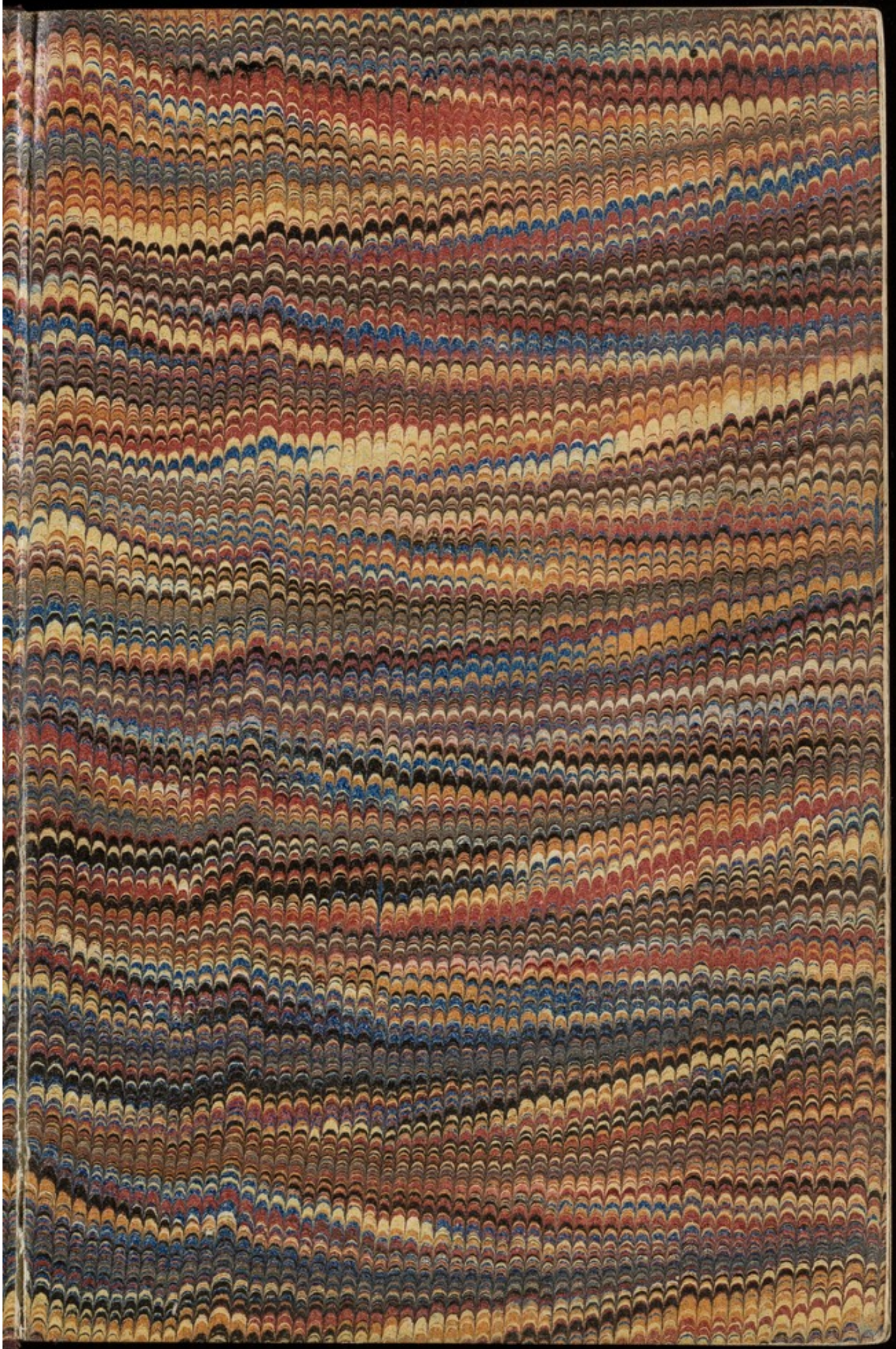

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J. Woods M.D.
45th Regiment

The Curragh
February 1864.

351

Died 8th June 1864
William Wallace Esq. M.D.
h.p. 14th Foot.
1 Church Lane, Morningside
Edinburgh

1864

Journal
in
Ireland
and
On the voyage to
Bombay
1864.

F. Wood W.O.
45th Regt

March to

Tuesday. March. 1st 1864.

The frost has left us for some days: but it is still cold, owing to east wind. Yesterday, he tried a second case in hospital with Smyly's improvement upon Holt's Dilator, for Stricture. The first case promises to be a complete cure. Miserable shifts to which the War Office is reduced to get candidates for Medical Department!

A short time ago the Secretary of State for War ordained that the Director General should recognize as a second diploma that of the Dublin Apothecaries! This can only tend to degrade the department; and further, the age has since been extended to 30 years.

there angling for "men who have failed in civil life", as one of the medical journals remarks. Few people not connected with the Department know how widely spread is the discontent among its members. Indeed, it is almost universal. There is some hope still; but it is mainly based upon the reflection that when things come to the worst they must mend. The Indian Medical officers have been quite as meanly dealt with, and their discontent is unmistakeable and profound. It is said that the War Office authorities have abandoned

the idea of amalgamating the British and Indian Medical services, after it has recommended by the commission appointed to consider the question.
I believe they will do well not to amalgamate them: both services would suffer in some respects; and I believe that nearly all the Indian Medical officers are against amalgamation. Yet it is absurd that up to this time the authorities should not have made up their minds on the subject, after years of deliberation!
It is said, too, that another Commission is sitting in

London to investigate ~~into~~ the ~~causes~~ subject of the discontent among the officers of the Army Medical Department and of the scarcity of candidates for the department —
Earl De Grey said so in reply to a question upon the subject.
There they go! Commission after commission, wasting time and money. There is a commission upon the subject every year now. When the Director-General could tell them in two words, if he chose, or if they would let him. "Broken faith", would be the answer.

8th March 1864.

Tuesday - Very cold yesterday - Snow falling heavily this morning when I got up. Felt unwell - dyspeptic from hepatic causes but too evident; and, as I have been in this state for about ten days, and as I felt unfit for duty, I reluctantly went upon the sick list, after seeing prisoners in the morning. This is the first time I have gone upon the sick list since I came home from India; although I have often been worse than I am now.

It has moved all day long; the snow melting as it fell

until towards nightfall, when it began to lie. It is but poor fun being on the sick list in them comfortless huts in this weather; the wind (north) whistling through every crevice. By the way, when the snow driven against the walls of the hut began to adhere, my room became sensibly warmer, the crevices being closed.

I read today that the steamer "Bohemian", on the American passage, is the eighth ship the Canadian Steam Ship Company have lost since 1857, and the 24th steamer which has been lost in the American line since steamers began to run on that

line, the ill-fated "President" being the first steamer lost.

10th March.

It was snowing heavily this time last year, I remember, the day the Prince of Wales was married, when I went up to the top of the Keep at the Castle, Dover, while the salutes were fired from ~~the~~ the batteries, the troops being under arms on the Esplanade in front of the town. The snow is melting. They have been similar weather in England and Scotland to what we have here. The detachments of various regiments

are beginning to arrive, for rifle practice at the Curragh. Speedy tells me he has nine admissions today from the 2 companies of the 12th which came yesterday. That is a large number; and some are grave cases – such as Pneumonia and Pleurisy. He has felt obliged to recommend that the rifle practice be not carried on at present, in such weather, with snow on the ground. Some of our fellows dined with the 15th Hussars at Newbridge last night. There was a lack of volunteers, and three

were told off. We had some of the 12th as guests last night: but there will be a larger number of guests to-night, 6 from three regiments — 18 if all come.

There are rumours of war again. The country is not satisfied with the conduct of the Ministry in the Danish affair; and the Houses of Parliament shew an inclination to sift the matter, and enquire into the conduct of the Ministry. The papers talk of the present state of affairs resembling that which preceded the Crimean

war, when Lord Aberdeen was shuffling and wavering. Lord Palmerston seems to think we ought to have aided the Danes, but to have yielded to the peace party in his Cabinet, headed by Lord Russell and Mr Gladstone. England cuts a sorry figure on the Continent at present, in consequence of the part she has played in this Danish difficulty. It is said, and I dare say with truth, that the Cabinet has been influenced by the Queen's wish for peace. The Prussians have our Queen's eldest daughter and

firstborn child for their future Queen Consort; and the Danes have just given us a wife for our future king. ~~and~~ Our Queen's adored husband has a German, and her mother was German. No doubt, there are strong reasons for the Queen viewing with horror a war against Germany.

