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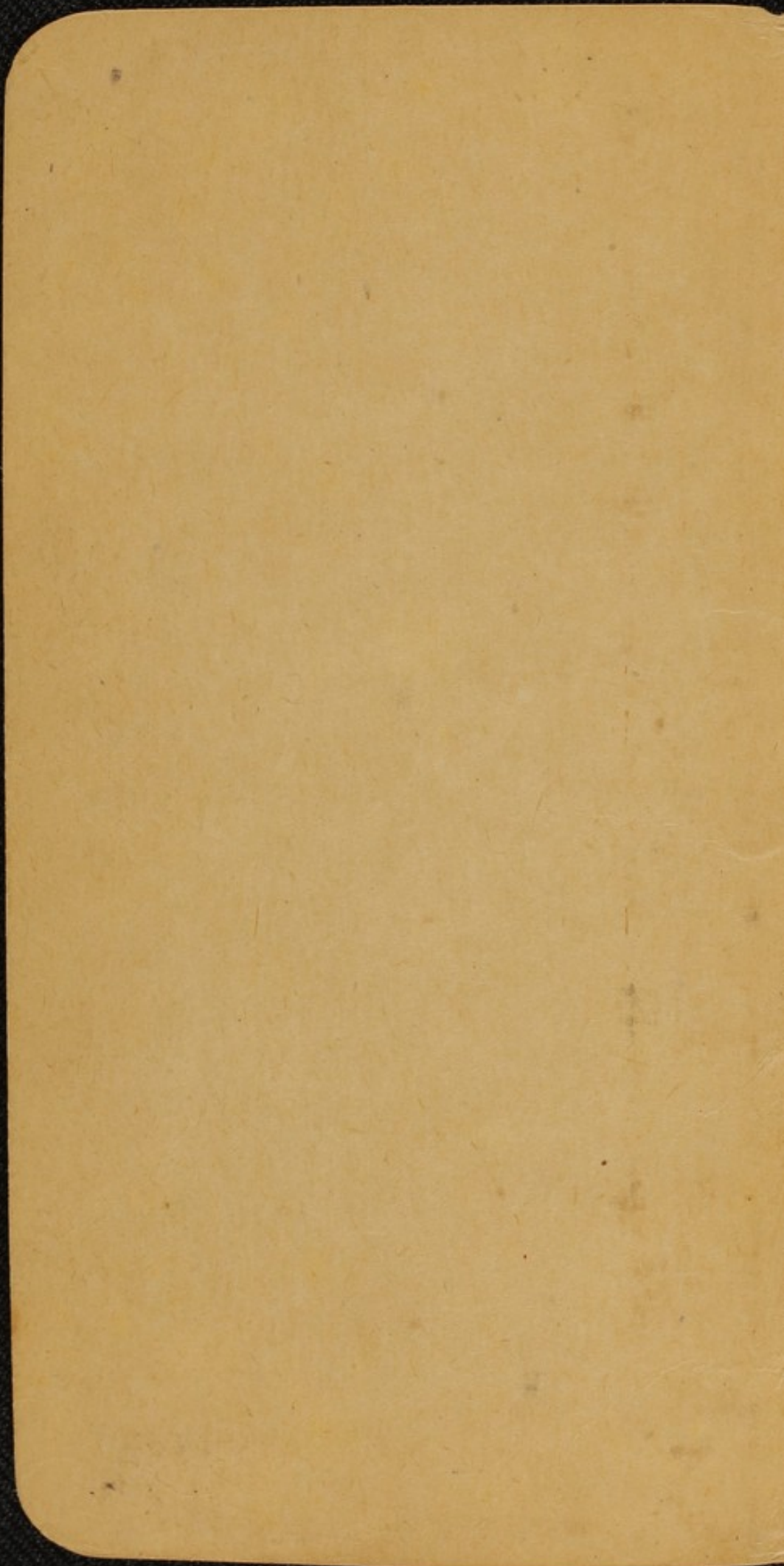
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Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
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Boer Scotland



COLLINS'

HANDY LOOP

NOTE BOOKS.

