

Steele Diary 1900 2008.1. Box 4, Folder 18

**Front Endpaper**

349

200 plus the day of the month

**Memorandum From 1899**

Single

Whitman bit

California Saddle

Recruiting

Golden

Revelstoke

Vernon

Kamloops

Vancouver

Nelson

Ft Steele

2 \_\_ \_\_

16 Sgts

Credit

Bank of

Montreal

Ottawa

**January**

Monday 1

\$5000 –

MJ Anderson  
Mgr Bk  
Of Montreal

Tuesday 2 Ottawa

Wednesday 3 Ottawa

Thursday 4 Ottawa to W.

Friday 5 Port Arthur

Saturday 6 Winnipeg

Sunday 7 Regina

Arrived from Ottawa Jack Allan on board with me from Winnipeg  
Reported to Lt Col saw the horses Got orders to leave tomorrow for  
Calgary, Macleod Called on all in Barracks called on the Lieut  
Governor Slept at the hotel.

Monday 8 Macleod

Left Regina at ~~4.0~~ 6.00 AM and arrived here at a late hour in the  
morning of the 9<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday 9

Arrived at Macleod at 1.40 AM went to the \_\_\_ hotel and sat up until  
4.30 Up for breakfast at 8.00 Went to barracks and ordered parade of  
the horses \_\_\_ men had them \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ of the police in  
each of them Inspected the horses and ordered them into the different  
stables – and gave full orders to Begin

Wednesday 10 Calgary

Inspected the two troops of the D Squadron here Macdonell handled his men well. I wired so to Col Herchmer. Also saw McD re his position as Captain. Wired to the Commissioner on the subject and recommended to have them leave things as they are.

Visited the club met some people went to bed at 11so as to be up early

Thursday 11 Calgary

Went to barracks at 2.00 Saw preparations made Wired Macleod to practice leading the horses and get rolls ready with the section leaders – and shoes on the forefeet without calks.

Men here \_\_\_ the head ropes and sacking(?) and \_\_\_ the saddles

Breakfasted at McIlrees and at lunched at the Wilsons before 10 – several at each place  
Judge Scott called

Friday 12 Calgary

Weather fine at Calgary busy all day

Called and said good bye to Mrs Macleod and others

\_\_\_ \_\_\_ now full I mailed \_\_\_ and my a/c for transport from Dawson to Montreal and my a/c from \_\_\_ [top of next page] to here

Saturday 13 Macleod

Arrived from Calgary at 2.00 went to hotel. Deane then went to Lethbridge. I found that when Sanders came nothing had been done It is a shame the way this has been neglected by the CO A great contrast to the excellent way in which the work was done in Calgary.

Sunday 14 On train to Halifax

Entrained at Macleod at 7 PM to proceed to the Boer War South Africa

and got a fine send off from all.

Also of Lethbridge Mac and \_\_\_ saw us there.

Mac came with us from Macleod

Calgary men under Captain Macdonell to meet us at the Dunmore junction at 3(?) AM tomorrow and then we will proceed to Regina to connect with C Squadron

Monday 15 On train to Halifax

The Macleod and Calgary trains joined at ~~Medicine~~ at Dunmore jtn and came on up early. Reached Regina at 7.00 PM. Big crowd great enthusiasm and \_\_\_ \_\_\_ as nearly \_\_\_ owing to poor arrangements for food Col H had to leave me over a hundred men of C Squadron \_\_\_ \_\_\_ Our train too heavy

283 men and 156 horses

One commissary car on train.

Tuesday 16 On train to Halifax CMR

Weather fine. Much delayed by the heavy that \_\_\_ to take on last night nearly all the men of C Squadron Arrived at Winnipeg at 7.30 caused the horses to be fed and watered at once. And two officers Lt Davidson and Lt Riddell V.S. to see to it. Col R\_\_\_ and Dr Codd came and took me to \_\_\_. All the men sent up and \_\_\_ reception

Wednesday 17 On train from W to Halifax

Up late on account having kept \_\_\_ last night.

Had a fine \_\_\_ \_\_\_ to Ft William Large crowd at the station to see us and cheered to the echo. Met many friends Same cheers at Port Arthur

Went to bed late.

Thursday 18 C.M.R. on train to Halifax

Up early. Gave orders that a most careful conduct must be ours in

Ottawa

Train to arrive there at 8 AM tomorrow Stopped at Chapleau a long time on account of a \_\_\_ bar.

Friday 19 Ottawa

Arrived at 8.00 big parade guidons with a Scotch motto presented by Lady Minto

Wha \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

Saturday 20 Montreal

Arrived at 8.00 Spent the day running to Martins who had not made a fit of any of my uniforms.

Sunday 21 I.C.R. Quebec

Left Montreal at noon. All the family saw us off. All feeling I would be back to take charge of Lord Strathconas horse – although I go ostensibly to join the \_\_\_ CMR to S Africa.

Monday 22 Halifax

Arrived at three \_\_\_ \_\_\_ reported to Col Herchmer at once – and Gen Hutton who told me I was to be the officer in command of Lord Strathconas Horse

I got orders to attend to the issue of kit to the men tomorrow.

Tuesday 23 Halifax

Sick headache sore throat got telegram from LG Monk of Manitoba asking me to \_\_\_ the Corps of Lord Strathcona and go up wired back yes – Thanks – with pleasure

Wednesday 24 Halifax

Wrote lots. Went to the generals office twice re the Strathcona Horse. We drove around about the town and saw all. It is a very badly built city but the people are nice and hospitable.

Mailed a lot of letters. Declined an invitation to dine with Lord and Lady \_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_

Thursday 25 On I.C.R. N.S.

Up early. Reported to the general at 11.00 and at 2.00 went up to the \_\_\_\_ and saw the C troop on parade at the drill hall. Left for Ottawa to see the Minister of Militia re the Strathcona Horse and thence to go to the NWTy. I said good bye to the Colonel and others there. Returned at 10.30 got tel from Clinton

Friday 26

Up at 6.30 Train has lost time during the night Delayed by a heavy snow storm which has raged all day.

Saturday 27 Ottawa

Left at 4.05 for this place from Montreal and went to be early - - -

Sunday 28 Ottawa

Busy all day with Mr White and Gen Hutton, the dept is not in a state of Elysian bliss.

Monday 29 Ottawa

Busy all day but little done in organizing Strathconas Horse

Tuesday 30 Ottawa

Arranged to get California Saddles for the Lord S. Horse  
Finally (I think) arranged the officers. Critchley struck out.  
Worked hard with Mr White re arrangements in the West. He is  
splendid.

Wednesday 31 On train for Regina

Saw Mr White and arranged all the details of recruiting in the West  
Saw Gen Hutton at Earnscliffe and fixed the seniority of the officers for  
Strathconas Horse. S Hall unfit will not be able to fix it. Arranged for  
the Slater field boot and puttees as well. Got credit of 5000 on Bank of  
M. And ~~went~~ and drew one \_\_\_ for present. Spoke to \_\_\_ \_\_\_ re Slater  
boots \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

## February

Thursday 1 On CPR en route to Calgary

Wired E Seguin 150 Mile House \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ to bring first class  
respectable horsemen to Kamloops and that he would be taken if he  
passed

Amos Buxton(?)

Friday 2 En route to Regina on to

Arrived at Winnipeg on the 1<sup>st</sup> four hours late Colonel Ruttan(?) came to  
see me and several others as well. I saw Capt Mackie who is to be a  
lieutenant in the Corps and gave him orders as to the kind of men \_\_\_to  
take over.

Left for the west at 4.30 PM and at Portage La Prairie saw McGregors  
friend John Clarke of Oro. I also had a chat with McMillan who is to go  
west as a Farrier Sergeant of the Corps.

Saturday 3 Regina

Arrived on No 1 from the east and was at Lansdowne hotel I then went to barracks to arrange with McIlree Called upon the Belchers and told him what he is to be in the Corps. Came back and was very busy receiving wires and replying also sending instructions to different officers in the corps which I am to raise Strathconas Horse. I met many who want to go McIlree wired for me to all the posts that we have in the NWTy Saw Laurie and arranged for him to go

Sunday 4 Regina – NWTy

Up at 8.00 Busy all day \_\_\_ \_\_\_ at correspondence and telegrams. Sent orders to all of the posts. Saw McIlree and got leave to take my choice of the NCOs and Constables of the Force. Wired general re Ketchen

Ordered Belcher to be ready to go east to Ottawa to work up the Corps. Constantine to go to Moosomin to take charge of recruiting there Changed the numbers of men for Manitoba to 60 and reduced Battleford and P Albert to 30. Arranged for Wilson to go west to recruit and Laurie also to Nelson – Called on all

Monday 5 Calgary

Arrived tonight and met Wilson as arranged at the train He went west with Laurie to recruit in BC. I put up at the Alberta and prepared for work the next day

Tuesday 6 Calgary

Busy all day telegraphing orders all over to the officers recruiting for Strathconas Horse – which I am raising for the Boer War.

Took recruits and attended to all police business as well and tested all on riding personally

Wednesday 7 Calgary

Busy re recruiting for Strathconas Horse

All recruits drilling all day

Telegrams east and west on all sides to officers recruiting and to Comptroller.

Thursday 8 Calgary

Busy recruiting All the men raised already from east to west. 500 of them McEachern buying horses and arranged to do all I could to help him. Wired re horses all over. Howards men all defective indeed Sent several back to Macleod

Friday 9 Calgary

Busy re recruiting Keeping in touch with all the officers recruiting. Griesbach arrived from Edmonton with recruits.

Saturday 10 Calgary

Sent off a train of 280 men from – Nelson Ft Steele, Med Hat “Maple Creek” Regina, Moosomin, Winnipeg Inspector Morris in command.

Sunday 11 ~~Calgary~~ On train

Weather fine. On train CPR east Had to go because Belcher is reported sick.

Edmonton Sergt missed last nights express and consequently failed to take Morris orders to him. I wired him and sent the Sergt north again to Saskatchewan as a punishment

Monday 12 On train

Met Harper at Maple Creek and had all things all right

Tuesday 13 ~~On train CPRy~~ Ottawa

To Ottawa to \_\_\_ at Hd Quarters of Strathconas Horse  
~~Arrived here on the 15<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon~~

Wednesday 14 Ottawa

Strathcona Horse arrived here in the afternoon and went to the Lansdowne Park where the men who came down with Inspr Morris are quartered

Saw to everything.

Col Cotton arrived later.

Went around all the quarters and gave orders for the following days work

Thursday 15 Ottawa

Drill for all hands

Busy arranging to get the clothing pushed through as fast as possible.

Friday 16 Ottawa

Drill and preparation of all sorts.

Saturday 17 Ottawa

Drill and other work – on Strathconas Horse

Sunday 18 Ottawa

Drill and issuing of clothing going on all day.

Monday 19 Ottawa

Usual work preparing the men.

[In Marie's handwriting] Mays came up to remain some time.

Tuesday 20 Ottawa Ont

Busy all day in connection with all matters relating to Strathconas Horse.

Wednesday 21 Ottawa Ont

Busy all day with all matters in connection with Strathconas Horse

Thursday 22 Ottawa Ont

Busy all day with all matters connected with Strathconas Horse.

Friday 23 Ottawa Ont

Busy all day with matters connected with "Strathconas Horse"  
Horses the 95 which arrived some days ago all shod on their front feet

Saturday 24 Ottawa

Busy all day Went up to Lansdowne Park and attended to drill and all sorts of other matters in connection with the Corps Strathconas Horse. Got a letter from Lord Strathcona, very kindly and encouraging indeed.

198 horses and some men in charge arrived at 4.30 P.M. had them all stabled in due time and comfortable.

Sunday 25 Ottawa

Busy all day. An inspection of the Corps by Lieutenant Colonel Cotton and many overcoats found to be short having shrunk and many of the Stetson hats also damaged by the rain. Inspected the horses and the Colonel was pleased with them.

Met Taylor of the bank for an hour then went to call and take \_\_\_\_  
at the Do\_\_\_\_s  
Dined at the Panets Colonel and Mrs Macdonell there  
Stormy night and day.

Monday 26 Ottawa

Up to barracks before breakfast and sent for adjutant, ordered that all the  
officers in barracks attend at reveille and and(sic) see to their men, go to  
the quarters, march their men on and off private(?) parade.  
Came back to breakfast and was busy all forenoon in the office in the  
hotel. Went up to the barracks in the afternoon and was busy in the  
stores and in fact at everything  
Got work rushed as much as possible all the time.  
Went to Evelyn Steeles at 8 and remained until 11.00

Tuesday 27 Ottawa

Strathconas Horse

Busy all day part of the time in the office in the hotel great part of the  
morning in the barracks. Snyder and all officers and men hard at work.  
Hurried up the issue of stores and examination of all the supplies. Did  
lots of routine work and ordered constant attention to the affairs of the  
Corps Visited barracks at 2 PM and remained on the parade and in the  
offices all day afternoon.

Kind invitation from Lord Minto to the theatricals at Govt House.  
Arranged many matters of detail Wrote many letters and was  
interviewed by many [top of next page] people.

Wednesday 28 Ottawa Ont

Weather fine. Busy.

Gave Capt Parker service in 56 \_\_ Essex and the 104<sup>th</sup> Royal Munster  
Fusiliers, Ketchen R Inniskilling Fusiliers and Seaforths.

Was at the grounds twice Visited the \_\_\_\_ and saw all well going

on No complaints. Inspected all of the horses with Mr Robert B\_\_\_ of Bowmanville who say that the horses are first rate and all right.

Rushed the issue of clothing all day

Saw Cotton He wants a church parade – and attended to other matters

Mr F \_\_\_ called to see me

## **March**

Thursday 1 Ottawa

Busy all day. Attended to various duties and work in office.

Lt Cartwright and several of his men arrived from the Yukon.

Capt G\_\_\_ called I sent him to the Minister

Jayne called

Macpherson called

Theatricals at Govt House. 300 men of the Corps and all the officers except myself attended. I went up to see the Minister by order at the Parliament buildings. Did not see him. Came back to the hotel at 10.00 The theatricals a success

Friday 2 Ottawa

Busy all day. Went to see the Minister at Stadacona Hall at 11 was there sharp on time. Stayed an hour and came back in to Militia Dept

Saw Colonel Cotton Called on Col Aylmer

Was at Lansdowne park at 10.00 AM. Busy in the hotel office at for the rest of the day

Saturday 3 Ottawa Ont

Up early Busy all day.

Sunday 4 Ottawa

Up early. Busy all day and had many appointments. Saw \_\_\_ Went to

see the Minister of Militia Arranged to have the parade for(?) guidons on Thursday March out etc. Parade for the \_\_\_ Flag Wednesday at 3.00  
Supper at Fred Whites  
Ottawa Ont

Monday 5 Ottawa Strathconas

Busy all day. Saw McEachern, Clouston(?) and the horses at the park this AM. Horses smaller than the others ordered to be shod on the forefeet, gave ten men 28 days CB  
Arranging all orders Parker to put anything not needed aboard cars for Halifax ordered him to have hay for three trains.  
Ordered some of saddles and rearrangement of horses – Belcher to superintend the whole thing. Saw the Marquis of Hertford and gave his son leave to go to lunch today  
Gave a man leave to go to England  
Inspected all of the horses twice today. Very busy

Tuesday 6 Ottawa, Strathconas

Busy. Went up town twice about stores arranged for the officers belts (Sam Browne) Belcher arranging the horses for the Squadron the mens distribution to come out as ordered by me. Wired to McEachern re drugs. Taylor told me full pay all right Parker to see Minister and arrange a change of decision re his commission. Cartwright called. Tried Sam Browne belt on in good shape. Ordered that the belt be obtained. Made an arrangement with Topley for photos tomorrow Belcher reports that the officers commanding squadrons are satisfied with the assignment of horses.

Wednesday 7 Ottawa

Had a parade of the men for the Governor General they looked well Many out there Sir Charles Tupper, Dr Borden and Nicholas Flood Davin spoke too. A flag or guidon was presented to us

I made a few remarks which took well

Thursday 8 Ottawa

Paraded Strathconas Horse for the presentation of Colours at the Parliament square. Four guidons were presented to us one for me and one for each squadron They are \_\_\_\_ We were addressed by the Governor General Sir Wilfrid Laurier – Sir Charles Tupper and Hon Dr Borden. I had to say a few words was not in trim to do it. Very much put out by the fact as I usually have no trouble.

Returned to barracks by Rideau and Bank Streets men looked well Started them packing saddles etc. Arranged about the trains and the hours of starting.