Reading Evelyn's Diary lately - What a barbaric splendour it must have been, exhibited by the Russian ambassador (the Muscovy ambassador) when he came, 1663 with a grand retinue, laden with presents, to congratulate Charles II. on his restoration. It was

the ancestor of our present Lord Lieutenant,

Lord Carlisle, who went to Moscow to return the compliment, and to desire the re-establishment of the privileges of our merchants at Archangel, which had been taken away by the Czar who accused them of favouring the murdered King Charles, which he regarded with great abhorrence. Lord Carlisle was, thanks to the Czar's ministers, very ill received, and on leaving Moscow declined to take the presents which the Czar sent him. The Czar sent an ambassa-

dor to London to complain of this, but Lord Carlisle completely vindicated himself to the King.

"Lancet" of 5th March contains a good idea about ceilings of rooms, or ventilating hospitals &c. proposed by Mr J. Eltze.

The present plastered ceiling is done away with – the floor of the upper room is carried on iron deck-beams. Allow a space – say 2 ft – below the floor: then have a very light iron beam with flanges. If the span be large, it wd have to be attached by a light rod or two to the deck-beam. On the flanges of deck-beam sheets of light perforated metal are to be placed, and the ceiling is complete. It may be ornamented according to

taste. The thin perforated metal may be removeable to clean. Entrance of fresh air by external iron gratings, with slopes rising to keep the air from flowing down the halls - with moveable flaps to be closed when necessary.

Cases in "Lancet", March 5, of Gunshot Wounds in Confederate States Army - worthy of notice.

Dr. Baker Brown gives the results of 62 cases of Vesico-vaginal fistula treated in the London Surgical Home. 41 have been cured by the first operation.

Modes of operating practised by Dr. Marion Sims, of New York, and Dr. Bozeman - took 2 to 4

hours – modes of fastening the silver ligatures. at last adopted plan of simply twisting. B. uses another now – twists the ends of wire 3 times upon themselves. – no porte-aiguille necessary. Martin's tubular needle is used, the wire being passed after the needle has transfixed, as done by Simpson; or the wire run into eye of needle, which is then pushed through the tissues (Brown). Edges always pared carefully and thoroughly. The needle then passed through at the commencement of mucous membrane down to edge of denuded surface into the coats of bladder, wh. are very thick, but not going through them, into the mucous membrane. This, therefore, passed in

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deeply. Wire shd be placed close - twisted together, or cut off short - left for nine or ten days. Two positions - the lithotomy position, and that on the hands and knees, chest resting on bed. Gum-elastic catheter introduced, through which the patient passes urine.

Taking out the sutures is more difficult than putting them in. The vagina must be opened again, carefully introducing the speculum. "I always, if I can, remove the sutures on hands and knees - perineum raised a little with speculum, scissors, suture exposed.

In cases where there has been ex-

tension sloughing, with loss of whole of urethra, and parts having healed, patient not able to hold urine, the sphincter being destroyed – B. Brown makes a new urethra, making a puncture under side of pubis with a straight knife or trocar into the bladder, and introduces a catheter with Harper's apparatus attached. Three such cases have done well.

<u>Saturday</u> – 12th March.

Felt but little better today – still very dyspeptic – have been on sick list since Tuesday – Don't feel much better.

<u>Mem</u>. I have learned something by going upon the sick list. It was thought advisable to employ counter-irritation over liver; so I put on a fly blister for an hour on Tuesday night – some of

the plaster stuck to the skin, and in the morning I awoke to find myself with a blister of some six inches square well risen and intensely painful. In fact, I was almost beside myself with the pain for an hour or two until I got it dressed, and far from being without pain after that until the following day. I fear I have often made light of a patients' complaint that the blister hurt him, and I have learned a good lesson. It is now much milder than in the beginning of the week

The Railways in India.

East Indian — to be open all the

way to Delhi, except the bridge over the Jumna, by end of 1863 — a distance, including branches, of more than 1100 miles. Calcutta ~~Benares~~ to Benares 541 — Begun 1851 — to Burdwan, opened 1855; Adjai 58; Rajmahal 1859; Bhagulpore 1861; Monghyr 1862; Benares, Dec. 1863. In 10 years have been opened, including branches, a continuous length of 601 miles — 60 miles a year. — including Oudh sections, the rate has been nearly 90 miles a year.

The Soane bridge is nearly twice the length of the railway bridge over Thames at Charing Cross — 27 iron girders of 150 feet each, on brick foundations.

The East Indian does not

stop at Delhi, which is a little out of the direct road. A little below Delhi it divides, one branch to Delhi, other to Meerut, & joining again higher up. Here the united line joins the one from Lahore, now open towards Delhi as far as Umritzur. Thence it is constructing towards Moultan, already connected by a steam flotilla with Hyderabad in Scinde. From Hyderabad a line is open & working south-eastwards to Karachee, which opens up the most direct communication with the Punjaub.

March 15th 1864.

Visited Kildare Cathedral today for the first time. The remains of the old cathedral are not very striking, except in comparison with the building ~~what~~ now bearing the name, which is a mean, ugly, edifice of one apartment, with room for only about 200 people, if so many. Yet it has the stalls at the sides, near the door, with the words "Decanus" "Canonici", over them. Over the doorway is a tablet, plain and simple, in memory of Bishop Lindsay, the last bishop, who died in 1846 – my countryman, his native place being Balcarres. He was brother of the late Hon. Rev Hugh Lindsay of Balcarres.

There is a square tomb in the

porch, with a Latin inscription, in memory of some one of the name of Welsh. Two or three small sculptures of considerable antiquity in same place. Among the ruins of the old Cathedral are – the Vault of the Dukes of Leinster, with a rude effigy of a Knight in front of it, in erect attitude (not originally so, I think) representing Maurice Fitzgerald, one of the Leinster family, with the date 1575. Near this is an erect effigy of an ecclesiastic, mitred abbot, or bishop. In the adjoining graveyard there are few tombs marked with headstones. The Protestants are few in number here; not more than 50 attend worship in

Sunday, I was told.
The Round Tower is the great sight of Kildare. It is almost perfect. A modern addition seems to have been made to the top; instead of the usual conical top, there is a battlemented coping. The stones composing the part near the ground are of granite; higher up they become mixed, yet all the stones must possess great durability; for there is no crumbling in any part of the tower. The tower is of nearly the same diameter all the way up. On ~~the~~ one aspect it is tufted with grass and other weeds growing in the interstices of the stones – the side sheltered from the prevailing wind.

Our guide was an old bent man, about 75 years old - past work, as he told us, with a wife bed-ridden these two years, his three sons in America then seven years, and engaged in the war. He has not heard from them directly since the war commenced, but only of them through letters received by his neighbours. He has received no assistance from them for years, nor from any relative; and was in the Poor House, but came out to look after his bedridden wife, who may die any day. Poor old Paddy! In spite of his miserable condition, he had his laugh ready for any little

joke. Perhaps they are so long inured to such misery that their feelings are blunted; but look so they are a light hearted, buoyant people.

What a picture of poverty, decay, and squalor this wretched town of Kildare presents! There are not half a dozen houses of decent appearance in it. The best of them has an uncomfortable look. The houses of the poorest people are hovels of the meanest kind in which you can fancy people living in this country, a Christian land, with schools, and in this time of progress and improvement.

Some of these cabins are not above 12 or 14 feet in length inside, consisting of but one apartment, common to the human family, the pig, the dog, cat, and perhaps a fowl or two, if the people are not too poor to afford these ~~last~~ animals. The low walls of mud, the roof thatched; the low door, and the two holes about a foot square representing windows without any frame or glass, and merely stuffed with straw at night, and useful, like the door, to let out the smoke. To think that Christians should be living in this state at this time of day within 30 miles of Dublin!

We spoke to a tradesman-like man loitering about. He told us the young men and young women were all in America, "immigrated out", as he said. He said the poverty of the place was owing to there being too many landlords, and too many of them 'clargy,' who don't spend money in improving land, and to the land being too much sub-let — all which, I dare say, was more or less true. "Trade!" there used to be a dale o' carpenter-work to do: nun there's none."

The old guide showed us what must have been an old font, of simple

square shape, the material granite: according to him, it was a wart stone, and people come and wet their warts in the water which has collected in the basin, and leave a brass pin in it. How queer it is — it must be a brass pin. After all, it would make a metallic token, although perfectly powerless against the stubborn wart.

