better in the afternoon. A few men sea sick but all imagination. The ship has no roll to speak of. The Captain came to meals a nice man, who has sailed much. He states that in Australia the Germans before the war were given an advantage over others particularly the British ships They got their stores landsed free but the British had to pay fourpence per ton There are many Germans out there I suppose preparatory to the seizure of Australia by the Kaiser. I walked much. Inspected the parades and then read a lot.

The White Star liner Megantic at Sea
Wednesday 19

Up at 6.15 Fine morning sea light. Weather up to date is fine. Yesterday I lectured the officers in the library, chiefly on account of the men being slow to turn out for boat drill.

L Colonel Allan came out to breakfast was ill yesterday.

Arranged to mount machine guns, in case they would be useful on submarines. Lt. Commander Cunningham R.N. is on board and was consulted. The turn out to boat stations was better done to-day all being at their places in seven minutes but the ammunition column and smaller units A.S.C were in theirs in four minutes. The Infantry had a few slow fellows who must be dealt with if D.V. we have another parade.

Some sparrows came on board

The sports in the afternoon were a success. Officers subscribed for prizes. I gave two sovereigns. Read a good deal walked also. Sea fairly smooth We got into the Gulph(sic) Stream during the night, water warm. Temperature mild.

The White Star liner Megantic at Sea
Thursday 20

Up at 6.30. Weather fine, ship in gulph(sic) stream. Temperature of water Captain Metcalfe states is 70° The news picked up during the night gives Italy still threatening war on Austria so Bethman Holweg stated in Reigstag(sic) yesterday. The Captain states that he fears he is going too fast to admit of his taking the submarine area in the night time.

The men turned out better on the warned parade for boats, but on a surprise call were slow. Read and walked all day.

The Captain tells us much of the bounties given to German ship owners by that vile land Germany In Australia it enables the German ships to pay a storage of of about fourpence, (eight cents) per ton a great advantage and the German people are taxed to pay the bounty of course.

The men had sports, and I had a long talk with Lt Col McPhee who is paymaster of the 20th battalion.

The White star S S Megantic at Sea
Friday 21

Up at 6.30 Was able to bathe and dress myself easier than usual. Fine morning. Distance made 398 [corrected from 498] knots.

Read all day except an hours walk, my shoulder slightly improved after massage. All lights out and shutters and cabin windows closed. I had a light but it could not be seen outside.

Men at drill, turned out with life belts in four minutes. Dear Harwood came and spent an hour in my cabin.

~~A short time after lunch we were joined by two destroyers which were sent to escort us to Plymouth, they steamed along each bow of the Megantic and created a great deal of interest, the band of the 20th greeted them with several patriotic airs, The first Rule Britannia the Second the Maple leaf,~~

Saturday 22

Up at 6. AM. Fine day. Very little motion on the ship. Nothing of consequence during the night. Was massaged at seven o'clock then walked after shaving and dressing until breakfast at 8.30 AM. Italy seems to have declared war

Inspected all the troops the Ammunition column and signalling section very fine men and steady on parade. I looked them over in the ~~afternoon and~~ morning and ~~the 20th in the afternoon~~ The latter were not so smart nor so steady, men not the same class, equipments did not fit as well

as with the others belts too high above the waist. The O.C paraded a number after parade for punishment.

No lights allowed. Fog at dinner time but it disappeared very soon

Sunday 23

Up early, but did not get dressed as soon as usual and was annoyed owing to Rand being late. Last for breakfast instead of first as usual.

Bugle for reveille at 4.00 AM. Men lowered boats to last deck so as to be ready for an emergency. Servants aroused at 4.00 but ADCs did not use them This must be changed. Church parade today.

Captain seldom comes to meals A very careful navigator.

We were joined by two destroyers after lunch and the band played Rule Britannia and other patriotic airs in welcome. The ships steamed with us on our bows about two cables off and their arrival relieved the minds of many.

Weather fine but cool with a fresh breeze all day.

An officer wounded one of the men and all through the stupid handling of a pistol. He was [caret: to] get a lesson

Folkstone England.

Monday 24

Up early. Busy The ship came in at 3. AM. and at about 11.30 the tender came in and took off the whole of my staff and the other corps details of the ammunition park and signallers. We went ashore but were delayed until three o'clock P.M. The trip to Shorncliffe by train through the beautiful country was pleasant. As this was empire day the people were enjoying themselves everywhere in the country and cheered us as we passed We had about fifty miles an hour for most of the way but had much delay in London. We got to Shorncliffe station at 11.00 P.M. and were met by Jarvis Homer-Dixon and others and went to the Hotel Metropole at Folkestone about two miles out. A pretty town. All of us stayed up until 1.30 AM on the 25th

Folkestone England

Tuesday 25

Up at 6 AM and taking a motor after breakfast went to my headquarters at Shornecliffe and had many calls. Directed Thacker to go on with organization which he did. I had many calls during the day, and wrote Mays and General Hughes, giving them all the information possible. I remonstrated about the breaking up of Corps which have been fully organized. It is a crying shame. The officers give up their business of all sorts to go to the field and they do well when sent but it makes an awful mess to separate them from their men.

Shorncliffe.

Wednesday 26

Up early Went to London by the 9.30 train very slow indeed and called on Brig Gen Carson at the Cecil. He is a pleasant mannered man and gave me full particulars of their bad time at Salisbury. The men were badly treated in the 1st Div. and Alderson is a damned fool to give shore leave to men who quite undisciplined had about sixty dollars in their pockets After lunch met Dr Simpson and asked him to look after Miss Glen. Met Sir Edward Ward ex under

secretary for war. Called on Lord Kitchener He received me pleasantly but it is evident that he does not want a Canadian in command of the division at the front. He wants a British officer to take it and suggested my being on his staff to arrange difficulties with Canadians, and finally settled that I would go to France next week and see the Canadians there, and assured me that I would say when I returned that he was right in his conclusions that it was a young mans war. Bosh! I say Now of course the rank and file must be in their prime. I then called on Gen Woolcombe of the Eastern Command and Gen Adye Gen of administration. Then got measured for khaki

Shorncliffe-
Thursday 27

Up early 5.15 shaved and went to bed then arose and breakfasted. Went to the office Colonel Macdougall called and shewed me a memo re the Command which I quite understand, and asked if I could give his son a chance to come over from the front and perhaps act as adjutant of the A.S.C. here. I promised that I would give him a chance to come over.

In the afternoon I inspected all the camp grounds of the division. All were good except that intended for the 6th Infantry brigade. I took notes of all things and went to Colonel Thackers quarters.

Folkestone, England,
Friday 28

Up early. Busy in London until four forty P.M. Went up by the early train to see the General of Administration Major Gen Adye. I called at the Cecil and then with Carson saw him and asked to have a better camping place for the 6th infantry brigade and details, ammunition column He approved sending a man down to see the place which is infernally bad, dusty in dry and muddy in wet weather

After that my aid de camp Cochrane and I lunched with Carson. Dr Simpson and Mrs Bain came while we were at lunch and asked me to spend week end somewhere in the vicinity of London but I declined owing to the hard work. Carson spoke strongly on the way the men of the first division were treated at Salisbury Plains. The Australians refused to go there. I have learned that the extra officers were treated like dogs while there and many went home to Canada.

After lunch we measured for boots and tried on jackets at Cochranes tailors and later at the Savoy I met Currie and he said his regt the 48th lost 900 men. We returned to here by the 4.15 train and found Lt Col. Roberts CAMC and his hospital.

Folkestone Kent
Saturday 29

Up at 6.00 AM and was up at the office at 8.30. Visited Hythe and drove along the sea front for several miles. Colonel Munro came down from London to see about the camp ground at Dipgate [sic] and then went with Thacker to see it. I spoke strongly about the necessity(sic) of changing it. Wrote several letters. Got several one from Julia Moore Lindsay, inviting me to call and see them. Her son Crawford is to be commissioned in the "Black Watch." I must call tomorrow D.V. Lt Col Carrick of Port Arthur called to see me. I told him that Lord K did not care to have Canadians in command of the divisions from Canada.

Frank Osler called to see me. He has a son at the front but lives in Jersey. Lt Colonel Rattray called to see me and say good bye. He has been ordered to take command of the 10th batt in succession to Boyle deceased. Lt Colonel Garnet Hughes called to see me. He is to [caret: be] by my G.S.O. No 2, and seems to be a nice man. He explains clearly all the difficulty. He states that we outnumber the Germans, but our gun ammunition is short.

Folkestone
Sunday 30

Up early. Nothing doing Church parades. I worked in my office for a time

Folkestone,
Monday 31

Up early. Inspected the 4th brigade of Infantry the 19th 20th and 21st. The brigadiers was [corrected from were] away but I had Colonel Allan of the 20th to represent him. His battalion looked well the other two had many men at work and were not full strength on parade. I addressed all the officers and gave them good advice and told them that I expected the best of discipline and that the division would be an honour to Canada. I also stated that leave must be granted sparingly only a day at a time and that when it was to go anywhere they should be back the same night and that I wanted King George to see them and also Lord Kitchener and think well of them

I took a long drive in my car accompanied by Cochrane, my aide de camp.

June

Folkestone,
Tuesday 1

Up at 6.00 and inspected the whole of Colonel Landrys brigade of infantry, and gave good advice to all the officers. The 24 Victoria Rifles was the best but all had fine men. The Nova Scotians rugged and strong but not so well drilled as the rest of them. The French Canadian Corps did well but their arms are packed up yet men even and active in appearance. I spoke tactfully to the officers Colonel Gaudet commands the French Canadians, Colonel Gunn the Victorias, and Colonel Le Cain the Nova Scotians. I was not feeling well but managed. I then went to my office and worked until 1.15 and in the PM visited Colonel Ketchens brigade, and had tea with the 27th Batt. Lt Colonel Snider.

Warned the officers that the King might see them, and Lord Kitchener too.

Folkestone,
Wednesday 2

Up at 6 AM and accompanied by Captain Cochrane went to London by the 8.30 train. Called on the High Commissioner Sir George Perley at 19 Victoria Street, and was very kindly received. Met a Mr Patton from South Africa, and before seeing Sir George registered my name and so did Cochrane. I then had a chat with Mr Griffiths the Chief Secretary of the High Comr for Canada, who told me that Lord Kitchener and Field Marshall [caret: Sir J French] are not in perfect accord and in fact have very strained relations. He also asked me if I knew who was to be High Commissioner for Canada. and if the Hon R Rogers would get it, and he asked if Rogers would

be easy to work with I replied yes that he seemed to be a favourite with his employees and civil servants. Marlborough Club where we lunched is on Pall Mall. Small but select, the tables for lunch are along the wall and the guests sit with their backs to the wall, if there are only enough for that side.

I urged Perley to get our reinforcements pushed forward from Canada. I also called on Col Carson at the Cecil twice and he showed me a cable from Gen. Hughes to that effect viz that he is sending them.

Shorncliffe.
Thursday 3

Very busy. Inspected the 6th infantry brigade and units, and found all correct. The men are amazingly smart looking.

St Omer, France,
Friday 4

Up early. Boat to Boulogne with Brigadier General Carson, my A.D.C. Captain Cochrane, our servants. Dennison was to come but missed the boat. We were met at Boulogne by Lt Col. Carrick who had motor cars for us. We made a quick trip to St. Omer, pronounced St O. mare and found neither Sir John French nor his Chief of the Staff at home, and as we had time went by motor forty miles to the headquarters of the first Canadian division. Lt Gen Alderson was not in and after seeing all the Staff we motored back to the hotel where I got one room and the others went to the other rooms in another hotel. We had called on Brig-Gen. Turner before coming back. I was then told that Sir William Robertson would see me in the morning at 9.o'clock. Went to bed at 11.30 P.M. The house is clean and there is order and quiet all over. Large numbers of motor trucks are along the roads. The rule of the road is the same as in Canada- and of course the reverse of what it is in England. Fine trees line the roads which are paved stone, with an outside strip of unpaved space. Gen Carson and Carrick are very kind, and the younger officers are jolly

~~Folkston~~
St Omer,
Saturday 5

Up at 5.00 Called on Sir William Robertson with Carson and he asked me a lot of questions of and about my division.

We then went to Aldersons headquarters and were received well, and then to Brig Gen Turners Headqrs and back to lunch at Aldersons. Had a long chat with him and then visited all brigadiers, Turner included. Had tea at Mercers visited Curries bde at the front and there were guns being fired at our aeroplanes there but the whole country is cropped up to the firing line not an inch left out, and women were to be seen in the fields but no men except a small number of old men. The people are especially the women clean cut in feature more handsome than most people. Many women have fair hair and some have almost red. Fair hair is more common than dark, and I would say that the young women are the best looking in Europe.

When we got back at 7 we cleaned up and dined with Robertson and Brig Gen Morris. Had a pleasant time. I then went to bed. Dennison caught us in the AM and was with us all day. Went to bed at 11.00 after a satisfactory day.

Folkestone,
Sunday 6

Up at 500 shaved and went to bed at once up at 6 AM. and after breakfast drove in our motors to Boulogne took the boat and arrived here at 11.30. Lunched and it was reported that there was a riot last night in which men of my division took part, and that stronger pickets were put on Had a bath and went to bed at 4. up at 5.45 and dined then I was ~~at last~~ gladly met by Lt Col Roberts of Toronto He says that I was marvellously strong to get well so soon as my shoulder was in a bad state. Poor Jarvis feels bad about the riot. Went to bed at midnight after writing up my diary, and I wrote Mays a full account of my trip.

Shornecliff,
Monday 7

Up at 6.00 Busy all day. Looked carefully into the matter of the riot on Saturday night last, and in the afternoon the brigadiers and OC were assembled by me in the room at headquarters of 2nd Divn and I spoke to them tactfully to suppress the disturbances and in future be very strict with their men and to do their best to have the orderly officers on the alert all night, and watch that drunken men were not passed in by the guard in fact I demanded that all units work for the credit of our Common Country. I also said that I hoped the Ontario bde would do its best to lead the rest and the western one to beat it and the Quebec and Maritime one to surpass that one, all working in a generous rivalry to those ends.

After 3.00 I motored to Canterbury with Capt Cochrane one of my ADC and was shewn over the great Cathedral, a wonderful old pile. We then called upon the Ft Garry Horse which is in training there, and met Lt Col. Patterson, Major Dingwall and others. We were home at the hotel at 6.15 P.M.

Shorncliffe
Tuesday 8

Up at 6.15 P.M. Busy all day Visited the men shooting on the Hythe ranges, the 19th 20th and 21st were there with their worst shots- but doing well.

In the afternoon I was very busy with the establishment Lt Cols Duprèe, and Thacker going over it with me. Many mistakes have been made in Canada, a great pity and there is no excuse whatever. I was called upon by a man from BC who has his nephew ready to go to the Cheshires. It was done very irregularly and without my consent being asked. I let him go as there was no help for it, but I expressed myself much annoyed. Campbell OC of the field ambulance was the officer who caused the trouble.

I wired Lord Kitcheners Secretary asking for an interview tomorrow I have not as yet got an answer.

Wednesday 9

Busy all day. Went to London all afternoon. Called to see the Earl of Dundonald was well received. He told Cochrane and me that the gas now used by the Germans was the same as that invented by his ancestor the great Lord Cochrane as to effect, although not the same material and that gas had now to be considered in war. Lady Strathcona is in Scotland. Had she been at home would have called.

Ordered boots, leggings and cloak at Hicks and Sons. Slept well. Carson at Birmingham
Lunched at the Savoy.

London.
Thursday 10

Up early. ~~Called on the Earl of Dundonald.~~ Did much business. Ordered badges at the ~~from~~
outfitters. Went around in Carson car. Lunched at the Savoy.

Shorncliffe,
Friday 11

Back from London to-day and as usual put up at Folkstone. Brig Gen Carson came from London
at night by motor.

Shorncliffe
Saturday 12

Up early. Busy all day. Brigadier Gen Carson here. Had a long chat with him. He states that a
General who is senior to me is to be sent to supercede, Brig. Gen Macdougall. It is an outrage
and I have said so. I went out to see the troops at work.

Featherstone,
Sunday 13

Up early. Wrote the general of administration asking if he has anything to say as to the fact that
Lt Colonel De Prée is junior as G.S.O.1. to Lt Col. Hughes G.S.O 2 Montague my ADC, states
that he has met Lt Colonel Carrick and that he states that the Headquarter Staff in Canada have
no objection to a Canadian officer Commanding the 2nd Division, in fact that they would prefer
it. I had a long talk with Brigadier Gen Carson about all matters connected with the Canadian
affairs in England. It is evident that a stronger hand is wanted in the High Commissioners office.
Carson ought to have a better position so that we are not trifled with.

He left for London in the P.M. and I took Mrs. Niblett out for a drive, roads good and not so
dusty.

Sat up until 11.30 Captain Donnelly called and we had a nice chat Major Moore of Hamilton
came with him and they left together. Donnelly never looked better in his life. A complaint
was made by one of the officers of the 30th battalion that two officers of the division had insulted
two young ladies, actresses who have been here on a holiday I sent Montague to settle it and he
says that it was by opening the conversation on the part of one Directed the P.Marshall Major
Jarvis to enquire.

Folkestone Kent
Monday 14

Up as usual before six AM. Day fine but windy. Cold bath as usual. Busy all day. Wrote many
letters and visited the digging grounds with my AD.C. Major Ker came with us and showed the
way up to the top of the high hill above the camp of the infantry brigade commanded by Colonel
Landry of Quebec. The 5th and 6th Field Cos were at work digging trenches and they were hard
at it on exceptionally hard ground with much flint. Donald Johnston Miller was there with the

western men, both Cos were composed of a fine class a great number university men. In the afternoon I drove all over the Country to see the rest of the troops at work and three battalions on the Hythe ranges. Major Prismall is the musketry officer in charge of the ranges, an enthusiast who has given up his position worth twelve thousand dollars per annum and has taken up the useful work of musketry as a hobby. I told him to push the work to the limit and report anything which requires attention such as the deadly jamming of the rifle on account of heat expanding the breech. He promised to do so. I also gave orders that no men were to be permitted to straggle back to camp when they finished the course each day.

Shorncliffe Kent,
Tuesday 15

Up at 5.30 Busy all day. Wrote letters, went out to the digging and entrenching grounds of the Sixth infantry brigade Kitchens and also to the other Cos of the same. Saw the 31st batt digging in good ground, hard at work poor boys they have some awful scenes before them before the war is over Lt Colonel Deprée was with me and I pointed out to the officer on NCO in charge of each unit or squad that he is in charge of all training

In the afternoon I went over the ground in rear of Ceasers(sic) Camp for the troops now at Dibgate and decided that the place would do very well. After bring Lt Col Thacker back to St Martins plain, I motored to Dover and back taking Captain Cochrane and Lieut Steele, (Harwood) with me. A great number of ships were in the harbour and soldiers and sailors in town. On every side we were saluted by them but going up through the streets of Shorncliffe on my return altho no one could fail to see that I ~~am~~ was an officer in uniform not a man of the Canadians, all well drilled men, saluted.

Colonel Fotheringham came to me in the evening to the hotel and from what he states O.C. units are not very obedient. Dr Anglin tells me that he has 250 Cases of venereal disease. Jarvis says 43 does not [*next page*] salute the officers.

Shorncliffe-
Wednesday 16

Up at 5. P.M. Wrote up my diary and shaved. Took notes of orders for the day. Busy all day at the routine work. Climbed with DuPree and Capt Cochrane the high ridge where the men are digging trenches The 22nd batt. and No 5 and 6 Co of Engineers.

After dinner as arranged called on Mr and Mrs Davies the former late of British Columbia. Mrs. D. is much interested in the Belgians and Canadian Soldiers. I took tea at the Y.M.C.A and was told by the matron that the men are very good. The 43rd are the only men who behaved in an unmannerly way. Met Canon Hicks who once preached in ~~regiment~~ Regina at the time of the cyclone there Col Embury called to see me and pay his respects. I told him that I was not sure that I would command the division. Characteristic cable to Carson from Sam to ask me to go slow re the Command that he would be over here soon.

Shorncliffe,
Thursday 17

Up at 5.00, shaved. Went out all day with the Gen. Staff Officers and all the brigadiers and their Staffs at a tactical scheme the weather was fine and all went well. I caused Jarvis, the P.M.O and my ADCS to be present they worked well. I lunched at the hotel. Lt Col Griesbach and wife are

here she smiles and bows as usual. I feel a little better. The arm is a good deal better. Signed for three court marshals(sic).

Continued the tactical scheme all afternoon and made a lot turns and twists on the road. Ketchens bde major Phillip Moore was very good at his writing of orders, and was the clearest in the eyes of the chiefs of Staff and Major Ker.

I came home after seeing to all neccessary in the office.

Shorncliffe,
Friday 18

Up at 4 AM. Shaved, and lay down until after six Wrote four letters before doing so.

Went around to see the entrenching and climbed the high ridge about Sandling. It is a stiff walk up but I am improving fast and do not feel the least fatigue. I had Captain Cochrane with me and saw the 19, 21st and the Engineers hard at the digging trenches. The ground is very hard but the men do not mind it one bit.

We also saw the men of the London regiment at the range and also the 22nd French Canadians. Saw different Cos. at musketry both theoretical and practical. We saw the 31st batt of Hythe digging The ground is soft and they had no expert engineer to shew them how to do it and I sent men to help. After I got back, I saw Majr Gen Wilkinson who wished to see me about our straining ground He expects Canadians who are on the way and cannot let us have the ground at Ceasers Camp. I got back [*caret: &*] after lunch ~~and~~ looked over some houses for the Hd Qr mess, and decided to see which of two would suit us. After that went to my office and read over orders given by the brigadiers yesterday. Then to the hotel and after a change went to the tea for the wounded soldiers. Mrs. Davies invited me

Shorncliffe & Folkestone,
Saturday 19

Up at 6.30 Visited all the work going on in the division. Climbed the high ridge, and saw the digging, all going on well. Wrote Gen Hughes Ottawa telling him what we are doing, also one re the cable and my impression of the meaning of it. Prismall Musketry Officer came and reported that the cartridges from Canada made by the factory outside Montreal by a private Co are defective, occasional ones are too large and they must have been designedly made. The cartridges made at the government factory are perfect in shape and fit well. I ordered that a report be written so that I can get a cable sent to me.

Dined with the Panets at the Grand and enjoyed the dance which came on afterwards, but sat it out with the two married ladies Mrs Macdonell neè Ryan who was a school mate of Mays and Alice Harwood at the Convent in Montreal. I do not think that Mays was a school mate but no doubt Alice was, and perhaps Louise. The dance ended at 11.30 and I came back to the Metropole, and went to bed. My son Harwood was with me at the dinner and both Mrs Macdonell and Mrs Panet spoke very nicely of him. He danced a lot

Metropole hotel, Folkestone,
Sunday 20

Up at 7.00 Drove out in the afternoon Went to my office in the forenoon and worked until I had cleared off all there was to do. The wind was cold and raw as it has been nearly every day since I came here, I am very well though.