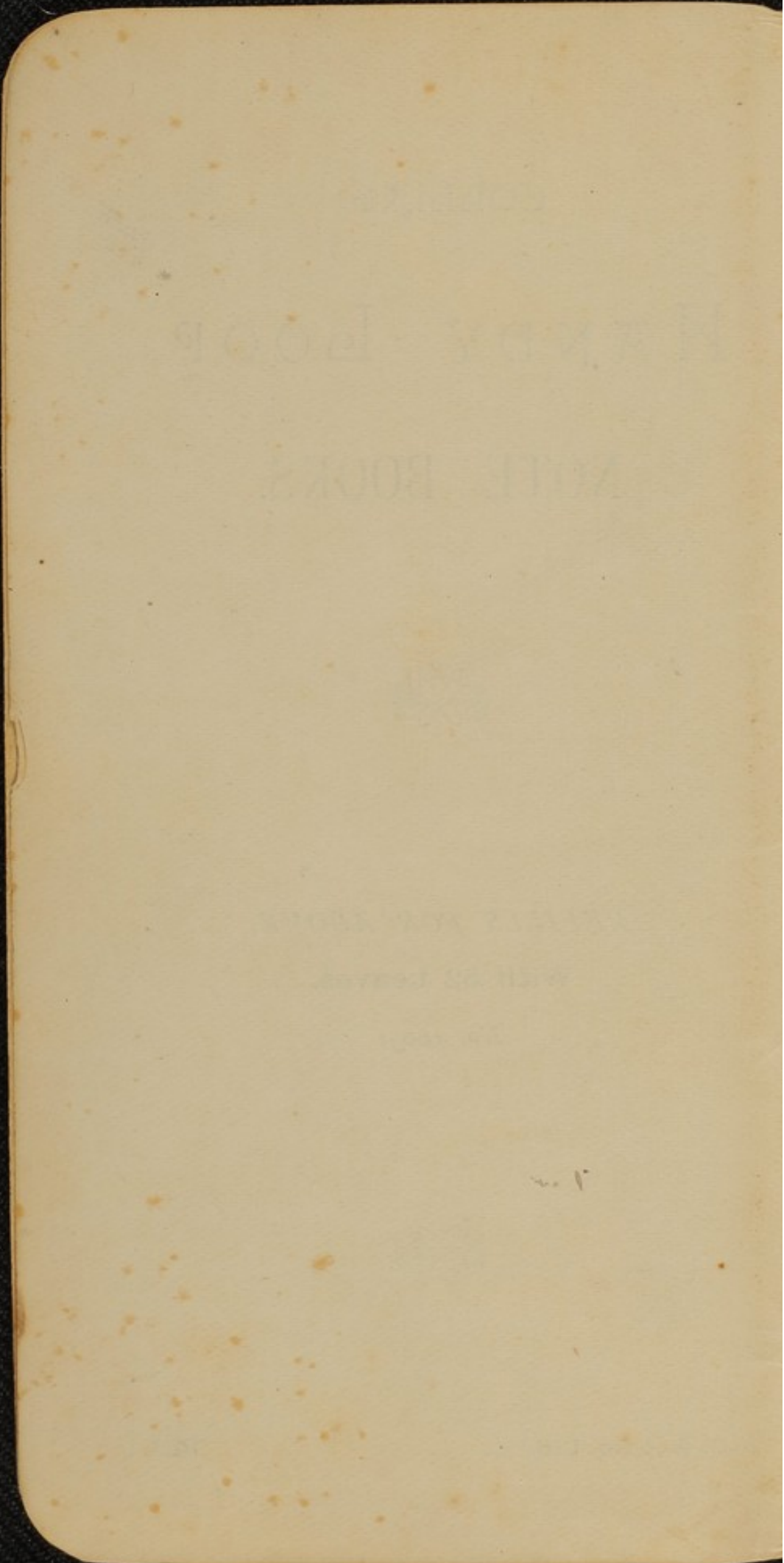


REFILLS FOR ABOVE,

With 52 Leaves.

No. 1005.





27th Dec. 1901. Hammans Kraal

At Clark's Farm the col. divided. The Col. K. 75. and Northampton's went on road S by Terecho while the rest including our show, under May. Macdonald went into Wambatho via Shepsten Kop. Clark's Farm is about 35 miles out. May. Duncan left immediately for Pretoria. Nothing of note happened at Wambatho. We brought in 39 specimens.

On the 23rd I went on to Pretoria on the P. Christian Amb. train May. Morgan etc. The Col. had just arrived at Hammans Kraal and the train was invaded by the Col. Collins, Armstrong. There the hardest looking crowd you ever saw got into the carriage I was on just as we were starting - Hurrell Castro, Friedlander Spearman, ^{Wilmet} Mentzies. The porter did not know what to do with them and put them in my charge. I was well done by in the train being with an Oldham Northampton, who got his commission from the Sussex.

All the crowd stayed at the Transvaal
and the least winter the better. Ad. Cap.
Hurrell & Woodroffe were immense value.
There was little sleep but sufficient re-
freshment. I lunched at No. 22. and
found William & the little man in great
form. Maj. Dineen is also there. It is a
fine place and the staff are first rate.
Bell stayed there and they did him well.
He is now Dr. Martin to the Mr. Dep. Ennis
is first rate thing for him. I met
Sister Cochran for a few minutes one day
She has been very ill and does not look
abit fit yet. Pretoria is just the same
very quite quiet. Worse than ever. No
shows going on. We all returned on
the morning of the 26th - tired.