Friday 9 Ottawa

Busy. B\_\_\_\_ appointed instead of Parker. Saw the Minister and telephoned Taylor, also said that the hats were tested and found all right.

Saturday 10 Ottawa

All hands busy at taking things in hand for a \_\_\_\_ move from the city by rail. Packing up kit clothing etc. etc. and loading up cars. Busy myself at all sorts of work. B\_\_\_\_ to join us at Halifax at once.

Sunday 11 Ottawa Ont

Big church parade of the Strathconas Christ Church and the Catholic and Presbyterians. Band of the Gov. GFG and 43<sup>rd</sup> Batt played as band from Street cars from grounds to \_\_\_\_ and then march.

Entrained all of the horse this P.M.

Monday 12 Ottawa IRC(sic) for Halifax

Left Ottawa at 10.30 some trouble in entraining the men on account of

the roped in space not being shewn to us

The other train left at 11 and the horse trains before that.

Arrived at Montreal Enormous crowds great enthusiasm on all sides \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ wishes. Very much interrupted by the crowds of people who lined the streets for the whole distance Banquet for all in the \_\_\_ Hall very good

Good address replied to the toast or address to the Strathconas

Left Montreal with great difficulty at 9.00

Tuesday 13 IRCR

Up early. All \_\_\_ men in good shape Snow very deep

Train obstructed by the fall of snow.

My wife and Mrs Harwood on the train

Wednesday 14 I.C.R.

Up early went to bed at 2.30 AM. Flag and address at Camp \_\_\_ Very nice Lots of people at Stn in spite of everything and no drunkenness to be seen.

Train shakes ones hand did not write on that account.

Flag presented to us at Monckton(sic) and a fine address also.

Truro gave us a fine address.

Thursday 15 Halifax N.S. en route to SA in Comd of Strathcona Horse

Train got in in the night

Breakfast at eight on the train men at 7.00

Embarked all the horses and before 3.00 Men quartered at the armoury and Exhibition grounds

Dined at the club given in our Honour.

Snyder Jarvis Laurie Belcher and Harper present. Fine speeches by the General and Dr Borden. I replied to the toast of the regiment Said to be well done. I did not know what I was to say before I got up.

Got home to hotel late. Col Ibbotson with us.

Friday 16 SS Monterey Halifax harbor

Up early. Parade in the drill hall or armoury at 2 P.M. with all the troops in Halifax Lord Strathconas regiment looked well. Speeches made by the Gen – Lord William Seymour and the Lieut Gov and Dr Borden all good. Replied briefly as I had no time for anything long and did not feel that I should say anything.

Grand march through streets of Halifax all troops escorting as they \_\_\_ masses of people all enthusiastic.

Embarked in 25 minutes \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ Men steady and soldierlike

Inspected ship

Saturday 17 SS Monterey for S Africa

Sailed today from Halifax harbor weather fine. Ship rolled a good deal owing to the horses. Many men and officers sea sick. Did not feel it. Several officers did not. Issued the orders for the voyage.

Stowaways found on board some of them deserters from the R.R. C.I. Toronto.

Before sailing sent many letters ashore and the whole of the attestation papers of the regiment to the \_\_\_ Halifax Dr not \_\_\_ this night but of course not time to present it. Cabled Lord Strathcona that we are off.

Sunday 18 SS Monterey for S Africa

No service today All the men getting better Busy at all sorts of work. Arms (rifles) issued by QM also briar pipes of Lord Strathconas guard put on to maintain certain places \_\_\_ \_\_\_ and the police put on duty.

Long sing in smoking room Capt present for a while

Retired late as this is really our first meeting with one another  
(\_\_\_)

Monday 19 SS Monterey at sea for S Africa

Did not rise early today

Eight horses died of sea sickness. Every precaution taken to keep up the strength of the animals Whiskey is being given to the sick ones. \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ more looking \_\_ today. Sea high ship rolling

Pistol practice going on Lt. McGee instructor Men getting over their sickness

Sat up until 1.00 AM 20<sup>th</sup> two horses died before I went to bed. The ship rolls heavily a cross sea causing it. Arranged to have VS with the horses all night and to be relieved in the morning.

Tuesday 20 SS Monterey at Sea

Up early bathed Tried several cases Remanded three deserters from R.R.C. Infantry who came as stowaways to go to the war to be dealt with by the authorities at the Cape. Five horses in all died last night

Officer lectures on musketry

Preparations for Morris tube(?) practice going on

Dismissed two other charges.

Horses suffering very much on account of the rolling of the ship. One more died at midnight

The ship rolls very much as our course puts us in the trough of the sea.

The Captain \_\_\_ us without going a thousand [top of following page] miles out of our course

Wednesday 21 SS Monterey

Up early. Two horses died last night. Inspected the horses before breakfast. Some looking very dull. We are sure to lose a lot more. Parades going on. One troop at a time put on as a guard and one to be next \_\_\_ to fall on \_\_\_ fire access.

~~7 died~~

Parade of the the Regt by Squadrons today and other work lectures of on Musketry going on.

Thursday 22 SS Monterey for S Africa with Strath Horse

Up early as usual 13 horses died in the last 24 hours all of seasickness but one. The Veterinary Surgeon and all the rest doing the utmost in their power

Inspected the whole of the ship with the master Capt Parry at 11.30 Found lots of room for improvement in \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ Ordered several under arrest and gave orders for all Sergts kits to be sent down

The Reg SM on probation was insolent to the Second in command of the regiment. I had him brought before me and informed him that his rank is not confirmed

Read a lecture to Sgts \_\_\_\_ re Esprit de Corps Looked closely into all matters of

Friday 23 SS Monterey with Strathconas Horse to SA

Lat 30<sup>25</sup> N. 41<sup>55</sup> W Long from G

Up early Inspected the ship and looked into matters alone Horses much better indeed. 2 on one side and one on the other died in the last 24 hours.

Lectured several \_\_\_\_ NonComs at orderly room

Inspected ship with officers /\_\_ and Master great improvement but room for more. Infantry quarters all right. And of course much easier for them to do the work than for the Strathconas, not having the very anxious work of the horses to attend to. Found that the Sergeants had not moved their kits down below and ordered that it be done by 1.00 P.M. Parade of all squadrons as usual to look into belt fitting. All hands in Karki(sic) uniforms today. Ordered issue of aids to scouting.

Saturday 24 SS Monterey Strathconas Horse for SA

Weather fine. Large \_\_\_\_ passed at 1.00 P.M.

Five horses dead in the 24 hours. Some others still to follow them. Several minor offences brought up at 11 not necessary Gave orders to the \_\_\_\_\_

Complaint by Sgt S.M. Steele made ~~and~~ against Q.M.S. Crafter(?) this AM. Major Belcher to settle it.

Drill going on, ordered a few extra parades. Ship does not roll so much, wind on port bow.

Three horses died during the night of pneumonia  
Sat up until 1 AM

Sunday 25 SS Monterey at sea for S Africa

Calm, hot although the mercury is not more than 70 , 75 the hottest yesterday. Ship does not roll. Medical inspection of Strathconas Horse by Dr Keenan

Wind changed. A large sailing ship in sight horses doing better.

Gave orders re a change in stable duties and impressing on all ranks that care must be taken in this fine weather to make the horses pull up in condition

Flying fish seen one foot long full size.

\_\_\_\_\_ 266

Yesterday 270

Previous day 269

Ordered bathing parade of the men.

Monday 26 SS Monterey at sea with S. Horse

Weather fine two horses died last night Pneumonia the cause. Inspected the ship with the master as usual. Studied all day. Drill of all men at the rifle \_\_\_\_\_. Troops healthy. Sentenced some men to cells for being asleep on post on guard

Hope to remit the punishment tomorrow morning. Large sailing ship met us (under full sail)

Men doing well at their drill and in good health.

Gave orders that no \_\_\_\_ men of the few with private diseases wash where the others do.

Tuesday 27 SS Monterey

Busy all day. Drill buglers practicing all day musketry going on.

Alarm of fire at 7.30 Bake house. All hands to their posts. All quiet and orderly – silent. Ships crew noisy. Fire out in 15 minutes Warned the officer to be particular about orders with regard to fire and ordered mine to be brought to their notice – and that they must not fall the men in in too crowded a formation as was done tonight

Wednesday 28 SS Monterey N Lat 11<sup>25</sup> 266 miles

Up early. Drill. Inspected ship. Lots of work being done. Remitted the punishment of the men sentenced to imprisonment for sleeping on post.

Studying all day long. So are the rest of the officers.

Thursday 29 SS Monterey Lat 7<sup>40</sup> N Long 18<sup>10</sup> W 277 miles

Weather hot stifling \_\_\_\_\_ the horses die. Everything possible done to make it tolerable for the poor brutes

Temp 93 on the horse decks

Drill going on. Ordered a change for tomorrow to early morning and late evening drills and a lecture on the outpost duties of a corps also advanced and rear guards for the N.C.O.

Sharks seen today, also many flying fish. 300 miles from the African coast

5 horses died in the last twenty four hours of pneumonia fear we shall not bring many through to South Africa.

Inspected ship.

Friday 30 SS Monterey N Lat 3<sup>10</sup> for SA 277 miles

277 miles today. 10 horses died of pneumonia today Too bad, but it cannot be helped. Great attention has been paid to them all the time.

Weather a little better Not so hot by six degrees and a nice breeze from the S.W. fills the wind sails and helps to keep the decks less stifling than yesterday.

Drill early in the morning kit inspection of A Squadron in the P.M.  
A shark seen and a shoal of dolphins too.

Saturday 31 SS Monterrey N Lat 0

Up early. Weather hot  
Neptune called and initiated a number of people in the mysteries of a  
ducking and shave  
A singsong on the after bridge deck at 8.00 Very good.  
Retired late.

## April

Sunday 1 SS Monterrey – S Lat 3<sup>10</sup> Long

Up early as usual Lots of office work going on  
No \_\_\_ today. Horses dying. Hope it will soon end  
Met a large ship with invalids on board homeward bound.

Monday 2 SS Monterey at sea. Lat. Equator W Long

~~Up early. Busy The usual visit of Neptune took place and many \_\_\_  
also were initiated~~

~~We crossed the line at three 11PM A concert was held in the after  
bridge deck \_\_\_ \_\_\_ etc Lt Harper in the chair. It went off nicely.~~

~~Went to bed at 12.00~~

~~Weather warm – 87 at midnight.~~

Up early. No horses died last night.  
Large steamer passed by our ship at 1.00 P.M.  
Severely reprimanded Sergt Major Hooper for being drunk. He  
wished to promise amendment I refused to accept it.  
Pools on the run being sold on deck by the major

Tuesday 3 SS Monterey Lat 9.9 S Long 5.56 West

Fine. 3 cooler than yesterday. Busy all day Had trouble with young Perley and would have ordered him a court martial but for the fact it will ruin him for life. Photographer took many pictures on deck today and wants one of the regiment tomorrow. 3 horses died last night Very unfortunate indeed the whole thing. Men healthy. Everything all right but the horses. Hope God may grant us a cessation of the evil.

I paid Capt Carpenter the money for his men – 95 sovereigns  
Gave orders to adjutant to be more particular with the guard and inspect carefully. Ordered no more ale to be sold. Concert on bridge deck. S  
Sgt \_\_\_\_

Wednesday 4 SS Monterey S Lat 12° 57" Long 0° 59"

Miles run up to noon from Halifax 4859. Distance to Capetown 1646.  
Miles in last twenty four hours 286. Cooler weather. All busy Up early to drill parade Head sea Lots of wind sails up \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ says that the large square wind sail is not needed on account of the weather being cooler

Stopped sale of beer in canteen too many bottles being drunk for the good of the men.

Admonished some men for petty offences but did not punish

Thursday 5 SS Monterey Lat 16° 27" South Long 2° 1" East

Ran 273 knots. From Halifax distance 5132 knots  
From Capetown “ 1373 “

Up early Inspected the drill, small arms, regt doing well. Photograph of all of Strachconas at 3.30 P.M. Then boat drill “abandon ship” all in their boats. They did well. No confusion. Life belts on all. Photo taken of Starboard, Port boats and crews and for’ard of \_\_\_\_ as well as aft. All officers on deck.

Bugles paraded for a photo.

White- Fraser at dinner did not act properly. Harper sick. Attack of appendicitis

Hair cut. Study.

Friday 6 SS Monterey S Lat 19° 54" Long 56° E

Ran today up to 12 noon 272 knots. From Halifax ~~54004~~ 5404 knots,  
Dist from Capetown 1101 knots

Drill as usual. Up early to see it. Orderly room a few petty cases. Told officers to find fault with mistakes at drill more than they do, and that their men will work better. Arranged with Dunsford photographer that the corps can have 104 St Francois Xavier St Montreal all the photos taken on the ship if they wish to pay for them.

Steamship passed meeting us at 12.30 PM Small and looked like a transport. Cool. Horses better none died, ordered board on all dead.

Went to bed 2.30 AM the 7<sup>th</sup>

Saturday 7 SS Monterey at sea

Lat 23° 29" S. Long. 8° 39" East. Run up to noon since noon yesterday 293 knots. From Halifax 5696 From Capetown 809 knots

Up early. Went to bed at 2.30 AM up at 7.30 Dictated letters and reports all forenoon. Put on a board of officers on horses that have died. Drill going on at piling arms.

Weather cool. Ship rolling heavily for \_\_\_ \_\_\_ no account whatever. Framed orders for the disembarkation of the corps at the Cape if required.

Concert of C Squadron very good from 8.30 to 10.00 PM

Retired at midnight but \_\_\_ read until 12.30

Sunday 8 SS Monterey at sea Lat 27° 8" S Long 11.37 E

Run for last 24 hrs 272 distance to Capetown 536 from Halifax 5696 knots

Up early. Board on horses Major Jarvis President. Did not \_\_\_ \_\_\_ it at 2 PM.

Too bad so many horses lost and on account of pneumonia.

Retired at 12 midnight and read until one

Gave orders to have all stores kits etc etc on deck tomorrow ready to be disembarked and also directed that guards would be posted and sentries at the gangways.

Monday 9 SS Monterey

Lat 30° 40" S. Longitude 14° 55" East. Run 274 knots  
From Halifax 6243 miles To Capetown 265

Busy all day. Kits brought up and stacked on after bridge deck and sentries placed thereon from each squadron and the infantry.

Wrote my reports. Looked over the boards on horses dead. Wrote letter to the Captain of the ship to shew him that I appreciate his kindness and that of his officers. Wrote to his employers also re \_\_\_ his officers. He is pleased as it was done without asking for it.

Studied drill etc etc Lectured some of the regt also

Tuesday 10 Capetown South Africa SS Monterey

Came into the harbor at 11.00 and cast anchor. Many large ships in sight. The Imperial Yeomanry aboard one, gave us rousing cheers which were heartily returned. Signalling also used between us Lieut Leckie and others doing it.

Major Lacelles called and informed me that we would disembark tomorrow and that our ~~boats~~ horses could be replaced by remounts in the city as there were plenty of them.

All of the officers clubbed together and gave a large amt to the waiter & stewards

Wednesday 11 Capetown S Africa

Up early Visited by Capt Beaumont disembarkation officer and set all hands to unload and disembark. Qmaster and Lieut Benyon sent up to lay out camp. Went up myself and ordered the adjustments(?) Horses sent up. The stores so badly loaded at Halifax that we had the greatest difficulty in finding everything we need such as heel ropes and picket

pins I went up to camp and found some confusion rectified it and gave orders to have all straight in the morning

Thursday 12 Capetown S Africa

Up early. Gave orders to have arms carefully inspected, horses inspected by V.S. saddler carbine buckets fitted Orders also for four hours drill tomorrow and until further orders.

Ordered the QM to attend to all work

Got large fatigue parties at work on the wharf to move stores to camp. Had the men all arranged in their units by sections three sections to a tent. Loaned three tents to Royal Regiment of Canadian Infantry. Got everything nicely arranged officers and men working with a will.

Friday 13 Capetown S Africa

Up early. Breakfasted at the hotel on the \_\_\_\_ Gavrottes(?) for fitting of all accoutrements Saddlery etc etc. Maxim detachments to be selected by Lieut Magee. Ordered all parades to be as laid down. All stables and other duties to be carried out to suit the Mounted troop drill. Ordered supply of hay up for the horses from the boat to supplement the ration issued by the ASC which is not sufficient for the \_\_\_\_ horses all of which are so much used to hay and grass.

Saturday 14 Green Point Camp Capetown S.A.