Podevin came over from Dover to dine with me and stayed until 11.00 I sent him home in the motor driven by Private Mason. He is anxious to come with me to the front. He little knows that I may not go to the front, as the War Office would [*caret: not*] prefer a Canadian but if that institution turns me down it may not increase its reputation, they will hear of it in Canada.

Shorncliffe-
Monday 21

Up at 6 AM. Went to the office at 8.45 and worked until 1 PM. The G.S.O. Lt Colonels DuPree, & Hughes and Major Ker are busy at the training. Hughes at musketry and other things grenade throwing etc DuPree at the tactical scheme. I visited the digging on top of the high ridge above west Sandling as usual. and saw the beginning of bayonet fighting, and in the valley saw the 22nd Cos at work skirmishing in marching order. I have not the same feeling of comfort to-day but am quite strong. Harwood was with me. Poor good boy he is very bright and soldierlike, and likes Cochrane & Montague very much.

Letter from Alderson and Col. Watson re the latter who is on his way back to France.

Dinner at the mess, well got up and was home at 11.30 P.M.

Thacker says it was an outrage to place Seeley in Command of the brigade with Lord S Horse and other permanent officers and men

Shorncliffe
Tuesday 22

Up at 6.30 AM. Out until lunch from eleven to the tactical scheme and orders which have to be written Lord Brooke came and I motored him out to be present. He is at a hotel in Hythe. There were only two brigadiers present I met Major Irvine D.S.O. and he was introduced to me he apologized for not doing certain things at Calgary and Edmonton.

Shorncliffe Kent
Wednesday 23

Up at 4.30 AM. Wrote letters to Mays Flora and others until 5.30 lay down until 6.30 In the forenoon was in the ~~hospital~~ office. and attended to many things. The 1st mounted brigade arrived on the Sunday. Lt Col- Sissons called upon me. In the afternoon I motored to Lydd and called on the commandant of the artillery there he was not at home. I left my card. Cochrane was with me A staff Captain shewed us all over the ground and we saw the model eight inch howitzer and many men at drill, also the shell room and we met Major Plummer, a Canadian from Toronto who had left the service so as to be able to help his father in the big steel works in Toronto. We also met Major Ridout who had also come back, both are [*corrected from were*] ex RMC. and very nice men. Ridouts father, late 2nd batt, Scottish Rifles, was the first captain of cadets at the Royal Mil. Coll. Kingston. Before going we visited the Hythe ranges. We motored home from Lydd.

Weather cold, with strong east wind.

Did not go to the Davies to tea, too late.

Shorncliffe,
Thursday 24

Up at 6.30 Weather dull but mild. Busy in office for half an hour. Climbed the hill and saw the 19th and engineers busy at entrenchments. Saw the same at machine gun test at the foot firing into the big chalk pit. In the afternoon visited the 18th 19th 20th ~~and~~ 21st and 22nd at musketry, and bayonet as well as tactical work. They are doing well. Talked with the officers and took notes of equipment, the 22nd was at musketry in the A.M. I met Lt Colonel de Lanodiere on the Hythe range and he states that he knows the Harwoods and that he is a distant relative of Mays's.

Got back and in the office wrote letters to many persons, one to Lt Colonel McRae in reply to his stating that Sir Thomas Shaughnessy would see Kitchener about me. In mine I stated that I had a copy of a cable from Gen Hughes asking me not to work about the command of the division as he is coming across and I will keep at work until the Minister and govt of Canada tell me to quit.

Wrote Mrs Davies about wounded and Winnipeg Telegram about the cigarette and tobacco fund and stating that it would be all right. Wrote Colmer about the Lodge

Shorncliffe,
Friday 25

Up at 4 A.M, wrote up my diary ~~and~~ several pages of foolscap,

Colonel Watson O.C. 2nd Batt first division came at the request of Lt. Gen Alderson to see if he could be of any services to the officers of my division by explaining conditions to them with regard to the fighting in Flanders and Alsace. There was nothing for him to do and I explained to him that I have many officers who served at the front some of whom are wounded men on leave, all of whom are good instructors. I took Colonel Watson to lunch and then motored him to meet Colonel Ketchen, Colonel Landry, Lt Col. Gaudet, Colonel Williams and brigadier Gen Macdougall. All were seen in their camps except McDougall and Williams both of were out.

Gen. Dixon Inspector of Infantry called yesterday at the office and told me that Ketchens brigade was the best he had seen in the army. He is no doubt correct. He did not find my 5th so good. He is to come back and finish next week, and battalion training must go on, or can do so.

I saw Watson off cheered him ~~off~~ up by the Boulogne boat. He was pleased. He has not been treated well in the honours, only mentioned.

Shorncliffe,
Saturday 26

Up early. Busy in the office until noon when I went to the 6th bde to be present when McKinnon of McKinnon presented a banner to the pipers of Tobins battalion. He was accompanied by his wife and sister-law. The banner is beautiful. He addressed the batt. Tobin responded and we then had a march past. The men looked well, and a nice lunch was given by Ketchen and staff. Weather delightful.

Worked in the office until four o'clock. Colonel Sissons called worried about his brigade. I told him what it was best to do.

I took tea with four ladies the wives of Montreal officers who are at the front.

Dined at seven and after dinner met at Harwoods request some friends of the Elins, who live in Folkestone. The Elins are London people and are my cousins. After that sat for an hour with Lt Col Pousette and some lady and gentlemen two very sensible and nice ladies of Folkestone and two young officers very pleasant people all round

Cabled Mays week end letter stating all well, division doing well.

Shorncliffe-
Sunday 27

Up at 6. AM. Wrote up diary for two days. Busy all day in office and around the division

Shorncliffe,
Monday 28

Up early Very busy all day motored about to see the work going on, spent a great deal of time in the office.

Tuesday 29

Up early. Visited all the troops at work except on the digging ground

Shorncliffe
Wenesday 30

Up at 6 AM Busy in the office all day. Gave orders for a half holiday for sports.

July

~~London~~
Shorncliffe & Folkestone
Thursday 1

Up at 6.00 Went out at 9.30 and presented a cup to the Victoria Rifles (A Co) and said a few kind words to the Captain. Col Gunn called for three cheers for me which were heartily given. I then accompanied by Captain Cochrane climbed the high hill to where the 19th 20th and engineers were busy digging trenches and completing them They are doing very well indeed, all hands working with a will but I thought what an awful thing it is to be obliged to do this for the sake of our freedom, and to enable us to kill other men.

There were sports in the afternoon which was a half holiday for sports only, and spent part of the day at the office. I also called upon the 1st brigade Mounted Rifles Cochrane came with me. The officers of the headquarter staff were not at home Young was busy out riding and Sissons in London.

The officers who had messed in the hotel left it for lodgings at 21, Grimston Gds. Folkestone. They will be much more comfortable. Major Alexander is not likely to be pleased not to have room enough I must arrange for him.

London
Friday 2

Up at 6 AM and at 8.30 left by train for here. Arrived at 10.30 and proceeded to the office of High Commissioner who stated when I arrived that he wished to talk to me about the matter of letting young Englishmen in the 2nd my division leave it to take their Commissions in the British Army and stated that although he did not wish to press it as it was a matter that the policy of the Canadian government did not object to in fact that the premier of Canada thought that it would

be a good thing to let them go, better than to keep them as privates. I acquiesced(sic) in that but objected to men joining the Canadian force as privates who knew that when they arrived in England they would have influence enough to get commissions in Lord Kitcheners army and would get Canadian pay and training in other words be prepared to get commissions at Canadian expense. I also stated that we should know how far this would go. Sir George then stated that he did not wish to press the matter as it was entirely my affair. I replied that I would look into it as I had no word of any previous policy of the Govt. Lunched with Gen Carson and he stated that Alderson had suffered through [next page] giving discharges to three hundred of his best NCOs. to the detriment of his division. Carson went to Shorncliffe tonight. Wrote Capt Cochrane about Alexander. Up early

Saturday 3
Abergavenny Monmouthshire

Up early Left London at 11.30 Dined on train which did not stop until I got to Newport a town on the Usk and I was prepared to wait there for the half hour to catch the Abergavenny train as I am visiting Will Steel for the week end but was agreeably surprised to be accosted by Sir Henry Jackson a jovial middle aged gentleman who said he recognized me by my portrait in my book "Forty Years in Canada" and wished to take me to Abergavenny with his motor I expressed myself grateful and hoped that he would not inconvenience himself and Lady Jackson who was with him but he insisted and we had a delightful drive to Abergavenny which must have taken the baronet out of his way a considerable distance. Will Steel met us at the door and we went to the garden and met Mrs Steele who as well as Will gave me a hearty welcome. Having come with Sir Harry and Lady Jackson I was half an hour ahead of time. I thanked them for the drive and I must say that Sir Harry and his graceful and pretty wife are a delightful couple They asked us all to tea tomorrow afternoon.

Will took me a long walk to see the waterworks and Henry and Elmes Steele dined with us a pleasant time

Abergavenny,
Sunday 4

Up at 6.30 and went to church with Mrs Steel after a long walk and talk along the valley of the Usk and across the bridge. Elmes had midday dinner with us, and in the afternoon Will motored me to his mother in laws house a beautiful place where I met that charming old lady who gave me a very hearty reception. She is the picture of graceful old age. The sister of Mrs Steel a charming girl and excellent conversationist came with us from there to the Jacksons a beautiful home and we had tea there The two daughters were also at home and a Colonel Morgan Lindsay and a Capt R.E. were there. A very heavy thunderstorm broke upon us and kept up for at least an hour. I had a long talk with the eldest daughter of the house She had been in Canada with Sir Harry who is a vice chairman of the Grand Trunk Ry of Canada and she had been to Victoria, Prince Rupert and other places. We talked of hunting, polo, golf the war and Canada. The only son of the house is out at the front. When the rain ceased we motored hom, leaving Miss Wills sister in law at hers. The old lady came out to see us and was very jolly

Abergavenny,
Monday 5

Up at 6.30 after a good sleep and had a walk with Mrs Steel after breakfast. The quaint old town is full of young soldiers I had forgotten to mention that I had inspected some of them before church yesterday and did not walk until after church. In the afternoon Will, Elmes and I in Wills fine car motored twenty five miles to Coleford which is a quaint town and was the place of residence of my grandfather Dr. Elmes Steele and there my father and his brothers and sisters were born during the last quarter of the 18th century. We met a Mr Salter merchant tailor aged 91 who told us in the hotel or pub where we took him to get a glass of ale and have a chat, ~~and~~ that when he was seventeen years old he was informed by an old friend that Dr Steel had treated him for illness and was well known. The old man is in excellent health and very bright. Two of his grandsons are in the war and he had an uncle in the Crimea and other relatives in the Napoleonic struggle. We left to drive through the beautiful Forest of Dean to the speech house a building erected in Charles the 2^{nds} day, and had tea. It is a place [*next page*] of meeting for the coal proprietors, whose mines were worked in the days of the Roman occupation.

Folkestone

~~Tuesday 6~~

~~Up early~~

After tea at the "speech house" which is a very comfortable spot we motored back through the town of Coleford to the parish Church at Newland which is also that of Coleford. There was a "Chapel of Ease" in the latter place but it has been pulled down and the site levelled except the tower which is still standing owing to the fact that the clock is owned by the town and the people would not let it be removed to admit of the tower being pulled down. We passed through to Newland a pretty village a couple of miles off and went through the Church yard which is large and neglected. It is evident that there was once a large congregation but now it must be small and by and through neglect the people have become discenters or Non Conformists. We found the grave of my grandfather who was named Elmes. He died in 1826 his wife was Mary Benfield. Next to their sarcophagus is one of his father who died in 1771 aged 79. He is named as Samuel Steel gentleman, as is his son

We went home through Monmouth [*next page*] and dined. Elmes parted with us at his home I enjoyed the drive. None of us had seen so much before

~~Wednesday 7~~

Tuesday 6th

Up at 6.30. Shaved and after breakfast Mrs Steel saw me off on the train to Blaenavon at 10.15 and I was met there by Henry. Went over the works. They are making bars of steel for shells for the British and French armies, some of the latter for the 75 millimetre guns. The manager Mr Morgan says that the French are very exacting and keep them to the letter of the law. The works are large but the business has to be pulled out of a hole made by Martin the last manager who went to "the States" and came back with ideas which cost the co. ~~100~~ pounds. £1000,000.

The workmen are a miserable looking lot, small people and I am told by Henry a cowardly gang, who say they cannot go to the war to kill people. I wonder what the wretches would say if the Huns landed upon their shores! I lunched with Henry and the secretary Mr Jolly and then went to tea at his home. Met Mrs Steel who looks well and her companion a pretty Miss Johnson who was leaving to nurse a wounded brother.

I took the train for London at 4.00 arrived at 8.26 and then left at 9.45 [*next page*] for here, and arrived at 12.15 Wednesday morning

Thursday 8
Folkestone – Shorncliffe
Wednesday 7th July, 1915,

Up at 6.30 bathed breakfasted and wrote up my diary. We are now in a nice house here. Captain Montague in charge of all arrangements. Breakfasted at 8.30

Busy all day. Brig Gen. Burstall called looking well. Captain Jakes called about an appointment in the division I told him that I had no opening and that all would depend upon the staff Captaincy offered to one Murray from the British army who has been working for us.

Saw Miss Glenn last night about the second edition of my book and she tells me that a fellow English, but from Toronto named _____ who is on the staff of Brig Gen Macdougall stated to her that the division should be commanded by an English officer that no Canadian had the experience and that he also spoke of me in the same strain

Garnet Hughes told me that he heard most dismal reports from our officers in France particularly Brig Gen Turner CB The whole complaint is the contemptuous way in which the Canadians are treated by British officers. Hughes states that it will be a calamity if Alderson is given command of the Canadian Corps

Shorncliffe
Friday 9

Up at 5.45 and after dressing wrote Baden Powell about the ex Boy scouts explaining that it was just(?) possible that they could not go up to London to the girl guides Matinee on the 15th instant as I expected that Gen Sam Hughes would want a parade about that time. I slept well but when I woke I could not help think of the damnable British officers who treat our men with contempt Alderson is a beast to them and treats them as if they were Indians They are also pushed into the death traps that the British of the new army will not face.

Podevin called and I sent him up to Major Gen. Wilkinson to whom I had spoken in his favour and after lunch Pym called and I gave him a letter to whom it may concern, and recommended him strongly and gave a record of his services.

I was very busy writing and dealing with matters all day. Thacker is doing very well indeed He informs me that his brother Colonel Thacker R.C.A is on the way and will be here tomorrow. I sat up after dinner reading documents Wrote Mays, then in the anteroom from 10.00 until 11.30 then to bed at 11.45 Weather cloudy and wet, part of the day.

Shorncliffe,
Saturday 10

Up at 5.45 Wrote some letters, and after breakfast read some papers over, and sent them to the typist. Arranged to recommend Major Mackie ~~for D.S.O.~~ DSO. for Staff Captain in the 4th Landrys bde Captain Jukes 9th Ghurkas for Lord Brookes (the 5th) brigade, and another officer for Ketchens bde. I went to Hythe ranges to see the 24th at work they were under Major Hastings who seems very well satisfied with the progress of the men. This battalion is one of the very best and is under the command of Lt. Colonel Gunn. a very sound officer. I was accompanied by Captain Montague and then went to the other place where we found the 28th at work under Major Cross of Regina He spoke well of Major Jarvis who is my Asst. Provost Marchall. After lunch Pym called and his a recommendation from Brig Gen McDougall was endorsed on my regulation.

At 2.30 P.M. I went to Mrs Mackies and took her for a motor drive until 4.30 then called on Mrs Hughes and Mrs Thacker. They were not at home. I then went and called on Mrs Cameron and Mrs. Mackie at No 6. Trinity Crescent, met Mrs Cameron, Mrs Mackie, Mrs Jamieson, Mrs Macleod and Capt Simpson she is Prof Macouns daughter [next page] 10th. I went back and called again at Mrs. Hughes and Mrs Thacker at 5.45 they were still out.

Sunday 11

Up at 7.00. Lunched with Mrs Thompson and Miss Elin, and had tea later on at Mrs Stubbs. She had her son and numerous daughters and a cousin there.

Miss Elin and Mr Thompson were so good as to say that they like Harwood and they were very pleasant. I made a long call upon the Stubbs'

I sat a while in the drawing room of the hotel talking to Major Keefler and a friend of his. I came away at 11.30 and regret to say that I saw every window of the Metropole ablaze with light in spite of all orders by the GOC Got no reply yet re DuPree He has been ordered to ~~Come~~ go to another Division I wired Carson yesterday to ~~en~~ go to the War Office and have it all changed.

I got a wire from Carson in reply to mine saying he would see Adye about the transfer of Wood Colonel on the Staff to take Duprees place, and in it he states that he will let me know all about it.

Monday 12

Up at 7.00 Attended to much. Drove up the hill to where the digging is done and saw all the work, all working cheerily at the trenches. In the afternoon ordered two pairs of trousers of the same pattern as coat.

In the afternoon to the Ordnance stores at Ashford and saw everything. Folger went with us and I met Major ~~Whight there and went~~ White and went over all the stores. He is bright and capable and understands his work. He needs staff though but Canada will not send them I fear. I saw the Bain waggons they are only quarter lock and are viewed with a lot of suspicion as they do not in consequence turn well. I went over the armorers shop and saw the new tripods for the Colt Guns, they are a great improvement on the old ones. I got back at five Captain Montague was with me all day. Lt Colonel Dupree returned from London at 6. P.M and told me that the whole trouble was because of his being junior to Garnet Hughes and the result was Duprees transfer, all nonsense because the appointment places things so that it does not matter about seniority. I had written Gen McK on that topic. What rot.

Shorncliffe Tuesday 13

Up at 4.00 AM. Shaved and exercised physically and then slept until 6.45 Fine day. Called at the Metropole and met a few friends there, and chatted until 11.30 Came home with Corelli Sent Miss Mollie Glenn (Mrs Niblett) some manuscript of the rebellion of 1885, re Colonel Alderic Ouimet so as to clear that gentleman from the yarn about him to the effect that he had left the field.

Telegraphed Brigadier Gen Carson thanking him for his efforts in behalf of Dupree, G.S.O No 1 for my division.

Went to Lydd to see the firing of the big guns there and met several Captain Stevens shewed us where to go. Several rounds were fired while we were there. I then went to see the 29th and

31st at the camp these battalions are there for musketry After lunch I went again to my office G. Hughes and Montague were with me at Lydd.

At 5.30 Gen. Sam. Hughes came to see me and after a long chat with him and Dupree with Thacker G. Hughes. Dupree and my ADC present we went home. I was invited to dinner with the Hughes party The party consisted of the Mesdames Hughes Scott L'Colonels Carrick, Hughes, Scott, Leckie, Captain Montague BrGen. McDougall, Major Gen Hughes and self. Had a long chat with Mesdames Hughes and Scott. Very nice.

Shorncliffe
Wednesday 14

Up at 5.20 shaved, bathed and wrote letters until ~~five~~ 7.30, then went to breakfast.

Gen. Sam. Hughes came and I went with him to see the officers busy at a scheme on the road. He met all and shook hands with everybody On the way there he stated confidentially that his son Lt Colonel Garnet Hughes stated that Alderson could not hold a candle to me as the G.O.C of a division and Brig. Gen Carson had stated that everything in connection with the command of the division was splendid and the General stated that all are with me. He also said that he had a sharp talk with Lord Kitchener and had objected to Alderson as the Commander of the Corps of Canadians Kitchener then got on his high horse but he, Sam, had told him that he would make it impossible for Alderson to hold the command and that it could be made so in a few minutes. He was so determined that he had the satisfaction of make(?) Lord K come down. He also told me that he hinted at Brig Gen. Currie taking my division All this is a plot of Aldersons, the low contemptable blackguard. Leckie Lt Colonel told me that Lipsett sided with army in everything. Carrick was with the Minister. We went to Lydd and the ministers motor broke down. I lent him mine to go to [*next page*] London.

Shorncliffe.
and 21. Grimston. Gdns, Folkestone
Thursday 15

~~Up at 4.00 AM. shaved exercised physically. and then slept until 6.45 Fine day. Last night I
chatted with some friends at the hotel. Sent Miss Mollie Glenn some manuscript about the
rebellion of 1885 re Col Ouimet Telegraphed Brig Gen Carson too thanking him for efforts re the
D.S.O.1.~~

Thursday 15,

Up at 6.20 and wrote up my diary Fine day. 338 [*caret: 80(?)*] boy scouts go to the matinee in London to-day. I have been asked but cannot spare the time to go to London to see about anything of that sort Rorison(?) is in command of the party. Wired Miss Florence Parbury to the effect that I cannot go with them.

Shorncliffe,
Friday 16

Up at 6.00 AM. Had been up at four A.M. and shaved. Busy all day. Had a good rehearsal of the review to be held tomorrow morning at 9.30 for Sir Robert and the Minister of Militia. It was very satisfactory. I had a chat with the hospital staff Beechborough is the place where we

had the parade just opposite Lady Markhams house which that good lady has turned into a hospital for Canadians. I gave the hospital one of my books to read.

The Minister of Militia came down from London in the evening in the rain with a large party of ladies and gentlemen including Lt. Gen Murray [*caret: Br*] Gen Carson, and several Colonels Honorary or other wise. Mrs Hughes. Saw Mrs Hughes junior Mrs. Thacker a very beautiful young lady, Mrs. ~~Pyne~~, of Pyne of Ontario, who I found very pleasant and she must be very good natured I found her to be a U.E.L. Sam gave us all a dinner and we waited until Sir Robert Borden arrived he had got to the wrong hotel, (The Grand and hence the delay, I took Mrs Pyne into dinner. Mrs Thacker was on my left with Dr. Pyne and was very jolly. Mrs DuPree came before dinner and thanked me for having succeeded in helping her husband Lt Colonel Dupree in the 2nd Division. At Dinner Sir Robert and then(?) the Minister made good speeches.