28th Dec. Klipfontein N. W. Z
Pretoria

We marched here in two troops about 20
miles without incident over a rolling
veld to the W. of Waterval. None
left for good. Lyle has gone down to
Matal on special duty. Friedlander
left us in Pretoria for Joburg to do

recruiting. Ruall has gone down to
bring up men & horses to us at Rusten-
burg. The weather is rather warm
just now to be pleasant. Health good.
29th Dec. Crocodile Drift.

To-day
we made two treks. Starting at
5 we treked about ^{9 miles to} Schiefontein
where we passed the day, at a drift
over a tributary to the Crocodile where
there is a large Kaffir Stad. To the
N slightly E is Spamboetes Kraal.
We came along a very picturesque
valley bounded by the Magalliesburg
to the S and a peculiar broken ridge
of stony peaked hills called the Pyramids.
The valley is beautifully wooded and
farms & Kaffir Stads all over. The
farms have all beautiful orchards
but the fruit is unripe. Nearly all
the houses are wrecked but they must
have been quite fine places before the war.
The camp has been over run all day
by Basutos women & children from the
stad all in their Sunday clothes.

They have quite a fine white washed church with bells and all the rest.

At 6. pm we tracked W. Hurrell and D. under Challis went out on patrol after 40 Boers somewhere to our NW of our route. We tracked a good 10 miles and pulled up at a farm at the drift. The oxen were late of getting along and a nigger driver Israel arrived per ambulance about midnight with a ghastly compound comminuted fracture of the left tibia. so we had quite an evening of it.

30th Dec. Crocodile drift W. side

This

has been quite an eventful day. Just before 7. am when the mule transport was about to follow the ox over the drift a nigger came in to report that Cap. Hurrell's crowd had got the knock and were having a gay time. A.C. Squads went out under Casters. Anderson D went along after with 2 ambulances we drove up the E side of the river for 3-4 miles crossing at a very good drift then made up a rise to the N.W.

Hurrell's helio was seen from a conceal
Kopf at the end of a ridge to the right
after 8-9 miles trek. It reported Boers
had left but he had a number of casualties.
We found him at a farm situated
in thick brush with wrecked houses and
some magazine trenches. All were
dead horses 20 being killed within the
shedding. All the fighting had been
in this clearing round the houses. Challis
came round the Kopf to the N.W but scarcely
got into it. The Boers I believe 30-40
lined the raised bank of a straight
spruit running towards the valley and
opened fire just as the extended line
reached the buildings. Sampson was
first hit, first in the shoulder at one
side of the house next thro' the thigh
on getting round. The first is slight but
the bullet seems lodged. The second
is a martini and has evidently lodged
in the smashed femur. He had
bled a lot when I saw him. E Berlin
the dentist now a red X. corporal was
shot thro' the left lung while dressing
him.

No K.F.'s seemed to have got over the
shut till the Boers had cleared away
down to their right in the thick bush
on the flat. The men killed 2 troopers
and one ruggie fell just at the shut and
Sgt. Perrie was wounded in it. The
firing lasted about 15 minutes and besides
the killed there were 6 K.F.'s badly wounded
2 slightly & one Kappi slightly. One Boer
as said to have been knocked but none
were captured. The wounds are bad as
most were martins and all at very
close quarters. The Boers had started
breakfast but had evidently been warned
from the Kop behind and simply lay for
Turnell. As he approached nothing could
be seen of their position till he was right
on it and an attempt to push it resulted
as above. None of 19 Squad were touched.

I came away at midday with 2 ambul.
full and another was sent out. Knowing
the Column had crossed I kept the W.
side of the river but found it rather hard
about on account of 2 sprinks but on the
whole good going. We are to get rid

of all our sick & wounded tonight to Riet-
fontein, (when the moon rises) at distance
of about 8 miles via commando net.

The Inf. C.S. Ashton goes with them
and returns in tomorrow about 10 miles
along the Rustenburg road from here.

The nights just now are leastly hot and
clearing. There is no rain but distant
thunder every night. Health still good.

I believe this is a horrible drift.

There are any number of houses along
the river here quite a number of them
occupied. Judging by the smokes around
to-day that will be the case no longer.

31st Dec. 1901.

This morning we
triked about 8 miles to Lobchester Kop.
I was with the van guard as Ashton
was back at Rietfontein with the
wounded. I rode along the hill foot
and passed ^{near} some of the finest
farms I have yet seen. Of course
the buildings are entirely wrecked but
the orange & banana groves orchards
& surrounding paddocks are really
fine.