Up early. Men busy fitting saddlery and getting arranged properly into troops Called on the Gen by order. He tells me that Lord Roberts wires him to ask me not to be disappointed if I am not ordered to Bloemfontein for he has very important work for me to do at another place I returned and went to work.

Sunday 15 Green Point Camp Capetown S.A.

Up late, not well (diarrhea) Ate nothing today  
Horses quarantined for Glanders.

Monday 16 Green Point Camp Capetown S.A

Up early. Drill as usual. Several cases of absence  
Holiday in camp Adjutant did not put it in orders  
Colonel Good camp commandant visited the camp  
Games and sports on the ground  
Colonel Good and officers at \_\_\_\_  
The Colonel served in Canada during Fenian raids

Tuesday 17 Green Pt Camp

Weather fine Drill in the forenoon and inspection of kits \_\_\_\_ saddler  
and arms in the P.M.

Went to town with Belcher and arranged to have a credit of 608£  
Sterling to pay off a sum of the ladies of the Red Cross in Toronto to the  
NCO and men of the Corps. I also arranged re Lord Strathconas credit  
\_\_\_\_ VS taken and ordered the burning of the nosebags and  
suggested the placing of \_\_\_\_ for the horses. Three cases of  
glanders horses shot and buried.

Wednesday 18 Green Pt Camp Capetown C.C.

Weather pleasant but warm. Mounted parade at 8.20 and in the  
afternoon Took command in the afternoon men did well Some officers  
lead(?) badly and when retiring to not look to the coming of their troop  
properly. Got orders to have no more mounted parades until further  
orders. The officer in charge of the remounts Cape SA came and told me  
that he is ready to hand over the remounts we need and hand them as we  
pick them from 5 or 6 hundred \_\_\_\_ he has Gen Huttons wishes to take  
\_\_\_\_

Thursday 19

Weather fine. Drill twice today on foot a review of the guards by General Forester Walker(?). Still in quarantine. Got a lot of improvement in the camp.

The company of the Canadian regt did guard on the Boers today Boers hissed them as they mounted guard.

Officers messes fine. 1 of 7 Staff

3 of 6 Squadron

6 of 3 Machine guns.

Friday 20 GrPoint Camp Capetown

Weather fine. Drill and other work

Saturday 21 Green Pt Camp Capetown

Weather fine. Drill and washing of clothing today. The RVS went over some of the horses to test them for glanders.

Dined at the hotel as guest of Colonel Hubert(?) of the Staff \_\_\_\_ the Militia of Canada

Returned at midnight after a call on Major Biggs(?) Harper was with me

Sunday 22 Green Pt Camp Capetown

Weather fine. Dined at the Gurlicks(?) nice people.

Dust storm gave a lot of trouble

Monday 23 Green Pt Camp Capetown S.A.

Weather fine. Called and reported to Colonel Cooper Base Commandant and arranged re our move a parade and other things.

Drill at Advance Guard etc etc

Issued orders to the Corps to be in readiness to move at an early date.

7(seven) horses upon which the test reacted sent out and shot. The horses upon whom it had ~~right~~ not reacted isolated from the rest.

Told Cowan that I had no objection to his cabling to have to go \_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_

Tuesday 24 Green Pt Camp Capetown

Busy. Regt drilled at Advanced guards and outposts.

Horses and men \_\_\_\_ paraded in the forenoon in marching order.

Saddlery etc as in marching order being fitted as fast as possible by two of the squadrons

RVS inspected the horses and the glanders test went on very slowly indeed

A great deal of carelessness with regard to kit on the arrival of the regt here. Some rifles lost

Wednesday 25 Green Pt Camp Capetown

Weather warm. Drill going on. Inspection and test with \_\_\_\_ for Glanders going on all day. Slow.

Thursday 26 Capetown Cape Colony

Weather cool, damp and occasionally wet. Busy. The Squadrons arranging for the departure and storage of kits the \_\_\_\_ do not at present require.

\_\_\_\_ Smith \_\_\_\_ died last night and was buried today at the cemetery near the hospital. Lieut Macdonald took charge. The usual firing party and pall bearers and others of his troop and squadron attended and all was done that could be. I wired the Minister of Militia about it.

Friday 27 Capetown South Africa

Weather cool. Colonel Monteith(?) called to see his son. I am busy. The Mylene(?) test of the horses will not be finished until tomorrow and

only in part today.

Lt Col Sam Hughes called to see the officers of the regiment. He says the Boers are cowards and not good shots. He had command in several 'scraps' under Gen Clements. The Mylene test is the cause of much delay and annoyance.

Saturday 28 Capetown Cape Colony S.A.

Up early. Horses of C Squadron tested today. Shoeing going on. Parades \_\_\_ in marching order first one not good second ~~not~~ good. More care required by officers in looking after these matters. Went to town at 2.30 returned at 4.00 went to town with Belcher at 6 PM Dined with major Biggar then he took us to the theatre to hear the Gondoliers (\_\_\_) It was fair the \_\_\_ the best. Came home at 11.00 Town was crowded with people called on Sam Hughes ~~called upon~~ Out. Saw him at theatre.

Sunday 29 Capetown Cape Colony

Busy. Horse shoeing going on. Horses being shifted to other lines on account of the danger of glanders. Have got my three horses today one \_\_\_ and two eastern all black and strong.

Monday 30 Capetown Cape Colony

Weather fine. Busy All men mounted and drilled at dismounted duty. Horses very fresh commandant wired re number of remounts wanted I replied fully. Dined with Sam Hughes. Sam as usual vulgar and egotistical. Pity a man of ability should be spoiled by teaching school and holding forth to people who are not sure of themselves. Came home to supper at midnight with Jarvis and talked drill and discipline etc etc an hour then retired.

**May**

Tuesday 1 Capetown S.A.

Weather warm. Reported to Base Commandant at 11.00 and found that we cannot go out to the front just yet and also that I can get the remounts if C Squadron goes out to Maitland. I sent it out to G Maitland under Major Belcher who is to take over the remounts. Got orders to send men down at once.

Had to decline the invitation to luncheon at Government House on account of our move.

Wednesday 2 Capetown Cape Colony

Up early. No drill the men cleaning up all day. Shooting drill for non-coms under Capt Cameron. Saw copy of a letter of Sam Hughes in which he says that it is absurd to appoint a cavalry man to command mounted infantry meaning me I suppose etc !

Belcher wrote to the effect that he would ~~carry the~~ select the remounts tomorrow morning at 9 and that he wants the V.S. to be there. He also asks for Walers (Australian horses) instead of Argentines C Squad . busy \_\_\_ horses to Maitland

Thursday 3 Capetown Cape Colony

Up early. Parade many mistakes words of command still poor but improving a little caused the length of the \_\_\_ to be settled and all inspected under the supervision of the officers cmdg squadrons.

Dined at Sir A. Milners Governor of the colony. He is a very able man and was stationed at the Boer capital as High Commissioner before the war and did all he could to prevent it He is now running Cape Colony and very properly \_\_\_ the bulk of the members being Dutch people

Friday 4 Cape Colony (Capetown)

Weather hot. Drill at striking and pitching tents I supervised it after

they got started they did well. B Squadron being a little bit ahead – officers were all present and a good course of instruction it proved to be.

Drill in the PM at 2.30 men steady and all right officers in some cases made mistakes all pardonable ones. Lady Briggs called to see the regiment and its camp. She corresponds for English papers and introduced by Herchmer I showed her the parade and it is satisfactory to her.

#### Saturday 5 Capetown Cape Colony

Weather hot foggy in the AM until 9.00 Drill march past and changes of direction en mass(sic) and other matters well done by the men. Kept them long on account of the mistakes made in the \_\_\_\_.

Colonel Cooper Base Commandant came to camp. I told him how many men I had mounted – he is pleased. He ordered that we take over a Vicars(sic) Maxim gun at Stellenbosch in addition to what we have.

#### Sunday 6 Capetown Cape Colony

Sent team to work at Maitland. Ordered gun det for Vicars (sic) Maxim gun to go tomorrow to Stellenbosch to learn the \_\_\_\_ on the gun. Lt Magee to go at the same time.

Asked for more horses for the teamsters. Gave orders to be ready

Orders to Belcher to pick out remounts for A and B Squadrons.  
Orders to QMr to issue saddles to all the spare men.

#### Monday 7 Capetown Cape Colony

Weather fine. Parade of A & B Squadrons they did well on a march past and other movements a fine parade indeed. The men can do steadily every movement in the book. Sent transport officer Lieut Snider to see the remount offr re mules. There are none. Drew out of store all needed Hints thrown out that we have to go to Beira by sea. \_\_\_\_ kit \_\_\_\_ it. \_\_\_\_ is serious. All horses picked up at Maitland shoeing horses going on all day. Sent downtown for ropes \_\_\_\_.

Tuesday 8 Capetown Cape Colony

Weather warm. Under orders from the Base Commandant marched out on a \_\_\_ march and at a point about four miles out we concentrated. General Forrester Walker inspected the horses and after that we threw out a rear guard to cover the retreat. They dismounted but were slow at exiting(?) their position

Retired as soon as the rest of the Force withdrew  
Arranged for the transport.

Wednesday 9 Capetown Cape Colony

Up early. Marched A and B Squadrons out on the sea front road and practiced them in taking positions for defence and withdrawing the men did well.

Rode back to camp and attended to some routine work

White-Fraser went out today to Maitland.

Sent all the shoeing smiths out to Maitland to hurry the shoeing

Thursday 10 Capetown Cape Colony

Out with A & B at advanced and rear guard work

The men did well Sent two sections ahead with \_\_\_ and Harper. \_\_\_ captured 4 of A Squadron and A Squadron captured two of them.

Marched home at 11.00 arrd at 11.30

Day warm. Wrote for mule transport A great deal of red tape in the administration.

Arranged to take on on Nelles(?) in the Corps.

Friday 11 Capetown Cape Colony

Weather fine. Busy all day. No parade. Selected the horses to be turned over to the remount department for \_\_\_.

Rec note from the Base to be ready to proceed to Maitland for a

review of the troops. The Base order was to arrive at the camp tonight but up to midnight did not.

Saturday 12 Capetown Cape Colony

Up early. Recd the Base order to go to Maitland with the regiment and \_\_\_ them at 11.00. Did not get it until 8.10 AM after \_\_\_ marched at 9.00, arrived at 10.30 11 was the parade hour but hours were nothing to Colonel Graham He was apparently so excited that he could not let me handle the regt in my own way and threw the whole thing into confusion. We marched past in sections (ranked past) First time for the men well done Retired after a short [continued on top of following page] review and \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ which we all played the devil with an imaginary foe. No object was laid out to carry at all in fact we went in blind. What rot!

Dined with Colonel Cooper Base Commandant at the City Club. Sir Edward Chichester Bt was with them. Came home at 11.30 Pleasant evening.

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Up early. Nothing doing today. Gave orders for work tomorrow.

Monday 14 Capetown Cape Colony

Busy all day. Cabled Lord Strathcona to the effect that we were ready to move two squadrons two weeks ago - and that all have been ready some days. Got one from him through the Governor to the effect that a Lieut Adamson is on his way out with 50 men as a relief for the Corps. And also saying have not heard of \_\_\_\_ . I cabled back that I recd it and wrote the C.S.O. and Base Col on the staff full particulars Escorts sent for Boer prisoners Capt Cameron and Lieut Harper.  
Parade P.M.

Tuesday 15 Capetown, South Africa

Saw Governor on very important duty

Wednesday 16 Capetown, S.A.

Weather fine. Drill 4 Squadrons all day. Did not go out, not very well.

Saw Colonel Manly(?) - Williams Mil. Sec. on duty at Govt House.

Thursday 17 Capetown, S.A.

Sick with diarrhea

Stayed in camp all day

Drill going on by squadrons

Friday 18 Capetown, S.Africa

Weather damp. Escort of fifty cmded by a Captain to escort Boer prisoners of war Cartwright in command

Six men from B Squadron to break pack horses (500) at Stellenbosch to leave tomorrow morning fully armed and equipped

Saturday 19 Blank

Sunday 20 Capetown Cape Colony

Weather fine, cool all day. Dined out. Supped at Garlics(?) came home at 10.15 Pleasant evening.

Monday 21 Cape Town Cape Colony

Up early. Busy all day. Major Biggar called great confusion in getting transport from the dept.

However arranged matters will take 200 mules with the 1<sup>st</sup> column as pack and 300 with Maxims and other guns. We are ordered to furnish a parade at the Grand Parade tomorrow One squadron and some men on the 25<sup>th</sup> May. No consideration is shewn to a corps going to war. Fuss and feathers must go on.

Arranged to make B Squadron up to 200 \_\_\_ faced \_\_\_ A

Squadron.

Tuesday 22 Capetown Cape Colony

Busy all day.

Arranged many things

Wednesday 23 Green Pt Camp Capetown

All arranged for a move Sent men up to Stellenbosch to help Capt Chesney Bengal Lancers take our pack horses down. A and C are to go on board tomorrow

Major Belcher on one ship Major \_\_\_ on one Major Snyder on one  
B Squadron to get 50 men from each of the others and wait until Monday next went down about

Left money with Mr Garlick(?) to pay out for medical comforts.  
Left Peterboro Ben(?) with him too.

Thursday Green Pt Camp Capetown

Went to the Governor for orders re embarkation and expedition. Got them and arranged for Belcher to go at 6 PM to get his which he did. He embarked \_\_\_ A and C Squadrons on the three ships and was ready to sail in no time with 342 saddle horses – 300 officers and men – 300 mules – 200 pack ponies – 3 Maxims – 1 Vicars(sic) – Maxim – and a large quantity of ammunition. Durban is first port for him. The embarkation was satisfactory. Belcher reported to me at night and went on board ship.

Friday 25 Green Pt Camp Capetown

Celebration of Her Majestys birthday. A very great demonstration streets packed. 80 men of B Squadron under Jarvis present with other troops on grand parade For march past and in the streets the cheering was most lusty for the Strathconas Horse and the Governor A. Milner

called out well done! I have been told that the men looked well. I did not attend on account of the muster being under a squadron and because I was not ordered directly to go. I hate pageants and it seems to be my luck to \_\_\_ them all the time.

I am now sorry I did not go.

Saturday 26 Capetown Green Pt Camp

Busy in camp. Jarvis getting ready to sail.

Sunday 27 Capetown Green Pt Camp

Sail tomorrow under sealed orders. I have all arranged. 205 officers and men go.

Monday 28 Table Bay Cape Colony SA

Embarked by order on the good ship Wakool of the Blue Anchor Line. B Squadron Major Jarvis in command 200 officers and men 200 saddle horses were embarked on the Wakool and Columbia 300 pack horses on latter Capt Cameron on the Columbia with No 1 Troop Jarvis on Wakool. Capt Livingstone RE Lieut Kyle Cape G.A. Mr Casement and a Mr and Mrs Walker were on board as passengers

I saw Sir Alfred Milner and got my instructions Called at the castle to see Col Cooper Base Cmdt Met him on pier \_\_\_ He says the regiment is one of the finest he has seen for years. Sent Kyle to Governor for money \$1000.00

Tuesday 29 SS Wakool

Sailed this ~~AM~~ P.M. Had to get money and wait for Captain Livingstone and Lieut Walker. Capt Sir S Chichester R.E. gave the Capt his sealed orders and gave me mine from the Governor. Major Biggar lunched with me yesterday and had some words with a Surgeon Major on board but held his own. I wrote and sent letters ashore in good hands to Lord

Strathcona, Col Cooper A.D.C. and others  
Cabled Lord Strathcona but could not give him all particulars owing to  
the censorship. It could not have been right as it is \_\_\_ subject(?) to him  
alone

Wednesday 30 Ship Wakool Around Cape of Good Hope East

Got on \_\_\_ Horses well signaled Columbian, some horses sick  
Ship Wakool does not roll much

Thursday 31 Ship Wakool Indian Ocean

Got on well. Horses well Good boat well found gave 12¢ per diem to  
the purser to give men meat twice a day.

Columbian signals the loss of a horse or two.  
She rolls more

## **June**

Friday 1 SS Wakool, Indian Ocean

All well. Horses well  
Signalled Columbian  
Men well.

Saturday 2 Kosi Bay

Dined with the Adviser Sir Harris Casement with us. A fine man the  
admiral and all of the officers very nice  
Discipline splendid

Sunday 3 Kosi Bay

Sent a troop to church service on the \_\_\_\_. Went on board. Saw the  
admiral. He was on board our ship early. The captain thinks we have

fine men. Decided not to land The scheme has been blown upon. Admiral highly approves. The military people are not discreet(sic) and should take a leaf out of one of our books. No crime would be \_\_\_ a criminal caught if such indiscretion(?) were shewn.