Shorncliffe,
Saturday 17

Up early 4. AM shaved and at five OC dressed and at 6.20 had breakfast, then at 8 P.M. gave Capt Cochrane orders to guide the premier and Gen Hughes to Beechborough at 9.30 I went there at 8.00 and the line being formed received the Premier and Minister, and friends who were with him, were in rear of the two. I gave a general salute to the premier. We my staff and I were mounted. The review ~~as~~ was a great success. The Premier and minister passed along the ranks of the front of each battalion and after that we(?) I sent the artillery cavalry engineers and ____ units to their quarters, camp. etc and moved the infantry to the west so as to march them past which was done. I was mounted but after I passed I dismounted and stood on the ~~left~~ [*caret: right*] of Sir Robert Borden and told him about the units. The march past was a success the only fault was the slight break on the outer flank of some platoons on account of men who found themselves ~~of~~ out of the line checKing too suddenly or moving up too quickly. The 6th brigade and the 24th battalion were free from that fault and went by with a fine swinging pace. The officers were then assembled and had a ~~good~~ good speech I called for three cheers for ~~the King~~, Sir Robert then he did ~~the King~~ [*next page*] call for same for the King. The Gov Gen Gen. Sam Hughes, and then the infantry march off with great steadiness.

~~Sunday 18~~

I drove three ladies to Dover and back in my car.

Sunday,

Busy all forenoon and in the P.M. drove three ladies out.

Shorncliffe Kent
Monday 19

Busy all day. Major Owen came down to see me and get some of my private soldiers for Commissions in the P.O. Rifles He got four of them.

Colonel Ketchen, Lt Colonel Thacker and others of my officers and some of my staff were sent to France by me to see how things are at the Front. I will send more as we go along. Next week Captain Cochrane is in London [*in pencil: why?*] the Minister took him up there after the review on Saturday. Busy writing at night. Got letters from Mays, Torla and others.

Had some figuring to find who was the senior Lt Colonel in the 6th bde. Tobin appears to be

Shorncliffe, Kent,

Tuesday 20

Busy all day. Drove out to see Otterpool the new camp of 6th brigade. It is a good place, well grassed dry and free from dust. I also accompanied by Captain Cochrane and Harwood visited Miss Plumers depot for the distribution of presents to the Canadian soldiers at the front. I visited the Canadian hospital, and in the afternoon sent Miss Glenn, Mrs Cowdy and Mrs Crathorne to see the hospitals and take presents to the sick of the 90th

Major Garner called at 8.30 and spent the evening. I went to bed at 10.30 and read myself to sleep.

Miss Glenn told me that Capt Lyne-Evans said to her many things against the Canadians and that I was not fit to command second division nor was any Canadian. She also states that Mrs Crowdy stated the same ~~and~~ that is that Lyne-Evans was an enemy of Canadians.

Shorncliffe,
21 Grimston Gdns Folkstone,
Wednesday 21

Up at 5.00 shaved and at seven to breakfast.

At 10.00 by invitation of the Belgian Consul I went to hear the te deum sung in the Catholic Church in honour of the independence of Belgium. I took Mrs Mackie and Mrs Cameron to it and ~~on~~ the same morning ie this AM I took them with me in my round to see the musketry, the camp of the 6th bde at Otterpool where we met Tobin, and the digging ground on the top of the high hill. They were pleased.

Gave Harwood rules to carry out re horses etc.

Went to the Metropole at 8.30 and had a long chat with Major and Mrs. Dyer, Major Keebler and Miss Glenn came to chat with us. I came home with my ___ and went to bed at 11.30 Read a bit. I feel better than usual although I have little cause for complaint. Fine night. Colonel Curtis called upon the telephone to ask if I would be home at Shorncliffe tomorrow morning. Reply Yes!

Cochrane stated that the two Highland regiments were the best at the review of the Canadian training Centre, and that none of them could come up to my division.

Shorncliffe,
21 Grimston Gdns. Folkstone
Thursday 22

Up at 5.20 shaved, bathed and had some athletic exercise in my room. After breakfast went to have my photograph taken to put in as a frontispiece to the second edition of my book. Then to the office and worked hard wrote Mrs Harwood a long letter ten pages.

The photo artist has a good studio and took many impressions of me. He asked leave to take groups of the men in camp.

Cold, raw, wet day.

Read over the letters and the typing of my second ~~division~~ edition, of my book, altered where necessary and sent the manuscript.

The Minister of Militia Major Gen Sam. Hughes came to Folkstone during the day and went to the Ashford to get a look at our stores Our waggons do not suit the army and I do not know how they came to build them I called on the Minister and he brought in Gen Carson and his son in law to his room at the Metropole , and before that he told me that Kitchener would not let me

retain Command of the 2nd Canadian division this in spite of the magnificent shewing of the division on the 17th He also said that Kitchener wanted

Folkstone.
~~Friday 23~~

me to take the Shorncliffe Command as general Wilkinson is to take an army division Sam also said that he had made Kitchener mind his Ps and Qs had told him that Alderson was no good and had not been in the battles in which the Canadians lost so many, that Kitchener wanted to damage Turner V.C brigadier of the Canadian Highland brigade in fact wanted to turn him down at no doubt the suggestion that nin com poop Alderson All because Turner said when the mad attack was made “more bloody murder” Sam told K it was the truth and that he Gen Hughes knew that Alderson was not in the battles at all and was packed up ready to fly instead of being with his brigadiers. Sam told K that he personally knew more of what had occurred in those battles than Alderson. He also stated that if he took the Canadian army corps himself that French and the others even if he had the ability of Napoleon would send him back without a shred of reputation and that the same thing would occur to me if I went. I replied that my reputation would depend on my Canadian soldiers that I would not care a d— for the

Folkstone
Saturday 24

the opinion of the rest of the army Sam said that the London Scottish were murdered intentionally by the professional officers of the army and they had tried to do it with the Canadians then our men held back. Sam is coaxing me to take the Command of the Shorncliffe district. I saw Sam again next morning.

Friday 23rd

Up at 5.00 AM. busy all day called on Gen Hughes at an early hour 8.AM at the Metropole and saw him off to London. He again spoke of my taking the Shorncliffe district command and said it was a big thing It is a big thing and needs straightening up a lot. The state of affairs is appalling The cases of venereal numerous Poor stupid England with her ridiculous ideas of the rights of men. I went to Hythe and the digging grounds and inspected the horses. Miserable weather. Spent evening with the Mackies at their rooms. Told them that I was not to Command second division.

Saturday 24,

Up at 5.30 Busy all day at the office

London,
Saturday
~~Sunday~~ 24 [corrected from 25]

Up at 6.30 AM Busy all day Went to Lt Colonel Roberts and got a report upon my heart and how it behaved in Toronto when I had the severe fall from my horse and got my shoulder fractured He reported that my pulse when I was operated upon under ether was normal and at no

time during my time one and a quarter hours under the anaesthetic(sic) was my pulse higher than 90.% In fact no young man would have been better, or quicker in recovery.

After that Dr Malcolm examined my heart and I was found to be the same as when Roberts examined me.

Sunday 25th July

I went to church with Corelli and found the old parish church full of people mostly women of course The service was high, intoned all through sermon fairly good

At 5.15(?) took the train to London and put up at the Hotel Cecil. Harwood came with me and we dined together in the grill room Dinner or supper poor.

Folkstone – Shorncliffe. 21 Grimston,
Monday 26

Up early, 5.30 Called on the Minister of Militia who as usual was full up with visitors, Carrick McRae, Grant Morden, Green and others. I then went with General Hughes and saw Lord Kitchener at the War Office. Lowther was with us, and he saw Lord Kitchener first as Major General Hughes wished to help him to a staff billet. When that was done I went in with Hughes and Lord Kitchener came forward to meet us shook hands and told me that “this is a young mans war” I said I am quite fit. I knew he had made up his mind and I said that I was as good an Imperialist as himself and had no desire for glory but that the 2nd Division were under the impression that I was to command them and their relatives also and that I knew they were disturbed on account of the rumour that I was not to command them Both Hughes and Kitchener said that the Command of the Shorncliffe district was more important and in every way better than the 2nd Division. I was very straight with K and said I would take it on condition that I had a free hand could appoint my own Staff and that I could go to France when I liked see the Canadians and arrange the reliefs to suit me [*next page*] suit me, viz western men to western regts eastern men to the eastern regiments etc et and he consented to it. This is a victory K of K has been taught who was who.

Tuesday 27th

Busy all day long. Drove out in motor. Hear on all sides very much disappointment at my not being allowed to take the second division to the front.

Up at 5.30 AM

Wednesday 28

Up early 5.30 Busy all forenoon. Major Gen. Hughes Minister of Militia came down to Folkstone at noon and in the afternoon at two o'clock He met the Staff and regimental officers of the Training centre for Canadians and the Staff and Commanding officers of the 2nd Division at the flag staff of the depot Sir John Moores plain, in Shorncliffe and addressed them to the effect that I am to take Command of the district vice Major General Wilkinson who is to take a division. He also gave some promises that officers would be sent to the front in turn to do duty with units of the 1st and second divisions, and that I would with General Macdougall report upon the feasibility of adding three battalions to each of the brigades After the speech I met many

who congratulated me on the apt to the command of the district I said to all that I should be condoled with it.

After the work was over at the meeting I went accompanied ~~with~~ by Captain Cochrane to Eastwell park to take tea with Lady Northcote there and see the sick and wounded soldiers. There are eight Canadian and seven Australians all nice men, in every comfortable quarter I spoke to all kindly . Met Gen McPhee and staff, nice men. Had nice tea.

London,
Thursday 29

Up at 4.30 and after writing a lot of correspondents breakfasted at 7.00 and took the 8.30 train for London Miss Glenn was on the train and as I had an extra seat I offered it to her. I went to the High Commissioners 19 Victoria St and got my card of admission to the Guild hall to be present when Sir Robert Borden had the freedom of the city given to him. My ticket was for the dais and I had a good one. Col Carrick and Dr Pyne of the Ontario house were on my left and on my right brigadiers General Macdougall and Carson. On other seats were many prominent people including Bonar Law Sir George Perley and others.

The ceremony was impressive and Sir Robert Borden made a good speech. There was a guard of honour at the entrance which presented arms to me and the band played. I had been at Elliot and Freys Photograph Gallery and was taken several times. Gave the firm leave to take pictures in camp. After dinner I went to the theatre but before it had a long chat with Carson about many things which I had to do. I went to the Empire at 8.00 the Empire good show on the boards. Went to bed at midnight, slept well,

Folkstone & Shorncliffe & St Martins,
Friday 30

Up at 5.00 in London and had an early breakfast and met Brigadier General Carson and talked with him about the following viz the extra battalion to the bdes of 1st and 2nd Division, the new brigades of the third division, the visit of the King to see the troops, the request of Princess Alexander of Teck that she might take the view of the troops when we are having a rehearsal for the visit of the King.

It rained in torrents after we came back and I did not go up to the office. In the evening I went down to the Metropole and met there several officers who had just come in from Canada amongst them Lt Colonel Smart who commands a brigade of Mounted Rifles now dismounted, and Lord Brooke came down to see me and stated that the Minister had asked him to see me about getting a hall so that the whole of the officers of the 1st and 2nd Division now in Shorncliffe can be accommodated with seats and that they are to be addressed by the Right Hon. Andrew Bonar Law This is on account of the day being the 4th August and the first of the declaration of war. Wednesday is the day and we must try to do our best to have all right. I am asked to take the Chair on that occasion

Shorncliffe,
Saturday 31

Up at 5.30 Busy all morning Telegram to have a parade, from Sam Hughes, so that the Right Hon the Secretary of State for the Colonies and Dominions across the Seas can address all the officers and see all the men I wrote in reply that I could do it and would attend to it

Letter from Tilly- Reggie asking for advice about her husband Lt Col Harwood coming with his regt from Calgary where they are training for the front. She tells me that Mrs Harwood is coming over here. Telegram from Carson London, saying that he would like to meet me at the Metropole tonight.

Lyman-Evans called and explained the case of his having been reported as having talked against Canadians myself in particular I spoke to him very plainly about it but he denies having said anything of the sort I told him a lot and said that he must be careful and that he having told me the truth or at least denied the charge I had to accept his apology or rather explanation Mr Lucas reports that our men have used his boys bicycles(sic) and broken them. Carson Came down from London and we had a long talk at the Metropole. The Minister wants to get rid of Landry as far as the Second division is concerned and Carson states that he thinks he [next page] is not efficient. I will look into it.

August

Shorncliffe
Sunday 1

Up at 5.00 bathed and got ready for work before anyone was up. Ordered Landry, Col DePree, Major Ker, Lt Colonel Thacker Lord Brooke Lt Colonel Allen and Major Jarvis to be at the office at 8.00 and when they got there I talked to Landry about getting a transfer to the Training division in Command of a brigade, the senior, and I arranged that I would get him transferred to that division. He very properly was reluctant to be transferred as he came here to fight not to train troops but as the Minister wishes him transferred he must be, particularly as the AA and QM.G, ~~Lord Brooke~~ and the provost marshall state that he is not strong enough and has not the confidence of his officers and men. Landry agreed to the transfer and I told him that I would do my best for him. I then saw the OC-20th battalion and as I had been informed by Lord Brooke the A.A.G. & QMG. Major Jarvis P.M. for the division that Allan is weak in discipline I spoke to him ~~and~~ very strongly for I knew it all myself that he was not commanding his regt He excused himself by stating that his officers did not support him. I ordered a parade of the officers and N.CO on Monday for the purpose of speak—

Shorncliffe
Sunday.
~~Monday 2~~

to the officers and N.C.O, on discipline. I then gave to Carson a statement, verbally, of what I had done and said that I would send him a full report of the arrangements for the organization of the new battalions six in number to be sent to the first and second divisions I then went out for a motor drive, and took Mrs Niblett and talked over the second edition of my book After lunch I saw Carson again and told him that I would give his son the position of orderly officer to Lord Brooke, and that Douglas Cameron and Meredith were my choice for the orderly officers of the 4th and 6th Divisions Cameron to the latter.

This is a painful days work I hate such. The idea of Colonels and Lt Colonels being told off in this way is absurd.

I drove Captain Pickle, Mrs Niblett Mrs Crathern and Mrs Cowdy for a long distance in my motor

Shorncliffe. Kent.

Tuesday 3

Up at 5.00 Busy all day at all sorts of things. Preparing for a grand review of the troops by the Right Hon. Bonar Law Secretary of State for the Colonies. Arranged to have a rehearsal of the parade of the 3rd Division on Sir John Moores plain. I was received at 2.30 and the troops marched past advanced in review order and presented arms. I then saw the officers and spoke to them telling them that I was now in command of Shorncliffe Camp and all the troops, that I had arranged with Lord Kitchener to take command which I had done on condition that I could go to France when I liked to see the Canadian troops and arrange for their reinforcement according to the locality hence they came, western to western Ontario to the Ontario Brigade, Quebec and maritime to the third and fourth brigade etc. etc. and that I was to have a free hand. I also said that the six battalions recently arrived from the east were to be posted to their respective local brigades in the first and second divisions. I ordered that the Cavalry brigades dismounted and the 43 Camerons from Winnipeg would march past with the troops tomorrow so as to have a larger force on the ground

Shorncliffe.
Wednesday 4

Up at 5 P.M. The Minister of Militia, Bonar Law who is Secretary of State for the Colonies and Gen Carson, with a large crowd of newspaper men and alleged Staff officers came down before lunch. It was raining in torrents most of the day. At 3. P.M I received Bonar Law and the Minister at Beech borough where I had the second division paraded. I inspected them before the Minister came and they looked well. The infantry marched past at the end of the parade. I led on horseback, and then drew up on the right ~~after~~ of Bonar-Law. After our division had got by and the rest of us were seen we After that the other division was reviewed on Sir John Moores plain. There was a vast improvement in everything.

In the evening fifteen hundred officers were addressed in the drill hall by Bonar Law. It was a splendid effort clear and convincing. I was in the chair and received a tremendous ovation when I came in. It lasted four (4) minutes. As Mackie(?) It shewed some people where I was in the hearts of my comrades and countrymen. The meeting was the largest one of officers ever held.

Shorncliffe.
Thursday 5

Gen Sam Hughes went to France to-day to see the troops. I went to the Camp as usual, drove in motor with two young ladies Miss Glenn and Mrs Crowdy to the hospital at Monks Horton and had tea with the officers. I spoke to some of the men there, there are eight hundred and eighty five patients. We went all over the ground. The place is damp and not fitted for sick men. Came back and wrote letters until midnight. Sent a draft for two hundred to Mays, (dollars)

Wrote Mays Mitchell, the Davidsons and others.

Shorncliffe.
Friday 6

Up at 6, AM. Went to the headquarter office of the G.O.C and arranged for enquiry as to various things. Wrote much past midnight. Spent eveng with Father Bowden and his sisters nice people

in No five. I signed the lease of my house yesterday and got reply that all is well. The house is good beautifully furnished and has several baths we must purchase linen though, and silver The house is hot water heated.

I sent word to the headquarters to say that I want a report upon all that took place on the day of the riot in Folkstone from Major Homer-Dixon, the provost marshal of the training division, on account of a fellow named McLeod having reported to Sir Robert Borden that there was much drunkenness amongst the soldiers here in Folkstone etc and all sorts of stuff amongst the men such as fighting, rioting etc

Shorncliffe,
Saturday 7

Up at 5.30. Gave orders that all staff and regimental officers were to assemble at ten AM at the gymnasium on Monday morning so that I can speak to them on all subjects necessary(sic) for the well being of the men, and to cause the officers to be treated well and the training people backed up to the limit. I must insist upon the messes being run cheaply and well some are very expensive. Shannon complained that he had nothing to do and that although he had recovered from a wound he could not go back to his battery because his Captain ____ was promoted and there was no place for him as a major. I told him to drop me a line and state full particulars of it. Mrs Heath came to ask for a commission for her son- private Hill of the ~~see~~ 48th battalion I told her to get him to reply Mrs Starky(?) ____ a sister of Hayter Reeds first wife to get help to have a commission for her son. Mrs Keefer wife of a young officer came to get a commission from the War Office for her brother. She is a grand daughter of Thos Keefer famous engineer. Mrs Starkey was Miss

Sunday 8

Up at 7 AM. Wrote several letters until noon and then taking Captain Cochrane with me I motored over to Eastwell park on invitation and lunched with the Right Hon. Lady Northcote to meet the Princess Alexander of Teck who is to be I am informed the next lady at Rideau Hall. Her husband Prince Alexander to be the Governor General in Succession to the Duke and his wife the Duchess. Sir Robert Borden was there and made himself very jolly with the children, running about. I do not think men could be in a nicer place than Eastwell Park if recovering from wounds. Lady Northcote and Sir Robert accompanied by a friend from Skye in the Hebridees(sic) met us on their way from Church. We then went to see the men, Canadians and Australians, and Lady Northcote brought them into the garden and we me the Princess there She is pretty and affable and we were then snap shotted in a group I sat on the right of the Princess and Lady Northcote on her left. Sir Robert Borden sat in the row of men who were in front reclining on the grass This done we went to lunch and later motored back and met Col Cantlie coming to tea with some of his officers. I called on Mrs and Miss Sneyd at 4.30 had tea and then motored them to Dover and back. Went to the hotel [*next page*] the Metropole at night and saw ~~saw~~ one of my paymasters that of the 32nd along with a lot of people and a Mrs Dance, who is not supposed to be an angel.

Monday 9th Routine

This must be stopped at once and nipped in the bud, Paymasters cannot afford to go with fast women. I am told that this woman has a couple of alleged sisters and that they have a great hold upon the paymaster.

Tuesday 10th ~~Monday 9th Aug~~ 1915

Up at 5.30 Inspected the 32nd Battalion on Sir John Moores Plain Colonel Cowan in Command. These are new details for reinforcing the troops at the front. I saw every man and addressed the officers on the requirements necessary(sic) and touched on discipline. I also inspected another Corps in the P.M. Brig. General Macdougall and staff were with me and my A.D.C. I got many letters from Gen Carson one on venereal and another on tents. Inspected the venereal hospital Lt Colonel Mignault in Command. I found that patients were breaking out of the hospital because their clothing and kit was not taken away from them and put in store until the men got well. This resulted in their being able to get out in uniform Khaki, which they could not have done had proper precautions been taken. I must take some steps to stop this! I warned Colonel Mignault to see that all my suggestions were carried [caret: out] In the afternoon inspected a Corps and saw sick in hospital then [next page] took the ladies to tea with the forty second Highlanders.

Wednesday 11th

~~Tuesday 10~~

[entire entry crossed out]

Up at 6.00 Inspected the training unit of Engineers, good men. I spoke to the officers, this at 10. AM Saw Major D'eath the Garrison adjutant about venereal, saluting drunkenness etc etc and spoke to the whole of the troops on that point, as I am anxious that we have a fine command.

Inspected the 30th battalion in the afternoon, fine men all for reinforcements. One company are convalescents who were wounded I addressed them in words of encouragement and eulogy for their fine work at Neuve Chappelle Ypres and St Julian, then dismissed them and caused the others to march past. One Co is equipped with the webb(sic), the old Oliver is infernal and enough to kill the men. I addressed the officers on all necessary(sic) points, gave advice which I know is sound.

I had met the AD.MS. Colonel Rennie and we talked over the best way to put a stop to venereal diseases and have good rules for the hospitals.

Wrote Gen. Carson about venereal wrote about the lies told to Sir Robert Borden about alleged drunkenness and invited the men who reported such to come down and see for themselves. Wrote a reply to all letters to-day.

Wednesday 11

See last page.

Up at 6.00. Inspected the training unit, Royal engineers of Canada, all good men, well educated

Saw Major D'eath, Garrison adjt about venereal, saluting, drunkenness etc etc, and spoke to the officer of Corps which I have to insp inspected to-day on all points and told them that all the officers could very reasonably hope to go to the front to be at least attached to units there. I inspected 30th battalion in the P.M. one Co was altogether from the front, fine men who had been wounded or gassed. I addressed them with words of encouragement, and eulogy for their fine work at Ypres. Neuve Chappelle. and St Julian. I then dismissed the convalescents and caused the others to march past. I gave the officers a short address. I directed all hands to help to put down disease, (venereal)

I met the ADM.S and talked over the questions of interest to both of us. He is Colonel Rennie

Wrote Gen Carson about venereal and Sir Robert Borden to tell him that we ~~ha~~ were a sober lot and that his informant would come and see for himself about the alleged drunkenness. Wrote replies to all letters to-day.

Shorncliffe,
Thursday 12

Up at 5.30. Wrote Lady Northcote giving an account the arrangements to be made for the reception of the Princess Alexander of Teck on Monday. Wrote Lady Northcote also thanking her for a letter forwarding to me a nice basket of peaches, which we enjoyed.

Inspected the Princess Pats under the Command of Lt Colonel Dulmage Part were wounded convalescents the remainder men just joined or just under training. They marched past then after I had seen and talked to the officers giving advice and telling them that I would do my best to let them go to the front. I then inspected the training brigade of Artillery. Rathbun the OC is away in France. After the artillery (a fine body) had marched past and I had addressed the officers I went to the office and handed certain papers to Colonel Kincaid for the Staff adjutant to attend to and fix up. I then went to the 2nd Division and did my best to clean up all matters. A busy morning.