It was rather a dreary ride. In the afternoon we moved along the main Post. Rutherford Rd - one of the few real wide roads in the L'Anse-au-Loup. The transport bustled along in 2 lines at fully 4 miles per hour. We had quite a big night, as the Colonel sent round at midnight and faked us out to bring in the new year. Wilmet again distinguished himself & frisked up in Collins' tent. Collins embarked under a wigwag. The Col. was in great form and although the show was worthy of the Glas. cov. 1st Jan. Rutherfordburg we made

this spot in two more trucks passing thro' an S.A.C. camp where Col. Steele is. The road is fine and very picturesque over hills & rivers and thro' fertile farms.

Rutherfordburg is very prettily situated with hills to the S. & W. and sloping ground to the N. There are a number of pretty houses & three churches

all the houses are surrounded by
splendid orchards and the place has
a fairly settled look. Most of the
inhabitants here gone now.

The Herbs & some I.V. specimens are
in season here. Popham is Staff Q.
He has gone to Joburg so I have
seen little of him.

4th Jan. Rustenburg Nothing
much has
happened. We have heard the 4 Bns
have succumbed in Sturtevant's fight.
Several more men wounded. There
was a cricket match yesterday when
an outfit of our column officers
made 107. against 72. made by
a team of the whole garrison.
There is really a beautiful little
native village here where many
of the Rappos are better put up
than our laborers at home.
Russell joined the day before
yesterday with 130 indifferent
recruits & 40 more indifferent
recruits.

5th Jan. Magato Ntk. Last
night

Cap. Hurrell took out all the mounted
leaving the town by a hill route in-
tending to strike a small hamlet called
Waterfall, about 20 miles W. of this Ntk.
at daylight. The distance was mis-
judged but luckily they surprised the
Bois coming armed from a farm they
had been holding service. There was
ten minutes sharp firing then some
desultory firing for another hour.
About 6 Bois were mortally hit - and
29 captured. The force came back
in the evening and we are lying
1 1/2 miles N of the Ntk. There were
no casualties on our side.

6th Jan. Rustenburg we got back
here early to-day
The M. G. & I went down to the S. C.
camp in the afternoon & had tea with
Col. Steele. He is just the same as
ever & very pleased at the show he had
at home. His force determined to have
recognition in Canada. as altho' really

disbanded at Halifax they kept their
order strictly thro' to Ottawa and there
disbanded themselves. The other men
there with him were Capt. Boyd & Lt
Currie. Boyd came from Canada.

7th Jan. Rustenburg This

afternoon
all the mounted went out again. The
Col. Pompro also went out.

10th Jan. Rustenburg Nothing
much has

happened here since last note. Early
this morning the force returned. They
don't seem to have done anything as
they came in touch with a superior
force of Boers & judged it wise to
come back. Last night I dined
with the C. S. man Harris & met
some of the male civilians. The band
played later in the evening & there
was an open air concert. The women
of the place make quite a show.

It is awfully hot & there has been
no rain. This is a great place
for fruit. It was my entire breakfast
this morning.

17. Jun. 1902. Johannesburg, in

here now on leave from the
column to buy up mess stores
etc. Chellis & I came in
with Abington & 50 tons up
to Kruger trap and yesterday
we came on here. Iudlow &
I try fit we have done prac-
tically nothing here and start
to move to Krugersdorp to
return to the column.

Godfrey Patten I have also met.
He went home with the 18th and
returned sometime ago to civil life
at Johannesburg. He is in no way in
love with it and speaks of soldiering
again.

18th Krugersdorp. a terribly wet
and busy day

We returned this morning and got
off the waggon & cart with mess
stores after a terrible struggle.

Palmer has returned accompanied
by Castro to get remounts.

Esteban also turned up and tonight Richards Chas & S built those named had a great game at skittle pool. Popham left today with a convey to Rustenburg.

20th Jan. Namport Nek.

Yesterday we treked and caught up the waggons with the Rong convey early in the afternoon. I got a young Setta bitch from the little girl Varley and brought it along. We had a hearty night sleeping out last night as about midnight it suddenly started to rain and we were drenched when we lay. To make it more uncomfortable it was far from warm. To-day we reached here and have a tent.

21st Jan. Vlakfontein Back at camp

again beside where Dixon had the fight. It is about 16 miles west of N. port along the same ridge. S.A.C. have posts all the way along.

The camp is very small and completely surrounded with high earth works. It is on a hill. The F.H. is outside $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile down on the flat. They have had a small do & miles out when 1 K.F.S. + 1 Bow was killed. 7 Bows were made prisoner. Weather here at present is very pleasant but for the heavy showers. The nights are distinctly cold.