I find that Napier speaks of the 45th, as the stubborn old regiment, keeping its ground at Talavera, when McKenzie's brigade was surprised, and the Duke nearly captured in the

house in the wood where he was observing. Battles of the Peninsula p. 32

17th March - Thursday.

St. Patrick's Day - To me ushered in by the Irishmen of our band playing "St. Patrick's Day in the morning" through our lines about 6 a.m., a cold raw morning. St. Patrick's devotees were numerous and noisy all day. The Drums and fifes, aided by some of the brass instruments, of both regiments, 45th and 84th, seemed to be playing up and down the camp all day, either "St. Patrick's Day" or "Garry Owen". Each Irishman of course wore the shamrock in his cap, and most of them "drowned" it before the day ended.

Friday, 18th March.

A most lovely day; bright sun,

with a gentle breeze. There could not be a finer day at this season in this latitude. Went to fish in the mill-race at Great Connell, on the right bank of the Liffey, near the ruined monastery of that name. Caught only three paltry trout, but keenly enjoyed the delicious day and the scenery of the Liffey below Athgarvan.

Saturday, 19th March.

Keen about fishing – the weather almost too fine for that, however – I went to see what fishing was to be had in the brook called the Tully, to the south of Kildare. It runs into a large bog near the ruined church (Tully?) and a

mill- is insignificant, and at that part contains in this weather only very small trout not worth fishing for. I had not time to follow it through the bog far enough to get depth for fishing, and returned, taking an hour and a half to walk back to camp, walking fast.

Sunday, 20th March -

A beautiful day again. Walked after church to the bog where I was yesterday, further down the little stream. A countryman told me yesterday that there are 'whackin' big trout' to be got further down the bog, towards Nurney. At that place the stream is preserved by the Marquis of Drogheda, and is worth fishing.

Monday, 21st and two following days, cold, with east wind, but dry.

Our golfers are playing again.
A carpenter about camp has been found who has made a club head which passes muster, and is very good for a first attempt.

Heard from Mary, that the Peters are at Jullundur again, P. having got what he wished for, command of the left wing of the 5th N.I. He has been ill with a troublesome cold, but H. is well.

Wilkie Collins's "Queen of Hearts" new ed. – nothing more than a collection of stirring stories, very well told, certainly, and a good deal in the 'sensational' style of this author.

Tuesday, 29 Mar.

High winds of the equinox. Snow & hail yesterday. The last letter from Helen says that her husband has been very poorly, suffering from a severe cold; but that although he found severe symptoms, the doctor pronounced him organically quite sound.

Thursday, 31st March.

About two months ago Grant of the 84th showed me a patient of his with a suspicious tumour in the neck, which looked rather like aneurism.

He had a consultation upon the case yesterday, and it was pronounced to be aneurism of the carotid close to the bifurcation. on right side.

~~The~~ Grant operated today, tying

the common carotid – the patient well under chloroform all the time. The artery was clearly isolated before ligature. I thought that it was laid bare rather too much; and ~~I thought~~ that the ligature seemed to be rather too much tightened.
One wire suture was put in, the rest of external wound brought together with plaister. Temperature of tumour noted after operation.

Friday, 1 April.
Sent in an application for leave from 5 April to 5 May, recommended by Speedy and Col. B.; but the P. M. O. regretted he could not forward it owing to paucity of medical officers in Camp – Griffin

and myself being the only assistant-surgeons in camp – Hyde just gone on leave, and Martin not coming back until the 7th. Speedy spoke to P. M. O. and returned the application for consideration on the ground that it was the only chance I shd. have, the regiment going to India soon; but P. M. O. regretted he cd. not grant the request at present.

An order came this morning for the medical inspection of the regiment as to fitness for service in India; and we have been busy all day. Speedy examined them all in the ~~end of~~ early winter.

Monday, April 11th 1864.
Mary writes to say that she has heard a letter from Helen with bad news of poor Charles. Poor Helen! Hers is a sore trial, alone and friendless with her sick husband, her fears pointing to the worst. May God be merciful to her!

Wednesday, 13th April
A letter from my father, from Perth, to announce the death of my aunt Helen Wood at Tay House on Monday morning at ½ past 5, from sore throat. She was taken ill on Wednesday last with cold and sore throat; the doctor only called in on Friday morning, when the 'throat was all but closed', and

a tube had to be put in to give her breath" Diphtheria. Poor aunt! She must have suffered greatly: but her age was advanced. She has been a strong healthy woman as far as I know. My poor father remarks - "We are in "the midst of troubles; and I dread "the next accounts from India".

This day also a letter from poor Helen at Peshawur, of 3d March, by Southampton. Her poor husband has been very ill indeed, and delirious, but seems to have been rather better when she wrote. He was very ill when at Naoshera, and had not the benefit of regular medical attendance, the medical men having often moved with their corps. Dr Constant was last in attendance and very kind.

The left lung was implicated, probably with pneumonia, but there is a suspicion of phthisis. She has a good constitution, however, and has passed the age when that disease is most formidable. Poor Helen has suffered most keenly, but evidently bears up, although she seems to have made up her mind at one time that he would never recover. Poor fellow! when very ill, his name not being on the sick list, he received an order to go to one of the frontier forts, and did not like to complain after receiving such an order, wishing to avoid the appearance of being backward in duty. May God be merciful to them both.

Mary's letter and mine (from H.) were posted same day.

19th. ~~March~~ April.

Tuesday. High wind and clouds of dust. First day of races - "Curragh Spring Meeting." Wrote to Mr. Monsell in another application for leave from 25th. to 25th. May.

Sunday, 24th. April -

A note from Mary enclosing part of a letter from Helen of date 18th. & 19th. March. Peter rather better, but still far from well. My leave arrived from the Director General - at least his sanction to my applying first.

Tuesday, 26th April.

My leave, sent in on Monday, through the Col. to the General, will probably arrive tomorrow; and I got Col.'s permission to anticipate it by starting tomorrow.

Atkinson left hurriedly last week, his father being seriously ill: and Leach had a telegram on Friday to say that his father was dying, and L. left next day. His father died before he reached home.

Wednesday 27th

To Dublin by 9.45 train.

Left Dublin 3 p.m. by the "Lord Gough" for Glasgow.

Thursday, 28th

Arrived at Glasgow about 9 a.m. Went to Patrick-

Mrs. Kyle first left for London.

Monday 2nd May. To the Infirmary – The hour of visit is 8.30 a.m., which does not suit me very well. Went round several wards with Dr. Wilson, one of the house surgeons – Lister's, I think. Three cases of excision of the wrist, which seems to answer well – Lister's and Lyons' cases – the former, I think, is almost the originator of the operation. One case, operated on 10 mths ago, is likely to be a good ~~[illegible]~~ – the girl can hold a needle by this time, and ~~[illegible]~~ can perform all the movements of the wrist. Incision too, on

dorsum, about 2 inches apart, parallel - whole of carpus removed, & lower ends of radius and ulna, and part of metacarpal bones. Recovery is tedious.

~~Wednesday~~.

The hospital is not very neat to look at, and I thought it a little untidy, compared with our military hospitals: but I know between the patients receive liberal diet.

The operating theatre is good, although small. Situated in the upper storey of the new surgical house, well lighted from

the roof. Went to the Hospital for Skin Diseases, or rather Dispensary, in John St. — Dr. Buchanan and Dr. McCall Anderson — the latter of whom I saw. not many patients today — Sycosis & eczema — with itch. A case very strongly resembling itch, but also on face — in a young woman a milkmaid at a dairy — it always broke out when she went there. The beds of the cows were diseased, she said.

Tuesday, 3rd May.