Took my cousin Mrs Sneyd for a motor drive around the Country. Made good time had tea with her and Muriel her daughter Harwood came.

Shorncliffe
Friday 13

Up at 5.00 read awhile.

Inspected the usual four units Met Gen. Hughes and Brig Gen Turner at the second division headquarters. Had a Chat with the general. He says that he has seen a great change for the better in the Training division at Shorncliffe owing to my work there. I inspected four battalions today, every man every officer was seen, The finest Corps in physique was Billy Griesbachs He has them in full control. I addressed all officers as to several important things, training saluting, personal touch with the men of the units, and seeing their men in hospital etc. et. Colonel McRae came to see me about his billet as ASC transport and supply officer for this Command. I advised him to go to London to see Carson about the matter as I have an order which places his work out of court as the Imperial army has to do the work of supply.

Drove Mrs. Mackie and her friend via Dover- Canterbury and Asford 49½ miles, and back. Very busy as usual. Called on Brig. General Turner who is to take over the second division from me and had a long talk on all points and assured him of my support- and friendly feeling.

Folkstone & Shorncliffe Kent,
Saturday 14

Up at 5.00 AM. Inspected the 1st CM Rifles on parade on Sir John Moores Plain. They are fine looking men, marched well and are just the right size. Inspected the CAMC unit as well. Went to the office at the Moore barracks and find that Major D'Eathe is appointed DAA & QMG and is doing well, also that a sergt is to take his place. I stipulated that he is not to be over the provost marshals as Major D'eath is, pointing out that the troops prefer Major D'eath and that I cannot permit a change from him as he knows all our officers. Fine day.

Shorncliffe,

Sunday 15

Went to Church. Col McInnis late 9th Lancers invited me to his pew, and I gladly accepted it and Mrs McInnis gave me prayer books etc.

Drove out in a motor in the P.M.

Shorncliffe,
Monday 16

Up early. Had invited the Princess Alexander of Teck to a review of the training division of Canadians and took a look at a route practice march of the 2nd Division. It rained a good deal. I went out in the morning and selected the rendezvous, and at 2 P.M went there with Gen. Sam, Hughes. Gen. Carson accompanied us. We met the Princess at New Inn Green and she watched the march of the division until four o'clock. The men looked smart and soldierlike, being of magnificent physique. At four o'clock the princess reviewed the troops on Sir John Moores Plain, Shorncliffe barracks. There was a march past and an advance in review order, under Brigadier General McDougall. The Princess was pleasant but the fussiness of poor Gen Hughes was evidently annoying to her, and she stated that she preferred me to that fussy general.

After the review we went to tea at Lady Markhams park where a large number of guests assembled, and I presented the field officers and their wives. I called for three cheers for the princess as she drove off. I like the style of Princess Alexander. She is just right and very charming indeed. Lady NorthCote was also very nice. I like her very much.

Shorncliffe,
Tuesday 17

I handed over the command of the second division to Brig Gen Turner. I am glad he is getting it. He is a good officer, has the V.C and D.S.O. Behaved well at the battles of Ypres St Julian etc. He is a gentleman in his manners and the division is lucky to have him.

In the afternoon at 3 o'clock the Princess and Lady Northcote came and I accompanied her around the hospitals and to see the sick. Gen Macdougall and several ladies, and the Surgeons. The Princess was very sympathetic and pleased the poor fellows very much. After that we visited the nurses home and had tea. It was a long round for her, but she shewed no signs of fatigue.

Shorncliffe
Wednesday 18

Up at 6.30. Office at 9.00. Inspected four Corps during the day and met the officers, gave good advice and cheered them up. I am very busy. Inspected the 2nd and 3rd Mounted Rifles.

Shorncliffe,
Thursday 19

Up early. Busy all day. Inspected the Cavalry bde from Eastern Canada, commanded by Major Smart, good stamp of men.

Went down town in the P.M to get my hair cut and could not wait for a long time and started for the office. On our way a laundry car dashed across the road and to avoid killing the driver Mason caused the car to swerve and we ran with great violence into a tree. I took a back

somersault striKing my head on the stone wall and bruising my ribs. Some ladies and gentlemen took me to a lawn nearby and my head was bandaged. I then went to the office with General Macdougall who had hurried down to see me and I wrote letters and signed others. Came back to the hotel, dined at seven went to bed at 10.00 after being massaged. Miss Glenn, Mrs. Crowdy and Mrs Crathern called to see me, and offer sympathy. Nice women.

Gen Turner and Col. Correlli called to see ~~my~~ me. The latter agrees to take AA & QMG. in Training division. Lt Col Gibson takes his place in the second divn

Shorncliffe.
Friday 20

Up early 6.30, bathed etc et. Colonel Kincaid called, he is my G.S.O. No 1, and offered to do anything. Cochrane called so did Cronyn qs(?)

Shorncliffe, Kent,
Saturday 21

Up at 5 AM. Feel stiff after my fall from the motor car. Went to the office with Cochrane and then to the Hythe rifle ranges and found there details of the training division at musketry under some officers of the 23rd one of those unfortunate battalions which well officered and trained was broken up and sent to the front without their officers. The men are doing well and the shooting very good indeed. I then went to look at more work which was arranged ~~by~~ in the curriculum by Colonel Skinner the British army officer, a Canadian by birth who is in chg of the training of the training division and is. G.S.O 1. for it, but when I went around I found nobody and to my amazement saw the whole of the division on parade under Brig. Gen McDougall and no staff officer in my Command was aware of it. I saw Sam – Hughes there at the saluting base and thought according to that extraordinary mans habits it might be he who had ordered the parade, and feel much annoyed to think that he would do it over my head and I turned and went to Lydd. Saw the OC- Sqdn and 48th under certain conditions (viz shooting etc) and had a talk with them told Colonel Holmes how to manage the applicants for Commissions

Shorncliffe & Folkestone
~~Sunday 22~~
Saturday 21st Continued

Commissions in the British Army. He does not need to certify except as to their educational and moral qualifications.

I then returned to Folkestone Metropole where I lodge and saw Sam Hughes and a large group of officers, he had addressed them God knows on what. Some say the Ross Rifle. I saw him afterwards and learned that General McDougall of his own bat had ordered the parade to see if the artillery could march past with the rest.

I spoke to Gen. Sam Hughes then about the command of the 5th and howitzer brigade of art. and he stated that he did not think Colonel Rathbun would do and launched into tirades about that officer, he said much.

I arranged with him that Lt Col Ingraham would get the brigade, howitzers and a man named Ross be sent for to command the 5th bde now commanded by George Carruthers an inexperienced ill trained officer. I feel the effects of the fall.

Sunday 22nd

Up at 5 o'clock. Breakfast 8. Office at nine Had long talk with Major D'Aeth Daa & QMG.
Told him to put all matters right on military

Sunday.

~~Monday 23~~

Lines. No night passes to be granted on account of the men who get them living with prostitutes for the night and directed that steps are to be taken during the day to arrest men found downtown absent without leave, no doubt winked at by the O.C! Ordered everything necessary(sic) for training, and good discipline to be done. Then I saw Colonel Kincaid and went over everything necessary(sic) in his line of duty, and impressed upon him what is needed. I also told both him and d'Aeth that I want to have all matters possible brought to my notice so that I can see them, and know what is going on.

Brig Gen Carson and Sir Max. Aitkin(sic) then called, and I spoke Carson about many things and that all things come through me.

Gen Hughes had rushed to London yesterday. He rushed back to-day and went off again after lunch God knows why. Harwood and I lunched with Mrs. and Miss Sneyd at 1.30 got back to the Metropole at 3.00 and Capt Lawson called about a place He had been with Lord Brooke who not satisfied with getting an army Staff Captain in addition to him Wishes to send him to the depot and put in some pet.

Folkstone,

Monday ~~Tuesday 24~~ 23rd

Up early, and I shaved was in London with Gen. Hughes, Gen. Macdougall and Carson. L'Colonel Ashton went with me and when we got to Gen Hughes quarters (we had left by the 2:30 train) he broached the subject of the appointment of Ashton and Cowan as well as Ashton in particular. This I had already reported fully upon and Carson had shewn it to him but he had quite forgotten it all. It was finally (I thought) settled that there would be three brigades and that they would be commanded by Landry Cowan and Ashton.

I was in great pain owing to my fall from the motor One rib is cracked and the pleura rubbed I am only all right when on my feet. I must be careful.

Tuesday 24th

Up early but not well at all palpitation caused by flatulence I took Dora Brooke Clark to lunch at a nice restaurant, she did not eat much. I had no appetite either. We then had a drive in a motor to the parks and enjoyed it. I left my cousin home at 3.45 and took train to Folkstone at 4.25 arrived at 6.26 and went to bed at 12. Midnight.

Folkstone,

Wednesday. 25.

~~Wednesday 25~~

Up early Confined to my room all day owing to the motor accident. Colonel Roberts called and said I must rest and I am determined to do so I do my work, sign letter etc all the same. Berry

has been promoted lieutenant and A.D.C. to me. He is a good young man and with him and Captain Cronyn I can get along very nicely, I think.

Sent Cronyn to have a ride. Lt Colonel Ingraham called to see me about his appointment to the howitzer bde. He says he is ready to take anything in sight, and wants a course in art. I told him he must depend upon the board of officers and also that Gen Turners division is not interfered with in the least. He runs it and can take who he likes. Colonel Skinner, G.S.O. 1 called. He wants to go with one of the new divisions as it is his only chance to go to the front. I consented. Lt Col Burritt he says is an excellent officer well fitted to carry on. All this is for Sunday the 29th Sept 1915.

Folkstone,
Thursday 26

Up at 6.30 I arose at four wrote letters and then went to bed until 6.30 AM. I let my AD.C Capt Cronyn take Mrs Crowdy and Miss Mollie Glen to the station on their way to London. Mollie Glenn to see Jenkins my publisher about the second edition of my book. I remained in my room all day, wrote many letters. My Cousin Miss Muriel Sneyd called to ask how I am.

Folkstone,
Friday 27

Up early. Lt Col Roberts saw me and tells me to remain in my room until I recover from the effects of the motor accident. I sent my motor with my ADC young lieutenant Cronyn to see about things. I sent my Batman Rand about my room in to twenty five Grimston Gdns, and to get everything needed. The linen which I purchased from the Army and Navy Cooperative society came, only a dozen towels and serviettes short, quality said to be good.

Wrote Major Alexander asking him to cause Mays allowance to be sent to her on the 5th of next month. This did not go to the Major until Sunday 29th inst.

Lt Colonel Roberts CAMC called to see me properly strapped up, and ordered me to be quiet and I feel the force of his advice. I am always too keen to go to work in spite of all that I suffer.

Saturday 28

Up at 6 AM, shaved, had three good meals to-day. Got a letter from Carson re the desires of the Minister about my work and informing me of what I knew quite well that he was the Ministers representative, and that I had always treated him as such, but one thing is certain if his ideas that he has expressed in his letter are all carried out the command will go to the devil, for Macdougall except the British officers and those on training has an inexperienced Staff, and is himself almost inclined to think that if he gives an order it will surely be carried out a fallacy of which he must get rid. He must learn that he should see the work done. Lt Col Roberts strapped me up all right to-day but says I must stay in the room until all goes well. Miss Glenn called from London and told me that she went to see Herbert Jenkins, my publisher but he was out. She was interrupted by the arrival of another caller but I must see her tomorrow, for it is important that all should be fixed up with Jenkins.

Wrote letters and gave orders to Colonel Kincaid that the artillery officers of the new howitzer brigade must be tested by a board of Gen. Staff officers, Cols Skinner, Birchall Wood, and Depree the two latter are Gunners.

Folkstone
Sunday 29

Up at 6. AM. Wrote a short note to Brig. Gen. Carson in reply to his letter of yesterday and will as expressed in it, write him officially later on. The Gen. came in later and we discussed matters particularly the artillery and Lt Colonel Ingraham who was spoken of to command the howitzer brigade. I assured Carson that if he did not communicate through me when he wanted things done that they would not be so satisfactory to him, and I am right. There is no chain of responsibility now and Carson admits that he never heard of the artillery howitzer brigade. I told him that the Minister had arranged for the brigade to be organized at once and named Lt Col Ingraham and others as officers of it. This chain of responsibility must be threshed out.

I hear that young Constantine says that neither the Germans nor ourselves can force the lines. It is impossible. Constantine is a good soldier and fine artillery man. I am glad that his views coincide with mine on the same subject.

War news as usual, heavy losses and hard fighting on the Dardinelles.

I mailed cheque for army and Navy Co-operative stores, 20£ the balance 25£ I send next month.

Monday 30

Up at 6.00. Busy all day at routine.

Folkstone,
Tuesday 31

Major Storr came down from the War Office to-day and with him I arranged for the Kings visit and he lunched with me. All orders arranged for in good time.

September

Shorncliffe-
Wednesday 1

Up early. Got full particulars of the Kings visit, and issued orders to the effect that no passes were to be given. I learned later however that several people had passes and that all knew of the Kings intended visit and I gave a car to Mrs. Sneyd and her two daughters. Carson and the High Commissioner Sir George Perley came to town and made up their minds to stay. I dined with Sir Max Aikins(sic) at his house here. The 'phone' message came to invite me but gave the wrong hour and I was there an hour before the date. It was a stag dinner, and a great bore. Mr Smith a leading barrister was there and the talk turned to rewards for officers and men who had no chance to go to the front, but did useful work in the training of the Force for the field. Sir Max tried to get hold of me and talk it over and I know he was going to say what do you want if you recommend the others, but was interrupted and I would have replied, nothing of course, and I intend to stick to that.

Carson, Smith, Sir George Perley and Colonel Wood were present and later my AD.C was asked in when he arrived. He ~~left~~ left early. Work to do tomorrow. Got final orders re the Kings visit.

Shorncliffe
Thursday 2

Up at 6.30 met the King and Lord Kitchener at Lyn____ Stn The guard of honour and the travelling escort were there when I arrived at 10.00 but a wire from the Staff in England cancelled them and directed that they be put to line the street of the little village. They looked well. The King was punctual and Lord Kitchener presented me. The King shook hands and asked me to present my staff which I did. They were Major Parsons, my ADC Capt Cronyn, and Capt Cochrane.

I then rode with the King and Lord Kitchener to Beechborough Park where according to my orders the 2nd Canadian Division was drawn up under Brig Gen. Turner. Major Parsons led the way. The King was received with a Royal salute and then he Lord Kitchener, myself & Gen Turner rode along the ranks to the end right to left. There was then a march past, each brigadier and OC turning out to post themselves beside the King. After that Lady Markham was presented and the King inspected four batts of the Reserve division and then rode through some miles of the road lined by men of that division at the present. He got off at Shorncliffe station and both he and Lord [next page] Kitchener expressed pleasure at the fine appearance of my troops The High Comr and Carson were present

Friday 3

Up early. Everyone pleased at yesterdays experience.

The weather was fine very little rain until late but it rained hard to-day.

Saturday 4

Up at 6.30 Mays and the girls sailed from New York today Cable from her to that effect and that she sailed on the ~~St Louis~~ St Paul a seven or eight day boat. I am in great glee. I hope they shall be in without accident.

Very busy all day.

Folkstone,
Sunday 5

Up at 7.00. Drove Miss Elin and Mrs Macdonell after I had lunched with them to New Romney, second trip today. Dined in the evening with Capt Goldney at 3 Devonshire Terrace. Met there, Colonel and Mrs Rathbun, Major Scully Miss Millie Glenn, Harwood, and the delightful mother of the Capt aged eighty years. We got home at 10.45 and I wrote letters until Midnight. Rand came at 11.30 but I did not require any strapping up as my pain is not so bad the day has been pleasant but a little cold.

Folkstone, Kent,
Monday 6

Up at 7 OC. Office at 8.45 in the Shorncliffe headquarters. Sent for Gen. Macdougall to ask him to see about a good lot of officers for the 20th battalion which has been so badly commanded by Lt Colonel Allan of Newmarket, Ontario. He is to select enough officers for the Corps and will do so by referring to Colonel Skinner, the G.S.O. of the training division. I sent for Gen Turner commanding the 2nd division and talked over a transfer of Houlston Lt Colonel of Engineers of 2nd to the training division vice Lt Colonel Hughes who is to go to the 2nd if I recommend it. Turner says that all the staff, G.S.O. etc and the Inspecting divisional Engineer of

the army state that Houlston has not much initiative and some say he is indolent. I fear that I must carry out the transfer Brig Gen Macdougall states that the R.C.Regt has had no good training at Bermuda where they were sent to relieve the Liverpools and that they should be kept here for at least a month. If such is the case I agree with him. Arranged to see the fortifications and other defences of Shorncliffe. I went to the quarters of the Flying Corps with Mrs Mackie Mrs Glen Niblett, and saw 12 Aeroplanes start for France. A fine sight. Gen Sir David Henderson was there Lady Henderson & Mrs Asquith

Shorncliffe,
Tuesday 7

Up at 7. am, busy in office Inspected all the fortifications with Lt Colonel Hughe, R.CE The defences were discussed. They are being rushed ahead.

Wrote many letters. Discussed the exchange of the 20th and the Canadian Regiment. The latter arrived yesterday but is not ready for the field. I have written and wired Carson to that effect, and Macdougall has been asked to get good officers for the 20th battalion and he has done so.

I went to tea at the Rathburns mother in laws house and was nicely received. We talked a great deal.

I have ordered a parade of the Fort Garry Horse tomorrow at ten on foot and mounted at 10.45 AM.

Shorncliffe,
Wednesday 8

Up at 6.30 Inspected the Fort Garry Horse on foot and mounted The men are good physique the officers are not experienced at all, but I gave them a chat on all points. I rode to the place and my horse bucked "like a" "bay steer" and I sent him away. The day was spent in hard work. General Woolcombe and another general called to see me, and were pleasant. I saw Turner and arranged that the 20th battalion would not be exchanged for the RCR. They are to get officers from the training division. I sent an adjutant and transport officer to the 25th battalion 5th brigade, Colonel Watsons.

Dined at the Rathbones tonight Mrs Rathbone talked to me a great deal I enjoyed her conversation very much indeed. Her mother Mrs Blair is also a good conversationalist, and I must say that I had a pleasant evening. Miss Glenn was also a guest and a Major Hill who is to be promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and get command of a brigade, the howitzer recommended by me. It is outrageous that I have to organize and put in shape divisions of troops and others get all the honour and glory. I am doing it for Canada otherwise I would not move an inch

Shorncliffe,
Thursday 9

Busy all day Up at 6.30 and arranged the transfer of one captain and nine lieutenants from the 20th battalion for unfitness [next line] ness and replaced them by one captain and sufficient lieutenants. The 20th battalion of the 2nd had been nearly ruined by Lt Colonel Allan a political hack, who is desirous of being elected to Parliament and had many of his constituents in his Corps, consequently was afraid to do anything to them when they were guilty of any breeches (sic) of discipline. I saw Cam Strang and told him to see about his transfer to the 2nd Division

27th battalion. Went to bed at midnight, and as I had no cheque book borrowed twenty pounds from the proprietor of the hotel, I should say manager. I wrote Carson in favour of Corelli as DgMG.

Morrison of Eaton valley spoke to me about his men going, says they are impatient I told them to be patient, and I would help them but not unless they were

Shorncliffe to Liverpool to meet Mays & Daughters
Friday 10

Up at 6.30 Left Folkstone at 8.00 for the train to London. Gave orders to Captain Cronyn my A.D.C to take Mrs and Miss Sneyd with Mrs Mackie Miss Fiset and Miss Glenn for a drive in my motor anytime driving the days I am absent. I also wrote to one of the ladies to tell her that Captain Cronyn would attend to that. I left at 8.30 accompanied by my batman private Rand and when I arrived in London put up at the Cecil and saw Brig Gen. Carson and talked over all the matters of interest to the Shorncliffe Command Spoke up for Major Lindsay of the RCR Engineers who is at the front, asking to have him promoted to be Com Engineer of the division at the front. Discussed the 20th battalion and I told him that I had decided to remove one captain and nine lieutenants from the battalion, and replace them by good men. Went out after lunch with Major Shaw and he told me that the Eaton machine gun battery fellows drunk in the mess The men are all right but not so the officers. I bought a table and gave directions to have it sent to me next week. It is a second hand one oak and circular or oval only 8£ and is worth 40£. It is to be polished paid my a/c at the Cooperative Soc.
Rand drove me around the parks.

Liverpool.
Saturday 11

Up at 7.00 breakfast at 8.15 The waiters are the best I have seen this year, all British no[t] a foreigner in the dining room or employed in the hotel. A flag day is on for the benefit of French and Belgians and the people seem to be doing well. I bought two flags at 3/6. and then had a motor drive of an hour and a half The city has many fine residences beautiful parks and good shops in every way it is superior in that respect to anything I have seen.

At breakfast I said a few words to the head waiter, in fact I had a chat of about five minutes while busy with my toast and marmalade and he told me that many very badly wounded Canadians went through to Canada. After I came away the head waiter told Rand that he met the nicest and freest from side of all the officers who had been in the hotel for a long time.

Liverpool to Folkestone – Shorncliffe,
Sunday 12

Up at 6.30 The good ship St Paul Stars and stripes flying came in at 9.AM, and I went to the boat pier to meet Mays and the girls. I met them on board and Mays introduced me to several people Harwood was with me, he came in last night all were glad to meet again. Poor dear Mays was not very well she had partaken of something which disagreed with her and had a sickening effect. Miss McMeans of Winnipeg was with Mays.

We left the city by the 12.50 train for London and got there by six o'clock The Elins were at the train to meet us. Rand my batman was on the rear section of the train and left behind but he caught up in an hour. We took the 7.15 train and as the batman had not arrived and he had our tickets we had to get more He caught us before the train pulled out however and got the tickets

cost refunded. We arrived at Folkstone at 9.30 and were met by an officer who was taking the place of Captain Cronyn my A.D.C. Miss McMeans was met by her sister in law Mrs. McMeans wife of the Captain in the Mounted Rifles Got to bed about midnight. The servant girls had food and supper ready for us. They are all well pleased with the house

Shorncliffe – Folkstone.
Monday 13

Up early and was busy at work in the office at an early hour and attended to work
The second division is busy getting ready to cross to France. Harwood is keen to go.