29th Jan. Whitefortin Little

of consequence
has happened since last note. Mentzer has left for good and Skipper Hurrell goes tomorrow. Up to yesterday the weather was so wet & miserable I scarcely left the tent. On the 27th 300 K.F.S. under Custer pulled out at 4 am to snaffle some Bows at a Jam Roadmanal S. of midway between megab & Elephants hks. I accompanied them. We tracked to Elephants hks & lay to the N of it intending to Sally forth at night. The in-

telligence was extremely indefinite -
the Boers might be anywhere in the
district and the guides did not believe
on the top of this Rustenburg intel-
ligence arrived stating 300 Boers
with wagons were at Vlakhoek 6
miles north of camp. This news
was not verified but pending scouting
we lay till last night at 7 pm
when we pulled out. We marched
along W. by N. following the Mgalliesdy
range. We then made S & finally
approached the farm just at day-
light heading S.E. We did not off-
saddle but halted from 1. to 3 am.
It was bitterly cold without a blanket.
The farms approached occupied
strong positions in a picturesque but
rugged valley. Some were drawn
and we went straight for camp
thru Vlakhoek where we found
Jack & Moss two scents shot dead.
Jack was the best of all the native
scents. The weather is now
distinctly fine. Cool at night.

10th Feb. 1902. Taffelkopf.

We have shifted camp here about 22 miles further west arriving here yesterday. Nothing of note in the way of operations has happened in our immediate district but there has been a revolution in the camp since I last wrote.

The facts as far as I can get at, being all from one side are as follows

About a week ago the officers KFS agreed to request the resignation of the Ady. Collins. ^{at 10.30} They had the Col. down and Costello intimated the falling of the regiment. The Col. appeared to consent Collins being called asked for 6 months leave. After which he would resign and so join his regiment without further comment. This was agreed to and an acting ady. [Shackney] appointed. The Col. not being present at this time sent a note of which an authentic copy was taken in which he made

remarks to the effect that they (the
malcontents) should stick to their guns
as they were playing his game as well
as their own. Everything seemed
settled and amicably arranged when
the bomb came. Capt. Costera was
requested to resign by 3 pm. On
applying at head quarters he got no
satisfaction so refused. He was then
warned to leave the camp before 5 pm.
He went off immediately to Kungas doop.
Then all the 13 Squadron officers gave
in their resignations. An incident
at this time was the Col. calling for
Morris & asking him for the letter he
had sent. On Morris giving him it he
at once tore it up - but several copies
had been made, and all proceedings
had been checked by Challis.

A day or two after all this I took
sick into Namport and on my way
back with Fitz clubs, who had been
sent for met Collins seeing hard
for the time. He had gone after all.
Next we came on Russell, Thackeray.

Anderson & Leon Costera. They were coming
along in tremendous form accompanied
by the remnants of faithful & brave
the ~~St~~ man, with Burwood at the
agent post. They had got their
marching orders & were off for Pretoria.

Three days ago now just before we
left Vlakfontein, Chubb's party and
Sheldon got their orders. In the mean
time a letter had arrived from Costera in
which he told what he had done in
the matter interviewing Gen Wilson among
others and was then on his way to
headquarters. A telegram also came
through in which the Col intimated to
H.G. that Morris, Wagh & Scott had placed
quibly (of which) and wanted re-employment.
Since Chubb's left we have heard nothing
further. Let's skulls (now Capt) is S.D.
& I H everything else. Ponsford has
somewhat weakened but still keeps
to his resignation as far as I know.

Several new commissions have been
given so the regt. is now strange
to us. A sad change. Really all

The good men gone. The Inup are
I.S.g. All are getting fat. We had
a sea a side shoot with the wells
when they made 15:2 to one 130. They
were all picked shots so we did not
feel bad.

I was entertained by my. Teller Rouse
at Nanuport - a very good sort. He
mentioned as an instance of trusting
facts that the report was credited there
and had gone into H.G. that the two
boys we found at Hornys nest had been
fearfully mutilated by the Boies

The weather is inclined to be stormy a
stiff wind blowing every day. There
are occasional showers. It is not
at all warm on the whole being
distinctly chilly at night

15th Feb. Taffel Kop. Two
nights

ago we went out on patrol N
to Utterfontein. There there are
several farms and 3 persons & some
cattle were taken. We then went
on to Dorn Horn another farming

district when we had similar success
The Bone was wounded as he kept
on firing very pluckily on the approach-
ing Squadron. We reached this
place about 10 and unpacked till
12. when we started home. About
midway we were surprised from some
Kopjis to the right rear. The Col-
turned the whole column and com-
menced firing on them. They
soon cleared and we proceeded
home arriving just at dark.