Sailed in the evening

Monday 4 At Sea Indian Ocean

Doing nothing but eat walk and sleep. Nothing else to do Horses well and all pleasant

Tuesday 5 ~~Durban Natal~~ Maritsburg(sic) Natal

Got here at 9.40 and reported to the Gen of Communications (Wolfe-Murray) found him nice.

He ordered me up from the ship as soon as we got in the offing at 8.30. I had no lunch for I climbed down at once and left with Captain Toogood of the Border regiment a very nice young fellow obliging and agreeable.

I took the 8.00(?) train to here and with three nice men in the compartment the 70 miles were soon done. Met some new(?) men at the hotel Schofield one of them.

Wednesday 6 Durban Natal

Arrived from Pietermaritzburg at 2.00 and got some lunch and went to work at once to get things started

No orders from the Chief of S. Got orders from G. of \_\_\_ to send A and C Squadrons to Newcastle immediately for Buller. I sent a message to Major Snider to be ready to move. Went to bed early. Not well at all. Mr Stedman(?) and other men sick in hospital

Thursday 7 Durban

B Squadron disembarked today after some delay caused by conflicting

telegrams Had great trouble in getting matters settled Lord Roberts and Sir R Buller being on different lines. Got telegram from Lord Roberts through Military Secretary to say that he approved of the operation and asked me to carry it out at once.

Could not leave tonight

Friday 8 Durban Natal

Not well. Up early Jarvis entrained his men and we left at from 7.15 to 9.30 on four trains for Tugela to join B and C Squadrons for Special service Men entrained with great skill and were heartily cheered as they left. All the negros cheered at the different stations

There is evidently an intense hatred of the Dutch on the part of the colored people

Saturday 9 Tugela – Zululand

Weather fine. Our train arrived at the station and got disembarked at an early hour. A and B Squadrons could not be placed properly \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_.

Gave orders for a march next day found it necessary

Got horses arranged all right. I also got a guide for the work on hand, has been 16 years in South Africa.

Sent some extra stores away and had them placed with the officer here and a receipt taken for same. Went to bed early

Sunday 10 Amatikulu(?) R. Zululand

Marched at 9.30 Column of transport animals hard to get out of camp A Squadron advanced guard C rear B main body \_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_ of main body. Passed over very hilly country like the foot hills of the Rockies west of Calgary with very narrow and deep ravines or coulees. Road good. Had \_\_\_\_ to halt often for transport to keep up. Halted for the night here. Scouts under Lieut Kyle. Good camp. Fed hay and oats. A Squadron on a \_\_\_\_ Cossack Posts of four men each.

Monday 11 Eshowe Zululand

Marched at 8 AM Rouse at dawn. Up at once went around camp put several things to suit me B Squadron relieved outposts at dawn and formed the advanced guard A rear guard C main body. For some miles \_\_\_ trees mimosas, very hilly. Scouts and flanks on both sides worked well. Had to make many halts for transport Miserable pack train worthless drivers, niggers and Beesties(?). Arrd here and all in camp at 3.00 16½ miles  
Reported Cmdt Col Noel(?) 5 officers dined with him

Tuesday 12 Eshowe Zululand

Having received a telegram to suspend operations that is to march into Swaziland did not go today  
Sent Belcher to the Magistrate to see what he could find out about the country in advance. It is still hilly even mountainous. Boers with large numbers of cattle at F\_\_\_. Got some letters. Ordered animals out to graze with an officer in chg of the herd of each squadron  
Pitched tents as it is not well to be wet if it can be avoided  
Strong wind blowing

Wednesday 13 Little Tugela Zululand

Marched today with regiment and pack ponies, marched the mule wagons guns and ammunition at 8 AM the latter outfit under Lieut Magee and Lieut Snider they to make two marches to here, halting at the Amatikulu(?) R. for tonight and to entrain here on the 15<sup>th</sup> with all for Newcastle. Reached the Amatikulu at 1.00 PM lunched marched out at 3.30 got here at 6.00 went into camp. Arranged to march tomorrow for Durban in two days as ordered. Distance today 24 miles White Fraser stopped at an hotel Langs(?) without leave and did not turn up

Thursday 14 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ Natal

Marched at 9 AM intended to leave at 7.30 but all horses were slow, C in particular for they kept the rest an hour. Halted for noon at Stanger(?) a nice little town on the railroad very dusty. Marched at 3.30 and \_\_\_ to \_\_\_ and bivouaced. Rain in torrents all night. Distance 32 miles – horses stood it all right. As tomorrows march will be too hard for the wretched ponies and the mules arranged for a car at the station to come take the blankets and baggage to Durban Men in charge and mules to walk

Friday 15 Durban, Natal

Marched at 8.30 Watered before starting and after 10 miles watered again. Halted for noon at 1 PM V\_\_\_ 19mi a nice town with nice people. The school children and young ladies gave us fruit oranges and bananas. Arms carefully inspected. Marched at 2.00 and after a rapid march reached here at 6.30 20 miles Total 39 today. Sick horses had to be left. The car did not arrive with our blankets so that we had to bivouac in horse blankets. Col. Martin Base Cmdt who led charge at Omdurman met us at a point four miles out from here. Fine night fortunately.

Saturday 16

Orders for Newcastle. A Squadron entrained at 7.30 to leave at 8.45 Spoke to White-Fraser, Laurie and Macdonald. Laurie reported unhappiness(?) yesterday on the part of the officers. I do not think it will occur again

All were off at 4.30 Mackie(?), Parker the Dr (Keenan) in the one compartment Had a nice trip to Newcastle. Stopped for supper and at \_\_\_ Pietermaritzburg for a time to water the horses and stretch our legs. Went on in half an hour and slept on the benches in the car.

Sunday 17 En route, Newcastle, Natal

Up early. Breakfast at away(?) Stn many signs of war. Dinner at

Glencoe. Passed Ladysmith covered with breastworks of stone made carefully and evidently designed by foreign engineers. No pastoral or rural people ever did. Ladysmith smaller than I thought and covered all around by stone breastworks and those of the enemy all around them. Bridges had been blown up all along from Colenso.

Monday 18 Newcastle, Natal

Arrived here after dark. Major Jarvis met us at the station. It was raining hard and he said that the men of his and "A" Sqdrn are out in the rain without tents. I went up and saw the base commandant and got leave to remain on the train until daylight. I had been previously ordered to detrain at once in a pitch dark night.

Gave necessary orders and went to sleep on my bench. This was Gen Bullers base some time ago but it is now at Charleston.

Tuesday 19 Newcastle, Natal

Detrained at daylight and bivouaced(sic) for the night – arranged all transport. Was invited by the Gen of Communications, Wolfe-Murray, Gen Kitchener brother of Lord Kitchener, Lt Col Hay R.A. All most kind. Got ready to march tomorrow to Ingogo. Wired Lord Dundonald Cmdg 3<sup>rd</sup> Mtd brigade as \_\_\_ of transport and got full reply. Capt Chesney of the Bengal Lancers who has been in charge of pack train since we left the Cape is to remain here, hope he will \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ splendid fellow and a hard worker.

Wednesday 20 Ingogo heights and Stn

Marched from Newcastle over a very hilly stony road, rested several times to help out the horses and reached here 15 miles a hard march.

\_\_\_ a division of cavalry and artillery there

Reported to Gen \_\_\_ RA who has served in Canada and liked it. He is a very nice man and shewed me where to camp. Did not \_\_\_ us for duty.

Bivouaced(sic) in squadrons column and went to rest early. Langs

Nek in sight forward and Majuba Hill also Ingogo heights in sight \_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_

Thursday 21 Volksrust – ~~Natal~~ Transvaal

Marched at 8.00 C Squadron ready first watered before leaving , passed many farms of English devastated the houses damaged by the Boers. The railway is repaired along here Marched to Charleston 16 m where I was expected to halt if I found Volksrust too far. Halted for lunch watered first. 18 Hussars gave lunch to as many as could not go. I could not nor the Majors. Sent regrets. Marched at 3.30 and after 12 miles reached here at dark a forced march of 28 miles today. \_\_\_\_ shewed camp ground bivouaced(sic) orders to march at dawn

Friday 22 Paardekop, Transvaal

Marched at 7.30 was ready at daylight Marched behind a Battery R.H.A. a very fine one. The S.A. Light Horse at the head of the column - Scouts \_\_\_\_ in advance of us. Halted for the night here. Good camp 10 miles. Transport a long time coming in. Did not arrive until nine P.M. No \_\_\_\_ duty. Water supply strict, watered at pools and got that \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ at the pump on the Ry  
Bridges blown up by Boers in advance heard the explosions at intervals

~~Saturday~~ Friday Standerton, Transvaal

Left Paardekop at 8 AM Strathconas marched on the right of the R.H.A. and in rear of the South African Light Horse. A fine corps which has done very fine service. Met several acquaintances Colonel Thorneycroft who defended Spion Kop came and called upon me at Paardekop yesterday and so did his adjutant Capt Morris who is a Canadian The corps is Thorneycrofts Mounted Infantry. Had met Gen Buller and our Brigadier Lord Dundonald. Lunched with the latter at Paardekop Both very nice

Sunday Standerton Transvaal

One day ahead of time from Newcastle all as far back as that must be counted one day back.

Saturday

Here all day. Furnished outposts. Wired for stationary and remounts also a better lot of cartridge belts

Infantry relieved us on the Kop at night 1½ troops of A on duty 1½ miles to right front and right - \_\_\_ in Bivouac

Sunday Standerton, Transvaal

Up early church parade of the bde. A good sermon. Invited to lunch by Sir R. Buller but could not go on account of having already \_\_\_ from Lord Dundonald Prairie fire at Thorneycroft's camp sent men to assist to extinguish it. Heard of Howe and who was hired by Capt Livingstone. He had a letter from Forbes(?) who was guide as in Swaziland he is a traitor.

Dined last night with Lord Dundonald and Staff. Very nice men. The Chaplain Mr Day an agreeable young Irishman was there.

[Written over the page at right angles] Monday Camp routine only

Tuesday 26 Standerton, Transvaal

New place is on the headwaters of the Vaal but the river here is not the boundary between the Transvaal and Natal Charleston is the boundary of the ~~river~~ said countries

Up early Sent at dawn three hundred men under major Belcher to patrol the railway for five miles out each side from a point 15 m from here. Supported by Bethunes Horse ten miles out. Men slower than they ought to be at turning out of camp.

That is "the rock on which they split" they will however improve.

Wednesday 27 Standerton, Transvaal

Weather fine. The last of the 300 men sent out yesterday returned at 10 AM The extension and patrolling was done badly by C Squadron Howards fault Several officers did very well but on the whole the connections were badly kept I got a report from Major Belcher who was in cmd and sent to brigade \_\_\_ I also got one from him to send to the officers in chg and all present. Put in orders my objections to the way the work was done. Reduced a Sergt Morrison(?) for damaging the property of a farmer and for insubordinate language to Sgt Brothers who is a first class N.C.O. \_\_\_ not legal but right.

Thursday 28 Blank

Friday 29 Standerton Transvaal

Busy all day. Ordered to march tomorrow. ~~Dined~~ lunched at Lord Dundonalds camp in quarters.

Saturday 30 \_\_\_ 15 miles from Standerton

Marched this AM from Standerton. Ready first as usual but not so smart as I wished. Marched in rear of \_\_\_ Thorneycrofts Mounted Infantry Good camp but a heavy rain. Pitched tents. ~~Col Thorneycroft told before I started that there were cattle to the left of~~

## July

Sunday 1 Washout(?) Spruit, Transvaal

Left camp at 8.15 and on advanced guard. Sent Lt Kyle C.G.A. to the front with scouts Major Sniders Squadron with two troops \_\_\_ the front and advance 3 miles of front and connecting with flanks. B Squadron \_\_\_ troops in each flank 3 miles out. Came to Waterval Spruit at 11.00 and found Lt Kyle who reported enemy on right. Crossed stream - and reported back. Lt Tobin on right reported skirmish going on sent out

telling him to investigate Major Jarvis went out with reinforcements Lt Kirkpatrick's troop in action. Capt Howard Pte Hobson missing Pt. 509 Jenkins killed at a farm house.

### Monday 2 Greylingstad Transvaal

four Boers killed four hundred engaged of enemy were in sight. I was up early. The column about 6000 strong marched at 9.15 expecting a fight got none but hills were carefully patrolled B Squadron on rear guard – Jarvis in cmd. Some firing on the outside patrols and at 13 Hussars on duty getting cattle. A Squadron scouted Koppies(sic) near here as we advanced shots exchanged with the enemy. Afterwards camped at the stamp mill of the gold mine. Fine night, pitched tents Got telegram re remounts en route to us

Had photo of poor Jenkins grave taken as we left camp. Two snapshots and left.

### Tuesday 3 Graylingstad Transvaal

word with farmers to respect the grave.

Reported to Lord Dundonald at 8.45 and found all I had to do was to send C Squadron to scout and cover Koppies(sic) to N.W. to enable Lieut Murray to signal to Heidelberg. Capt Cameron with \_\_\_ to scout Koppie(sic) to the south and east and send men to the front of his position. Also to send Scout \_\_\_ with a party and Major \_\_\_ too. A Squadron to support. A troop of B Squadron to go to the south west and scout the country.

By order withdrew Snyders Sqn and Jarvis troop \_\_\_ \_\_\_ further orders.

### Wednesday 4 Vlaakfontein Trans.

Marched at 9.15 AM from Graylingstad

B Squadron was on outpost was relieved at 8.00 but was not ready to march at 9.15 very slow A Squadron on time Thorneycrofts corps advce

RHA then us. Marched with a broad front and halted about four mi out after that marched on rear of RHA watered en route good water.

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Firing on right. One of Thorneycroft's men killed had lunch near here. Marched into camp at 3.30 and turned horses out graze  
Left at Graylingstad C Squadron to protect L of C with Infantry

Thursday 5 Vlaakfontein, Trans.

Ordered to send two troops of 25 each to Graylingstad escorted half way by two more troops. Lt. Courtney(?) in cmd of party for Graylingstad. Major Snyder escort half way. Lt Tobin a Maxim and one troop to the railway as escort to Engineers

Damp foggy every morning for the past ten days or more Wired to office to Standerton to try to send the remounts through and to send back men by train to get them at Volksrust.

Firing on the road towards \_\_\_\_ Snyder went. Thorneycrofts Corps and the balance of ours turned out.  
Snyder returned.

~~Friday~~ Thursday Cont.

returned at the same time as we did. He escorted Harpers troop to Graylingstad and was under fire on the way back the squadron opposed by 300 odd Boers six men missing from them (\_\_\_\_ Squadron) Line sent out a mile to a flank by the Force and by order of the officer in charge Major Roycroft An experienced officer was left there and no assistance give to bring them back they are still missing. One man of \_\_\_\_ also and Pte \_\_\_\_

~~Saturday~~ Thursday

Here who went out for forage \_\_\_\_ have not returned.

Friday

Escort of 70 men under Major Snyder to escort Gen Buller from Graylingstad to here. 80 from here to Bothas \_\_\_ Jarvis in command The two men Ken(?) and Crozier absent without leave and missing turned up They were \_\_\_ \_\_\_ and forced to stay out all night Went out at 3.30 to rear from the RHA but was ordered back as the Boers had retreated. The Art. was shelling them for an hour also. Gen Buller

~~Sunday~~ Vlaakfontein Friday cont

escorted here by Snyder and to Heidelberg by Jarvis. Corpl Benjamin Lee killed at Waterval bridge and a horse captured and one shot under pte Dunn all of C Squadron Cameron \_\_\_ this to me tonight. The six men did not come back probably taken prisoners and a number of the Boers were killed and wounded yesterday Large convoy brought through the Nek between here and Graylingstad. Regiment worked very hard. On duty tomorrow morning reveille 6.00

Saturday

Up early Sent patrols one under Sgt Nelles

~~Monday~~ 9 7 Saturday Continued

and one under Lt Tobin to learn the country to our right and left rear. They made good patrols and returned at 3.45. Lt Adamson reports fight when on advanced guard to SA Light Horse Sergt Richardson of it \_\_\_ distinguished had carried in Pte Macarthur from heavy fire. Three men wounded two horses killed and two men taken prisoner. The party was 34 engaged on 5 \_\_\_ and behaved well.

Sunday

Church parade gave the men at the church a lecture on scouting and told them that they were too rash

~~Tuesday~~ Graylingstad Monday 9

Marched as escort to convoy. Major Snyder and squadron with Thorneycroft picketed Koppies(sic) en route to here. B Squadron and one troop of A. Flank and advance guard arrived at 3.30 and through a mistake of Harpers encamped in the valley. Formed heavy guards and pickets.