Shorncliffe – Folkstone,
Tuesday 14

Up early, busy all day. Had a chat with General Carson – about various things and he seems to be all right. I told him much about the need for everything going through the proper channel. This came up owing to Brig-Gen. Macdougall having sent Lt Colonel Worthington across to France as the OC details of second division. Carson was not pleased I think and asked me about it and as it was [*caret*: not] done ~~not~~ through me I knew nothing of it, and advised Carson to see that things went through me in cases of that kind. He seemed to think that all was right but he will run it through the regular channel when it suits him. He means perfectly well but like all who have to do with politics one cannot be sure of what way he will do it I like him but it is hard to judge him. Fine forenoon.

I went in a motor car to St Leonards on Sea to call on Gen and Mrs Strange. Cronyn went with me and apart from the cold wind the drive was pleasant. We had tea and a pleasant visit with the Stranges and all were glad to meet me and were kind to Cronyn who was pleased to meet them. I left at 5.00 and got back in time to say good bye to dear Harwood

Shorncliffe – Folkstone, Kent.
Wednesday 15

Up early 6.00 At office early General Sir Leslie Rundle called with his staff and I accompanied by Brig Gen Macdougall went all over the training grounds and shewed everything to Sir Leslie who is the G.O.C eastern Command. He expressed himself well pleased with the work being done. After that Sir Leslie rode back to the hotel Metropole where he and his staff are stopping.

I took Mays and the girls for a motor drive at 5.50 through Hythe, they enjoyed very much the little jaunt.

I dined with the general and lady Rundle. Brig Gen Macdougall was present and also Colonel Skinner. Lady Rundle was very charming and as I took her in to dinner we had a long chat on all sorts of things. We went to the Palm room after dinner and sat there listening to the foolish recitations of a stout foreigner who gave us some of Services poetry. He recited badly and I did not applaud. He passed a plate around later and got money. I got home at 10.30 Cronyn had a headache poor chap, but was cheerful all the time.

Shorncliffe – Folkstone,
Thursday 16

Up at 5.00 Mailed my letters Met an old gentleman who chatted with me as I was passing his home the second house from ours

Went down to the dock to see the 6th Brig. Gen. Ketchens brigade embarked. Thirteen hundred ~~were~~ liberty men were on board a transport packed like herrings, all silent and mostly sober, a few were drunk.

Sir Leslie Rundle and staff were there and as there was delay we learned that mines had been placed in Boulogne harbour by either submarines or neutral ships and the embarkation and sailing of the troops was countermanded. Colonel Kincaid and major D'Aeth were present to see the troops off and told me that the 6th brigade of ours was on the march through Hythe I therefore as Sir John Moores Plain at Shorncliffe barracks was the nearest place suitable to bivouac I ordered that they go up there. It turned out however that the men were nearer, and the return to Sir John Moores Plain was a hard pull-up. I am very sorry. Bells battalion shewed up well in march discipline. Bell is a good officer, a regular of Lord Strathconas Horse.

Folkstone – Shorncliffe
Friday 17

Up early. The four battalions of the 6th infantry brigade were bivouaced on Sir John Moores Plain. They had a nasty time last night, the staff told me that they were on the march through Hythe last night this was not correct, they were almost at the pier gates Ketchen asked Kincaid to let them bivouac on the beach until dawn but he said that I insisted upon them going to Sir John Moores Plain. I did if they were only moving through Hythe and then it would have been better to go ther. , I arranged for them as there was more room for them, and the mines having been cleared up (swept) away from Boulogne harbour the War Office permitted me to send the 27th 28th and 29th Corps (battalions) by the boats tonight.

I went to the pier in the evening and took Mesdames Crowdy and Niblett with me, the latter so that she could write an account of the embarkation of the western brigade. I asked the railway people at the pier if they would permit the two ladies to go on the dock but they refused as it is a War Office order that they should not permit anyone not on duty to go there. I saw the leave men on their way to go on board none were Canadians, all were drunk or at least almost all. Saw all 6th on board

Folkstone. – Shorncliffe – Comd,
Saturday 18

Up at 6.30 AM. Sent my batman Pte Rand to London to see his brother a commercial traveller.

Office at an early hour, attended to business signed several courts martial. D'Aeth remarked that things are looking better. O.C. battalions are working well or at least better in the maintenance of discipline, a good thing. The horses were taken out to swim in the sea.

Gymkana held in the park, Radnor for the purpose of raising money to complete the Sir John Moore memorial hall. There was a large attendance. Met many people. Mays, Mrs Mackie and the girls went to it with me. Captain Cronyn A.D.C was there I gave him a ticket and bought three others one for Mrs Mackie one for Mrs Crowdy, and another for Mrs Niblett. I have not heard from Niblett yet.

Met Mr and Mrs. Davies Colonel & Mrs McInnis, Mrs. Morrow Mrs Macdonald, and several others. Mrs Davies talked as usual of spies being on all sides.

There were nine events. The pipers of the 79th (43) were fine, the jumping was fair and the tent pegging with swords rather good and fair with lances. The roping was good but of course there were no animals to lasso. I got home with all at 6.30. Did not go out. The 31st left for France tonight, Colonel Bell in com.

Fine day- Folkestone.
Sunday 19

Up at 6.30 went to church at 11 after taking Mays and the girls to theirs where the Belgians go. I called on Mrs Sneyd my cousin and asked them she and her daughter to come out for a motor drive to the hospital on Lt Colonel Waylands place Monks Horton. I went to Christ Church and heard a sermon from a little stout clergyman ~~at me~~ who is from Ceylon. The sermon was on the mission work there. He stated that in Uganda there are one hundred thousand native converts and seventy thousand children at school and in Ceylon the same number approximately.

We drove in my motor to Monks Horton and saw the sick and wounded Canadians. The men look well but there are sad cases of the loss of a limb etc I spoke to all cheering them up. I saw Lipsett at the hotel, he has a brigade now in 1st Div. I had a long chat with him and a fellow from Toronto. Dr Good called. I gave him a letter from me to Sir Leslie Rundle Got an appreciative letter from Sir Leslie re the training here Mays tells me that Mrs Ketchen says that Mrs N- had men in her flat in Winnipeg, drunk and that she drank also that she went to London to meet Keefler. Dr- and Lt- supped with us

Folkstone
Monday 20

Up at 6.30 Fine day.
There was plenty of work for us.

Folkstone – Shorncliffe – Kent
Tuesday 21

Up at 6.30 AM. Busy as usual all day, many official matters to attend to. In the afternoon at 3.30 visited the Bevan hospital and accompanied by Mays, the girls, and Captain Cronyn saw every sick and wounded man Most of them were Canadians, but there were some who belonged to British Corps, such as the Durham Light infantry All were cheerful and glad to see us. They were getting their tea before we left. The men were glad to see us. A noticeable fact was the presence of the volunteer nurses some of whom had been in the hospital since it started a year ago. One attractive young lady who lives in Folkstone, told me all about the work. Her name is Eveleigh, a good one and distinguished in the army. I met Bethune Lindsays brother the Surgeon in charge. He is a bright man. Mays asked him to come and see us some evening and then ~~can~~ we went to tea at the Rathbuns, and met there the Colonel, Captain Francis Bennett Goldney, MP for Canterbury He was very jolly and told many laughable experiences of his last visit to the War Office where he met a Colonel on the staff who had been for the last ten years secretary to a golf club, and was quite at sea about all military matters.

Folkstone. Shorncliffe – Kent,
Wednesday 22

Up at 7.00 Busy from 7, AM. to 8.30 then 9.30 to 1.15 then two thirty to four. Then called with Mays and Flora to see Mesdames Ketchen and Moore whose husbands have gone to the front with the 6th brigade infantry. We returned at six and I went to the Metropole for Cronyn my A.D.C. and Capt Beaudry LeBlanc, who was there too and I sent him to see if the 1st M.R. brigade under Colonel Sissons had arrived at the pier to embark for France. I then went down to

see them off but as they had ~~mounted~~ embarked ahead of time I missed them. They are a fine lot of men well officered. Brigadier Sissons, O.C's regts Stevenson, Bott, and Whittaker all Lt Colonels.

During the day I had ordered the Strathconas and dragoons to be paraded tomorrow at 10.00 on foot and then ~~na~~ mounted later. I also asked Brig. General Macdougall to see if the artillery training is all right, complaints having been made that they did not get enough work. Gave orders to give them plenty to do
Saw about the staff of Cowans bde Keefler brigade major wished to choose the Staff Cpts and other staff. Cheek Saw

Shorncliffe- Folkstone – Kent,
Thursday 23

Colonel Vaux and Capt Lindsay spent evening with us.

Up at 5.00 AM. Wrote nothing. Went to bed again at 5.30 Up at 7.00 and wrote a couple of letters. Office at 9.30, then the parade of the two squadrons one R.C Dragoons the other Lord Strathconas horse. Saw every man and asked him how long he had been in the Corps how long trained and found that they averaged several months, about six in Canada thus proving that Colonel Patterson has made a mistake in his system of handling the men. Esprit de corps was lacking on account of the way they were mixed up. After I inspected them the men marched past on foot and then mounted.

Faults noticeable were irregular training riding not so bad as the fact that some "sat out" and others "rode light," when going past. There were many men in the ranks who were not in proper position of the soldier, some had their heads on one side, others with caps on crooked etc. They have much to learn. A squad of men were formed up in rear of both squadrons who were back from the front wounded. They looked like soldiers and were tall and strong. The General at Hythe wants to see me tomorrow about recruiting, a sort of crusade for recruits I take it to mean. Drove Mays and the girls to Mrs Sneyds, to tea at 4.30 Called on a friend. Letter for Vaux to him

Shorncliffe – Folkstone – Kent –
Friday 24

Up at 6.30 My batman late Gave him a lecture on the loss of my handkerchiefs. I had brought four dozen from Canada and had to purchase a dozen more The other batmen stole them in the house at No. 21 Grimston. Gdns, the batman, mine have been simple I have ordered him to take an inventory of my stuff so that I can write over to France and have the kits of the thieves searched.

A letter from the Commandant Dover to the effect that I could not comply with his request to have a Cavalry regiment march through this part of Kent to encourage recruiting for I feared that if I did it would have a bad effect to do so in that it would go all over that Canadians were used to encourage recruiting in England, and the Canadian papers would take hold of it in fact it wd be in Germany in a day or two.

Went to the office, Shorncliffe and signed some letters at 3.50 P.M. then went to Hythe ranges and saw the R.R.C. I(?) busy. The Major in charge told me that they had at least five hundred recruits and that they had a little trouble with the clips for loading, none for rapid fire no jamming. The men were a good looking lot. Came back and called upon Mrs Carruthers wife of the general at the Dardanelles Rain in torrents fell after 4. P.M.

Folkestone – Shorncliffe – Kent,
Sat with Mays all evening, girls out at dinner.
Saturday 25

Up at 6.00 AM. It rained heavily last night. Got a letter from Captain Stubbs He is in charge of the communications of the heavy artillery and is Ypres every day and in constant danger through shell fire. He is good stuff and clever, always at first misunderstood on account of his reticence. Brig. Gen. Carson is in town. He called with Colonel Maunsell Commanding Canadian Engineer, Director of R.C.E Services. The latter has just come to see me here. I do not know anything more about it. Carson and I talked over the question of A E Shaws promotion to the command of the 4. CMR the Colonel of which will retire. The question of an A.P.M for the 1st division instead of Shaw was discussed. The owner of Sandling park came to offer his house as a convalescent home for Canadian officers. He has a son in the Coldstream Guards and wishes to do something for the cause of the allies. He is a very nice man, and will not only give shelter but maintain the officers as his guests. He says the 20th batt, was rather a nuisance to him. I was told to-day that Senator Landry was coming over to raise Cain about Colonel Landry being taken from the command of his bde What rot and what an utter absurdity to claim that such an officer could be trusted with the lives of thousands of our men The man could not command a platoon

Folkestone – Shorncliffe – Kent,
Sunday 26

Up at 6.50 wrote up my diary.

Drove to the office at 10.00 then I returned and accompanied by Captain Cronyn my A.D.C I went in a motor to Eastwell Park where we had been invited to lunch by Lady Northcote to meet the Duchess of Albany. We got there in a shower of rain. The ladies had not returned from church and when we were ushered in the lady in waiting took us to the exquisite winter garden where our eyes were regaled by a look at the most beautiful palms and flowers. The place is the prettiest of many I have seen. The ladies were back in half an hour and we were presented to the Duchess of Albany who is mother of the Princess Alexander of Teck, She is very stout and has a German accent but she hates the Germans like poison Lady Northcote then took a walk after lunch with Captain Cronyn and at lunch was delightful. The Duchess took me around the huge and beautiful garden, and when Lady Northcote returned, we all went to see the sick and wounded men who Lady Northcote maintains at her own expense. They were glad to see me and I shook hands with them all and found all cheerful. After a very pleasant day we came home. Sam. one of the officers came to see ~~me~~ us and had supper with us so did West(?).

Folkestone – Shorncliffe – Kent,
Monday 27

Up at 6.45 cool day. Temperature in the house 60° Busy all day. Gave letters to the Right Reverend Father Burke, AD. M.A SLD(?). D.O. who has come from Canada as a chaplain to all the Canadian generals at the front.

In the afternoon I went with my two A.D.C Cronyn and Le Blanc and inspected the Lady Markham and Beechborough hospitals those at the Shorncliffe Moore barracks under Lt Colonel Scott. I found all in excellent order, the numerous patients most of them wounded men, very cheerful. Everything was very clean and bright, and no pains spared to make the sick

comfortable. It took us from half past two o'clock until five to go through the hospitals. I then came home.

At night Lieut Colonel Corelli came to call and told me that Captain Reid of the Army service Corps had been removed from the adjutancy of the training School for ASC by Lt Colonel Garner without any warning and that there was not one army service corps officer in the transport and supply department.

Folkstone – Shorncliffe – Kent,
Tuesday 28

Up at 5.45 AM. Busy all forenoon Threshed out with Major General Macdougall the whole of the affair of Lt Colonel Spittals and Reid, he says that they were both removed from the service they were at with his approval. I asked him why there were no A.S.C. officers in the A.S.C. but he has no valid reason to assign. Spittal he stated was unfit and Reid had kept his accounts on slips of paper, and both of them were now appointed to the command of the ammunition park and were to go to France and that Brig. Gen Carson who represents the Minister of Militia in London had approved of it and in fact had requested their removal. In spite of this character these men are to be sent over to take charge of the ammunition park in the field in France! To[o] inefficient to do work out of range of the guns but are considered by the amateur soldiers under whom we work good enough ~~this~~ to take charge where they may be under fire and the lives of our men depend upon to a great extent the ~~inefficiency~~ of their officers.

Went around the hospital which is under Lt Colonel Roberts of Toronto. It is the old Imperial one of the RAMC but is now under the Canadians all Toronto surgeons and is well managed. I saw the women as well as the [next page] Saw Captain Reid AS.C gold medalist of R.M.C. Canada He is bright I told him to see general Macdougall.

Folkestone –Wednesday 29 Kent,

Up at 5.45 Wrote up my diary.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe. Kent,
Thursday 30

Up early. Busy all day. I prepared to go to London tomorrow with the girls. We had many callers.

October

Friday 1

Up at 5.30 and at 8.30 left for London with Mays the girls Torla and Gertie. Captain Cronyn came with us. The train was late in arriving at Charing Cross some twenty minutes. We were met by Major and Mrs AE Shaw and went with them to Elkingtons W22 Regent Street, where Mays bought a cabinet of cutlery and silver and silver tea sets, and I purchased a watch each for the two girls, the total of Mays investments was about fifty pounds. Stg. The case had been chosen by Mrs Shaw and was approved by Mays. After that we went to Elfridges and bought a coat for Gertie. Flora missed it by going to see a friend. In the afternoon, was Elfridges to purchase Gertie a cloak which became her well and before lunch we had purchased boots for the girls at Albotts on Regent Street. The same afternoon we went Mays and I to the Army and

Navy Co-operative Society Stores and bought some servants linen. Tried to get other things but none suited. The place is badly laid out.

In the evening we went to the theatre the play was good. Sir George Alexander and Irene Van Brugh were the principals and were admirable actors. I was very uncomfortable on account of not being able to stretch neither my limbs. The S James is the theatre quite small.

London, England,
Saturday 2

Up at 8. A.M. Rand was not ready in time, whereupon we were late but went to Alfred Days and there Mays and the girls got a choice of nice dresses, reasonable in price, and of first class quality. After that we returned to the Hotel Cecil leaving the girls at the Trocadero to lunch with Mr Gambles who was a fellow passenger on the boat by which Mays and the girls came from New York. In the afternoon we did nothing but write letters. The girls went out with a Mr Edwards on Saturday P.M.

London,
Sunday 3

Up at 8.30 P.M. Mays for a wonder did not go to church. She and the girls went to the zoo with Bobby Edwards who lunched with the girls. Flora went to call on a Miss Steele in the P.M. Mays Gertie and I called on Lady Strathcona who made us stay to tea. Poor Lady Strathcona has lost one son killed in the war and one wounded, and has a third going in the Scots Guards a fine tall handsome lad. Dr Howard was very pleasant and looks better than I have seen him. Lady Strathcona is very pale and thin but like her father and mother was, is active, hospitable and kind. On our way home to the hotel we called at the Queen Alexandra hospital for Flora and took Miss Steele to her residence.

London,
Monday 4

Up at 6.30. Mays and the girls went to Alfred Days, and to Derry & Thoms, to purchase things. I saw Gen Carson and had a long chat with him. He had been in Folkestone and Shorncliffe, and it was decided that we should do our best to straighten up that quarrel and great misunderstanding between Colonels Spittal and McRae. The whole trouble is on account of the intense lack of tact of Major Garner who has made the billets and has given them to McRae to fire them, and also caused by the Ministers haste in making the appointments of men who do not know their work.

[note in pencil: C very closely]

London, England and Folkestone
Tuesday 5

Up at 6.30 and went about my work. Lunched with Sir Leslie Rundle at the Army and Navy Club. Generals Ketchen and Colin Mackenzie were with us and we had a pleasant time. I was asked by the eastern Command to let the Staff know how many men were under canvas and would need huts, and to get other information for them. I went with Mays in the P.M in our new Cadillac motor which has been made into a first class covered one, to the junior A&N stores and

made some purchases The store is good, and the terms fairly reasonable. The quality is better than most places supply

We left at 4.25 for Folkestone and arrived at 6.00 good time. No rain in London, much rain here

Spent a comfortable evening.

Shorncliffe, Folkestone Kent
Wednesday 6

Up at 6.30 Busy all day at the office and tried to straighten up the McRae- Spittal embroglio, and got steps taken.

Folkestone. Shorncliffe, Kent.
Thursday 7

Up at 7.00 Busy all forenoon and had to try to arrange a fuss between Lt Col McRae and Lt Col. Spittall, of the A.S.C. I had short hand notes taken of every word they uttered. There is much bitterness and I have come to the conclusion that the two cannot serve together and I must report the same. General McDougal, Lt Colonel McRae and Lt Colonel Spittal were present and my A.D.C. Lt Berry took shorthand notes of all that was said. These troubles all caused by the haste of the Minister have given me much trouble and are quite unnecessary(?) Why in the name of all that is holy will he appoint people without any consideration for others who have to command them, and in spite of the fact that the officers and men over whom these people are placed have an enormous influence in Canada They are treated with such slack consideration. They do the work and the others get the credit and the rank. I must go up to the office tomorrow and read the whole of the papers connected with this case.

Mays and I went to have tea with Lady Lawson of No 17 Trinity Gardens Folkestone. Mrs Davies had more spies to talk about, but did not give me the names. She spoke of a young fellow named Baker of Lt Colonel Botts Corps who was recommended for a commission. I will see about it

Folkestone Shorncliffe, Kent,
Friday 8

Up at 7.00. Busy in the forenoon. Saw General McDougall and Lieut Colonel Correlli about the A.S.C. School Correlli is willing to carry on as QMG. and be commandant of the ASC shool and I suggested to Macdougall that he should see Lt Colonel McCrae about organizing the proper number of A.S.C. companies to go on with the supply and transport and the School to be separated from it. Gen. Macdougall acquiesces(sic) in this. Saw Kincaid about the hutments and he states that it will be January before the huts would be ready for all ranks. I arranged that this was to be reported to the eastern Command as soon as possible. It is quite possible to get these huts built quicker if the contractors would employ our men to supplement the supply of labour Attended to other matters for Carson, such as pay for work extra working pay. Colonel Morrison called and told me about his artillery. They have no guns. I said that if he sent me word I would do my best with Sir Leslie Rundle to have them go to him.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent,
Saturday 9

Up at 6.30 Busy all forenoon. Gen Carson called to see me. I talked to him about Lt Cols Spittals and McRaes embroglio and after discussing the matter it was decided that ~~we~~ General Macdougall commanding the training division call upon the aforesaid officers to make a report to them of the state of affairs and then he will submit it to me for my remarks and I will forward it to Carson for transmission to the Minister of Militia and Defence. I saw both McRae and Spittals and ordered the above, cautioned a calmly worded report.

Major D'Aeth brought the reverend Mr Gordon Chaplain of the 43rd Camerons before me for having written to the Toronto Globe and stated a lot of stuff that was quoted afterwards in a German paper as an evidence of the weakness of the allies. He used the words with defeat confronting us etc etc I consider the letter the vilest thing ever written by any man about the affairs of his country. I have written in reply to the War Office letter on the subject and said that the statement should be verified by comparison with the paper (Globe) Gordon denies part of the article. I think it awful. I Inspected the 42nd and 49th battalions. Carson Macdougall and staff The battalions then left for France [*next page*] I addressed the corps and wished them God speed I looked carefully into the question of boots and asked men if their boots ~~Sunday 10~~ were all right and properly "broken in" I also asked every O.C. company if his men were properly equipped, and received answers in the affirmative. The battalions were in fine order, every sign of good discipline. I asked Carson and Macdougall to say a few words to the officers after I had done so.

The gymkana was a success and tea first class. I met a lot of officers and their wives, sisters and daughters, the affair ended about five o'clock. Mrs Mackie complained that the kit forwarded by her husband to Canterbury when Lord Strathconas Horse and the dragoons went to France. They blame Patterson.

Sunday October 10th

Up at 6 AM. Wrote Carson and A E Shaw.

Folkestone. Shorncliffe. Kent.
Monday 11

Up at 5.45 Busy all day. Dictated several letters. Congratulated by letter Major Gen Carson on his promotion from Brigadier General Visited the 9th 43rd and 17th battalion on their drill grounds, all were working well. The 43rd are Winnipeg Highlanders (Camerons of Canada) I met Lt Colonels Thompson & Campbell, and chatted with them Campbell is a grizzled veteran but sound in mind and limb. The instruction all three corps went on well and most of the instructors shewed themselves to be quite good. Campbell and Thomson are good disciplinarians. Young Helbert called to see me so that I could sign his papers for a transfer to the aircraft or Flying Corps. I signed them.