Today the old remaining R.F.S.
Officers left with a convoy to
Venterdorp. Popley of the 58th has
also left. They were all cheered on
leaving camp.

The weather just now is stormy and
inclined to be cold and wet.

17th Feb. Taffel Kop Everything

practically
1 Sg. We hear that Friedlander
has resigned and Robertson has
got into Steinaehis Horse. Muckie
Henderson wired back that as he

understood the Regt. was disbanded
he needn't return.

Yesterday Carey Partridge and I
went out shooting with W. Waring
of the Suffolks. We got a small
mixed bag including a great
Crane & two ducks besides some
Koran. I had out my new pony
Bulwag's train I exchanged
with the Col. for my old Samley.
He seems very nice and is
quite a goer easily beating
Richards or Russell's second horse.
The weather is a little mixed
by light & warm on the whole.

20th Feb. Tappel Kop. At 9 pm
on the 18th

we went out on another patrol
18-20 miles W.W.W. of this going
thro' Mabalastad. Our destination
was a particularly wicked cleugh
with some farms in it. Just
after daybreak these farms were
rushed and two prisoners were
taken. A lot of desultory firing

ment on but there was no resistance
made except to one Squid which
tried to reach some cattle. The Boers
got practically all the cattle away.
There was a lot of apparently ineffective
pom. pom. After a short rest
we started back when sharp
sniping commenced on the left and
after in the rear. The force was
wheeled to get at them and a
ridge was pronounced fiercely in a
awkwardly as the last shot I noticed
cleared when I was easily and
I was quite a distance behind the
pom pom & Col. The latter checked
it up and determined to clear. An
ammunition cart breaking down
subjected us to a little more of it but
no one was hit and the col. making
a detour to the flat on the right
reached Mabalastad about 2. pm
without trouble. Here we off sad-
dled for the first time for two hours
and came back in the afternoon.
My new pony is really a great

walked so I can do these tricks
now with comparative comfort. The
weather has been particularly mild &
yesterday the sun was a scorcher.

Taffel Kop. 6th March 1902

Since last note
I have been on convey duty to Pot.
chefstom and back. Nothing much
happened but it was interesting visiting
Venterdop & Potchefstom again. There
is practically no change in either
altho of course the population is
reduced and things much quieter
than before. Lyle & McKie Henderson
with two new officers, Capt. Blaine
& St. Christian were waiting for us.
I shot a few birds going in but
only one duck coming out. Maza
left us there for the 6th M.I. All
the talk was the capture by Kemp
& Co. of Von donop's empty convey
about 6 miles from Klubsdorp, after
very severe fighting when we lost
80 killed & 120 wounded. The 1st
Nath. Fus. lost particularly heavily

some 73 Casualties out of two companies.
The grones were nearly all killed and
their guns 2 15 lbs. 1 person & a man
captured 5 1st N. F. Officer were killed
and the remaining are wounded.

Since I have been away the Col. and
all mounted men have been to Rustenburg
& back and are away again. Lyle &
Blane started to join them this morning.
The weather lately has been very damp
There was exceptionally heavy rain while
we were in P. stream. To-day is
warm & fine again but the nights are
always chilly.

Johannesburg. Since last note
23rd March the column has
marched to near the Tuis store
about 5 miles S. of Noisfont.
The Colonel with the mounted was
there when we arrived.

On the 19th I drove in to Kruger-
dorp and came on here the following
day putting up at the Gald fields.
Breedlander is still here. Challis
has a billet at the Roodepoort. United

He came up here yesterday & goes back today. Russell went back day before to Prelova where Thackeray & Castro still are impending inquiry. Yesterday Challis & I went with Wolcott and found a sister of his who stays at Hosp. Hill a Mr. Stratford. The meeting was quiet Wolcott was most correct and his sister seemed to understand him.

Wolcott is well known about this town and we have been constantly together. We dined with a Mr. Jamie Kirkwood at the New Club. Met several of his old associates. We dined one night with Mr. Sam Reed brother of James Reid of our old 18th Squad. Patterson stays with him. They have a cottage up. Jeffe town way.

I have seen much more of Juberg this time having spent much of my time (between the eternal drinks) in driving about mostly in quest of Wolcott's relatives.

4th April 1902. Wood bush
12 miles NE. P. Burg.

24th March left Tolburg for camp
being used for. Got
cart at K dorp and drove out
to find column ordered to the line
and missed me to stay.

25th Column marched.

26th Column arrived at 5. am
at Krugersdorp. and shortly
afterwards started to intram.

The F.S. 2 ambulances went
off first. The Major D travelled
with the Colonel leaving about
3 pm and reached Pretoria
about 7. pm leaving at 9 pm.
We picked up W. Hunt in route
as he was checked from Tolburg
having no papers. He came on
with us to Pretoria and we left
him with every pocket bulging
with blue envelopes.