To "the Cooking Depôts", for which Glasgow is now famous.

established by Mr Corbett, (a Conseiller). The depôt I visited was that in Trongate – two or three flats, one separate place for females – rooms large, well-lighted with windows of plate glass. The rooms are not carpeted – lighted with gas at night – tables capable of holding six or eight covers – with forms to sit on – tables covered with nap-cloth. pepper and salt on each table. I had the ordinary dinner at 4½ – 1 pint of good thick soup

containing pens. of good flavour, minced collops and potatoes, and stewed rhubarb. Instead of the mince I might have had beef, and rice pudding or plum-pudding in stead of the rhubarb. Many other things by paying extra. A bowl of porridge 1d.; bowl of milk 1d., of tea or coffee 1d., bread 1d. good slice of cold meat 2d. & so on. Went to the Central cooking Depôt in Pitt Street off Argyle St., where the offices of the proprietor is, and where the stoves are kept, and most of the cooking Done. A large well lighted building. Kitchen contains a

row of cauldrons of iron, the peculiarity of which is that they are made with two skins. Steam is generated outside, led along at the back of the boiler, and by a pipe introduced into the hollow skin of the boiler, by which the cooking is effected.
Vegetable slicing machine lately introduced here, made by Nelson - worked by steam - saves a great deal of trouble, is cleaner, and does work better. It can mince about 60 lbs of carrots in about a minute.
The turnips, carrots, cases

other vegetables I saw
seen of ~~very~~ excellent
quality. Bakery also
under same roof.
In the kitchen were working
some half dozen lasses
of most sturdy build. one
a perfect ~~female~~ Amazon,
comely and strapping, with
magnificent arms and
shoulders, not above twenty
years of age I thought.
From one of the branches
I saw receipts for £18 in
a day — one branch on Satur-
day drew only £8.. 10 - while
on Friday it drew the
sum I have mentioned.
There are some 1200

ladlesful of soup sent out here in a day – the measure is something like 4 pints. They use about £40 worth of coffee in a month. £300 paid for tea the other day.

Wednesday, 4th May.
To Infirmary at 8.30 a.m.
has introduced to Dr Morton
and Dr Lyon. Dr Morton
operated for scrof. dis.
of knee in a youth of 17-
8 years standing. Amputation
method - curved anterior
flap - first cut the
hamstrings to prevent
retraction of flap.
Dr Geo. Buchanan consulted
with Dr Lyon in case brought
in night before from Argyle
shire - 7 weeks ago sustained
an injury, whereby the upper
jaw appears to have been
fractured - bleeding at intervals
through a wound in cheek,

opening to the inside and outside – the cheek has from time to time become distended with blood; and the clot suppurated.
Yesterday an arterial bleeding occurred, the stream issuing from the outer wound as large as a crowquill.
The probe passed through antrum ~~nearly~~ a way below the ear, apparently past the carotid. Blood rolled into mouth. After a brief consultation, in which we also discussed the mode of procedure – plugging and hemostatics – operation as

if for removal of upper maxilla, then getting to ~~seat~~ origin of hæmorrhage — and 3dly, tying carotid. The latter was adopted without loss of time. Dr Buchanan tied the artery in about 12 or 15 minutes from commencing, operating very neatly, steadily and coolly. No chloroform.

Thursday 5th May. Visited the Royal Lunatic Asylum at Gartnavel, having a note of introduction from one of the directors to Dr McIntosh, the physician-superintendant. It stands on elevated ground to the west of Glasgow, commanding a good view of the surrounding country, particularly ~~to~~ to the southward,

towards the Clyde. The building consists of two principal divisions, the East and West Houses — the latter much the larger and more elegant of the two, for the reception of patients, male and female, who pay for their board and maintenance — the former for paupers or poor patients. The building, in the baronial style, appears admirably adapted for the purpose. The galleries or saloons in the ladies house, with the bedrooms and parlours opening off them, are noble rooms of great length, handsomely furnished, and well lighted, and like all the bedrooms ~~and~~ which I saw, remarkably cheerful and bright

in appearance. The comfort of the patients is carefully studied. A bright and cheerful light is considered indispensable. Many of the ladies and gentlemen have these elegant private rooms, with their pictures, books, pianos &c. Saw a padded room in which lay a pallet bed. The patient was up and out airing. His paroxysm had passed; as the glass containing flowers shewed which stood by his pillow, and the newspapers which lay ready to his hand. He was a man of fortune, subject to paroxysms of the most violent, furious mania.

There were about 400 patients

in the Lomond. The architect was Mr. Wilson, who travelled on the continent for some time to study the best models. The building is considered of high ~~excellence~~ merit. The architects fees amounted to £1000. The building was erected some 20 years ago. Glasgow is fast creeping around it. and Dr. Ric. says "We must move. the grounds is too valuable." It has been talked of as a barrack; but that plan will be certainly to be strongly opposed, as the best end of the town will not be rendered more attractive by

a barrack and its belongings. Sixty thousand pounds was the sum talked of as the price ~~of the~~ to be paid by the Government.

The physician-superintendent has two assistants, at £100 a-year with everything found. The building is the handsomest of the kind in Scotland; and somewhat in the United Kingdom. It is like the palace of a nobleman of the highest rank, in everything except in the furniture of a few rooms. An American Commission which lately visited the Asylum of this County is said to have given the

galen to Sartrand.
The female warders are
splendid young women -
One was a female Boreales
in size of shoulders and of
limbs, about 5 ft. 9 in height,
and comely withal. Another
who opened some doors for us
was, the Doctor said, not
very big, but very strong.

~~Monday~~ ~~x~~ ~~E~~ ~~May~~ 1864.

While at my Aunt's house at
this time I learned some parti-
culars about her mother (our
maternal grandmother;) family,
the Neills of Port-Glasgow.
Saw a letter from her father,

my mother's grandfather,
George Neill, to his son
James Neill. It is written
from Port-Glasgow, where
Mr. Neill held a post in the
Customs, and is dated in 1784.
It was sent by the "Jenny", Capt.
—, to Mr. James Neill, to
the care of Messrs.
at Lafayette, North Carolina.
It would appear from the letter that
James Neill had lately gone out
to N. Carolina to the mercantile
office of Messrs.
and that this was one of his father's
first letters to him. The letter
is a good one, well expressed,
sensible, and very kind and
gentlemanlike in its tone, evincing

a liberal mind. This James Neill seems to have left America and gone to India. The other sons were John, George, Charles.
Our grandmother was their only sister. Margaret Neill, also mentioned in the letter. Aunt Kyle never saw any of her uncles but Charles, who visited her after her marriage. She has a writing desk of his. One of the brothers commanded a ship during the French war, and was taken prisoner by the enemy; but I do not remember whether he was in the Royal Navy or not.

One of the brothers was. Many of his gay dresses used to be about his sisters house.
Their mother was Margaret Brown, daughter of

One of these Neills, , was remarkable for his handsome figure and good looks. William Stall must have seen more than one of his uncles.
I learned for the first time that our dear Mother was brought up until she was fourteen or sixteen years old at Invermay, near Perth, and was taken home after her mother died to look after her

younger sisters Jane and Helen, now Mrs. Kyle and Mrs. Bennet. The Murrays of Inverway had a very great friendship for our Grandfather, Mr. Ashmore, and for thirty years he was a weekly visitor at Inverway. Col. Hepburn Murray Belshes used to come in to Perth for him almost every week; and the two sons said Mr. Ashmore's head in the grave, although William Hall was present at the funeral. Our dear mother was called after Mrs Murray, Mary Murray Ashmore; and was brought up as an adopted

daughter. One of her rings is from Mr. Murray, containing her hair, and inscribed with her name. Some of my mother's books, too, were presents from the Murrays or Belsher — Miss Edgeworth's works, for example.

From all accounts, the friendship existing between Murray Belsher and Mr. Ashmore must have been very remarkable. At Inverness they thought nobody was like Mr. Ashmore, who certainly must have been a man of singular attractiveness, both of mind and person; an accomplished artist, musician, antiquary, and geologist — for the time at least.

Tuesday 10th May

Had last night at our old lodgings, at Mr Goodrich's. Visited the Infirmary at noon, with Playfair, my old classfellow – Dr W. S. Playfair, whom I met in Princes St. He is attached to King's College Hospital London, as assistant lecturer on ~~Obstet~~ Obstetrics, and is aiming at working into a practice in that line. He has lately married a Miss Kitson, from near Leeds. Saw Syme operate – removed a cancer from lip, and an apparent cancerous prepuce. Went round with Bedford.

Monday, 15th May 1864.