Folkestone. Shorncliffe, Knt,
Tuesday 12

Up at 7. AM. Busy as usual. The girls and Mrs. Gordon left for London by the 8.30 train. Signed several courts martial. Wrote Carson about the Corps which are to go to Aldershot from ~~Can. to England~~ Canada, suggesting that when there is room in ~~Alder~~ Shorncliffe they come. Macdougall and Macfarlane of the Yukon met about the Boyle machine gun battery, the general told Macfarlane that he would transfer the battery over seas as soon as they were equipped.

Took my two A.D.C. to the range at Hythe and saw the 23rd at work. I also visited the camp of the RR.CI(?), but all the officers were away with the bulk of the regiment. The rest of the men were met on their way to shoot at Hythe. Saw the artillery busy laying guns. Macnaughton was at the ~~range~~ laying place. He was the commander of a battery at the front on the big battles. He seems all right, and has a good name.

Mays and I took tea at Mrs Cowans, then home. The Rev Gordon called and shewed me the Globe which put quite another complexion on what the German quotation of his words was. Capt Ross called to see me about dentistry. I wrote for him two letters.

Folkestone, Kent, Shorncliffe Kent,
Wednesday 13

Up at 7. AM. made note that there must be no treating in officers messes nor in Sergeants messes either where are any. Gen Macdougall yesterday remarked that Gen. Carson took too much upon himself and interfered on parade. I think there is some truth in it.

The night dark but some stars. There was a Zeppelin raid on London about 11 o'clock and eight people killed. We did not come off so well the same Zeppelin it is thought dropped bombs upon the 5th brigade of artillery of the second division killing outright eleven men and wounding eight.

Mrs Gordon Flora and Gertrude got back about 11.30. The train was delayed on account the danger of Zeppelins. The trains had to be stopped and kept in total darkness. General Macdougall called just after the ladies arrived and gave me a short account of the raid on the artillery. He stated that the lights in that camp were too strong. Captain Morrow saw the lights. Something must be done about this.

The ladies Mrs Gordon and our two girls, had as fellow passengers a sergeant who called himself Ragg late of R.R.C.I. and a private with two SA ribbons accompanied by his wife. They used vile, lewd language, and suggested shooting the *[next page]* young officers put over them in battle, both were English born men.

Folkestone – Shorncliffe, Kent,
Thursday 14

~~Up at 7.45 [corrected from 6.45] overslept on account of~~ Up at 6.00 and went out to see the damage done by the Zeppelin attack last night. It occurred at the camp of the artillery of the second division and all damage was to the 5th brigade under the command of Lieut Col. Dodds. Thirteen men were killed eleven outright, and later two died of their wounds, eight were wounded. The shells came from it is supposed four thousand ft and a straight line was taken across the artillery camp. Lt Col. Martindale went to the aerodrome at Paddlesworth, the previous afternoon and found only three broken down aeroplanes, no officers, one Sergeant and two mechanics, who were working there at the sheds. There ought to be aeroplanes there all the time, so as to repulse. The artillery were at Otterpool thirty five houses were struck eighteen died, and seventeen were wounded but had to be killed. There was a suspicion about the barber and the postman both Germans who work at Otterpool. Four bombs were dropped at Westenhanger without effect. There were two raids in London at the same time one at 9.30 and one at 12.30 AM the 14th one hundred and forty two casualties there. I took Mays Flora, Gertie and Mrs Niblett up to the artillery camp at 4 o'clock to see the place

Folkestone – Shorncliffe, Kent,

Friday 15

Up at 7.45 Overslept myself. Capt Goldney came to see me last night about engineers for a tunnelling Co, and I asked him to call to-day and meet Lt Colonel Holmes and Captain Retallack of the 48th who are anxious to see me about going to the front as Engineers. They met me to-day and I wrote Major Gen Carson and Captain Goldney about them and sent Carson a list of the men available for a tunnelling Co of Engineers, Holmes and Retallack to get the chance if possible.

I have just heard that there have been reports of two more men killed in the raid of Zeppelins of the 13th instant both of the howitzer brigade.

Got a Mail and Empire with a long letter from "Canadian" in which he states that the Army Corps of Canadians at the front should be commanded by a Canadian and names me as the one who should get it.

The funeral of the poor lads who died from the Zeppelin shells took

The fifteen poor fellows who were killed by the Zeppelins were buried the Military cemetery (sic) Shorncliffe Kent. I attended with all staff. Many relatives had asked for the remains of their boys. It could not be complied with they could not be identified.

Folkestone. Shorncliffe, Kent,
Saturday 16

Up at 6.45 Read a portion of my book 40 Years in Canada. It is clear that much was left out by the "Simp" who did the publishing.

Raw cool day. The weather has been fine for weeks past quite an unusual thing here. Cavalry patrols out all night with strict orders to move along the roads and see about all motors with lights, stop them if too great a glare, or if the shield glass is not covered to keep the light from being seen

Folkestone. Shorncliffe-Kent.
Sunday 17

Went to church, and before lunch went to the Grand and the Metropole. Dinner at 1.30 P.M. Fine day. Wrote letters. Spent evening at home Lieut Milne of the Canadians, first division called and spent the evening. Telegram from the War Office and an order to go to London tomorrow with Gen McDougall and Captain Macfarlane. The latter is the staff officer busy at sending out the reinforcements to the front.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe London.
Monday 18

Up at 5. AM. Left for London at 8.30 went to the War Office at Eight thirty with Gen McDougall and Captain McFarlane. Saw the Director of reinforcements at the War Office, and settled all matters in connection with the troops going to Aldershot, etc etc Lunched with Major Gen Carson and then called on Sir George French at the Onslow-Sussex-hotel, Queens Gate. Lady French is well but Sir George has a slight intestinal trouble, he looks well though. He informed me that the sights now used on the guns are his invention. They were first on heavy guns but later after many years they were adopted on the field and horse battery guns The War Offices always so liberal and ready [to] reward merit offered him one hundred pounds! which he sent back to them. They afterwards sent him seven hundred pounds, not enough of course. I left

at 4.25 for Folkestone and arrived at 6.05 Gen Macdougall came with me. Cronyn and LeBlanc met me at the station.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent,
Tuesday 19

Very busy Up at 6.30 AM. Drove in motor around and called at the Bevan hospital for Mrs Gordon of Winnipeg and Flora who were there to pass the examination for ~~Surgeon~~ nurses Flora was in good health and reported "very fit" Mrs Gordon fit but heart action irregular and she is ordered not to smoke cigarettes so that all would be satisfactory We drove a long way on the Canterbury road first and then went to the hospital.

Fine day, the weather has been good for a long time.

Folkestone, Shornecliffe, Kent
Wednesday 20

Fine day.

Up at 6.00 Very Busy. Inspected the R.R.CI and after having it done carefully addressed the officers asking them to bear in mind that they represent the permanent force of Canada and that every eye will be on them. I commenced the Inspection at 10.00 AM. Lt Colonel A.H Macdonell DSO, was in command. The men are not as fine in physique as those of the second division but were in good condition. The officers as a body are very young The O.C. has much experience, and I told the rest that they are fortunate in having him.

In the afternoon at 2.30 I inspected the 2nd brigade C.M.R under the command of ~~the~~ Colonel Smart, a very capable officer. It took one hour to go over them The physique is excellent and the improvement enormous since I last saw them. The regiment under Lt Colonel A.E.Shaw was the most complete, but all were good A few mess tins had to [be?] got yet. Shaws was the best in that line.

The transport officers were cautioned to see the cleaning of the bits and chains of their harness, and when all but the march past was over I addressed the brigade officers and gave them good advice I also cautioned the staff officers to watch that they did their staff duties well

Folkestone Shorncliffe Kent
Thursday 21

Rain for a while and clouds. Up at 7.30. Overslept myself. On hearing that there were complaints from persons who had their motor cars stopped by order on account of the late Zeppelin raid, I gave orders that it must be stopped and order cancelled. Drunkenness of numbers of our soldiers at the fish and chip shop on 57 High Street has caused me to order that this drunkenness must be put a stop to at once, and I gave Major D___ the necessary orders. I had taken the statements of Privates Calvert Morell and Rand on the subject and gave it to Major D'Aeth. Captain Bennett Goldney states that he saw the War Office about forming a company of Engineers for tunnelling and that they want me to write to the eastern command recommending it. I had already written to Carson about it and he wishes me to write further on the subject.

Got a letter from Mrs Strang of Winnipeg thanking me for helping her sons. Campbell Strang got a commission and the other boy went as chauffeur It cleared up at 3.00 P.M. but was still cloudy.

Drove around town Called on the Mayor, and Lady Penfold also Miss Penfold.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent,
Friday 22

Up at 6.10 A.M. Office 9.30 Busy all morning. There is an order from Ottawa that Ralph Conor(sic) (The Revd J. M Gordon is to be senior chaplain here It is a mistake, and quite wrong to place in the position a clergyman who is so foolish as to cause remarks to the effect that we face defeat in this war to be to be published in the papers The War Office had taken exception to his speeches in Canada being taken up in Germany and made use of to boost the German cause. I am writing to Major Gen Carson on the subject. Gen. Macdougall tells me that Colonel Paterson has asked for an investigation as to the behaviour of himself and others in the ~~district~~, cavalry depot in Shorncliffe. This must be gone to the bottom of at once. Gen. Macdougall came about Paterson and stated that he was going to place Ashton as president of the board of inquiry. I hope the truth will come out and I told Gen Macdougall that he has a perfect right to see if the men were afraid of Paterson and would give evidence.

Shorncliffe
Saturday 23

Up at 6.30 Busy all forenoon Afternoon tea at the Rathburns - very pleasant.

Sunday 24

Up at 7.30 At church with Capt Roger Pocock. Spent evening at home.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent,
Monday 25

Up at 6.30 Busy all forenoon. Wrote Macdougall to arrange that the western men go into Corps by themselves. Gave directions to Brigadier Cowan to arrange that Lance Sergeant Baxter, Brig Gen Ketchens chauffeur is attached to the brigade and gets pay. Lt Colonel Spittal came and made a complaint to the effect that he had not been treated properly by the Director of Supplies and Transport, that he wishes his case brought before the Army Council. I saw that he was scheming to get at someone and drew him out, told him that I had not read his papers Sent for them to General Macdougall and he replied by my ADC Capt Cronyn that the papers of Cols MacRae and Spittal would be sent in tomorrow.

Capt Crowdy of the Montreal Highlanders had been reported killed and I reported that Mrs Crowdy was not informed of it in good time. She had a dinner party when her husband was dying. I wrote the poor young lady a letter of condolence to her address.

Lt Col Spittal is evidently a very sharp man but a fool to fight this matter.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent
Tuesday 26

Up at 6.30 went to office at 9.30 Called on Mrs Ketchen and told her that if she needs help of any kind she is to come to me. She is nervous and worries her husband who is at the front This I informed him by letter yesterday she need not do, as I will be glad to arrange any little affairs. I told Mrs Moore the wife of the brigade major the same thing to-day.

Brig Gen Macdougall came here to-day and accompanied by Lt Col McR_{ae} AD of S&T and brought the report of the Army officer of ASC Major Atkinson to the effect that there had been gross neglect of duty on the part of Lt Colonel Spittal. I therefore read it over. It is serious and I ordered him to be brought before a court martial to which Gen Macdougall was glad to acquiesce(sic). Several men have been kept under arrest for months without trial and there have been many insubordinate acts by Spittal, such as sending young officers to get reports against Atkinson, the Army officer. He has been on leave but never left the camp, was in mess every day.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent
Wednesday 27

Up at 5.30 Mays, the girls and Captain Pocock left by my car for London. Flora is to see about her hospital work and meet Mrs Gordon. Fine day. Lieut Carruthers called to see the ladies. I received him and chatted half an hour. I went out for a long walk in the evening, and when I came home wrote letters and read.

Folkestone – Shorncliffe – Kent,
Thursday 28

Up at 6.45 Busy all forenoon. Rain falling in torrents all day. Used Beaudry Le Blancs motor. Gave leave to him and Captain Cronyn to go to London tomorrow and obtain a motor car for themselves. Gen. Macdougall is at Aldershot Camp (Bramshot) to see the troops which have arrived there from Canada.

I wrote him to hold off the trial by court martial of Lieut Col Spittal for numerous breaches of discipline. Our ministers representative in London seems so inclined to run the military affairs on political lines and interferes so much that we are likely to have some foolish complications arise. He is on his way back from France today. I spent the latter part of the afternoon at my quarters, my wife daughters and Mrs Gordon arrived by motor from London in the evening at 7.00. The party had no rain en route, although it had poured before they started. This rain is a great nuisance and prevents our training from going on. Went to bed at eleven, and read for a while. Wrote Mrs Niblett about my manuscript She replied saying that she would get it together, and send it up by Rand my batman Wrote Tilsey and Captain Biverall(?)

Folkestone, Shorncliffe. Kent
Friday 29

Up at 7 o'clock Fine morning Saw Colonel Holmes about his desire to see his Corps mining Gen. Macdougall called and saw me about Spittal. He is of my opinion re affairs in general. Up early at office. I saw that for the present Holmes battalion does not find drafts. Arranged to see Carson tomorrow, upon his arrival hope to talk over the affairs of the division.

Went accompanied by Lieut Berry to inspect some of the training going on. Went to Hythe first to see the men at musketry There was a large No. on the range and a lot of officers doing nothing I must attend to it at once. We then went to the camp of the 5th brigade of artillery It was very muddy there. The men are cheerful and, I was informed that two nights ago the railway staff had warned them that Zeppelins were in the vicinity and that they had taken shelter from them. None appeared. I think it is a false alarm as there was no official warning given to me. Brig. Gen David Watson asks for some officers as some of his are no good (in the 26th) This is all through the d—d politics. McVeity the Colonel is a good officer as far as I know but some

of the others are no good. Saw Brig Gen Morison in the morning [*next page*] and he stated that all his brigadiers wanted to remain in their present camps. Went out for a walk, spoke to Niblett Q.M.S about his chance for a commission.

Saturday 30

Up at 7.30 AM. Was up at three. Wrote Mrs. Niblett about her husbands chances for a commission in the overseas expeditionary force of Canada and mailed letter to No 19. Julian Rd.

Lt Col Moore 9th Battalion reported by Major d'Aeth for holding over Courts martial for many days keeping the accused in confinement on one occasion for sixty days. I gave orders to D'Aeth to put a stop to this nonsense.

~~Wrote Hugh Clarke.~~

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent,
Sunday 31

Up at 6.30 Mason was sent to London with his motor in which Mrs Gordon Flora and Gertrude journeyed to the city and Flora went to the hospital in London to which she is to be attached for a month prior to taking up nursing of the Canadians at the front with Mrs Gordon.

In the forenoon met Gens Carson and Macdougall at the Grand hotel Carson present domicile, to talk over things, such as, the sending to Canada of unsuitable officers the question of a court martial for Colonel Spittal, and many other things. This kept us going until one PM. from ten, and when I returned home I found an anonymous type-written letter from someone in the cavalry depot to the following effect, viz Canadian Cavalry depot

'A letter was typed yesterday addressed to Major Gen Carson This letter complained of your interference and the interfering attitude of General Macdougall in the Interior economy of the Cavalry depot, and the suggestion was made that you should be recalled. In addition a cable was sent to Hon Robert Rogers MP and to Drewry saying Steel incompetent and intensely unpopular make representations affect his recall This cable was made into a code and [*next page*] sent through Mr Obed Smith, Dominion Immigration agent.

November

Monday 1

Up at 5.30 AM. Wrote letters to Lt Colonel Macdonell Lord Strathconas Horse. I had recommended him to Major Gen Carson for a brigade. Office at 9.30 AM Saw Niblett about a commission for himself, and then Colonel Kincaid about billeting of the ~~art~~ troops and placing the artillery in barracks at Shorncliffe. It is better for the horses.

In addition to the information in anonymous letter which is in last page, Sunday, there is the following, vz

Sir The Non Coms of Fort Garry horse are disgusted at things here. Our best officers who we trusted have left us and instead we have officers who take common whores up into their bedrooms in the officers mess. It is the Scandal of the depot and you should know what is going on Major Mayse is a married man with a wife and family in Winnipeg. They are applying there to the associated charities for charity while he is keeping a woman here and taking her into his bedroom in the officers mess. Sir, It is not right that decent minded should have to salute this man as their superior officer. Colonel Patterson shields him and you want to keep an eye on these two they mean you

Monday 1st.

~~Tuesday 2~~

harm. You can get all the evidence you want right in the depot but the chaps will not say anything unless they know you will protect them as say that Colonel Patterson punished the paymaster for speaking the truth at an inquiry board. The above was read by Carson and Macdougall and it was decided to have Carson send Pattersons letter back to me and Macdougall and then action will be taken. I will trim these scoundrels to a finish.

At lunch Mrs Gordon stated that Mrs Mays is living in a summer cottage on Lake Winnipeg and has not sixty dollars per month to live upon, poor woman, and that her husband ran through twenty thousand dollars the whole of his wifes fortune.

Called to see about the Paterson affair, but do not think the news is much use to me.

Tuesday,

Up at 5.30 Lt Colonel Howard before me by order of Macdougall. He has been very careless and must go home, I fear. Bad discipline the cause. Both Macdougall and the brigadiers think he is not fit. Mrs Gordon left for London. Torla has written. I mailed my certificate for pension to Ottawa

Folkestone Shorncliffe Kent,

Wednesday 3

Up at 5.30 AM. Busy all day. Called on a number of people officially. Day fine, dry and cold but not freezing. Mr. Billy Myles is here with us for a day or two.

Letter from Major Gen Carson asking for a report on the transfer of Landry to the training divn in August and I dictated a reply at once and put the case clearly and frankly before the Government through Carson. Macdougalls report upon Gen Landry from the date of the transfer of the latter to the command of a brigade in the Training division.

Spent the evening at home as usual. Mrs Mackie mentioned a complaint regarding her husbands kit which had been sent to the Canadian Cavalry depot at Canterbury for safe keeping.

Folkestone- Shorncliffe, Kent,

Thursday 4

Up at 6.50 AM. Busy all day Gen Macdougall called to see me about the(?) Landry. I told him that Carson only wanted a short report upon that officer

I had a long talk with Colonel Burritt about discipline and Colonel Paterson of the Cavalry depot. He says that he has a bad reputation in Winnipeg. I know he has.

Weather fine. News from Serbia not good, but there are signs of improvement. What a pity the assistance was not sent sooner than it has been.

Letters have been written to several persons on special matters. A young Englishman in the 11th Corps of the training division has been written about by Major Gen. Gwatkin Gen Staff Ottawa, re a Commission. He had complained that his O.C. Lt Colonel Howard had refused to send his application through the proper channel hence the delay. I fixed this matter at once, and several other things too.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent,

Friday 5

Up at 6.30. Busy all day. The usual military routine is going on here. I wrote to the Eastern Command Headqrs, asking if it would not be a good thing to go to Bramshott to see the Canadians there who have recently come from Canada. It is important that I should see them and put the officers in the right way of handling the men. Letter from Carson dated to-day, re drinking of men and officers is on the way here.

Fine day. Clear and bright.

Saturday 6

Up at 7 o'clock. Fine day. Clear and bright. Letter from Carson saying that the following rotten cable has come from Sir Samuel Hughes viz "

"Have heard unpleasant"

"rumours regarding excessive

"use of liquor at Shorncliffe among"

"some of our officers and men"

"a firm hand must be held"

Carson states in his letter that although he has been here every week for months past he has no tangible evidence of excessive drinking. He asks for a wire to transmit to the Minister of Militia & Defence and I sent the following after seeing General Macdougall.

vz

Your letter fourteen dash thirty two fifth November would state most emphatically rumours absolutely false, stop. No firmer hand can be held than I have maintained from day I arrived here, stop. My experience in maintaining discipline very great, and am satisfied of its effectiveness. Minister need not worry. Canadian credit well looked after. stop. Colonel Burns-Begg, Commandant Folkestone was informed some time ago that I expected [*caret: vy*] strict discipline the(?), stop. He reports conduct of men excellent stop. Drunks less than one per thousand [*next page*] One officer tried by court martial and dismissed service for drunkenness, one subaltern sent back to Canada for excessive drinking stop. Men best behaved I have known.

Sgd General Steele,

Spent evening the Donellys with Mays & G.

Sunday 7

Up at 7 o'clock. Did not go to Church. Wrote letters to Colonel Fotheringham, my brothers Godfrey and James, Major Mackie, Mrs Carolyn Van Praagh St Elmo Blk Colony St Winnipeg, Mrs M G Niblett re a chance for her husband to take a course at the School of Musketry Hythe. L Colonel Paterson of the Cavalry depot wishes to see me and I have not had time. Sent word to him to that effect. Colonel Nelles of the dragoons states that Paterson has a lot of the dragoons with him and has not sent them.

Mays and Gertie and I were at home all evening. We went to bed early 11.00

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent-
Monday 8

Up at 7. AM. Busy at the office. Fine day. Burns-Begg called. Colonel Paterson wants interview. Could not see him. Applied for a Court martial for Spittall Lt Col ASC. Sent it to the Eastern Command for approval. Colonel Nelles in private letter accuses Lt Colonel Paterson,

Cavalry Depot of misrepresenting the state of training of the dragoon squadron here. I believe him Gen Carson has written Gen Macdougall to the effect that an officer of the cavalry depot has stated that all is not right in the depot.

Colonel Burns-Begg states that the men of this comd are as well behaved as any police men in the world. He says venereal is bad in the Folkestone and that he had written about it to the War Office. I will also write.

I called on several people, duty calls with Mays and Gertie after office. Letter from Hilliam Re his regt the 25th Battalion which was given to him when the O.C. was removed from the command (Lt Col LeCain) Hilliam says it is the best in the division but of course that is the way Hilliam would put it. I have no doubts however that it is one of the best after he has it a month.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent-
Tuesday 9

Up at 7. o'clock AM. Wrote to Hilliam congratulating him on his report of his battalion the 25th Nova Scotians. I suppose he will make a good regiment of it.

Brig Gen Macdougall called to see ~~them~~ me about Patersons case and we decided that it was best to give the books of the depot an audit at once, and also hold a court of inquiryg asked for by Patterson

Wire from Sir Leslie Rundle to say that an unofficial visit to the Canadians at Bramshot was all that could be arranged for me at present.

Wet day. cool wind. Kings birthday.

Wrote the Hon Mrs Howard thanking her for her invitation to me to her shoot on the 13th inst.

Gave to Brig. Gen. Macdougall a copy of the anonymous letter to me from some member of the cavalry depot informing me of what was written about Gen. Macdougall and me by Lt Col. Paterson and officers.