27th We arrived at Petersburg
and were hospitably entertained

by the Wilts regiment whose head-
quarters are there. At 7. pm we
left for the north to relieve Fort
Edward beleaguered for sometime
by Beyas with 6-7 hundred men.
We heard that Col. Denny (58th reg)
with Biddis Scots Nat Scots, P.L.H.
some Inf. and 2 guns 85th Batt.
had been checked 6 miles from the
fort and had retreated to Wyas River.

28th We trucked last night till
~~10 pm and trucked this morning~~
at 2. am this morning halting
at Rheuter Post. Leaving again
at 4 am reaching Wyas Riv at
about 9. am.

29th Fort Edward Last
night the
total number force, 6 waggon of
Inf. and on abutance, with
4. M.O.S pulled out from Wyas
Riv. about 7. pm and arrived here
between 7 & 8 am this morning.
We made a tremendous detour and
must have covered nearly 50

mules travelling for several hours at
fully 5 miles an hour. At daylight
a Bou packet was surprised but one
escaped & galloped back. There was
a little firing on the right and the
pom-pom knocked a man but a
regular Scotch mist set in and
nothing could be clearly seen beyond
50 yds. This lasted till on in the
forenoon so the Colonel halted camp
at the Fort. Mr Crause is J.C. there
with Lt. Burrey. Mr Mooney the
Nat. Commissioner stays down at a
Cottage beside Mr Cooksleys farm
his assistant is Mr C. Murray son of
Lord Elbank and Mr Leonard
also stays down there. A Capt.
Dales came out with us he was
formerly there as Asst. Commis on
but is now at Peterburg. Mr Cooksley
has stayed right there with his
daughter Mr. Klemmberg and family
The husband a surrendered brigadier
had taken to the hills on Buys approach.
The Bous had cut off the water

supply of the Fort occupying the farm
and surrounding ridges. The farm
is a beautiful one and it was quite
pleasant to visit a peaceful home-
stead untroubled again. W² Pidantz,
W² Cookship's mother and a thorough
old Abenaki came in from 20 miles
off while we were there. She is a
thorough old Britton over 80 and
told Cruise if he surrendered she
would gamble him & all the gar-
nison of P. L. with her own band.

30th March This morning the
Colonel with two
mounted & two on-foot went out on
patrol dead light. I did not go.
They met Bayers about 6 miles out SE.
and for an hour before sunset they
had a lot of fun. A B. Squad
K. S. had a very warm time being
nearly surrounded but were saved
from loss by getting into long grass.
A lost one man killed & two
wounded. The Bays believe lost
more. Four were captured including

Van Nubark an important office.
They walked into the Nat. Scouts nat.
urally taking them for their own people.
Van Nubark is a fine smart looking
young man who talks freely to me in
English April

21st ~~was~~ Dyars River we

left the
Fort at 2 pm today and got here
at 9 pm coming the direct way
along a very good road indeed.

There are a number of picturesque
Kofys on the road and along the
river is a very large native population

2nd April Lay at Dyars River

3rd April Near Klyf dam

we
traveled here today thro' on the whole
a populated country some tracks
being situated very picturesquely
beside remarkable stoney Kofys
covered at parts with really
pretty cactus plants.

4th April Wood bush farm

(Woodge's chart. map near)

We moved here across the flat this morning and are now lying within 12 miles of P. Burg. The weather is fantastically mild in fact clearing out at all tracing, an entire change from the grass field. Capt. Dale came down with us but went into P. Burg yesterday. Mr. Butler RAN is now a member of our mess. He is M.O. to the National Scouts of Beddis.

5th April P. Burg To-day we arrived in our

old camp. About 10. pm. troops left to tackle Bayris at Melips Port.

6th April. (Sun.) Nacupport.

To-day at 12. mid. Butler & I left P. Burg for Chumies port to join General. (late Boer Commandant) Cellius's command consisting of Nat. Scouts Beddis's Scouts $\frac{1}{2}$ Coy. 58th and 1. Coy. Wilts. I to join Capt M. Green Stenachus S. Squad. with 2 squads R.F.S. under Capt. Blame & M.O. L.H.

under Capt. Mitchley. To-day we left
Chumey Port at 6 and reached here
about midnight travelling down a
fair road thro' a very fine port at
first afterwards thro' bush.