Tuesday 10

Shifted camp escorted with one Sqdn and three (3) Maxims Sir Redvers Buller to the end of railway 12 miles from here – men returned to camp at Graylingstad. 50 men out with Pom Pom – under Cartwright.

Wednesday 11 \_\_\_ Graylingstad – Transvaal

Capt Cartwright 50 officers N.C.O. and men out to escort infantry and wagons to end of track. Ordered haircut and vermin to be done away.

Orders to march tomorrow to Alport at 8.30 taking 140 - \_\_\_ of A & B Squadrons and some of C Sqdn with Pom Pom. Dr Keenan ordered by me to come Magee with guns. ~~Sixty~~ ~~capt~~ Major Belcher, Lt Kirkpatrick, Lt Strange, Lt Fall and Lt Christie Capt Cartwright also. Squadron in good shape remounts badly needed for the rest of the regt and also clothing all of which asked for.

Thursday 12 Platkop(?) farm (:)

Marched from Graylingstad at 8.30 and with Thorneycrofts M.I. in advance. The Strathconas followed R.H.A. Gen Cleary \_\_\_ followed with two battalions(?) and large battery of 5 in guns firing Lyddite shells. Slowly moved to here and sighted the enemy on the right front. Heavy artillery fire directed on them and scouts sent out. The main column halted at this farm and encamped Lord Dundonald returned to camp after the enemy had withdrawn from our front.

Friday 13 Platkop Farm  
[overwritten at right angles]

Marched at 8.15 as advanced guard for column \_\_\_ 64 men in front and right and left front ordered to go on the same trail as yesterday. At 9.15 guide having taken us wrong \_\_\_ \_\_\_ to lead the \_\_\_ to the intended route. This was not done properly the advance should have had time to change direction. Got under heavy plinking fire from stone walls on right. Placed horses under \_\_\_ and \_\_\_ not all \_\_\_ \_\_\_ under M \_\_\_ and St \_\_\_ Christie with Cartwright afterwards. Drove off evening Artillery \_\_\_ Major Sha \_\_\_ and four men on right prisoners.

On account of \_\_\_ huge hill one big \_\_\_ of his men would \_\_\_ column after my scouts had reported the \_\_\_ \_\_\_ the right cleared. The \_\_\_ moved to left heavy artillery fire \_\_\_ \_\_\_ Thorneycroft two men \_\_\_ my horse struck in abdomen not serious.

Saturday 14 Holgate Fontein

Marched from Platkop at 8.30 as a \_\_\_ to RHA. Thorneycrofts Mounted Infantry in advance. Came in contact with the enemy and were under the fire of Pom Pom and rifles from the right front. Sent all but four men per troop to the front and lined the ridge. The enemy driven off by artillery \_\_\_ and Vicars(sic) maxim and Colt machine gun fire. Lydyte (sic) shells also fired. Column marched and halted here. Great rush by Tommies for chickens geese and pigs. Provost \_\_\_ very few Strathconas went. I ordered them back.

Sunday 15 Waterval Drift

Weather fine. Very smoky in the morning. Were to have moved off at 8.30 were ready at 8.00 on account of being advanced guard but had to wait until the breeze cleared a bit 10.45 when we left and started the advanced guard formed and moved carefully gone over to the front lines very particular and was justified. Reached here at 2.00 and posted six 6 Cossack posts. Once advance fired upon on the other side of the drift by the Devons on duty at natural bridge.

Lt Leckie of C Squadron at Waterval Stn reported to me here. C has had a hot time of late.

Monday 16 Blank

~~Tuesday~~ Monday 16 Waterval

Marched from \_\_\_fontein a farm. Strathconas in advance Enemy seen on both flanks at a long distance Carefully examined all ground for three miles of front and kept column halted until all secure. Some of Stranges men not obedient to him placed in arrest and \_\_\_ \_\_\_ better scouting on right flank.

Encamped on north side of the spruit and put out strong posts

~~Wednesday~~ Tuesday 17 Waterval farm

Crossed the spruit to march to Leuw(?) Spruit but the G.O.C. halted us for the day put out posts lots of firing on our Cossack posts and opened with artillery by the Naval men which gave us more peace  
Good camp, good grass and water.

Caused all the dongas and the whole Spruit (creek) bottom to be carefully scouted by Nelles Scouts and a Cossack post on it to prevent enemy from stealing along the bottom and firing on the camp.

~~Thursday~~ Wednesday 18 Leuw Spruit N.E. of Standerton Transvaal

Standerton Kopje in sight. Left Waterval formed the advance guard of the column \_\_\_ and had a great deal of bother on left flank considerable numbers of the enemy firing on flanking patrols. Had to get a gun to drive them away Kirkpatrick at troop of left front brought his men in too close to the column and seemed to understand little about his duty. I cautioned him to see that the column got time to prepare. I had to do that and to Strange who also had trouble. One of the K Royal R. killed and one wounded.

~~Friday~~ Thursday 19 Leuw Spruit Transvaal

N.E. of Standerton. Gen Sir R. Buller visited camp from Standerton sent escort to take him back by order. Jarvis and 70 men. The Gen complimented them on quick turn out  
Sent into Standerton by Lt Snyder for supplies also sent the sick. Elmes (The Regimental S. Major) Steele, had to go, cannot stand riding any more. Other men sent in. The Column moved across the Spruit at 3 P.M. and encamped. Thorneycroft furnished the outposts of cavalry

~~Saturday~~ Friday 20 Kaffir Kraal Vlaaklaagte

Marched as advanced guard from Leuw Spruit at 8.15 Very strong on right flank. Nine strong troops as flanking patrols – two strong troops advanced party, and two strong troops as support. One troop on right flank with scouts as well. One troop only in reserve but Thorneycrofts Corps close behind. Enemy sniped all day and support had to be sent to right rear to Capt Cartwright. Strong pickets placed on on arrival in camp Cossack posts (9) with supports and a picquet on foot at night on right flank.

Sunday 22 Waterval, Transvaal

Marched Vlaaklaagte (Kaffir Kraal camp) at 8.45 T.M.I. in advance and flanks Enemy sniping on the right. After we halted forage parties troubled by the enemy. Thorneycroft had to send out a Colt gun to drive them off. They stole up in the long grass and sniped at the outposts but the Colt was too much for them. It is the best gun for this work. Arranged for the outposts for tomorrow but the G.O.C. decided to march. Capt Cameron and Lt Macdonald called and reported

Monday 23 Groot(?) Spruit, Transvaal

Left Waterval at 9.15 Strathconas advanced guard. Protected the right heavily by three troops all strong. One and scouts on left. Regular scouts under Sergeant Nelles on right rear of advanced party which covered a front of three miles. Nelles ordered by me to visit all houses.

People in these told him of 1200 of the enemy with guns on the right front all agreed as to numbers of the enemy. Halted at 2.30 posted thirteen Cossack posts around the camp with one Maxim at principal one and supports for all

Tuesday 24 Graylingstad Transvaal

Marched from Groot Spruit at 8.45 AM and reached here at 11 A.M. T.M. Infantry formed the advance guard. Camped on the west of the Ry line Sent Quartermaster Parker to Standerton by train to get clothing and other supplies. A fight occurred in at the vicinity of Volksrust. Enemy attacked but Gen Hildyard repelled them without loss. They had guns. No important news of any kind. May halt here for a day. The General Ld Dundonald refused Lt Ketchen leave to go to England.

Wednesday 25 Graylingstad Transvaal

Weather cold and very windy. Applications in from some of the officers and men of the corps for service in the Temporary police Force to serve around Pretoria.

Yesterday asked for court martial for Private ~~McCloy~~ McElroy for disobedience of orders and today asked for one for private

Thursday 26 Graylingstad Vlaakfontein

Marched this PM to Vlaakfontein and halted. Sniping on flankers ~~on the outposts~~ T.M.I. left behind to look after the railway as an attack is expected

Friday 27 Zwickerbosch(?) Spruit

Marched north. S. Horse advanced guard – halted here – Fight here last week thousands of the enemy beaten off in spite of their artillery and Pom Poms.

Saw Ld Dundonald re Ketchen. Saw about other matters. Ketchen

to stay here with a troop Jarvis to go with his squadron to Heidelberg with the infantry. So we are now slim at headquarters.

Saturday 28 Zwickerbosch(?) Spruit

Halted for the day

B Squadron left with Jarvis. 12 men sent at 1.30 this AM as escort to the guns to Heidelberg by trail.

Tobin reported for insubordination and improper and ungentlemanly conduct.

Sunday 29 Vlaakfontein, Transvaal

Marched at 8.30 and posted pickets all the way to this place. I saw the officers of A Squadron and expressed my satisfaction with their work. I feel that they deserve it. Sent orders to Jarvis to change the way of handling his squadron. Not to have the \_\_\_ bothering with the troops but to tell them off each morning or when wanted.

Lord Dundonald left for Johannesburg to see his brother Major Birdwood went with him. The picketing of the Kopjes in the night not well done by advance troop

Monday 30 Graylingstad

Marched from Vlaakfontein at 8.30 Picketed hills on both sides to here 10 miles covered the front flanks and rear. Did not see the enemy at all Parker returned from Newcastle and brought some clothing for us and the remounts have arrived for us. Expect to march north in a short time in Sir R Bullers force.

Report of surrender of 8000 of the enemy to Gen Hunter. Sergeant Parker of C Squadron killed and Arnold Pte wounded. Ordered to march tomorrow on \_\_\_\_\_ Supply Column

Tuesday 31 Vaal River bridge

Marched in Cmd of third mounted bde supply column. R.H.A. some companies of the Scottish Rifles to relieve the Devons at Groot Spruit and Vaal Station One Squadron of the T.M.I. to relieve C Squadron at Vaal R Bridge. One Company R. Engineers and other details. Halted at Groot Spruit bridge, watered and marched, reached here at 3.30. Arnold wounded wrote in from Boer house Cameron sent wagon and men. Got in at 7.30 Arnold badly wounded in leg by a Martini Henry. Parker Sergt shot at the same time, would not surrender.

## August

Wednesday 1 Standerton Transvaal

Marched from Vaal river bridge at 7.30 made two halts for the column to close up. Supply train and transport to marched 8 abreast. L.H. Column of troops extended to two yds interval R.H.A. column of divisions Watered at Spruit 6 miles from here at 11.45 and halted for two hours and outspanned.

Inspanned at 2.00 PM and reached here in the advanced at 3.30 32 miles from Graylingstad The rear got in at 4.30 Encamped near slaughter house. Looked over B Co remounts and wired for 54 more of them. Have to march tomorrow to Platrand Station south east of here.

Thursday 2 Platrand, Transvaal

Lord Dundonald joined us again with Major Birdwood. Marched at 7 AM took the immense train three hours to ascend cross the river for Paardekop and cross get up the hill. I sent out strong flankers and placed two strong troops as rear guard. Watered every hour to let Column close up It marched 15 abreast and was two miles long. Halted at 5.30 Good camp, best yet. 10 miles.

Friday 3 Paardekop, Trans

Marched from Platrand at 7.30 and outsp halted twice to let Column

close up. Reached here at 3.30 and encamped. Parker got in. I had left him at Standerton to get supplies etc Got remounts from Standerton and Volksrust.

Issued clothing etc to the men here.

Left \_\_\_ \_\_\_ there Standerton to take charge of stores and to work up our accounts and vouchers.

Saturday 4 Paardekop

Busy all day. Some horses with glanders. Shot them and reported same to the brigadier Lord Dundonald. The horse question is difficult. Officers so \_\_\_ about reporting losses and so inclined to misrepresent their number.

Sunday 5 Paardekop Transvaal

Up early. Church parade. Dined with Chief of Staff. Pleasant evening

Monday 6 Paardekop

Busy all day. Managing matters Belcher and Adj hard at work as usual.

Dined with Sir R Buller. Nice time of it came back to camp at 9.00 PM

Introduced the men who wish the S.A. police force to Ld Dundonald.

~~Tuesday 7 Paardekop, Transvaal~~

~~Busy at horses. Very disagreeable day Dined with Sir Redvers Buller~~

Amersfoort

See next page

Amersfoort see page  
& also for days halt

K\_\_ Kraal see 9

Vaal crossing see 10

\_\_\_\_ See 11  
Do. 12<sup>th</sup>

Reached \_\_\_\_ fort tonight and marched all day. 20 miles

Wednesday 8 Amersfoort

[overwritten at right angles and diagonally]

Marched from Paardekop at 7 AM. Strathconas in advance of 3<sup>rd</sup> Mtd Brigade. Kept myself with support and advanced parties all day. \_\_\_\_ field \_\_\_\_ artillery which was brought up twice. Also heavy fire on our right as Sir R Buller pushed the enemy back. It caused all opposition to have our \_\_\_\_ to demonstrations on the flanks of the enemy. Only one of our \_\_\_\_ hit all day. \_\_\_\_ shot through chest. The brigade changed front twice causing us great work  
[overwritten portions illegible]

Thursday 9 Amersfoort, Transvaal

Up at 6.30 Could not march on account of dense fog. Large number of scouts (enemies) began sniping through fog. The transport had a hard time of it. Lt Snyder says he never heard so much swearing in his life as when train was trying to cross the big drift en route to here. Column did no \_\_\_\_ ~~tonight~~ today. Orders \_\_\_\_ late for tomorrow.

Friday 10 Klipskraal drift \_\_\_\_ Vaal R. \_\_\_\_  
[overwritten at right angles]

Left Amersfoort at 8 AM Strathconas in advance of 3<sup>rd</sup> Mtd Brigade which covered the right flank and right front. The S.H. did good scouting and were in contact with the enemy all day. The Pom I ordered up and dispersed about a hundred who lay for us on our right front. The

advance attacked as they reached the high Koppie(sic) and with Snyders men who formed the advance under fire. I sent Pom Pom forward again and good work was done, six of the enemy being killed from \_\_\_ the Pom and \_\_\_ up rifle fire. We had our guide Mr Ellison wounded through the lungs. He is doing well. Reached camp very late and had great trouble to find our place.

Saturday 11 ~~Ermelo~~ Transvaal ~~Vaal R.~~

[overwritten at right angles]

We marched at 8.00 AM forming the advanced guard of the Third Mtd brigade. C Squadron commanded by Capt Cameron on point formed the A.G. Very disagreeable dust storm all day. Impossible to see more than one hundred yds. Column much delayed. One Squadron (B) under Jarvis sent to \_\_\_ \_\_\_ and ascertain if enemy in force. The remainder halted and waited \_\_\_ \_\_\_. Jarvis returned and took horses \_\_\_. \_\_\_ left last night. Brigade advanced and bivouaced in town. Jarvis acted as Provost marshal several Boers captured with arms and police passes. Pretty town this. Jarvis and Cameron quarreled Jarvis wrongly ordering the latter to send in his advance guard and leave us uncovered. I released Cameron

Sunday 12 Ermelo, Transvaal

Church parade at 9.15 A.M. Weather fine. Sermon evidently got up for children of about six years of age. Busy all day. Orderly room clerk hard at work. Issued orders for scouts and O.C. of advanced guards. Owing to the misunderstanding yesterday great bother resulted hence the orders for the Advanced Guard. Making up rolls of men who wish to return by way of England Several of the enemy were killed on the 10<sup>th</sup> when in contact with our advanced guard under my Cmd \_\_\_ \_\_\_

Monday 13

Marched at 8.00 AM in reserve today

Army made 15 miles and encamped at good camp. 20000 oxen 20000 horses in army. Saw Gordon.

Tuesday 14 Near Carolina Tran

Marched at 8.30 In advance Adamson in support advance by \_\_\_\_.  
Sighted Carolina at 1.00 but halted. Prairie fire gave us trouble .  
Ordered to reconnoiter Carolina ~~did so~~ Sent Belcher and C Squadron  
and one troop of A. Belcher met opposition one man wounded but \_\_\_\_  
the place in fine style. Wounded Field Cornet. Got good information.  
Went out with the rest and the Maxim and Colt guns to cover retirement  
Got back to camp 9.15

Wednesday 15 \_\_\_\_\_ drift

Marched to here 10 miles by 1.30 Carolina still in sight. Halt here for  
four days to get supplies from the Ry north twenty five miles. Komati  
\_\_\_\_ here, good water Regt did duty tonight as the S.A.L.H. did it for us  
yesterday on account of our trip to Carolina to the front Belcher \_\_\_\_

Thursday 16 \_\_\_\_\_

Busy all day but the regiment resting in camp  
I am writing to Lord Strathcona Major Biggar and the Militia  
department. Supplies to be sent for tomorrow. We are in touch with  
Roberts army

Friday 17 Typelaar(?)