My uncle told me today of a story of his fatheri people. Some one of the district had a very wild unmanageable horse whom nobody could control; "send for the lads of Walpie, and they'll manage him, said one of his friends. The 'Lads o' Walpie' were celebrated for their prowess. Walpie was the name of a farm in Roxburgshire where my grandfatheri people were settled. Our grandfather James Wood had received a good education, where, I have not made out. He had brothers, Thomas, John, of whom one

settled at Dalkeith.
His wife, Elizabeth Wilson, was a native of Roxburghshire.
A Dr. Wilson who died at Currie a few years ago seems, my uncle says, to have been a relative of his mother's; and my uncle regrets that they did not make further inquiries, as Dr. Wilson died without heirs, and the lawyers had to advertize for relations.
Dr. Wilson had long enjoyed a good practice, and had made a considerable amount of money.
Mrs. Wood's (our grandmother's) native place

Our grandfather had two sisters – the elder became Mrs. Merricks; the younger, Jean, died at Perth in. The late James Merricks of Roslin was the son of this Mrs. Merricks, whose husband had the powder mills near Roslin. The late James Merricks was brought up after his mother's death by his grand-aunt Miss Jean Wood, at Dalkeith. The Merricks came from England, introducing the manufacture of Gun-powder to Roslin. The business descended to

James Merricks, and ought to have been wholly his; but two cousins of his, Hezekiah and John, contrived to get into it. A Mr Shay was taken into the business, principally on account of his capital. James Merricks left an only child, who is now married to a Mr Johnston, in business in Edinburgh as a tanner, and, as I am told, in good circumstances. Thomas Wood appears to have left no family. He was a man of great firmness and strength of character, at the same time full of

fun and humour. He used to visit his brother James once a year, and his visit was looked for with great delight by his nephews and nieces, whom he amused to their satisfaction.

The marriage of our grand-aunt Wood with Mr James Merricks's father, was, I am told, a runaway match — why, I don't know: but girls thought nothing of it in those days. I sh^d, however, like to know what was the ~~cause~~ ground of her parents objection to Mr Merricks, who must have been a thriving man.

WALLACE.—At Morningside, Edinburgh, on 8th instant, William Wallace, Esq., M.D., late 14th Regiment of Foot, son of the late William Wallace, Esq., LL.D., Professor of Mathematics in the University of Edinburgh. Friends are requested to accept of this intimation.

Saturday, 21st May.

Having come on from home to Edinburgh yesterday evening, I took the 10.15 a.m. train to Glasgow, this morning.

Yesterday, Miss Peter arrived at home, before I left.

Arriving in Glasgow, I went down to Partick: all the family at Barassie, except Maggie. Went to see my cousin at Berkeley Terrace. She has not yet recovered her looks.

Went out to Busby at 2 o'clock; staid until Monday. Saw something of Lanarkshire life. On Saturday evening, we went to a house, about 2 miles off, a small lairdship - the Daughter was a joke with us, being worth (they say) £20,000. Papa is

1st June 1864.

Left the Curragh for Dublin this afternoon, marching with the wing under Major Johnstone. As far as Naas, and put up there for the night. Bright warm weather: roads very dusty.

2nd June. Started from Naas about 5 a.m., and marched until 8.30 or 9, with occasional short halts. Breakfasted at

. Reached Dublin about half past twelve or one, very dusty and not a little tired.

14th July 1864.– The Colonel rec.d a letter saying that the "Donald McKay" has been reported ready to receive her portion of the 45th at Cork on 20th of this month – the "Star of India" at same place on 26th of this month – the letter from the Quarter-Master General.

Dublin.

27th July - Friday.

The baggage went tonight to Cork, accompanied by Capt. Preston's company, Nº 8. The men mustered well, and all got off in good order. Martin accompanied as qmr. officer.

One sad event occurred to make things unpleasant, poor —— being placed under arrest for being drunk.

The remainder of Head-quarters go to Cork tomorrow evening. The weather has been splendid for about a fortnight. Broke yesterday, with thunderstorm, but is still rather fine.

Dublin to Cork.

23rd July

Saturday. The headquarters left Kingsbridge Station, Dublin, for Cork, by the 8.30 p.m. train. The troops on their march from Beggars Bush Barracks through the streets of Dublin, headed by the regimental band, and the bugle-band bringing up the rear, were accompanied by a considerable crowd, gradually increasing in numbers, consisting of the greatest roughs of Dublin. The crowd became rather troublesome at the station, crowding upon the soldiers so as to block up the way, and some of us were hustled and squeezed in a very unpleasant manner.

some of the rowdies in the front of the crowd were very turbulent and insolent, resenting the necessary efforts of the soldiers to keep them back as unjust violence. Fortunately few if any blows were exchanged, and at last we got into the station. I had seven sick men in a Military Train Ambulance – no serious cases. Sir George Brown, Commander in Chief in Ireland, came to the station to see the regiment off – a compliment he has not, I believe, paid to any of the other regiments leaving Dublin on foreign service, and was well pleased with

the appearance and behaviour of the men.

24th July, Sunday.

We arrived at Cork about 5 a.m. Nothing of consequence occurred on the journey. At Portarlington station a large crowd of friends and sweethearts were awaiting us – the regiment having made friends at Portarlington, while at the Curragh, and having recruited there during the past winter.

After arriving at Cork where we were received by Genl. Bloomfield, we embarked without delay on board a small steamer, which carried us down river to the "Donald McKay"

lying off Monkstown, a little ~~below~~ above Queenstown. Fine weather.

The salt beef had been condemned on Saturday by the officers who examined it, Dr. Anderson (the P.M.O. at Cork), Capt. Cow (embarking officer) Dr. Martin 45th R.V. The ship's agent had to telegraph to Liverpool at once for a fresh supply of salted beef, which detains the ship for two or three days.

Monday 25th July.

Went on shore after 2 p.m. to Cork, and saw a little of the town. Did not think very

"Donald McKay" off Monckstown.

much of it as a town. The quays are good, very commodious. The Assizes being held in the town. Believe I saw Mathew of 54th in the street. I think he came home from India the other day with invalids. Dined at an early table-d'hôte at the Victoria, very good and cheap. Intended going out to Blackrock to see Dr. Anderson on business, but felt somewhat down up and slightly unwell. Coming down in the train in the evening to Queenstown I was pleased to meet Minchear, late Captain 83rd, an old friend. He is living the life of a country gentleman in this neighbourhood.

Off Monckstown.

Was invited to meet him at the Queenstown Club next day, but could not get away from the ship conveniently. Paid in the evening, when we reached the ship.

26th Tuesday.

Did not leave the ship today, being rather busy.

Band and bugle-band played in evening, attracting many boats around the ship from the neighbouring shore.

Some rather nice-looking people came on board, and the poop was rather gay for an hour or two. There were one or two really pretty girls among the visitors. It was very

good fun to all these nice people, who perhaps did not think that he might be rather sorry than otherwise.
The weather delightful.

Wednesday, 27th July.

The Principal Medical Officer came off to the ship. The "Fyfe" chain had not arrived, and Dr. Anderson was at first resolved to prevent the ship's sailing: but telegraphed to the Inspector Genl. at Dublin, who returned answer that the ship need not be detained.
Rained in evening.
The salt beef arrived by steamer today.

Thursday, 28th July.

Weighed anchor at 8.15 a.m. and went down river towards a

Couple of steamers. Webber and Gage, senior, stayed on board until the pilot left us. Weather good, but some motion, and a good many people sick. Rain at night

Friday, 29th July 1864.

Good weather, but wind not fair. Ship as yet dirty. Evening close, and rather wet.

Saturday, 30th ~~of~~ July.

Light wind. Tacking. At noon standing towards centre of Bay of Biscay, in line wh. wd. run within 30 miles of Cape Finisterre. Foggy for most part of day.

Went round ship carefully this morning with the Colonel, the Master of the ship, &c.

The ship already becoming cleaner, but much attention will be necessary to ensure proper cleanliness. I see further corroboration of my first opinion that the ship is not very well adapted for a troop-ship.

Many people sea-sick then two days past: some of the women and children very helpless.

Yesterday, some spare berths in the women's part of the ship were altered, giving six berths in a sick-bay for sick women. We have already had two berths since we embarked — both cases doing well, in spite of wonderful discomfort.

Sunday 31st July.
Ship rolling greatly in morning, and not doing much.
Air very close and moist in forenoon: in evening dry and clear.

Monday, 1 Aug.
Weather fine. Light wind and fair. Spoke ship "Chimera", of Liverpool, 150 days from Kurachee, with cotton and seeds; rather short of bread. She sent a boat on board, and got flour, and some tobacco. Sent letters by her, two home, and one to Mares, photographer, Dublin. She had met with

light winds, and its heavy.
We are going with
Stns sails set, but wind is light.
Many people sick yet.
Lat. 46° N.
Long. 14° W.

Tuesday, 2d. Aug.
Fine weather, light wind,
and calm sea. Wind fair,
but very light after noon.
Ship becoming cleaner.
Not enough men on deck at
night - Not the ⅓ of regulation.
Decks tolerably clean. Pigs in
a very objectionable place.