Attended the luncheon given by Sir Stephen Penfold Mayor of Folkestone and replied for the Canadian troops they the people received me nicely.

Mrs Burn nursing sister of the Canadians in France and Shorncliffe [*next page*] came to me last night stating that she had been sent to Canada in Sept as if dismissed ~~Wednesday 10~~ from the service but no charge laid against her but inefficiency and that when she arrived in Ottawa she saw the Adjutant General ~~Colonel~~ Brig.Gen. Hodgins and when she told her story she was advised by him to report to the minister. This she did not do as she thought he was too busy to see her, but she got a free passage back to England to have her case looked into, and when she arrived she wrote a list of her grievances and read them to General Carson and Gen. Jones. Carson she said was very much surprised and advised her to write to the Minister of Militia which she did forwarding her complaints. If she is stating the truth there is much to be desired in the Medical Corps of Canada. I told her that as ordered she must ~~appeal~~ appear at the place ordered tomorrow, as ordered viz at ten o'clock A.M. and that I would see that she is protected, and have someone with her. She then left for her hotel.

Shorncliffe Wednesday 10th Nov 1915

Up at 6.20 Called at Colonel Reids office and asked him to give Sister Burn a very fair hearing She had been sent back here by the Minister of Militia to have her case looked into, and he should be very careful and let her have a friend. After I had

Folkestone Shorncliffe. Kent,
Wednesday ~~Thursday~~ 10 [corrected from 11]

Spoke[n] Colonel Reid promised to to give her fair play, and as soon as I got to the office I was “phoned” by Sister Burn asking me if she could have Major Alexander as a friend at the board of inquiry which was to go on, to “clear up the situation”, and I caused Captain Cronyn to phone Colonel Reid asking him to let Major Alexander attend the Court with her.

Fine cool bright day.

Major D’Aeth states that the 48th battalion is badly run at present by Lt Colonel Holmes. A private was put in charge of the Guard when there were plenty of Sergeants and a prisoner escaped

A committee of Clergymen and others among them retired Major Gen Tweedy sent a resolution against the Sunday Concerts in aid of the soldiers, and I directed major D’Aeth through whom it was sent to write in reply to the effect that I heartily approve of the Sunday Concerts They keep the men out of public houses on Sunday.

I have written Major Gen. Carson re the prostitution here and also to the eastern command. I can do nothing but I must indicate that I am alive to the evil, and have done my best.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe. Kent,

~~Friday 12~~
Thursday. 11th

Up at 6.00 Wrote letters. Office at 9 o’clock, then accompanied by Captain Cronyn, visited the rifle ranges at Hythe to see the men at work. The officers in charge are keen to go to the front they have been kept here because they are good instructors. I told them that I would do my best for them. The battalions at work were the 9th and 17th battalions were those on duty and the officers in charge were Lts Toole & Ross. A young officer called to see me to find out if he could go to his regiment. He applied for a comn some time ago and got it and has orders from the War Office but his Colonel 17th battalion does not know how to let him go, although he is entitled to his discharge. What foolishness!

I took Mays and Gerty to the pavilion (Leas) and left them there Mays opened a bazaar there, and when I returned to bring them home I found that she had made a good speech and bought more than she expected. Bazaar a success

We then went to the Grand and had five o’clock tea with Sir George and Lady Perley, then home. Mays went as chaperon to some girls to a dance. Weather had become bad, and wet. People in some cases vulgar. No place for ladies.

Folkestone, Kent.
Very stormy and wet.
~~Saturday 13~~
Friday 12th

Awfully wet miserable windy day. Signed the usual Nos of courts martial, all strong cases. Weather too bad for work. Wrote Capt Dudley Aldershot and Colonel Snider 27th France. Busy writing all afternoon. Gen Macdougall came rather upset about the refusal (temporary) of the eastern Command to give promotion to certain staff officers, two, of his. I reassured him by saying that I had sent their names to Major Gen Carson, the Civil representative of Canada, at the Cecil hotel London for his approval.

Mays and I dined with Lady Markham at the Grand. Sir Arthur her husband, Miss Samuels and Sir Montague Allan and Lady Allan and Major Alexander were present. A good time was enjoyed.

Saturday, 13.

Up at 7. o'clock A.M. Busy all ~~morng~~ morning. Saw Colonel Neill about Major Arnold. He says he has not quite enough for him to-do but can later find a place for him in France. He has no objection to post him to the Cavalry depot. Minister wires that Pelletier ex MP RNWM Police may be appointed lieut in the Force here. Have ordered that he go to the corps reinforcing the 22nd batt, 2nd Div, France. Major Bowie of the R.C.Ds called to [*next page*] Cold and windy.

Shorncliffe,
Saturday, Cont,
~~Sunday 14~~

to see me about a chance as a staff officer of the third division if there is an appointment ~~has~~ brigade major etc or some other on the staff Major Begin approved to go to Aldershot as assistant provost marshal at Bramshot. Lucky dog! This is better than quartermaster.

The Minister of Militia and Defence in Canada has cabled for a report upon Lt Colonel Ingraham from Brig Gen. Macdougall and myself. I have turned it over to the former. The weather has turned finer, but it is cold and windy. It rained hard most ~~the~~ of the night.

Shorncliffe,
Sunday 14th Nov. 1915,

Up at 7. o'clock. Walked until 8.30 AM. Temperature

Went to the parish church with the mayor of Folkestone and was given the place of honour in the procession(sic) beside him. The leading men of the city were with him, a band played. The sermon was a good one. We returned in procession to the Town hall where we had originally assembled, and there the Kings health was drunk. I met the French Consul and others, and Lady and Miss Penfold. Mays saw the procession The Consul called with his wife delighted at Mays French. My ADCs and Jack French had supper with us.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent,
Monday 15

Up early, 4.30 shaved and lay down until 7. AM. Wrote Lady Northcote, The Great West the Hudsons Bay. Co, The bank of Montreal London and Sir Stephen Penfold thanking the later for his courtesy in inviting me to the annual service in the parish church and the former in reply to her letter about the stables at Eastwell park, and congratulating her on her success with the War Office in getting them to let her little rest hospital be spared from billeting troops.

Lieut Pelletier called to thank me for getting him a commission I suggesting that he would write Major General Sir Samuel Hughes to thank him,

Temperature max. 54° Min°31. degrees 1° of frost. Weather very unpleasant

Folkestone Shorncliffe. Kent,
~~Temp max. 54. Min 31~~

Tuesday 16

Up at 4.20 Wrote letters until 5.30 then lay down until 7. Busy at the office. I was informed by a friend that Capt Bury son of George Bury insulted a lady and behaved badly in a restaurant in Folkestone I will look into it. What vulgar brutes a few of the officers are. It seems that this fellow builds upon his fathers position as general manager of the CP.R and 1st vice president. Major Williams was present but afraid to say anything as it might offend the Minister of Militia.

Temperature max. 64° min 27° 5 of frost Fine day for here.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent
Wednesday 17

Up at 7.00. Office 9.30 Wrote several letters. Colonel Cowan called to see me and asked about the contents of my letter to him, private, urging more activity on the part of himself and staff He states that adjutants are taken and sent over to the alleged office of recruiting and organization in Folkestone, thus causing faults to be found in the training here. The officers he states are promoted and get extra pay.

I may as well place on record that the system or lack of system in the Canadians in England is the worst I have ever known.

Lt Colonel Pousette of the 2nd division ammunition park called He has been treated shamefully. I have decided to write Carson about it. It is evident that — G.O.C Canadian army Corps and his scheming chief of the Staff, wants to put some other man in the place. These people are cursedly unfair.

Temperature Max 68° Min 22° 10° of frost Fine day for here,

Mays had a tea party. Colonel & Mrs Kincaid Lady and Miss Lawson Mesdames Ross & Mackie, Mrs Rathbun Mrs, Miss Carson, Captain Goldney.

Folkestone Shorncliffe. Kent,
Thursday 18

Up at 7.00 Mays left with Gertrude for London by motor at 8.30 AM. I wrote Niblett about his courses of instruction at Shorncliffe.

Authority of Court Martial of Lt Col Spittal sent back by the J.A.G. London with all but three charges struck out I expected that and to-day I have applied for one with the authorized charges.

Major D'Aeth reports that guards are often placed in charge of a private. This is absurd and unnecessary(sic) and an explanation is asked for.

Colonel Rennie came about the venereal hospital. He has found a suitable place which we can rent and I have ordered a wire to Major Gen Carson to get authority for the rental of same. It is an outrage to keep the men out in tents in such weather. It would be a public scandal if it came out in the papers. It is no fault of mine, I have done all that a human being can to get quarters. I have written repeatedly about the disease but the authorities have not helped us. Rennie has worked hard to get the thing done properly and the men put in quarters. There are piles of correspondence on the subject of venereal disease.

Folkestone. Shorncliffe, Kent.
Friday 19

Up at 7.00 Busy until late in the day. Inspected the rifle range work. Received a letter asking for me to appear at the headquarters of Sir Leslie Rundle Eastern Command the War Office to talk over the venereal question. I asked the hour and received a wire from him to the effect that one o'clock would suit very well and that Sir Leslie wishes me to lunch with him at one thirty P.M. I replied by wire thanking him and ordered my motor car to be ready to go with me tomorrow to London.

Mays returned this P.M. Gerty remained, she states that Flora has not found the delightful Mrs Gordon quite so nice a friend as she expected her to be. She was quite cool and the poor dear feels her first taste of the world rather chilly. I hope she will not go to an overseas hospital she does not need to do so yet.

Fine day.

Shorncliffe, Folkestone, Kent, London

Temperature Max 59, Min. 22.

Saturday 20

Up at 5. AM left for London at 8.30 accompanied by Captain Beaudry Le Blanc one of my ADC. Arrived at 11.30 took a room at the hotel, met Major Gen. Carson and Lt Colonel Burritt G.S.O.1. for the training division.

Met Lt Colonel Pousette of the Ammunition Park. He has returned from France. That fellow at the head of the training Corps and his slippery G.S.O. Woods did him out of his appointment and kept it for a Captain! of the 1st Division. Those fellows who got to France last March got the plums in spite of the fact that the second division has no superior in the field.

Reported to Sir Leslie Rundle at one o'clock A.M. and had a talk over the prostitution which prevails in Folkestone and other towns in my area and also asked if I punished the men for contracting venereal disease from them. I said not as I had no power to do so. I asked for quarters for the venereal patients. They need them as the weather is raw and cold. There are good quarters available. I lunched with Sir Leslie and his adjutant General at the "Rag" as they call the Army & Navy Club had a pleasant time. Left for Folkestone at 3 P.M. by motor.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent,

Sunday 21

Up at 7.30. Wrote letters all day. Several people called. Captain Williams came on behalf of the observer, Lt Colonel Sir Max Aitken. He wanted information about the second division such as dates of sailing, numbers of reviews by different people. I told him that he could have got all that in France. He spoke very highly of the second division. Lt Colonel and Mrs Hilliam called to see us and spent some time with us. They will come to supper tomorrow.

Temperature max 57° Min. 23°

Folkestone, Shorncliffe Kent,

Monday 22

Up at 6.30 Busy all forenoon. Colonel Reid and Major Marriott reported re the gradation list of Canadian overseas officers. Saw Lt Col Lindsay and had a talk with him, he is now the Lieut Colonel divisional Engineers and well worthy of it.

Visited with Mays Lady Northcote and lunched with her she was more than kind also is very amusing indeed. We got back at 4.30.

The Hilliams dined with us in the evening. Col. Hilliam returns to the western front tomorrow.

Temp Max. 60, Min 25.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent.

Tuesday 23

Up at 6.40 Busy all forenoon. Went with Mays to open bazaar of St Michaels church Folkestone. Afterwards I called on Mrs. Niblett to see about the Christmas number of the Winnipeg Telegram. Dined with Colonel and Mrs Rathbun at 7.30 Mrs. Blair, her grandson and Captain Goldney M.P were present and an enjoyable evening was spent. Major Gen. Currie called at my office to see me but I was away Gertrude returned from London by train before we left for dinner.

Mrs Niblett is going to send a Christmas Sketch of the Canadian troops and wants photographs of Self and Staff. I arranged to have one taken tomorrow morning at ten o'clock Retired at 11.30 Troubled with palpitation

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent,

Wednesday 24

Up at 7.30 Busy all day. The war drags on Russians gaining Kitchener at Gallipoli He reports that we will have four millions of men in March and that Great Britain will supply the munitions for six million Russians I had a photo taken at 10.30 o'clock in several positions, seated standing in jacket and also in Jack boots and British warm coat.

Inspected the Military Police. Gave Major Snow the necessary(sic) instructions and ordered that the Lieutenant who was with him before would be restored. I told D'Aeth that I had no faith in Major Snow A.P.M and that Foxwell must be taken on again and do his work properly as he did in the past. Jarvis thought he was a good man.

Inspected Beechborough hospital and spoke to every nurse and every patient All were very happy and the latter stated that they ~~would like to~~ had no complaints, all said that they are well treated. Saw Lady Markham and she said that her husband supplies the coal and that a lot of it is held up at Shorncliffe Station, the agent stating that the military had to get their stuff first. I wrote and dispatched an order to Col. McRae and the station master to get the coal through at once.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent

Thursday 25

Up at 7.00 Busy all day. Gen. Macdougall called on duty, he went to Bramshott. I inspected the grenade work in the forenoon. Captain Davidson is in charge of the bombing and catapult work. It is well done. Saw the troops at musketry, all well. Spoke to officers in charge Sun too bright to see targets properly.

In the afternoon went over two thirds of Moore barracks hospital, Lt Colonel Scott- CAMC in charge Miss Russell matron. Inspected everything found the hospital clean, the patients contented without complaints, all cheerful Spoke to every man in the hospital specially inspected baths and basins. Staff efficient. Miss Russell splendid girl has been, fortunately for the troops, in several campaigns. She states that chief matron Macdonald found fault with the hospital, reported it not clean this certainly was not so to-day or any other time that I have seen

it. Arranged for Mrs Niblett to go around with Mays tomorrow to see the troops at work and get photos from the Toronto and Winnipeg Telegram Temp^{re}, Min 21.° Max, 59.°.

Folkestone - Shorncliffe Kent
Friday 26

Up at 6.30 Busy all day. Mays took Mrs Molly Glenn Niblett around the troop(?) camps. Saw the grenade bombing and catapult work. Mrs N got the promise of photographs for a xmas number of the Toronto and Winnipeg Telegrams as arranged I gave orders to the photographer Weston in town for some photos and a sitting of self and staff. Saw many persons, one of them Reid.

In the afternoon I continued the visit to Moore Bks hospital presided over by L'Colonel Scott CA.M.C. Miss Russell the matron a splendid woman who has been in four campaigns was present. I saw her and every nurse, every Surgeon and spoke to every man. Found all cheerful and pleased with their treatment. A few men were asleep, one poor fellow had syphilis of the brain. He was not one of our men, he is from the army, served in India, does not speak, an object lesson to all men. The hospital was clean, I saw everything.

Letter from Archbishop of Canterbury asking me if I can see him The vicar presented it.
Temp. Min 18° Max 56° Fine forenoon. Stormy P.M. Mays at tea with Mrs Elliott

Folkestone, Shorncliffe Kent
Saturday 27

Up at 6.50. Busy all forenoon in office.

Interviewed by Owen about young officers wanted by him for the P.O Corps of the London Rifle brigade and mentioned Niblett for a Captaincy. Lt Col Rennie came about venereal and a new hospital. Told him that I would not use the Grand hotel for billets at all, if I could help it and it would be a last resort. Told him that the British might want it but I would not except as above.

Wired Archbishop of Canterbury that I would call upon him this P.M.

Allowed an eastern officer to go as Company commander to the 5th Infy brigade.

Asked Colonel Rennie to continue lecturing for venereal through his doctors.

Asked Major Owen to dinner, (Supper) tomorrow at 7 o'clock

Shorncliffe
Sunday 28

Mays drove to London in a motor for Flora, and brought her back Capt Goldney, Major Owen and Lt Colonel Prismall and ___ had supper with me.

I wrote many letters. Mays made good time 140 miles in four hours.

Temperature.

Shorncliffe.
Monday 29

Busy all day.

Folkestone Shorncliffe, Kent.

Tuesday 30

Up at 7.00 Busy all forenoon Poor Mays is not well has a bad cold I made her stay in bed. Went to tea at general Sir — Barker and Lady Barkers, met the son and daughter. Mays too ill to go, Flora accompanied me. The son is one of three majors in the artillery, has lived at Red Deer, Alberta.

Temperature,

Min. 32°- Max. 68°.

December

Folkestone – Shorncliffe, Kent.

Wednesday 1

Up at 6.30 Wrote Lady Penfold to say that Mays could not meet Lord Kitcheners sister at the train from London with her as she is in bed with a bad cold but that I will send the motor to her house at 1.00. and that I shall let her have it all day, if she wishes.

Saw Gen. Macdougall and will recommend him through Carson to the Minister for ~~second-division~~, (third division). Arranged with him and his G.S.O.1 to have all senior officers put through the bombing, signalling, musketry, bayonet fighting and machine gun work and then examined, so that those who are all right can go to France and spend some time in the trenches.

I had myself and staff photographed this A.M, for a Christmas number of the Toronto and Wpg Telegrams.

Temperature,

Min 30°. Temp Max 65°

[following entry in red ink]

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent,

Thursday 2

Up at 7.00 Max. 67° Min 33° Busy all day. Met with general Macdougall as many ~~men~~ O.C and brigadiers as could be present to speak to them privately to the effect I wish all of them to go through courses in grenade throwing, signalling machine guns, and musketry in class by themselves that when they are examined I can report to the minister through General Carson that they are fit for all work, and to take a trip to France for fourteen days, be under fire and that they are fit to take battalions in the third division if one is raised. Brig. Gen. Macdougall spoke to them first and impressed upon them that it is only as private conversation this is to be counted.

Went with Mays to open the sale of work of the Salvation Army in Folkestone. Made a speech to the assembled salvationists eulogizing as it deserved the work of the army This after Mays and declared it open The mayor was in the Chair. I went all over the room afterwards. Mays made some purchases and we then went to tea at Mrs Andrews Major Andrews was present from the 8th battalion at the front. He says that they all wanted me in command from the first, and stated that the M Police had done well

[following entry in red ink]

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent.
Friday 3

Up at 6.20 A.M.

Colonel Patterson called and denied that he had sent any telegram, letter or cable to any one about me. Had never been in any way anything but respectful with regard to me, and was bitterly hurt to think that anyone should think that he was disloyal to me.

Gave orders for my ADC to go ___ around Folkestone, Hythe and Sandgate to see how discipline is going on as I have heard that there was much drunkenness in those places. They are to see the Y.M.C.A and other tents on my behalf and let me know if the sick and wounded are allowed in as they should be between meal hours. They are to express my satisfaction with the good work of those institutions, Salvation army, Y.M.CA etc etc. A good mornings work.

All afternoon took long walk saw about the Christmas cards and photos for Canada.

Temperature Min 32°. 64°-

Folkestone - Shorncliffe, Kent,
Saturday 4

Up at 6.45 Busy all forenoon. Got Power of attorney made out and attested in Folkestone. Had photo taken for Toronto and Winnipeg Telegrams for Christmas Nos. Then had one taken of self my A.A.G. and my AQMG Colonel Kincaid and the former Major D,Aeth. Foggy day, much to do.

Yesterday Mrs Davies reported that a British officer is in Folkestone in plain clothes and drives around certain women alleged to be Germans All afternoon heavy rain fell and as it is a half holiday did not go out. I read Memoirs by Lord Redesdale, a very interesting book of two volumes given to me by Lady Northcote. It is carefully written and one of the best books of biography that I have seen.

Lt Colonel Wayland called and we had a long chat over matters military. I suggested taking a course with the rest of the O.C. units and he is very willing indeed. I told him of all my arrangements for officers and men, and how I had been treated. Ptes McCabe and OGrdy called on the ladies. Temperature Max 68°. Min 35°-

Folkestone – Shorncliffe, Kent.
Sunday 5

Up at 7.30 Mays went to Church I wrote letters to Miss Julia Jarvis 23 Chepstow Crescent, Notting Hill West, London. To Mrs Niblett re the photos for Canada and the letter to the Telegrams of Toronto and Winnipeg. To S.C. Steele 168, Waverly St. Ottawa, Ont.

Folkestone – Shorncliffe – Kent.
Monday 6

Up at 7.15 Max 66.°. Min 36°

Busy all forenoon in Shorncliffe. Young Darrald Davis called to see me, he was a paymaster when I left Winnipeg but is now a lieutenant in the 46th and at Bramshott. I called on Mrs. Ketchen and she tells me that Mrs. Mackay wife of Major (Dr) Donald MacKay of the 27th battalion has informed her that her maid was raped a few nights ago by two soldiers after they had gagged her. They were both sober. I think it will be very difficult to get the culprits. Mrs

Ketchen states that the roads especially on Saturday nights in front of her house is full of drunken soldiers. I informed Kincaid (Col) of this and asked him to take steps to find the ravishers and put a stop to the debauchery.

All the schools are going fast and the officers Cmd battalions are to begin a separate course on Monday next. Letters from Carson one of approval of the class and one queer one re the formation of a third division for France. Gen Mercer, (Major Gen) to command it The Canadian Minister of Militia is mad. Mercers brigade was commanded by the brigade major. The Permanent force and the staff have not had one kind remark by the Minister of Militia. Got a telegram from Ottawa about Pelletier.

Folkestone – Shorncliffe – Kent,
Tuesday 7

Up at 7.15 had a miserable night bronchial cold the cause.

The weather for several days has been miserable. Winter in England is horrible on account of the rain. Busy all day long. Mailed the photos for the Telegram in the afternoon. At Mrs Nibletts request called at 2.30 and read her letter to the Toronto and the Winnipeg telegram. I found that she had got hold of a lot of military information which when I represented to her that it would not be allowed and would give her trouble if she had it published she then wrote the whole thing over again, and mailed it.

Folkestone. Shorncliffe- Kent,
Wednesday 8

Up at an early hour 6.55. Max 68° Min. 25° degrees. Very wet day. Busy in the office all forenoon. Bad bronchial cold. Consulted Surgeon Lieut Col. Scott. Mays did so too Good doctor, Scott, I am glad that I found his hospital in such good order, and could make such a good report.

Folkestone- Shorncliffe, Kent
Thursday 9

Up at 8.A.M. Busy all morning but had to go to the office I had to put a menthol plaster on in the night and it has done me good.

General Ruck called from the War Office and I told him what I was doing and what sort of instruction was going on in the Canadian training division Very good schools for everything. Our instructional Cadre is busy. We chatted a lot. He seemed pleased, and spoke well of Lt Colonel Macdonell and the officers from the R.M.C.