Regiment furnished outposts today posted both Northeast and N.W.  
pickets Belcher SE and SW pickets No 1 post N.E. fired upon several  
times \_\_\_\_ the posts with Lord Dundonald Gen of the the(sic)  
brigade Long ride of four hours hard trotting, had my horse fall on me  
in the morning when going over to see how No 4 picket was horse  
tramped on my leg. It is swollen a good deal below the knee.

Saturday 18 Twypellaar(?) Trans.

Weather fine. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ on duty, busy all day.  
Sgt Nelles sent out for wood, \_\_\_ fired upon

Sunday 19 Twypellaar(?) Trans.

Jarvis went out to meet escort and returned in the evening  
Church parade. My shin swollen yet. Did not go to parade so as to get  
swelling down.

Monday 20 Twypellaar

Wrote wife, McIlree, Garlick, Sam Steele, Pretoria, Laurie (Major) Impr  
Bank of Canada dealt with several people of the corps refused an  
investigation(?) to Lt Kirkpatrick Strange and Courtney  
Busy all day. Wrote memos re care of sick to Dr Keenan  
I got heaps of \_\_\_ \_\_\_ by officers.

Tuesday 21 Van Wycks Vlei Transvaal

Weather fine. S.H. and rest of army marched at 8 A.M. C Squadron  
mounted rear guard for Column – and the bde flank of right rear.  
Gordons on the flank of baggage S.H. and RHA held ~~next~~ position until  
all were in camp. Gordons and the Hussars(?) got into fight and right  
flank. 7 of each killed Cavalry very rash and stupid Party dismounted  
at a house without reconnoitering and \_\_\_\_. All of them hit. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ on  
advance too. I came into camp after dark

Wednesday 22 Van Wycks Vlei

Up early busy all day. Regiment furnished a Sqdn for outpost (last night  
Jarvis) and Cartwrights Sqdn tonight No pasture very hard on the  
horses indeed. Casualties yesterday quite heavy. Some of all arms out

today shelling the enemy.

Thursday 23 ~~Van Wycks Vlei~~ Gulek(?)

Marched at 8.30 in reserve of bde and after a short march lay on the right rear of column until it got into camp, fighting going on front 1 man killed and two wounded in the artillery and two of S.A.L.H. wounded  
Furnished a sqdn C for outpost duty mounted. Capt Cameron wished to remain in camp but I would not permit his squadron to go out without him. Strange how he could have made such a stupid request. Six(?) ~~foels~~ lost 20 killed 40 men wounded \_\_

Friday 24 Gulick farm Trans.

Were under orders to be in readiness to go out but not to saddle at dawn – was ready but not called upon. SALH should have relieved C Sqdn at daybreak but did not until 7.30 or 8 AM

Gulick Farm

Saturday 25

Up early The regiment in camp all day Wrote letters. The Mtd Infantry relieved us.

The Liverpools lost three men through the adjutant ordering the Company forward when in bad ground. A shame! No need of it!

~~Saturday 25~~ Sunday 26 Vogelspruitpoort Trans

Up at 3.30 reveille then B and C Squadrons paraded and sent out to occupy the trenches held by the infantry yesterday. I made each squadron into 3 troops as there were six trenches and as ordered to keep up a heavy fire on the enemy until called in. The fire was heavy all day. Column marched I withdrew three troops at proper time calling up Maxims and Pom Pom and getting R.H.A. gun to fire shrapnel  
Succeeding in withdrawing the men with four wounded in C Sqdn  
Relieved the others of B at dusk Marched to camp

Sunday 26 Vogelspruitpoort

here after dark. Heavy fire by the infantry on enemy entrenched on our right front and also artillery fire from the enemy. A continuous fusillade along two miles of front. The casualties on the infantry and Art were \_\_\_ passed over us while on the march Bergendal Aug Sunday 26 1900 marched at 7 AM as flanking patrols B and C Squadrons out with outposts and support The regiment in \_\_\_ A Sqdn and the Pom Pom and Maxims. Heavy fighting on the right and right front. Our losses over 30. The Boers twice as many and some prisoners. They fought well

Monday 27 Two miles east of Machadodorp

Marched at 8 A.M. Passed the flank and rear of entrenchments covered(?) by Rifles and Art last night S.H. in support of Art After ten miles fast marching the SALH came in contact with the enemy the guns were hurried forward and the S.H. I led at a gallop as we were under Art fire. Well I did for the shells passed close over our heads and burst just in rear. Took cover on left rear of guns. Pom Pom ordered forward also Maxims and Colts. Sent by order A and B Sqdns round to support SALH on left. They extended and kept up a heavy fire and when enemy withdrew were

~~Tuesday 28~~ two miles east of Machadodorp Monday 27 Aug

then right were called in. I then advanced the whole right to next rise in extended order as possible. Sent B and C around the flank to again attack the enemy Lieut Belcher in Com. Ld Dundonald then advanced to the next ridge I took A Sqdn as an escort then deployed them on ridge next to town of Machadodorp. The shells burst about us and wounded Major Birdwood bde Major on Lord Ds staff and Ptes Burnett and Whitely of "Ours." I sent horses under cover. The dismounted men of A. then under Capt Cartwright and his officers advanced in gallant style on the town the enemy retiring from it with haste I concentrated the regiment

~~Wednesday 29~~ two mi E of M.dorp – Monday 27<sup>th</sup>

and after Lord Dundonald passed through with the S.A.L.H. and guns joined the brigade on the high ridge east of the town. Was under shell fire there for several hours. Enemy dismounted one of our guns, killed some men and five Art horses. \_\_\_ on field in \_\_\_ of height. Gordons and guns naval 5 inch held the position.

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> Helvetia

Up early marched at 8 AM as advanced guard The men did not turn out well but made up for it by their good work.

B Squadron advance scouted the heights held by the enemy yesterday some rifle fire. I pushed \_\_\_ Lt Christie Leckie

~~Thursday 30~~ Helvetia 29<sup>th</sup> Aug

Leckie, with Adamson in support. Passed on sections left on Koppies(sic) on right front as pickets. We hurried forward with the reserve as Lord d and Sir R Buller wished to get on. We went up the hills hazardous(?) though they are (Large Mts) at a rapid pace. I called on Christie and Leckies men when I got on the summit and saw that B Squadron had \_\_\_ and picketed all Kopjies

Passed a troop through to Helvetia a couple of miles on. Saw our troops far in advance in the valley. \_\_\_ got horses watered. Ordered to take road to Waterval \_\_\_ Sent Lt Macdonald in advance with a mile of

~~Friday 31~~ Helvetia 29<sup>th</sup> Aug

front. Sent Belcher and part of two Squadrons in support called up Pom Pom. Musketry from small parties of Boers on Kopjes. Sent Belcher forward to reconnoiter the situation. Waterval \_\_\_ in sight. Ordered to send two Squadrons in under Belcher Sent them order Countermanded Scouts sent. Ordered to fall back upon Helvetia to camp as gen French had come up I did so bde camped at Helvetia.

\_\_\_ Kirk Farm Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> August

Marched at 7 in reserve of 3<sup>rd</sup>. Left a troop as vanguard of infantry.  
Column left large force at Helvetia. French

~~Saturday 1~~ Kirk Farm Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> Aug 00

Moved out Waterval\_\_\_ while we marched on Nordegachte near where Kruger is supposed to have the prisoners of war  
Passed our army mountainous region for ten miles SALH in advance  
Guns left on first bad hill and we went on watered then halted on this \_\_\_ range until whole brigade ordered back here the prisoners having been released and going along ry This was done. I sent Lt Leckie by Lord Dundonalds orders to proceed to Gen Frenchs quarters to tell him that we were on his left and that the prisoners were going east released.  
Krugers Kraal is east of Nordegachte Stn

~~Sunday 2~~ Kirk farm (Tran) Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug

~~Friday~~

Halt here today. Busy writing. Parades for inspection of mens kit etc etc. Men look well. Wrote Lord Strathcona a report upon happenings and to my wife. Wired Ketchen about \_\_\_ of expenditure of £300.00 of Ld S. Wired same three days ago for 40 remounts and today for sundries. Wired on the 28<sup>th</sup> casualties of that day to Lt Col Biggar.

**September**

~~Monday 3~~ Saturday 1 Badfontein Crocodile R

Marched as advanced guard today. Soon after going out found that through a mistake the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry bde was also out. They were ordered in but we could not get at them to warn(?) all so that they did not come in until night. Road difficult. Passed over a mountain and came in contact with the enemies adv rear guard here I supported Belcher and sent Pom Pom forward and drove them away \_\_\_. Our men did good scouting except Adamson who foolishly pushed on five miles and

crossed our front losing [top of next page] a man

~~Tuesday~~ Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>

Bde marched at 8.15 SALH in advance then Mtd Infantry, RHA and ours. Ours in support of guns. Got orders \_\_\_ in a short(?) Artillery played upon us \_\_\_ shells falling on all sides. Remained with the guns until ordered forward to find the shelter which we did \_\_\_ extended at a gallop. Shrapnel fired at us and fell all over us. Fortunately got burst too high. Got under cover in a spruit and then \_\_\_ to the right. Ready to advance with rifles to fight on foot. One of the heaviest shell fights of war took place

~~Wednesday~~ ~~Monday~~ Badfontein, Transvaal en route Lydenburg

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Cont

We were very lucky. Only one man slightly wounded. Mtd Infantry lost 10 killed and wounded. RHA one wounded 6 horses killed 11 wounded. Covered the retreat to camp the reconnaissance a first class one making the enemy display his force in guns. Over three hundred high velocity shells fired at us. A most trying day. Ordered to halt here ~~today~~ tomorrow

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept

Halted. Wrote report to Lord Stratchcona from the ~~start~~ day we left Twyfellaar at B\_\_\_

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> Sept

Busy in camp writing and in charge of the [top of following page] outposts. Lost six men missing and one wounded.

~~Thursday~~ 6

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>

Regiment guarded the right and left and rear of the camp. Enemy placed two guns in position \_\_\_ yesterday. Commenced firing from one on the right front at 8.30 AM. Sent horses out to herd and graze.

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup>

Marched from camp the right regt in rear of bde Expected a fight. Did not get one Gordons moved on hills on right where our men were killed yesterday Sent burial party up under Kirkpatrick to see to the burial of the poor fellows  
Reported in the \_\_\_\_

Friday 7 Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup>

Ascended the hills but no opposition Saw Ian Hamiltons column on the right left. His coming on that flank caused the enemy of(sic) retire. Encamped at a farm for the night.

Friday 7<sup>th</sup>

Marched at 8 AM Strachconas formed advanced guard Enemy reported to have guns in position above Lydenburg. Entered that place early and posted pickets on right of Spitzkop road. The camp of bde(?) placed badly. Heavy fire of artillery from right on \_\_\_\_

Saturday 8 Lydenburg, Friday 7<sup>th</sup>

Shelling our camp. The regt had one horse killed by rifle fire and was on duty on front of bde all night. Reveille was ordered by me at 4.30 so as to be able to put men and horses in the donga on the rear of camp out of shell fire. Glad I did so Shelling began at 8 AM and shells fell plentifully where horses and men would have been brigade \_\_\_\_ left. The infantry advanced on right and left of Spitzkop road and drove the enemy off. Went into camp at \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Sunday 9 Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>

Marched in rear of Mtd Infantry who form advance guard walked and led horses on the tremendous height down again and up onto another great right ridge regiment under Pom Pom fire and finally ordered to scout and advance. Did so. Opened on enemy with Maxims with good results. We advanced down the enormous hill towards the devils

knuckles and supported the other corps. Very heavy fire of artillery and rifles hot.

Monday 10

Enemy too far off to catch them. Retired up hill to camp by order.

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> Regt was in advance of brigade. Sent to the right rear and left. Found Boer women and children and wagons. Placed scouts on hills. Sent down to reinforce \_\_\_ Gen Kitchener advancing against the enemy. Did so. At \_\_\_ right sent forward and pitched the enemy from one position to \_\_\_ this \_\_\_ service rifle and shell fire. Handled so that only two men wounded

~~Tuesday 11~~ Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>

Sir R Buller sent congratulations and expressed high approval of the regimental work as dashing and useful.

Monday 10<sup>th</sup>

Regt sent on left \_\_\_ hills while Kings RR carried the left. Pushed them up by squadrons \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ long ridge and led C(?) Squadron up on the right. Picketed all heights and covered left of army. Saw the enemy in full retreat on Pilgrims rest. He could have been cut off by the 3<sup>rd</sup> \_\_\_

Wednesday 12 Monday 10<sup>th</sup>

Bde if they had known in time. Our intelligence dept could not get good guides. Saw Glynn's gold mine and village of Spitzkop from heights. Sir Redvers came up and saw us. Left picket on heights until night. Went into camp at 4.30 Object of army \_\_\_ to separate enemies forces.

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>

\_\_\_ up Spitzkop to camp.

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>

Sent 100 men to guard stores at Glynn's mine. Jarvis in command.

\_\_\_ to shift camp but did not

Thursday 13 Spitzkop, Transvaal

Up at 7.00 AM Sent men to get supplies for the mess at Spitzkop village. Men who went for wood last night came in late with a good supply. Lord Dundonald wrote nicely re the transport and is pleased with behavior of regt at Devils Knuckles. Hot but a pleasant breeze.

Placed a \_\_\_ sergeant under Lt Christie to patrol from Spitzkop Not under the field officer of Gordons in command there. Some Boers have surrendered

Friday 14 Spitzkop, Transvaal

Wrote Lord Dundonald re transport and thanking him for his appreciation of the conduct of the regiment at the Devils Knuckles Sent Parker and others to Spitzkop village for mess supplies and other things. Jarvis sends good report, thinks more Boers will surrender very soon when terms are known.

Saturday 15 Spitzkop, Transvaal

Lord Dundonald came out to see us and asked us to lunch with him (Belcher and I) tomorrow Sunday at one we accepted his kind invitation. He is a charming man a good type of the British nobleman and soldier. Regiment on duty Kruger has fled(?) Botha has resigned The new General of the Boers is Ben Viljoen Murray \_\_\_ has gone to Maritzburg to his old staff appt to the Governor. Munroe to be BM Capt Denny acting at present.

Sunday 16 Spitzkop, Transvaal

Church parade at 9 AM for C of E

Rode out with Belcher and lunched with Lord Dundonald Col. Byng. With \_\_\_ Major Munroe and Capt D\_\_\_ were there. It took us two hours to get there and the same to come back again. The mts are tremendous and justify Krugers boast that we could not pass through in

the face of opposition. The place \_\_\_ in advance by the Strathconas certainly reflects credit upon the regiment. Got back at 5.00 P.M. Barberton captured with stores engines – no opposition

Monday 17 Spitzkop, Transvaal

Busy all day at correspondence Wrote Lord Dundonald re applications of officers for the police force and placed them in order of preference. Got a report from Jarvis to the effect that the two officers Tobin and Kirkpatrick some of the men \_\_\_ out gold in mine buildings and that he caused them to disgorge it.

Tuesday 18 Spitzkop, Transvaal

Rode out by road to Spitzkop village and Glynn's mine. I inquired into Major Jarvis report re Lt Kirkpatrick and Tobin \_\_\_ some privates washing out the gold they were to guard. I ordered them all into headqrs and ordered two other officers out.

Sent Jarvis report to Lord Dundonald and asked for his decision I also wrote a separate note pointing out that the extreme penalty would cause disgrace to the regiment.

Wednesday 19 Spitzkop, Transvaal

Fine, hot, windy. Men escorting and scouting. Men at Devils Knuckles sent back with saddler to Lydenburg as escort to two guns.

Thursday 20 Spitzkop, Transvaal

Weather fine, hot \_\_\_ breeze. Got from Lord Dundonald his actions(?) re the washing out of gold by Lts Tobin and Kirkpatrick and some of the men of B Squadron. Lord D. does not wish to punish them but directs that they be admonished and told that a recurrence of the offence will result to them seriously. He speaks well of the discipline of the corps and writes to me privately as well. Sent the letters to the officers and

ordered Jarvis to cause it to be read to the squadron on parade. I wrote very mildly on the subject. These offences are very troublesome under Kirkpatrick and Tobin. Disobeyed orders in the Badfontein advance to support \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Friday 21 Spitzkop, Trans

Forwarded to Capetown the recommendations for Commissions in the Transvaal police Force now being raised. Jarvis reports that Steyn with two coaches and wagons escorted by a no of Boers arrived at Pilgrims Rest yesterday – that two black scouts of the intelligence department were killed by the Boers. Knight sent them out and that the enemy had placed a gun six miles off toward(?) the Pilgrims Rest road. Lts Kirkpatrick and Tobin wrote a letter each saying that Jarvis charges were not based upon fact. Wrote Jarvis to explain and for \_\_\_\_ to do so.