Wednesday
3d. Aug. } Fine weather. Wind light and
unfavorable. Sea calm. Temperature
very pleasant. Came to an arrangement

about protecting the men who sleep forward on main deck from the odious smell of the herd of unclean beasts quartered under the forecastle. Lat. 43° 57′ N.
Long. 15′ 33 W.

The Captain informs me that the Distilling apparatus can produce 500 gals. of water in a day. The apparatus appears to have got rather out of order of late.

Thursday 4 Aug. } Becalmed, or very nearly so, the whole day; and heat considerable. Several of our young fellows took a pull in one of the life boats in the evening. ~~[illegible]~~ Arrangements made about affording to the women an opportunity of bathing at an

early hour, in a place screened off, on the lee-side. Mooning up yesterday and today.

Friday, 5th Aug.

Weather warm; sea calm, and wind light. Making little way.

Saturday 6th Similar weather.

Sunday. 7th Almost becalmed. Weather hot. A soldier and his sweetheart ~~[illegible]~~ married quietly before breakfast this morning by the Captain of the ship. The girl had been allowed to come on board at the last moment, being engaged to be married to the soldier (Pte. Hills). Odd that they cd. not have had time to get married by the Chaplain who was on board ~~[illegible]~~

while we lay above Queenstown. Divine service under the awning on the poop.

The hospital corporal got drunk yesterday and was very disagreeable: so that I felt disposed to send him to his duty once for all. He was admonished this morning by the Colonel, who left it to me whether I shd. send the corporal to his regimental duty or not.

Monday 8th Aug.

Three women falling sick. Weather hot. Wind light and variable. Nights dewy. Martin sick – tonsillitis, and

generally out of sorts.

Tuesday, 9th Aug.

Weather bright. Wind fond. At noon, a brisk breeze - ship beating. Martin on sick list. A good many sick, between women and children.

17th Aug. Hatchway in women's quarters opening into hold, or store room, opened today - very bad odour from decaying stores, which are becoming bad for want of air. Obliged to consent to a shaft being made continuous with the hatchway and with the ventilator directly above it, so as to carry the effluvia on deck; although women's quarters are thus deprived of fresh air.

25th August. For some days past I have had sad thoughts about this day last year. My poor mother's sufferings ended in death this day last year. I felt as if my home were not the same place now. Going out to India before, when I thought of what I should write home, my chief thought seemed to be how my mother would like this or that; and even now I seem to find myself thinking much the same thoughts for a moment. Yet I ought to be very thankful that I have my kind father and brothers and sisters left, with the old home to go to.

At this time we were beating down towards the line. Weather squally, with occasional showers. (On the 22d. we had a touch of the Monsoon. Very wet all day and greater part of night. Cabins wet, especially the lower cabins. On the Troop deck not so wet as I expected 23d. Wet for half the day - heavy rain as yesterday. Few dolphins caught.) —

29th August. Monday.

Crossed the equator today in Long. 30° W., with a moderate breze, running S.S.W.

30th August. Tuesday.

Was upset last night with sick woman. One birth this morning; and one

poor child died, after an illness of some weeks, from hydrocephalus, upon which supervened bad sore throat. The burial took place only between three and four hours after death. Tendency to Diphtheria suspected. Two other children with suspicious sore throats.

<u>31st August</u> Sx.

Standing S. S. W. towards coast of S. America. Wind about noon dead against us from S. S. E. On the night of 29th we passed about 28 miles to windward of Fernando Noronha. Had we passed in daylight

we might have seen part of the island, one hill on which, the Pyramid, rises to a height of 500 feet. Twoor three days past have been rather hot but for the brisk breeze. I seemed to feel the sun more the last two or three days; perhaps because I have been out of sorts for some days.

Spoke a New York whaler yesterday, a bark, Mr Barnstaple, New York, bound for the South Seas.

Friday, 2nd September.

Fine weather, moderate breeze. Great improvement in the weather; as one seemed to feel upon getting up. All the patients seemed to be better, as one might have expected.

Lat. 14° 5' S. Long. 36° 59' W.
The sun set over towards the Brazilian coast in great beauty – a few flecks of cloud drifting past. ~~[illegible]~~ the spot where the sun disappeared, the back ground first burnished gold, melting into azure, in which the new moon, or other crescent of silver; ~~[illegible]~~

Saturday, 3. Sept.
Lat. at noon 17° 12' S.
Long.
Very fine weather, like yesterday; the effects of which are seen in the improved health of men, women, and children.
Sti hot in the sun; not wa-

1864.

pleasantly so in the shade.
Sky bright and clear in
all directions, except a few
isolated ~~cloudy~~ clouds.
Sea only moved by a long
ripple. Sunset magnifi-
cent; the effect kindly im-
proved by the young moon.
What a wide stretch of the
horizon was lit up thus by the
golden colour, shaded off
into a greenish blue, then,
higher up, a faint rosy tint
seeming ~~to~~ partly to hide the
blue (this was due to thin
cloud deriving faint light from
below, I believe); here the
young moon with up-turned
crescent of bright silver, bearing

the dark part of her spire like a gem in its setting; then a long low bank of cloud, dark above, its lower edge borrowing the golden hue from below; and above all the deep blue of the night spangled with brilliant stars. The surface of the sea, a dull blue rippling expanse, was the contrast to the brilliant hues of the sunset, its edge standing out clearly as if cut with a knife.

For the last two nights the Cabins have not been unpleasantly hot, and sleeping

been more grateful.

From pocket Diary.

17th Augt.

Diarrhœa, slight, among children. 2 or 3 cases. Prickly heat also. Tonsillitis, a tendency to. Weather very hot; air moist. One slight shower of rain on night of 15th. Heavy dews. One man, Sunday last, had a fit of epileptiform kind - had been in the sun - has been in India, a sailor - says he had a sun-stroke - name, Dunn, no 10 Company.

Have had a good trade wind for 5 or 6 days. It fell, & changed last night. Hospital rather crowded with men's packs. 18th Water brackish this afternoon, when served out, from Condenser - latter part of issue.

22d Augt. A touch of Monsoon-like weather.

very wet all day, & most of night.
Cabins wet. Not so wet between decks as
might expect. 23d. Wet half the
day. 2 dolphins caught.
23d Evening. Cleared up. fine night -
quite dry. 24th Fine. moderate
breeze - Dry. Bedding well aired and
sunned. The decks soon as dry as usual,
except where they leak. Both main
and upper decks leak at certain points -
have been caulked here & there, but are
not cured of leaking. Boils & one throat
prevail. not to great extent. Spoke to
Colonel about adhering to regulation
of $\frac{1}{3}$ of the men on deck at night -
hitherto very imperfectly carried out,
and recommended it strongly. He said a
large No. of men here had worked during
day, & could not well be made to be on deck at
night.

8th Sept. 1864. Thursday.

A fresh breeze and high sea since 11 p.m. last night.
Weather fine.
Lat.
Long.
Bar.
Therm.

Shipping water over the waist.
Carried away several sails during night. Captain on deck nearly all night, the first mate being sick.
It is now too wet at night for men sleeping on deck all night, as they have foolishly been doing hitherto. Spoke again to the Colonels yesterday about it.

The men are to keep watch
them: half the watch to
remain below or asleep
deck for 4 hours, going
to sleep if they choose, but
not turned in; the other
half on deck for 4 hrs:
not to go to sleep. Keeping
watch for 4 hours in the
ordinary way considered
objectionable because the
whole watch may get
wet and turn in so: in
the way proposed the half
may get wet, while the
other half are occupying
space below, which the
regulations try to prevent.
Tick list veering again.

another born this morning; and another child likely to die. Women a few cases of Rheumatism, and Paronychia, Bubos, from straining on board ship.

24th Augt. Contd. – "but that if health of men seemed to suffer he shd. carry it out. My object was prevention, rather than cure. More women reported sick today than on any previous day. Lat. 8° 24' N
Long. 24° W.

25th Augt. Squally, with slight showers. Sick list increasing. One troublesome eye case (Osborne) rather worse. Clothes wet with sol. Chlor. of lime hung in weather ports in women's quarters. Bad smell in steerage cabins last night,

proved to arise - partly from damp articles in cabins, and partly from the after store-room, the hatchway of wh. opens into steerage. Cloths soaked in s. c. of lime laid over hatch. A consid. no. of women sick today. Generally speaking, children better.

27th Augt. Weather fine - Capt. thinks we have got trade.

28th - Augt. Wind fool again - weather hotter than yesterday. Sick, about 26. No serious cases.