The A.D.M.S called before that he is now over Dover and is well fitted. Had a few minutes pleasant chat with him before he went to shew a hospital to General Ruck. He took me to be English. I laughed at that as I thought he knew I was Canadian born, and proud of it.

Did not go back to the office in the P.M.

Miserable wet stormy day Temp. Max 65 Min 27° degs.

Friday 10

Up at 8, AM. horribly wet day. Lt Cols McRae and Garner came to see me. McRae saw me first and said that Garners nerves were going against him that he worries too much. I saw that McRae wished to dispense with Garner for the present so I called the latter in and after a talk in

which I advised him not to return to Canada just yet as he should first see the front in France and go through everything in the senior class, I explained to him that had he been tactful there would have been no trouble whatever in the Supply and transport section of the A.S.C. I let him know very plainly but pleasantly the importance of tact. He seemed to feel it, and will take a course I wrote general McDougall.

Some of our men have been accosting ladies and maids on the streets and assaults and a rape have taken place I have therefore ordered that a change must take place, or I shall take drastic measures for I shall not have Canada disgraced by such men.

We went to tea at Mrs Mackies, very nice. Katie Tupper there.
Max. 65. Min 27°.

Saturday 11

Up at 7.30. Max. 65°. Min. 25° Letter from Major Gen Howard Insp of Infantry who is to see the 48th pioneers. I replied to him to the effect that his arrangements for the 17th will be suitable I met him at Bothas pass in the Transvaal. Nice man.

Many letters, all dealt with. Major Alexander called to see me, he is going to Canada.

Rev Mr Jordon called to see me about opening the picture gallerie(sic) for the troops on the Sundays. He is keen for it and I strongly expressed approval of the move as it keeps the soldiers away from temptation. He states that the women are to blame and that he would not go down in khaki for anything.

I promised Alexander a letter of introduction to the A.G. and the Minister, as well as Colonel Smith, Judge advocate gen. He was complimented by the president of the Court Martial for the fair way in which he prosecuted.

Papers report murder of a French Canadian Sergeant at Bramshot camp, Lieut Codere has been arrested for the crime.

It is stated that Lt Colonel Spittal has been found guilty on two charges.

Shorncliffe Folkestone. Kent

Sunday 12

Up at 8.00 My cold is much better than before. Wrote many letters. One to Major Begin A.P.M, Bramshott, ~~Kent~~ near Aldershott, to say that I hear that he is not doing his duty satisfactorily and advising him to do better especially with the blackguards who compose the French Canadian battalion at Bramshott.

Wrote Mrs Scott, wife of Lt Colonel Scott C.A.M.C. to the effect that I will look carefully after her husbands rights when the time comes.

Wrote Burritt to help Niblett along Got letter from a Mrs E Caldwell No 62 Marine Parade, Hythe complaining that we purchase goods groceries from a man named Longley who she alleges is a notorious coward and "Slacker" I replied asking her to come to my office if she has a complaint.

Wrote Mr Cronyn, Toronto in reply to his asking me to let his son go to the front.
Temp^{re} Max. 56° Min. 18

The Donnelly's called in the evening with Jack French and two other officers, Mr. Davidson of the Canadian Seaforths, and Mr Standon. Jack French is to go across to France.

Shorncliffe. Folkestone - - Kent,

Monday 13

Up at 7.30. Max 58° [*corrected from 21*] Min. 21° Busy all forenoon. Hear bad accounts of the battalion under Archambault at Bramshott. I saw several matters adjusted properly. Went out in the afternoon after calling at the headquarters. Mays, the girls and I called on the D'Aeths and had pleasant chat, then on the Cottons and had tea with Mrs Cotton, Mrs Rosamond her daughter and two other young ladies at the Manor House, a pretty place on the Sandgate Shorncliffe Road. The day was fine bright and cool. The D'Aeths like my book.

I took an hours walk before I went up to Shorncliffe in the afternoon.

Folkestone- Shorncliffe, Kent,
Tuesday 14

Up at 7.30. Max – Min, Busy in forenoon Colonel Stewart called to see me and read a part of a letter from C.A. McGrath about his son who was at one time adjutant of Col Stewarts brigade. Brig. Gen. Morrison also called about an article in Truth about his partiality and his turning out officers for friends of his own. Stewart states that it is true, but they seem to be able to do their work, the Insp of artillery having inspected them some time ago and passed the battery commanders. The 26th battery was handed over to McGrath if he wished to take it but he declined to take it. I wrote his father to-day and gave him my version of the sons grievance(sic) and promised to help him along by getting him a battery. These political hacks like Morrison et al are a curse to the force.

[*added in pencil: q omitting name*]

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent,
Wednesday 15

Up at 7.30. Max. 61° Min. 32°. Busy all forenoon. Major of the 41st battalion came by appointment to see me. He states that the battalion is a disgrace to the Dominion. I had previously told him that I was very anxious to have the French Canadian Corps a success. He stated that Archambault the O.C 41st had rented a house at Grayshott and that he and Major G. Hughes and Lt Codere lived in it and Codere acted as a pimp for Archambault. He stated that the regiment was in a dreadful state, and – that a change is needed. He is a Belgian and has been many years in Canada & belonged to the Victorias of Montreal and 43rd regiment D.C.O.L.I

He stated that Codere who is now charged with the murder of Sergt Ozanne which he know (sic) doubt committed thrashed one of the men at Valcartier this year and nothing was done about it. The O.C was busy with women all the time he was at Valcartier.

Folkestone – Shorncliffe, Kent,
Thursday 16

Up at 7.30. Max. 58° Min. 34.

Busy all day. Saw more officers of the 41st and they agree in all statements. The state of affairs there is simply absurd and worse I hear that Lord Brooke has made a severe confidential report on Lt Colonel Archambault. What a disgrace to the Dominion are the trashy officers sent with some of the battalions for the sake of a few votes. This Archambault would be a disgrace to the private soldiers of the worst militia corps in the world.

Went with Flora and Gertrude to the Donnelly's to spend the evening. A pleasant time, three [*corrected from two*] officers there. (3)

Wrote Mr Cronyn to reli[e]ve his mind about his sons accident as it is not dangerous by(?) may be exaggerated.

Folkestone Shorncliffe – Kent –
Friday 17

Up at 7.30 Max. Min,

Office 9.30 Major Gen Sir F. Howard inspected the 48th Pioneer battalion to-day at 10.30 passed along the ranks and then caused different companies to pile arms, then unpile extend for attack, and after that he had some bombing without loaded bombs. There were several of the men sent to Hythe Ranges to shoot. I came back to the office at 11.30 and opened my letters. One from Lt, Colonel Wayland who asks to go to the front for fourteen days or longer with his adjutant on account of there not being a course ready. I replied and explained that I could not send Lieut Colonels yet. They must go through their course. Sir F. Howard stated that the men of the 48th in his opinion are fine equal to the guards!

In the P.M I saw the 48 at their musketry on Hythe ranges and found them busy. Asked if the men brought refreshments for them and the senior officer who is the commander of the base Co stated that they did not as they had lunch at 11.00 o'clock.

Called upon Miss Caldwell who wished to see me about a Slacker who will not go to fight and who is making fortune out of the Canadian messes. She was not at home. Called to see Cronyn, he is improving. Dined at Capt Bennett Goldney

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent,
Saturday 18

Up at 7.30 Max. 61° Min. 32° Rain part of the day. Busy until one P.M. Letter from Carson to say that the Minister wants Lt Col Spittal back in Canada and that he Carson had cabled to say what had happened to Spittal and asked me if there is not a way out of the difficulty which will admit of the case being dropped. I arranged to write privately to Sir Leslie Rundle and ask him if he can meet Carson wishes. I fear it cannot be done unless Sir Leslie sees some way out of the difficulty. In the afternoon I was quite busy Carson wrote re Bramshott and expressed himself pleased with the order making me responsible for the training.

L Col Burnett and I had a long talk about the training and organization of the troops for work. He met the brigadiers and O.Cs and explained that we must have battalion drill as well as individual training and officers must be held responsible for their platoons companies and battalions, and remember that it is their duty to be here and train the men.

Took a French lesson at 4.00 P.M from Mons Serruys.

Poor Servants, bad dinner, ordered lights for the medical school,
[written vertically across page: and curtains for windows, ordered a mess room for the Medical school to be ready before Christmas –]

Folkestone,
Sunday 19

Up at 7.45 Max 60° Min 26° Mays went to Church. I wrote letters to Dr. C.N. Bell, Br gen H.A Nanton Chief Engineer the XVth Corps. France. He wants the command of a division. Wrote A.M. Nanton, of Osler Hammond and Nanton about him. Wrote Rev John MacDougall in reply to his in which he confirms my view of the Cypress Hill Massacre, and combats Cowies

work altogether. He is surprised that Cowie would take that stand and states that he got his information from Crees and half breeds who were enemies of the Assiniboines.

Went to tea with Mays and the girls to Major and Mrs Tremaine. The former is employed in Dover. Met a lot of nice persons, and I chatted with the Major, Capt Wilson and Mr Bawtreay, late of Montreal. Came home at 6.15 Capt and Mrs Blake called before we went out. Mailed a photo to Dora Brooke-Clarke.

Fine day, but cloudy.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe, Kent
Monday 20

Up at 7.30. Max. 56°. Min. 26° Fine day, for winter in England no rain.

Wrote Carson in reply to his re Major Snow and gave a long report re that officer. Major Arnold made a report in the forenoon to the effect that there is much drunkenness amongst our soldiers in Folkestone I called in Major D'Aeth DaaG and caused Arnold to state what he saw going on. He stated that every tenth man he saw on Saturday night was drunk and several were vomiting in the streets. Arranged with Major D'Aeth for him to go down in plain clothes and see for himself.

Arranged to see Colonel Neill and Major Arnold about the horses for remounts after the war at 11.30 on the 21st instant.

Motored with Mays, Torla, and Gertrude to the Hon. Mrs Howards at Lyminge to lunch. Met Sir Edward Carsons Secretary and talked about the war with him. Lady and Miss Penfold and several other ladies were there. Mrs Howard invited me to shoot on Wednesday. We had a pleasant afternoon and came home at 3.15. arrived at 3.45. I then took a lesson in French and mailed letters to Carson about the A.P.M. here. Sam. Lee came to dinner, and Mrs Mackie and Lieut Neil. Musketry Staff after dinner.

Folkestone, Shorncliffe - Kent,
Tuesday 21

Up at 7.00. Max 62° Min. 30° Busy all forenoon in office. In the P.M at 5.00 ~~saw~~ called with Mays on Mrs Davies, nice people there, all pleasant. A young lady sang a number of songs. Gave orders re discipline.

I as usual took my French lesson from Mons. Serruys, a Belgian gentleman recently Spanish Consul. I find that I am improving much.

Folkestone. Shorncliffe, Kent,
Wednesday 22

Fine day.

Up at 7.30 AM. Max 62° - Min. 35° Busy all day. Mrs Cleghorn called to ask for certain things Moore Bks hospital. Letter from Gen Carson asking about the men who were [*caret*: to be] sent back to Canada (Officers) and I asked Gen. Macdougall to let me know how they stood. Went over the list with ~~ah~~ him and the Gen. Staff officer Lt Colonel Burritt. There are only a few who cannot be made into good officers, and I wrote to Carson to that effect. He had alluded to those at Bramshott Archambault the O.C of the 41st battalion whose asst adjt murdered Sergeant Ozanne of the 9th CMR, in the most brutal manner for money. I replied with regard to the battalions at those places that I had no right to go there until the other day and that Archambault may be needed as a witness in the murder case. I explained to Carson in my letter the whole

situation. I think that it is high time that the govt of Canada selected better officers to bring the men over here. The French Canadians are very short of good officers, at least seventeen of the officers of the 41st are unfit. The — blank fools of civilians seem to think that any officer, any sort of officer will do, when the truth of the matter is the profession is the most difficult in the world. Inspected Blanchards clearing hospital spoke to every man

Folkestone – Shorncliffe, Kent,
Thursday 23

Up at 7.30. Max 63rd Min 32 Fine morning. Busy all day sent memos on different subjects to Training Division. Expected Harwood at four P.M. Sent Mason to meet him at the boat but he did not come, must have missed the boat at Boulogne. I am much worried about him, but I suppose without reason.

Went through the Bevan hospital from 2.30 to 3.30 P.M. The men are cheerful. Spoke to every one of them and wished them the compliments of the season, all seemed pleased to see me.

I wired Gen. Carson asking him to look after the Provost Marshal at Bramshott Begin and keep him there until I can go through with an inspection there, and let lieut. Kelly to assist him until I clear up all matters. Carson had written McDougall suggesting to shift Major Begin stating that he is a failure. Wrote and telegraphed Carson on the subject.

Horrible weather, rain and mud, most of the day.

Took a French lesson at 8.00 Had a poor evening, Chauffeur Sergt Mason missed getting married, but can arrange later on, by getting a special licence he came succeed(?) in being tied up.

Folkestone – Shorncliffe – Kent,
Friday 24

Up at 7.30 Max. 57° Min 29° Harwood got here on time by to-days boat. I sent a memo to the training division asking that certain instructions be sent around in the units to order that the invalids going to Canada ~~by~~ be properly clad and any deficiencies replaced, careful inspections on the parade, on the ~~train~~ train and on the pier at Liverpool before they embark and a statement be made to the effect that all were provided and had no complaints, and were clad for a Canadian winter. There can be no excuse now for complaints by any of the men when they arrive in Canada. Harwood looks well and is very jolly indeed.

Folkestone- Shorncliffe – Kent,
Saturday 25

Up at 8.00 Busy all day Max Min. Fairly good day. We had two young fellows Sam, Lee, and Mac to dine. I called on the Donnellys at 4.00 and wished them the compliments of the season. Wrote Gen Carson, about the force at Bramshot.

~~Monday~~ ~~Max,~~ ~~Min~~

Mrs Donnelly gave me a present of a very nice fountain pen, a self filler. Monday. Wired Gen. Carson that I would be in London tomorrow (D.V.) and meet him at the Cecil, and I can talk over certain things with him. There is much to do before all is well [with?] the present system of running the command of the Canadian troops in England. Carson has stated that Currie and Alderson have made complaints about things in France and in England. I will see to that.

A leading brigadier told me that Alderson and his gang the principal member of which is slippery W. are always worrying Turner G.O.C. the 2nd Division Alderson must be moved if possible Our people are weak kneed. The officers and men have no respect for him. He is a perfect idiot and it is a disgrace to put Canadians under him

Folkestone – Shorncliffe – Kent,
Sunday 26

Up at 8.00 AM Took a long walk

Max 57° Min. 31°. [corrected from 29] Major and Mrs Tremaine and Miss Tremaine, Mr McKerral and Mr came to call and spend the evening. We had a pleasant time of it. I wrote a few letters. Called upon friends at 11.30 but found two of them in bed at that hour and having breakfast in bed. I wrote laughingly about it later on.

Folkestone – Shorncliffe – Kent,
Monday 27

Busy all day. Max. Min Wrote orders about the transport of drafts to France and gave orders that they are to be carefully inspected and handed over to the officer in France who is to give the conducting officer a receipt for the[m] certifying the state in which he found it. Remarked that a good NCO should. Colonel Skinner called to wish me the compliments of the season. He is to go to ~~Aldersho~~ Aldershott and then to France

Arranged to give orders that all brigadiers are to see to the discipline of their Commands.

Wired to Gen. Turner to ask for ten days more leave from France on account of having a cold for Harwood, who has a cough. Wrote much to improve matters in the division. Arranged to go to London tomorrow to see Gen Carson about complaints in France from Gens. Alderson and Currie. Sent one copy of my book to Major Tremaine, 12 Grimston, Gdns, Folkestone. Alderson is down on the 2nd Division. He is a sweep, and a coward, has only been in the trenches once since he was in France. Why will such men be put over Canadians.

Folkestone to Bramshott, via London

Tuesday 28

Up at 7.00 Max. Min left at 10.30 for London arrived in time for lunch. Met Carson at 3.00 and had a long talk. I asked him what complaints were made by Gens Alderson and Currie, and he read a confidential letter from the latter in which it was distinctly alleged that the artillery drafts from Shorncliffe were bad and that the infantry were badly trained and that the officers sent over by General Macdougall for the 14 days course in the trenches were not suitable Some of them had stated that they only went over for a holiday trip and did not mean to go back. I had already warned Macdougall to be careful to send none but the best trained men to the front and had directed that none but the best officers were to be sent in charge and had to be given a receipt On arrival here by motor I wrote Brigadier Gen Macdougall to the above effect and requested him to take the necessary(sic) steps to prevent untrained men going to the front, or clerks and others who are not employed in the battalions and brigades from being sent to the front with the groups of officers i.e. is all officers sent must be with the reserve battalions and other units. It will be time enough for the others later

Beacon hotel Bramshott, camp,
Wednesday 29

Up early, did not sleep well last night. Lord Brooke called for me and we motored to Bramshott camp and after a short talk in the office went to the rifle ranges and saw the ~~mountain ranges~~ Mounted Rifles at work firing. They were all doing well and the army officers who were superintending stated that they have never seen better shots in the early stages of practice. I asked them about the Ross Rifle which had been rimmed out, so as to enlarge the chamber and all united in the statement that it was a splendid shooting arm and the only fault named was that there ~~was~~ is only a five shot magazine. The men are a splendid lot, fine in physique highly intelligent and keen. Lord Brooke and Lt Colonel de Salis reported that two men were sent to them from the school at Shorncliffe for refusing to clean out the latrine buckets and as they would have to handle the excrement without any tools but their hands I do not wonder at their refusing to do it, and I ordered that the men are to be dealt with here.

Inspected two battalions in the P.M. The 44th and Wayland they have the Oliver equipment the former well packed and strapped I addressed the officers of the latter Corps on discipline, [next page] The men were a fine lot but none quite up to the CMR. Discipline is good. Dined with Lord Brooke at the other hotel the OCs were there. My health was drunk and I made a short speech referring to all matters of the Canadian troops. All the officers were presented to me. I had a pleasant chat after dinner with the rest of the officers, and went to bed at 11.30. Have a cold the same old one so took cough medicine.

30th Dec,

Left hotel at 9.30 and went to the Bramshott headquarters. Lord Brooke Brig. Gen. in Command of the troops joined me with his staff at 10. to 10.00 and we proceeded to the ground where the brigade [caret: pde] is to be held and I inspected there five battalions very thoroughly. Each one received me with a general salute and was drawn up in company columns. The men were a good stout lot. One of the best of the units was the battalion raised in and around Toronto. After I was received I proceeded to the right flank right flank of the battalion and there told the Colonel that the mens sweaters should be beneath their tunics In other words every tunic should be large enough to admit of the sweater being worn beneath it. I also stated that before they left for France this should be completed and that they would get an issue of larger boots which could worn with two pairs of socks. The colonels stated that they had indented for the equipment needed. It rained nearly all [next page] the time I was inspecting but I felt very well, indeed. After I had done

Thursday 30th Dec

~~Friday 31~~

Lord Brooke and I in my car motored through Farnham to Aldershot and as arranged lunched with General Sir Archibald Hunter and his military Secretary Colonel and I found Sir Archibald a very charming soldierlike man kindness itself. His Mil. Sec was also. He was once under Baden Powell in the 5th Drag. Gds.

After lunch I inspected the 41st French Canadian battalion in Aldershot. There is one company of Russians stalwart men who cannot speak any language but their own. The battalion is commanded by Major Bouchard a bright young officer of the RRCI and who states that he is confident that he can make a battalion of it, if he can get a few more officers and twelve good Non Com officers. He states that he does not care whether either they or the officers speak French or not. The uniforms of the battalion are bad worn out a good deal and need replacing as

soon as possible. There are several miserable men in the base Co and medically unfit. These must be sent home as soon as possible. One man is an epileptic.

I addressed the Corps and gave the officers a lot of good advice and as in all cases every word was taken down in short hand by Lieut Berry. Bouchard tells me that the late Colonel

Notes for 1916.
Thursday 30th Dec, 1915

the late Commanding officer Lt Colonel Archambault had incurred large debts with messrs Gale and Polden military book sellers Aldershot. I must enquire into it as soon as possible.

On the way to and from Aldershot Lord Brooke told me that Lord Kitchener is very much incensed at a telegram which passed through the War Office censored from Sam Hughes to Sir Max Aitkin(sic). No wonder, it would make any mans blood boil to have that vile balderdash sent through. The idiot talked of a second Boston tea party etc. etc. Lord B also stated that had several set tos with Sir Max and that trickster stated that no Canadian had the same sentiments as an Englishman meaning any man from the British Isles! I told Lord Brooke that I had met Aitkin and he stated that the govt wanted to get me in for the New Years honours, and that I had refused to accept anything until the end of the war.

The Ottawa Corps CMR was spoken of when I got back by Colonel Prismall who called to see me about them. They are the 8th CMR and are good men but had never got their rifles until lately and know nothing about them. I told him to see that they got instructors. He stated that Lord Brooke had seen them and that

Memoranda.
30th

he had told Lord Brooke that the Corps could not go for at least a month. We must not let them go for a month. Bell had said that they had to go but he Prismall had insisted that they could not do so.

Lord Brooke asked me to dine with them tonight as Lady Brooke is here etc.

I impressed upon all officers today the necessity(sic) for good shooting and high standards of discipline.

31st. Dec 1915

Up at 7.00 and inspected in the forenoon three battalions on parade. Torrents of rain. Let the men go to barrack as soon as I was done and cancelled the parade of three battalions. Saw their officers in the mess rooms and gave them some advice. On all points told them that the corps to go to the front as units were to be the best corps in discipline and training. I inspected the messing of the 35th battalion, Lt Colonel Battalion raised in Toronto and Mil district No 40-2 divisional area No 2. The kitchen was a marvel of everything that is good. Sergeant Cook first class, nothing missed nothing wasted. The mess rooms clean and well equipped with everything necessary(sic). The utensils are of granite ware.

I inspected the battalion from

Annual Cash Summary.

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[*back end page:*]

31st Dec 1915

Fort William and Port Arthur, Lt Colonel Hay.

The men are a stalwart lot and the OC has been sensible enough to select officers with war service. I saw the kitchen and found it good. Left for London, at 4.05, called on Gen Carson and he agreed with me that a private court of inquiry be made with regard to the 41st French batt. He suggested Shaw for Command of the 41st or London again as A.P.M. He was told that Brooke wished to try Begin for a month, as A.P.M. with a young officer as assistant. I told Carson that I told all the officers that the battalions would go on their merits. Carson asked me to dine I could not, I had been invited to the Empire.

[*back inside cover:*]

S.B Steele.