Saturday 22 Spitzkop, Transvaal

Weather fine. Very few of the regiment in camp today. C Squadron arrived at midnight on escort from \_\_\_\_ to here with the convoy of supplies Report Lord Roberts and Staff there and that the enemy destroyed many gun carriages(?) probably guns too at Telspruit(?) when retreating. Got complaint of the officer in B re the mine trespass today.

Sunday 23 5 miles east of Elandsdrift – and three from Spitzkop.

Weather fine. Church parade at 9 AM Orders to march at 2 P.M. did so and with Captain Mackie rode out to camp Major Belcher brought on the men and I arrived here in one hour and twenty minutes time. \_\_\_\_ five miles (5) distance.

Wrote letters recommending Jarvis for native(?) \_\_\_\_ of this district. Grass good, water good.

Monday 24 5 m east of Elandsdrift Transvaal

Near Spitzkop. The signal station is still on the Kop  
The whole our supplies not in yet. 5 inch guns marched for \_\_\_ drift  
today and so did Field hospital, leaving the Gordons, the rifles and  
ourselves here. Lt Macdonald got in with his escort which left this AM  
to bring in the part of convoy six miles south of here. Horses suffering  
from hard work and no time to graze. Indian corn they do not take to.  
Forwarded Lord Dundonald Cmd 3<sup>rd</sup> Mounted Bde Jarvis application for  
a Commissionership in the native district of O\_\_\_stad. Time hangs  
heavy.

Tuesday 25 Sabie River drift, near the Glyn Lydenburg mine Transvaal

Up early. Marched late in the morning and went up to the mine first.  
Belcher in charge of A and C Squadrons. Saw Jarvis lunched at mine  
went into camp on south side of drift. All other troops on north side.  
Reported to Lord Dundonald at 4.30 P.M. Other C.O.s there too  
Complaint of looting of guide Knights house by five men (5) two with  
plumes two without Investigation ordered to be made by Major Asst P.  
Marshall. No Strathconas in it. Returned to camp saw Lts Tobin and  
Kirkpatrick re the Gen Offr 3<sup>rd</sup> M Bde reprimand of them for entering  
mine buildings. Orders late to march at 5.45 tomorrow  
Mtd infantry in advance then guns then SH rear SALH

Wednesday 26 Camp forks of Pilgrims Rest and Belvedere trails

Marched at 5.45 Expected opposition, cautious advance Heavy firing  
from the high ridge on the Lydenburg Pilgrims Rest road. Artillery  
brought into play and shelled heights heavily. Kings R.R. climbed left  
of ridge and firing ceased no casualties on our side. Marched into camp  
one mile in rear of the advance of the column, good water, good grass,  
hilly site.

Thursday 27 Bly\_\_\_ R bivouac. 2 miles south of Pilgrims Rest,  
Transvaal

Marched at 5.45 Reported to G.O.C. 3<sup>rd</sup> M Bde at 5.40 AM Strathconas in advance passed up the heights on this road then out pickets on the heights on the right marched with advance, pushed it rapidly forcing enemys scouts back until I reached here. Sent back for support to enable me to proceed further. Found that Belcher and A Squadron had been placed some miles on right flank and Christies(?) troop of A on left where Lord D told me I was not to put any. Got Sqdns (2) of SALH placed them on \_\_\_ \_\_\_ Pilgrims Rest pushed Captain Mackie and \_\_\_ into town(?) under very heavy fire they behaved admirably.

Friday 28

Went into the town Jarvis with me. Col. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ arrived – he had 15 men of “ours” Lt Leckie entered from east side with troop of B Squadron. \_\_\_ on the hill in front of town, the work today done well. Column not checked. Advance \_\_\_ and cautious as well. Enemy could not remain anywhere long. So handled by the regt that the rapid turning of the Boers position compelled them to leave consequently no casualties although the fire on \_\_\_ \_\_\_ was heavy Withdrew the men from town at PM(?) request. Afterwards he asked for assistance and caused unnecessary work on the regt.

Friday 28 Sept

Rear guard today. Jarvis on \_\_\_ \_\_\_ Pilgrims Rest. Marched into camp west of town at 9.30 Halted

Saturday 29 Morgensons(?) \_\_\_

Lay all day at the foot of the big hill on Lydenburg road, and at four o'clock left a rear guard by order and marched up the hill here, length of the hill four miles. Went into camp and the \_\_\_ got in at 3 AM.

Sunday 30 Morgensons(?)

Church parade. Wrote lots of letters. SALH on duty.

## October

Monday 1 Krugers Post (Hoop)?

Marched at six as advanced guard of the 3<sup>rd</sup> M Bde – picketed all the hills on right and left until all the support and reserves were exhausted. Kept the advance going under Capt Cameron. Got support from the Mtd infantry. Sniping from the right at the forks of trail. Provost M. Capt Phillips wished to go into some farms advised him not to but he went. Had to open with artillery to get him and some of his fellows out of their scrape. Reported that Brocklehurst brigade was in front met it found them here. Hills said by them to be safe. Column encamped. Enemy opened with artillery from hills on \_\_\_\_ Killed two officers and two privates. Fall got a shrapnel bullet through his hat. Left camp \_\_\_\_ horses under \_\_\_\_ came back at dark. Artillery opened up on us. One of ours wounded two horses killed. Changed camp. Sent Sir R Buller my \_\_\_\_ at Gen Brocklehurst and no wonder the whole column was placed in a position to be destroyed through bad scouting and no outposts. The enemy had gone when the infantry got there.

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>

Marched at 6 AM got to Lydenburg at 12.30 and encamped.

Got several weeks mail. Are delighted at it.

Wednesday 3 Lydenburg, Transvaal

In camp here heavy rain the men soaked all day and all night. The bivouac was very unpleasant.

Thursday 4 Lydenburg

It cleared up today and we had a chance to dry everything.

Dined with the K Royal Rifles Col Comd \_\_\_\_ and Belcher Jarvis. Cameron and Parker came over to it. Had a nice time the mess drank our health heartily the Colonel who is a splendid fellow saying nice things to us. I responded briefly came back to camp at 10.15 P.M.

Friday 5 Lydenburg, Transvaal

Orders to march tomorrow

Busy writing and filling returns. Also sending in the requested full reports upon all officers N.C.O. and men deserving of mention for good service in the field.

Saturday 6 Badfontein

Left Lydenburg as rear guard and passed a number of posts for the pickets of the L. of C. Arrived early in camp 200 men were are "afoot" and forty footsore arranged for them to ride in the wagons of ASC Capt Denny kindly arranging it.

Sunday 7 \_\_\_\_\_

Marched from Badfontein of unpleasant memory at 6.30 the regiment in advance piqueted and scouted the hills and reached here at 2.30 put out cossack posts of \_\_\_\_ for the day and 70 men for the night

Monday 8 Machadadorp

Arrived at 12.00 The regiment marched as rear guard of the column. Lord Dundonald ordered us in so as to be seen by Sir Redvers Buller before he departed Sir Redvers Buller said he has been well pleased with the regiment in its work done in the field and said it was very useful.

SALH is to be disbanded and \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ to be relieved to march to Standerton etc. etc.

Inspected the men for the police and made them a short speech of advice.

Tuesday 9 Machadadorp

Busy all day writing

Took over from SALH a quantity of stores saddlery. Tried to get horses from Remounts but could not today do so. Very hot weather.

Wrote my wife, Lt Col Biggar Major Sanders, Stevenson L.S.(?) and others

I sent some 30 men to Pretoria for the police under White-Fraser Lord Dundonald saw them before they left and said he was proud of them, that they were always ready to face Mausers, Pom Poms or shells and that I ought to be proud of them. So I am, but I have had hard work to bring about [top of following page] this desirable state of discipline

Wednesday 10

The regt is a fine one but to bring it absolutely \_\_\_ \_\_\_ intelligent into an army of disciplined men and make them surpass in many qualities the regulars and equal them in all good ones has caused immense work to all officers N.C.O.s and myself. It has been satisfactory to find that success attended our efforts.

Wednesday

Machadadorp.

Busy at correspondence all day.

Thursday 11 Machadadorp

Nothing of importance. Handed over all our horses to Eniskillen dragoons. They think them the best remounts they had. Three of them were bucked off when they mounted. What a joke. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ weeks \_\_\_ on continuous service and half starved for months past. Sent all baggage but the mens personal and our own to station Handed over all teams assisted Lord Dundonald to report upon military stores, machine guns, ammunition, rifles, clothing and \_\_\_

Went to bed early. Did not feel very well.

Friday 12 Wonderfontein, Trans.

Broke camp at Machadadorp at 7 AM. went on to station with baggage

and B Squadron to entrain for Pretoria  
Lord Dundonald and Staff also. Fearful dust, smells and filth generally  
got a headache. Lord D took me to the Liverpool Rgt mess where we sat  
in the shade and were given a nice cup of tea by the Major in Com  
Molyneaux-Seale a very nice man. All of them nice men. Could have  
had lunch, was pressed but could not. Train left with us at 3.30 and  
stopped for the night at this place – on account of danger of \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday 13 Pretoria

Left Wonderfontein at 9. A.M. very hot and disagreeable journey  
Met Major Sanders and several others at different points. Capts Burstall,  
Carpenter and Ogilvie called upon me and \_\_\_ nice day at the Stn East  
of here. Were all glad to see me as I was to see them. They are fine  
young fellows.

Got here shortly after dark. Men sent to camp I slept in the Ladies  
waiting room very kindly given my use by the Ry Staff Officer. Was  
sick all day but said nothing got quinine from Dr Keenan when \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_. Ate nothing all day.

Sunday 14 Pretoria, Transvaal

Took a room for self and adjutant at the Grand Hotel. Good room No  
elevator in hotel all antiquated as usual in all hotels in South Africa.  
Lord Dundonald went to see Lord Roberts and to find out what is to be  
done with us. Got orders to put the men in camp next to the SALH and  
did so. Belcher and A and C Squadrons did not arrive today. Capt  
Baker, Lt Davidson 2<sup>nd</sup> CMR Lt Harper and several others called Sergt  
Camies NWMP (2CMR) called. Only four of our thirty men engaged in  
the police. Terms too hard

Monday 15 Pretoria, Transvaal

Warned the Quartermaster to see that the men were all equipped for  
service as soon as possible for we are to march on Saturday

Self and Mackie very busy all day. Saw Davidson, Baker and others.

Tuesday 16 Pretoria, Transvaal

Weather hot. Room very pleasant. Several people called  
Wrote a great deal.

Wednesday 17 Pretoria, Transvaal

Weather hot. Busy all day. I hate the place.

Thursday 18 Pretoria, Transvaal

Busy at correspondence and trying to get the men equipped and mounted. Took over 500 horses. All large and badly mouthed(?) Capts Burstall and Ogilvie called upon me. So did Davidson.

Friday 19 Pretoria, Transvaal

Saw Baden Powell for the officers applying for Coms in the S.A. Constabulary. He seemed favorably inclined to Fall and Harper. I arranged for Lt Macdonald S. Horse to take Lt Davidsons place in the depot.

Several men sick, the water is bad – and they were too free with it.

Saturday 20 \_\_\_ Stn enroute to Germiston

Left Pretoria at 3.15 P.M. The regiment appeared before Lord Roberts quarters by order but he could not see it owing to \_\_\_\_. Lord Kitchener came out and saw them go past in fours. Said he would send orders to Germiston to which place I am ordered to march. This place was reached at dark ten miles

We bivouaced on the west of the Ry line. Put out picquets.

Had to send 23(?) men to hospital at the last moment.

Sunday 21 Germiston, Transvaal

Marched at 7 A.M. and halted at 11.30 for lunch

Watered horses en route and halted once for \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ Halted for noon for \_\_\_\_ officer \_\_\_\_ Macdonald came and complained that some of the advanced guard had taken a saddle and a blanket from one of his Cape Boys herding sheep and cattle. I said that none of the men of the regiment would do such a thing and \_\_\_\_ right. I found \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ money two Conductors of Supplies and restored the property.

Reached here after a long afternoons march of 18 miles \_\_\_\_ encamped at \_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_ place. Such a foolish thing. An attack might have caused great injury.

Monday 22 Johannesburg, Transvaal

Ordered to entrain for Welverdiend. Which I did. Sending Belcher and two squadrons less a troop by first train. Left with B on second and brought transport by the third one. Got to the station one mile west of the central stn at dark, and as the trains do not come at night lest the enemy might damage the track and derail them we were kept here. Went up town and got supper. I think it is a remarkable place \_\_\_\_ anywhere, but although many of the streets are good the houses are as a rule not much. Slept in a box car, better than en route to \_\_\_\_ Machadadorp.

Ordered ten drunken soldiers into custody for insolence to Jarvis and theft.

Tuesday 23 Welverdiend, Transvaal

Left Johannesburg at 6.30 and detrained here at 11.30. Found Belcher here. Bivouaced. Heavy rain at night. Heard Pom Pom and big guns in afternoon. Boers fighting with General Barton.

Wednesday 24 Welverdiend, Transvaal

Got lots of feed for the horses, and was busy all day. Col. Hicks Cmdg

sent for us all, and gave orders re a march. He called in the forenoon.

Thursday 25 Welverdiend, Transvaal

Orders to march \_\_\_ \_\_\_ column to Gen Barton. On guard left front, flanks and rear.

Friday 26 ~~Pochefstroom~~ Frederikstad, Transvaal

Marched from Welverdiend at 7.30 AM in advanced guard of a relief column consisting of several guns, Brabants Horse, Marshalls Horse, two battalions of infantry etc and trains of supplies and ammunition under the command of the Colonel of the R Munster Fusiliers Col. Hicks. Heavy firing in advance S\_\_\_ covered left \_\_\_ \_\_\_ and the rear. B sqdn did the left point and A and B the left. Lively firing all the way but column well protected by us.

Reached here at noon the men in camp prepared to fight which they did. Boers attacked but we defeated with heavy loss. Many bayonets(?) at the \_\_\_. Col Hicks pleased with our flank and advanced \_\_\_ [top of following page] guard work.

Saturday 27 ~~Pochefstroom~~ Frederikstad, Transvaal

Busy all day. Parties out all day. Some famous regiments

Got orders to leave tomorrow as advanced guard to some guns and other troops to reconnoiter de Wets position or locate him.

Sunday 28 ~~Pochefstroom~~ Frederikstad, Transvaal

Up early. Marched as advanced guard of a body of cavalry and guns to reconnoiter de Wets position if any. The march was guided by a native and was by a worse road than we could have gone. Sir John Colleton, Royal Welsh Fusiliers Commanded. I located enemy by the good scouting of the corps at 11.30 at Boschock(?) They had an ambush and were in a long donga in large numbers. \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ I retired as soon as

we had located him. We had one slight casualty a wound in the foot. Lots of forage, wheat, oats etc on the Farm. Boers lied to us so did Kaffirs but we did not believe them. We marched back to camp by 6.30  
Rain

Monday 29 Frederikstad, Transvaal

Under orders to march today at 3.45 was ready but did not. Heavy rain last night Some of the men stole some of the Drs whiskey medical comforts and got drunk.

Forty two men joined us yesterday and five reported coming.

Got orders to be ready to march tomorrow with all available men light and one Vicars(sic) Maxim gun. Met Gen. Barton. He asked about some friends in Canada, Col Sweeney I think one of them

Rained at 2 oclock but fortunately had tents for the regiment.

Had potatoes for lunch first for months.