29th. Fresh breeze. Ship heading S.W. towards N.E. coast of S. America. Air rather damp, disposing to rheumatism.

Plenty of air circulating through ship. - No prospect of tennis for

cooking for sick - moral all provided. Obliged to borrow from Ship's cook.
A suspicious case of throat-disease in a child (Moorhead), who has been ill with hydrocephalus - like Diphtheria. Abundant support. Purifying women's quarters still more carefully. Observe a good deal of dirt on the troop decks along the water-ways. Proposed to Col. to wash this part of ship all ~~over~~ round, and apply Sol. Chlor of Lime.
Feel ~~poorly~~ myself.
30th Augt Up all night with Sergt Griffiths wife - her first confinement in a bunk of very small dimensions, scarcely room to turn.
At 8 a.m. Moorhead's child died, of

Cork to Bombay.

diphtheria, no doubt. Two other children with sore throat, with streaks of whitish deposit.

Weather hot, but breezy.

Passed Fernando di Noronha yesterday.

Crossed equator 29th Aug. in long. 30 W.

31st Aug. Wind S.W. dead against us.

Another case of conjunctivitis - has been ailing 2 days - probable cause, heat. First time attack

1st September. Weather fair. Sea high. a brisk breeze.

Feel very relaxed and out of sorts. The eye cases all due to sleeping on deck or

Cork to Bombay.

Bleing on deck at night.
Women & ch. sick list falling.
2d Sept. Wind more favble - a fine fresh, breezy day. Sick list looking better. Two eye cases better, & 3d no worse. Children nearly all better. Troops rigidly inspected as they every daily. One very slight case detected today.
3d Septr. Weather fine - wind light.
Sick l. 23. Women & ch. doing well; except that a few of them are said to be becoming 'lousy'. Also said that some of them have been venting spite against a sergeant's wife, who, they think, carries herself too high, by insinuating putting lice upon her clothes! Women's 'apartments' tolerably clean and fresh: but I do not like the numerous garments hanging up all over the bunks. These all require frequent airing, wh. they seldom

get encrusted upon the persons of their owners. Besides clothing, there are many 'duds' of various sorts folded up and placed in the bunks. These ought to be carried on deck every day: but it wd be constantly littering the deck. Pigs place clean - pigs clean in their persons too: but that pig-stye ought not to exist on any ship.

A question has been raised about the porter. Certain patients are forbidden to drink it: other men voluntarily abstain from drawing their ration of porter. The surplus porter thus left has hitherto been expended upon the cooks and other soldiers who do hard work. They get the porter

of the prisoners and of those forbidden to use porter by the surgeon. Are the men forbidden by the surgeon (excepting venereal cases) and those who voluntarily abstain from porter entitled to a draw-back of 1d a-day at end of voyage? Or, are the owners entitled to any part of it? I gave my opinion, on being asked, that the men who voluntarily abstained from drawing porter, and patients forbidden to use it except venereal cases, were entitled to 1d according to a clause on page 1 of Articles of Agreement, which says that 1d is to be deducted from the passage money at the end of the voyage. Where is the porter which is not drawn?

certainly, the owners'; so that the cooks and swabbers ought not to get it unless by permission of the owners. 'Wastage', too — to whom does that belong? I say, to the owners. So long as the troops get their pint of porter, which is their ration, per diem, all that is over belongs to the owners.

Cooking for Hospital. — The list of medical comforts appended to the copy of Articles of Agreement has a statement at the end to the effect that "Culinary "utensils will be furnished "by the owners." This does not specify utensils for hospital

although I presume it is meant to include them. The ship's purser does not so interpret the Clause; and they have no cooking utensils to spare. I have been able to get only a saucepan, and the use of another for an hour or two. Then, with the empty Reserved Meat tins, enable us to cook after a fashion. Again, there is no proper place for the man who has undertaken to cook for the sick and women to place his saucepans — a great want — only a narrow ledge unoccupied by the coppers, about 8 inches broad. He can put the big sauce-pan in the oven: but boiling cannot be well done there. He can only bring it to boil.

At present, we are serving the following diet to the sick.

1. Preserved { Beef or Mutton } a 4 lb. tin among six men, as in the mess with preserved potato or mixed vegetables of the rations - or Ration of rice served with it - 2 oz. Well liked - better than on my former voyage. Still Mr. Cullis preserved meat, with the oxidizing continuance on inside of lid.

2. Soup & Bouilli -

a 2 lb. tin among 4 or 5, or 6 men and women - served with rice, or preserved potato (the latter a transpiration)

<u>Note</u>. The Preserved meat is disliked by some men for its

rich, heavy, sickly taste. The meat is apt to have that taste, owing to its being selected fat, and owing to its being usually overdone, ~~to make it~~ in expelling steam. Mr. Pull has tried to render it unnecessary to select such fat meat, or to overdo it, by the oxidizing contrivance. Others dislike it because of its 'tinny' taste – the result of overdoing: and a prejudice will long exist among such men as soldiers and sailors that such meat must necessarily be old horse, or bull beef, or diseased beef: but I have thought that there has been less dislike to it on the last score than I observed in my former voyage.

On days when Preserved Meat forms a ration of the troops - on Fridays, we should usually serve out Pea? meal or Soup & Bouilli from the Medical Comforts. Patients able to eat soup & bouilli are usually able to eat Preserved Meat: but the Preserved Meat cooked for the sick is much more palatable. I have got the cook to add water to it, and warm it slowly - thus diluted, it does not taste so rich and heavy.

3. Concentrated Gravy.

2 oz. make a basin of beef tea or soup - improved by adding vice or

5

biscuit powder, oatmeal &c; with salt, pepper &c: It is seldom made nicely for the sick; and is not much liked: but its nutritious, and only wants a little skill in preparing it.

Farinaceous diet.

Arrow root or Sago – 2 oz. with ½ oz. sugar, and ½ a tin of Preserved Milk. much liked – or wine instead of milk.

Rice. 2 oz. with milk & sugar, or to supplement the beef tea &c.

Concentrated Milk, in ½ pint tins, said to be equal to 3½ pints ordinary milk. Just it as equal to 3 pints. It is very good of its kind – does

not keep above 24 or 30 hours after being opened.

The weather decidedly wholesome. Part of the troops on orlop deck change to upper deck, an equal number, from main deck going below.

5th Sept.

Weather bright, clear, and bracing - splendid climate. A water-dispute today, foolishly made a personal matter of by military authority. The ship's officers show all reasonable desire to accommodate.

Certain lights dispensed with - both number of 4 or 5 each night - to save oil. Only 40 gals. of oil put on board, and in six weeks

24 gals. consumed.

6th Sept. Lat. 26° S.

Yesterday back we crossed the line. Weather cool, bracing. Sky overcast. Sea leaden-coloured, like the Cape sea. Several Cape birds following – one of the dark crow-like birds, a 'Cape pigeon' and a petrel. Very damp in evening. Sick list was diminishing. Today two men admitted, and a third likely to come in. A slight case of sore eyes – Man already in hospital recovering. One case of acute bronchitis admitted the day before yesterday. – The first acute pectoral case we have had.

Examined some wine which has

being served to the sick — sherry — very pale, evidently watered. Hospital Corporal apparently slightly the worse of drink again on Sunday night. A few days ago, I found the Spir. Rectif. watered, so that it wd. not burn.

There ought to be a small lock-up cup-board, or chest, in the sick-bay, to hold such articles as require to be kept ready for use, such as lime, beef-tea &c., or sago &c.

There ought, also, to be a simple desk on top of such cup-board, with shelf or drawer for hospital books and papers, which otherwise get soiled.

7th Sept. The two bottles of sherry
Lt. Dexam? yesterday were ex-
amined by Dr. Martin & myself
today, and found adulterated.
Corpl. Corpl. denies all knowledge
of how this came about. The key of
the medicine chest has been for some
time broken. Until that is mended
I cannot make him responsible
for the safe-keeping of the wine.
I have got the Armourer Serj. to make
a key for the med. chest; so that
hence forth the Corpl. will be
responsible for the wine.
Sick list 30.
Today it blew very hard;
the wind beginning to rise at 11
last night - blew all day
almost half a gale - heavy sea -

ship rolled very much – more than be expected of such a large ship. Rolling still more during the night, which many of us passed without sleep. Crashing of plates, bottles, jars, and other breakables, all night, until about 4 a.m.

Felt ill and feverish in the evening: my thumb much worse. I felt as if seized with fever. Passed a bad night.

9th Sept. High sea, but falling. Wind falling. Turned out at breakfast, but felt ill, feverish. Worse during the day. At night C.d scarcely stand; aching in every limb, back, and head, with morbid sleepi-

ness. Went to bed during day and slept a good deal; and turned in again early at night, sleeping most of the night, although not uninterruptedly. Perspired freely. Took no medicine.

<u>10th Sept.</u> Astonished to feel very much better. The fever quite gone. No pain in limbs or back; only slight headache. Thumb feels better - seems a foul ulcer, with tendency to abscess beneath it, abscess having been somewhat checked. Pain in hand, arm, and axilla, very much less. Sick list down to 26.

<u>11 Sept.</u>, <u>Sunday</u>.

Wind rose last night - N.E.

Bar. 9 p.m. was 30·45; 9 a.m.

At sea.

today 30.35; at 3 p.m. 30.2
No observation today.
9 a.m. Wind N.E. freshening, & sea rising. p.m. Wind & sea rising. Only Strg. topsail & other C. topsails set.
Rained nearly all day at intervals. 9 p.m. Bar. 30.05
Wind & sea rising.
Ship rolling heavily.
9.30, rain - 8½ knots -
Having spent an almost sleepless night from pain in thumb & hand, I stayed in bed today - not the worst place in a day like this. Abscess appearing to be forming, had the thumb incised by Martin in evening.

At sea.

Wind rising at midnight.

12th Sept. – Another day in bed, having passed a sleepless night. Incision in thumb failed to relieve pain.

Weather moderate.

Took 3ij Tr: Hyoscyami at bedtime on account of pain in hand, arm, and axilla.

13th Sept. Weather fine. Another day in bed. Quite useless from pain in hand and arm. Thumb again laid open today.

Distance 200 miles. 33 on sick list today, but nothing serious. Have been reading the "Rifle in Cashmere", by Brinckman – an unsophisticated book. rather like it. The writer has some sensible ideas upon Army Reform. Seems to give sensible advice to sportsmen going to Cashmere. How egotistical most of them

sporting books read, and how self-complacently the writers talk of sporting as if it were the chief end of man!

14th Sept. Fine, clear, dry weather. Wind light. Therm. 59°

Felt better today although the cut not yet evacuated – the abscess, that is. Sick list 32. Women & children healthy. Fortunate that Sunday was succeeded by dry weather, drying the ship throughout. The hospital was very wet – from dripping from overhead, and from water leaking through portholes – water dripping into patients cots and bunks. Some women begun to steal from hospital – 7 tins of preserved milk gone. Informed the Colonel.

At Sea.

Sunday 18th Sept. Weather milder. Am still on sick list; although hand and arm improved. Still, however, feel 'indisposed', only 'seedy'.

Weather has been cold for some days. Therm. Shelter, not below 57°. Sky overcast, leaden coloured. Wind light. Weather milder today. Calm in afternoon. Ship scarcely moving. A long, lingering twilight and sunset. Sea-birds swimming close under the stern, the pretty little Cape pigeon to the bulky albatross. Six or eight of the latter were swimming about close under to the ship for about two hours, squabbling and fighting for bits of pork at the end of our lines. Some three or four albatross were caught and hauled on board, one of which measured 10 ft. 6 in. across the wings – a dark brown plumaged bird, not full grown, as

it appeared to me. I thought that none of them we saw at this time were full grown. If I mistake not, the albatross grows lighter in colour as he gets older.

Sick list down to 28. Women & children in fair health. Another birth yesterday morning - not, this time, counterbalanced by a death. Three officers off duty - Chanters (Scurvy), Garnett (Contusion), and myself - a large proportion. Great excitement on the part of the men about the bird - the poop covered with a rabble crowding round the captured birds - the scene lighted up by the slanting beams of the setting sun.

<u>19th Sept.</u> Returned to duty, although hand not quite recovered.

Tuesday, 20th Sept. Weath. fine.
Wind moderate, following. Ship rolling greatly last night. Last week a quantity of railway iron in cargo was shifted, & placed on fore part of orlop, to lessen the rolling. Captain says he never knew the ship to roll as she did on Sunday before last, and that he had objected to the inspector at L'pool as to the stowage of the railway iron, as it tended to make ship roll. At noon yesterday he had only made 60 miles, having been almost becalmed during the previous night and morning. Air much milder yesterday, & very pleasant - equally so today. Am still rather useless. Pain in my hand kept me from sleeping on Sunday night. Did not get a moments sleep. Obliged to take a strong opiate last night. Our run today was 250 miles. Lat. 40° 59'

Long. 16° 11' Sick list 28.
In addition to the usual following of 'Cape pigeons', 'Cape hens', albatross, &c, small flights of 'ice-birds' accompany us, generally flying abreast of ship eight or a hundred yards off. They are somewhat like plovers, or full snipe.
Wed. 21 Sep. Sick list 30. Case of Slater, at first threatening to have dysentery & ~~diarrhoea~~ hepatitis - (diarrhoea) R. with this morning - Mitchell - Last night heath. very fine - heavy showers of rain during night, becoming more continuous towards morning - heavy rain at intervals during forenoon. Vivid lightning in N.W. last night. A good many of the sick require to be confined to bed, and there's not room

for half of them in 'sick-bay'.
Thunderstorm this morning. Lightning conductor trailed over port side from main rigging. Lat. 40°19' S. Long. 21°57' E.
Dist. 256 m.
Thurs. 22d. Sept. Wind rose last night - increasing in violence to a gale from N.W. Heavy sh.rs & squalls. Lightning. Weath. warm. Very high sea all day - about as high as ever it is, I dare say. Ship going before wind & sea. The run was very good, but not exactly ascertained - over 300 miles.
Sick list 29. Slater, admitted yest.y, low and feverish. Sick-bay very wet from leakage through ports and seams.
Evening - wind changing to S.W. - will probably bring cold. Weather scarcely moderating.
Frid. 23d. Sept:- All last night, weather

same as yesterday; squalls at frequent intervals, with rain; heavy sea. Ship rolling considerably.
All today W. much the same, moderating slightly towards night.
Ship going very fast before the wind, which has gone round a little to S.
It is perceptibly colder, in consequence.
Everything uncomfortable below in this weather. as much so in hospital as elsewhere. Ports shut for several days.
Several cases requiring attention and trouble – Slater, a medical case, and three or four surgical cases.
Yet he can hardly see the patients.
Our medicines already begin to run short – No turpentine, liq. Ammonia, Chloric Ether, hi. Ipecac.
Eleven men came sick this mor-

ning, but only one admitted.
A pretty large number might be looked for under the circumstances of weather.
The list, however, is not above 29 to day.
Women & children pretty well.
Weather is not nearly so ~~cold~~ cold as I expected to find it here at this season.
The last two or three runs have been large; and the Captain talks of making Bombay in 30 days more.
I have been obliged to make some of the patients sling their cots and hammocks in their own part of the deck, the hospital being crowded. The sick bay is too small for the number of men embarked.

Sat. 24th Sep. Great rolling about and tossing all night. Frequent and violent

squalls from N.W. Going before the wind, with very high sea. Rolling great and incessant. Severest squall occurred at 4 a.m. The sudden strong wind striking the high stern of the ship, she goes off for a time, owing to her great length, unless great care be taken, and for a time is exposed to wind and sea more than otherwise would be.

There was a good deal of alarm, especially among the women, during the squalls; and some of the women forced their way up the ladder past the astonished sentry stationed at the companion which led from their berth to the upper deck.

Thinking the ship in the utmost

danger, the terrified woman rushed up the ladder almost naked. The sentry tried a little expostulation, and a little gentle force, but, being a recruit, and much abashed by the scanty attire of the enemy, he gave way, and the woman reached the deck in the cold, dark, wintry morning, ~~endeavouring to~~ seeking safety from impending destruction.

The ship got little damage in these squalls.

Hospital still uncomfortable. Ports still shut. One of the patients, Bell, a surgical case, presented severe symptoms - abscess in front of chest, beneath clavicle. His systemic symptoms unfavourable, as there are several cases of open sores. Almost an

erysipelatous blush over abscess.
Linseed meal all done. Sick list rather diminishing. Ship rolling miserably all day.
Sunday, 25 Sep: Heavy rolling all night, and more or less all day. Slight rain. Rather cold.
Therm. not below 57°.
For a few hours in afternoon we got hospital parts open. List down to 24. Serious case (Bell) but any more - rather better.

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been Photographed.

J. Hood