Tuesday 30 Frederikstad, Potchefstroom(sic) Transvaal

Regiment ready in good time. Marched at 3.45 Threw out advanced guard as soon as we passed station picketed hills to left of our march. A sqdn in advance and support of left point. ~~C Squadron on left side~~ part of B \_\_\_ \_\_\_ on right front \_\_\_ Brabants Horse and reported to General

Sent C and one troop of B under Capt Howard to enter Potchefstroom(sic) after passing hills on left Sent out screen of flankers under Lieut \_\_\_ who did it well. Got orders to \_\_\_ bridges on east of town. Did so. Column reached town and bivouaced in a pretty square at 11.00 Some of our men found a body

Wednesday 31 Potchefstroom, Transvaal

Weather wet last night. Sent notice of body of soldier reported lying in bush south of town. Ambulance sent out. Stopped in a small kitchen in grounds of \_\_\_ track, got some fresh lettuce and onions. Prettiest and best watered town we have seen in Transvaal. Nearly all English names

on places of business. Our picquet on one bridge fired into a Boer party approaching under cover of darkness and wounded one of the enemy also captured horse and rifle. Enemy decamped hastily and took wounded man with them. Relieved by the men of another corps. Got an issue of coffee and biscuit for tomorrows march. Men behaved well

## **November**

Thursday 1 Frederikstad, Transvaal

Weather fine. Marched at 4.00 AM as rear guard for Frederikstad. Good march but some other regiments late so had to wait an hour to let them get forward. Many people up to see us march out of the town. Reached here at 10.30 and had lunch Belcher has symptoms of fever but tries to stay out of hospital and get to duty but I fear he cannot. Afternoon employed at all sorts Sent down for forage to fields on oats near

Friday 2 Frederikstad, Transvaal

In camp all day and tried several cases of men who got drunk in camp. All in A Sqdn Asked for a court martial for them or at least for all who had entries of a serious character in the defaulters book. Captain Cameron returned from Johannesburg. Major Laurie also had arrived yesterday. Spoke to latter about writing letters which were published reflecting on a private named Thomson a good man and a great honour and pointed out the danger and impropriety of doing such a thing and telling him that he should have nothing to say about anyone in this corps that should be spoken of outside.

Saturday 3 Frederikstad, Transvaal

Marched 350 strong exclusive of officers (12) at 4.45 A.M. accompanied by an intelligence officer and guide also. Moved on plains south of Galrand(?) while Gen Barton took two columns up Galrand. Howard

commanded advance guard and moved fast. Had to check it for he once lost touch. Searched all houses, villages, \_\_\_ up all cattle 250 in all very good. Arrived at D\_\_\_kraal as ordered at 9.30 picqueted the horses on the place. Sent Cartwright with one hundred men to Pass and a troop to bridle path expected enemy only saw a few Terrible rain all soaked to the skin. Rtd to camp got in at dark.

#### ~~Sunday 4~~

Cartwright was sent for before leaving but could not be found. Got him in at 7.30 Christie of Moosomin troop at 8.30 Whole of the column joined at the \_\_\_kraal. A Boer picquet in pass fled when they saw us. Col Sampson Impl Light Horse came that day and saw the camp. On our way back sniping on right ILH sent out to scout the country shots exchanged no casualties whatever.

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Nov

Morning fine. Rained hard last night. Everyones clothes wet after yesterday Put out Cossack posts and sent escort with Capt Greenwood(?) of RE

Marched as advance guard at 9 AM and flank guard of Gen Bartons column on Potchefstroom

#### Monday 5 ~~Frederikstad, Transvaal~~ Sharmans(?) Pass

Reached South bridge of Pochefstroom at 3.40 AM. Threw out Cossack posts of A squadron and bivouaced unitl 5 AM then marched south to Dans(?) 8 miles halted for the night a \_\_\_ outposts

Acted as advance guard of column and flank guard Saw Col Sampsons column ahead of us as we crossed the ridge four miles from the ridge Gave horses lots of forage Some of them \_\_\_ but they cannot be otherwise. Hard work and former disease with some of them.

#### Tuesday 6 Frederikstad, Trans.

Left bivouae Shamans(?) Pass ten miles south of Pochefstroom at 5 AM and moved as advanced guard of column, covered flanks as well.

Reached the \_\_\_ \_\_\_ farm \_\_\_ house of Pochefstroom at 9 AM and halted by order of Gen Barton threw out picquet of seventy men to cover the movement of Ry trains. Foraged and got nine hundred sheaves of oats \_\_\_ already cut gave a receipt. Put a sheaf on each mans saddle and balance on wagons marched at 3 P.M. in advance Made the distance here in three hours. 12 mi

Wednesday 7 Frederikstad, Trans

Weather warm a strong breeze from west. Some NCO and men being tried by court martial for getting drunk in camp

Sir J. Colleton came to see me about work

Wrote lots of letters today. Received a number from different people mostly making enquiries about people in the regiment and some who have been sick and died or were killed or wounded. All had been written to when the casualties occurred and letters had crossed I was always careful to write at once

Thursday 8 Frederikstad, Trans

Marched at 2.00 AM advance of a column to surround a village west of here six miles met Boer picquet which fell back to ridge to westward of the village. Threw a chain of Cossack posts with supports between village and range of hills as ordered Sent a squadron into the town to search for \_\_\_ of the enemy and from houses occupied by them found none. Captured 200 head of cattle Men behaved well Shelled with Pom Pom the enemy's position west and subdued their rifle fire \_\_\_ Denny thrown [top of following pager] from his horse and

Friday 9

badly bruised. Sent for ambulance All work done at 8 AM and retired by order at 10.30 and breakfasted.

Friday 9<sup>th</sup>

Nov.

1900

Up early Busy all day at desk. Nothing of importance on until 8.00 when I recd orders to march at 1 AM tomorrow to hold a line on the plain between Deelkraal and Boshkoep and extending from the Buffaldorn Pass to near Boshkoep to arrive at 4 AM and capture any Boers crossing

Saturday 10 Frederikstad, Trans

Marched at 1 AM 320 NCO and men and after passing the outpost supports threw out advanced guard of B Squadron. Reached our post in front of Deelkraal at 4.45 and threw out a line of picquets as far as Buffaldorn pass. Placed Pom Pom with Capt Cameron and three troops in support. Reserve one mile in rear Gen ordered us to return at 10.20 ILH did not reach pass in time  
Sir James Millers Force did not reach us until late in the morning

Sunday 11

Some Boers fled across the Gatsrand and I sent report. Gathered six hundred cattle and large number of sheep and goats. The Gen fell back by center road Sir James Miller withdrew as rear guard to him. I fell back from the pass by successive march of troops. Boers sniped constantly Pom Pom opened on them. Threw out flank guards and returned to camp Sent half of the cattle and all the sheep by Boshhoek took half. Sniped at and opened with Pom Pom picqueted the hills

~~Monday 12~~ Saturday

hills and covered flank in that way which stopped it. One man wounded early in the day in carrying a dispatch to I.L.H. one captured horse shot. Got to camp at 6.30 30 miles today but half the corps 40 miles horses in good spirits.

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Nov

Frederikstad

Church parade at 9.AM spoke to regt re letter and

of \_\_\_ Gen sent eulogistic letter of work done yesterday. Court martial today on Sergt \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ for sending impertinent messages to Lt Fall.

~~Tuesday 13~~ Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Nov

Tuesday

Left Frederikstad at 4 AM arrived here at 8 AM and pitched tents. Got ready for a march tomorrow morning to take supplies for Gen Douglas to Clerksdorp.

Wednesday 14 Machairi(?) Stn

Marched from Pochefstroom at 5 AM covering front and right. A long convoy of 100 teams 1000 oxen. Picketed kopjes and kops and other points as \_\_\_ Advanced scouts came in contact with some of the enemy. Pte Stewart met two got two rounds killed on and drove the other off. Got Pom Pom ready but the enemy decamped General pleased with the scouting of the regiment.

Thursday 15 Spruit 8 miles from Klerksdorp

Marched from Machairi Station as rear and left flank guard weather hot felt well in morning but got nausea and vomiting in camp.

Friday 16 \_\_\_\_\_

Klerksdorp.

Arrived here in rain rode in ambulance sick, guns firing to our left all day Boers firing at Douglas column. Being sick took a room at the hotel and had a bad night of it. Stomach out of order.

Saturday 17 M\_\_\_ Stn

Arrived at 10.00 AM Nice day, cool. Rode in ambulance am sick. Stomach out of order Jarvis took command of regt for the day.

Sunday 18 Pochefstroom, Trans

Left Machairi at 5 AM rode in ambulance being too unwell to ride. Sick at the stomach and slight fever. Fine day. Arrived here at 9.10 AM 12 miles Letter from Baden Powell offering me a district and £1200 twelve hundred pounds per annum, wired saying I would accept it

Feel quite ill stomach and cannot take food.

The Boer lady wife of the Commissary(?) who with his ten sons are prisoners in ~~St Helena~~ Ceylon, gave me a nice cool room which helps very much to keep me better. Christie and Cartwright called to see how I am.

Monday 19 Pochefstroom, Trans

Weather fine, pleasant breeze, still unwell slight fever and nausea. Report that Canadian government will take Strathconas Horse as a permanent Mtd corps to be established with headquarters in the North West of Canada Pooley wires and wishes to stay in it all right if it is to be Imperial. Wired in reply by Mackie to have \_\_\_ \_\_\_ is not likely at all. Better for him to stay in the Royal F. Art

White Fraser at Bloemfontein.

Tuesday 20 Pochefstroom, Trans

Belcher arrived from hospital today. Some mistake made about the Constabulary and Johannesburg police Force. It appears that the men are wanted for the former and the officers too. I am sending Fall as Captain and Nelles as lieutenant to it. Some men on the way from hospital Sent 2 men on pass to Rhodesia.

Some patrols sent out. Wired for our California saddles

Wrote Major Gen G.A. French CMG, Sydney re Jack. Also to Major F White and others. Wrote Capt Boyd re ~~the~~ corps which he is to come to.

Wednesday 21 Pochefstroom, Trans

Weather fine but warm. Busy all day writing Several called to see me A young fellow named Scott was accidentally shot and killed after A Squadron came in. It is lamentable. He comes from Regina and has a brother in the Corps who is heartbroken. He was a good man and had gone through all of the work.

Thursday 22 Pochefstroom

Poor Scott service today

Fife and drums of the Coldstream Guards attended and played to and from camp. Christie sent them over a present of ale which was gratefully received. Fifty men ordered to Frederikstad under Christie \_\_\_ troop went too. Wrote a severe letter to Lt. Magee re his \_\_\_ \_\_\_ taking exception to Capt Mackies promotion for good service in the field. Wrote \_\_\_ Clarke, Mays, \_\_\_ Reginald and others. Got wire from Gen Baden Powell to the effect that I could have a couple of months leave. Christie, Leckie, Fall and Stevenson called. Jarvis too.

Friday 23 Pochefstroom,

Col. Gordon arrived today from the Cape

I wrote a great deal Sent report of outposts (Cherry) to the Cmdt A Squadron ordered to Klerksdorp but order cancelled. Gordon does wish to \_\_\_ \_\_\_

Saturday 24 Pochefstroom, Trans

Up early, feeling better until night arranged to go with regt tomorrow but L'homme propose & dieu dispose. I drank some milk at 10 P.M. and from that moment was sick and had to send word to the adjutant that I could not go tomorrow.

Made Col Gordon as comfortable as possible.

Sunday 25 Pochefstroom, Trans

Regt went out today with brigade 12 miles saw only a few snipers. Left at 4.30 and returned at 3.20 24 miles. Jarvis says that if the enemy had been there the flanks could not have been protected the general going too far to enable the flanking to be done properly by the corps the kopjes being too \_\_\_ and strong. Had a bad night of it, vomiting and generally sick caused by the milk \_\_\_

Monday 26 Pochefstroom, Trans

Up early. Feel better today Regt shifted camp at 6.30 A.M. to east bridge, good camp. Mackie got a house for the staff of the regt. Col Gordon Major Belcher and Jarvis, Mackie and self Kitchen dining room two bedrooms, very good place near our camp \_\_\_ about 100 yds off.

Rode to camp, the regt went around by the south bridge because the east one was not strong enough to bear guns. Took 1½ hours to go around. Terrific thunderstorm rain and hail came on at 3.45 P.M. this being the \_\_\_ rainy season we must expect it.

Marched very \_\_\_ and \_\_\_ for here \_\_\_ in \_\_\_ in the \_\_\_

Tuesday 27 Pochefstroom, Trans

Up early. Sent out 150 men under Major Jarvis to patrol and forage and send in Boer women and children.

Gen sent orders to be ready to entrain for Aliwal North in Cape Colony. O.C. Brabants Horse called about our patrol duties around the country. Arranged with him and got the order later on Aliwal North. \_\_\_ rian as usual in the P.M. Went around camp. ~~Called~~ and saw about everything

A Cape "Boy" \_\_\_ lightning(?) and two \_\_\_ in camp the "boy" at Station.

Jarvis got in at 8 PM they collected 250 head of cattle and lots of \_\_\_

Wednesday 28 Pochefstroom

Weather fine. Arrangements being made for our men to Aliwal North in Cape Colony.

One of our natives last night disobeyed orders and tied a horse to a tree. I heard it pawing in the night got him up and released the animal. The care of horses by some men is a secondary consideration.

Have ordered a \_\_\_ parade of horses by Major Belcher.

Thursday 29 – December 31 Blank

Cash Account – March

|                 |          |       |
|-----------------|----------|-------|
| 8 <sup>th</sup> | Thos ___ | Paid  |
|                 |          | 27.00 |

Cash Account – Summary

[a list of mileages travelled]

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| McM to Grootfontein            | 10          |
| Grootfontein to Pilgrims Rest  | 5           |
| Pilgrims Rest to M___          | 10          |
| M___ to Krugers Post           | 10          |
| Krugers Post to Lydenburg      | 15          |
| Lydenburg to Badfontein        | 20          |
| Badfontein to Helvetia         | 10          |
| <u>Helvetia to Machadadorp</u> | <u>10</u>   |
| Total                          | 90          |
|                                | 536         |
|                                | 233         |
|                                | <u>195</u>  |
|                                | <u>1254</u> |

[following blank page]

|                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| Durban to Eshowe | 110 |
|------------------|-----|

|                                      |           |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Eshowe to Durban                     | 110       |
| Newcastle to Ingogo                  | 10        |
| Ingogo to Zandspruit                 | 28        |
| Zandspruit to Paardekop              | 10        |
| Paardekop to Standerton              | 28        |
| Standerton to Platrand               | 15        |
| Platrand to Greylingstad             | 15        |
| Greylingstad to Vlakfontein          | 10        |
| Vlakfontein to Greylingstad          | 10        |
| Greylingstad to Vlakfontein          | 10        |
| Vlakfontein to Zuikerbosch           | 10        |
| Zuikerbosch to Heidelberg            | 15        |
| Heidelberg to Zuikerbosch            | 15        |
| Zuikerbosch to Vlakfontein           | 10        |
| Vlakfontein to Greylingstad          | 10        |
| Greylingstad to 1st camp on the hill | 10        |
| ___ day of one ___                   | 10        |
| Next day                             | 10        |
| Next day                             | 15        |
| Waterval                             | 10        |
| Waterval to Greylingstad             | 15        |
| Greylingstad to Waterval             | 15        |
| Waterval to ___                      | 10        |
| ___ to Pretoria                      | 15        |
| ___                                  |           |
| <u>Pretoria town to Standerton</u>   | <u>10</u> |
| Total                                | 536       |

## Back Endpapers

A. Belcher 51

Park St Grosvenor

Square London England

Standerton to Pretoria farm 10

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Pretoria Farm to Vla___lagte                 | 15        |
| Vla___lagte to Waterval                      | 10        |
| Waterval to Grootfontein<br>and Greylingstad | 10        |
| Greylingstad to Waterval bridge              | 15        |
| Waterval bridge to Platrand                  | 10        |
| Platrand to Standerton                       | 10        |
| Standerton to Paardekop                      | 28        |
| Paardekop to Amersfoort                      | 30        |
| Amersfoort to Klipkraal                      | 20        |
| Klipkraal to Vaal                            | 15        |
| Vaal to Ermelo                               | 15        |
| Ermelo – Drift                               | 15        |
| Drift to Carolina                            |           |
| including all moves                          | <u>30</u> |
|  | 233       |

|                              |    |
|------------------------------|----|
| Carolina to Twyfelaar        | 10 |
| Twyfelaar to Geluck          | 10 |
| Geluck to                    | 10 |
| - to Bergendal               | 10 |
| Bergendal to Machadadorp     | 15 |
| Machadadorp to Helvetia      | 10 |
| Helvetia ____                | 5  |
| Helvetia to Nooitgedacht     | 10 |
| Nooitgedacht to M___ farm    | 10 |
| ___ farm to Badfontein       | 10 |
| Badfontein to Lydenburg      | 20 |
| Lydenburg to Mauchberg       | 10 |
| Mauchberg to Devils Knuckles | 10 |
| Devils Knuckles to Spitzkop  | 10 |
| Spitzkop to ____             | 10 |
| _____ to Spitzkop            | 10 |
| Spitzkop to Sabre drift      | 10 |

Sabre drift to McMc

10  
195