7th April. In a Kloof. E. of Mel-
(Mon.) spo Port near Oliphants

river. Since last note we have made
great going. From Naanport we made
S. reaching the Oliphants Riv. just at
day break. The day brightened just as
we were fording it at no recognized
draft. We lay there 1. hour with slacks
yachts. About 7. am we got at it again
walking when dust could be seen
trotting when under cover threading our
way between isolated rocky kopjes
holding the river on our left and
a very fine rugged high kopje to our R.
We camped about midday behind a
low rocky ridge S. of the Riv with no
frees. At 4. pm we started again
for a 2 hrs. trek which unfortunately
lasted till 9. pm. We first rode
down to the river crossed it then

took to a small trail running N along
the low foot-hills. It was slow work
in the dark but we got to the foot
of the high Napjes & camped beside a
tiny stream.

8th April. Melpis River 3 miles
(Tues.) S. of

Pylkop. This has been a terrible
day for every one but especially the horses.
We got started just at day break
(about 5. am) and started on foot leading
horses right up the side of a quite
steep rocky kopje or rather range of
hills running roughly parallel to the course
of the Melpis. I luckily got a nigger
of whom we had 60 from a neigh-
bouring kraal to lead my gee. This
hill led to another and then we
crossed a gangway to a high nek. I
reached there between 8 & 9 and all
the men were not up till quite 10. pm
After looking around and listening to
the Colouls by guns booming up N
our intelligent leader surmised of
going that way intended his force
S E

along an undulating ridge, which had another almost parallel ridge between it and the Melchips valley. The P.L.H. left a post at our original point and also extended along a broken ridge running W. towards the valley at Pylkop. Receiving no information regarding further procedure at about 2. pm we all but the P.L.H. started down a very steep kloof towards the little neck separating the ridge lying west of us from the valley. in the hopes of reaching water down there. It was nearly 4. pm when we got down the hill turning out terribly rough and steep. No water was got but Mel Queen had impressed Blaine that the Kopsje to the N of the post into the valley must be held. The men were led up this very steep hill amidst general quarrelling. It was all but snowing and some quietly disregarded the order and moved down the slope. Robertson, now in the S.S.S.H. led his men

straight away and got to the river before
dark. We got up $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. before dark and
saw in the entrance of the side opening
opposite running W. a force which might
be Buer or Britton, but the chances were
it was Gen. Collins. Various suggestions
were made but at last it was agreed
to strike for water at any risk. Then
commenced the most tiresome walk of all.
It soon got dark and we struck
the roughest ridge I have ever been on.
There was no trail and the going
was really awful. Down by the river
a path had to be broken thru close
brush so it was between 9 & 10 when
we reached the river. About 50 men
got down that night at all, including
my two attendants Dawson and
Diamond. Both horses and men
simply ran for the water and drank
as if they hadn't seen water for a
week instead of 30 hrs; the scolding
up and down slopes in the hot sun
had so parched them. We lay
there quite regardless of enemy, altho

daylight showed it as good a place as
we could have chosen in the light.
What we afterwards learned to be
Celtic's pockets kept us lively by
firing valleys occasionally during the
night but no one took any notice.
Just at day break a hot fusillade
took place but what about I don't
know.

9th April (Wed.) Kopye above
Pyl Kop. To-day

we lay till 4 pm. by the river then
marched up on this hill taking quite
4-5 hrs. to reach our position overlooking
the valley just SE across from Pylkop.
Thinking to be more comfortable I
had my under clothes washed and
put in the pack on one mule. (I
was messing with Blanes Squad) The
mule never turned up. It was too
heavily laden with water & played out.
It shook part of its kit and the
man relieved it of the rest. Then it
seems to have tumbled down a steep
place & been given up for lost.

Tomorrow it turned up with the horses
in the last Camp, where they had been
left. None of our men had any blankets
coats or water but I was worst off as
I had lost my tent the previous day
and having left my underclothes had
absolutely nothing but a thin shirt
and light torn breeches on. I rolled
my putties round my chest which
helped a bit but it was cold and
no fires were allowed. Payer to
lay back to back to get a little warmth.
Luckily the night was no really a
cold one for this time of year but
it is never warm between 2 & 4 in the
morning.

10th April. (Thurs.) Pylkop

This morning we moved down here
to camp beside some small farms
at the foot of the hill. We were joined
by the P.L.H. here. They had had a
more adventurous time. Being driven
desperate for water they had moved
down the ridges at this point the

previous evening, notwithstanding that about 2.00 Boers had paraded there in the afternoon, and made for the water. They were greeted with a sharp fire from all round the foot of the hill. Only one man was wounded, and was gallantly pulled out by an old Shatema called Lee, but a number of horses were killed. They returned the fire butly got some water and a pig or two and went up the hill again at dusk, having captured 1 Boer. I found the wounded man at the farm where they had been very good to him. He had a flesh wound of the thigh. Gen. Celliers came along next, ^{he had dyked along the other side of valley} then another Boer (hostile) ran into us and was captured. He offered to buy us 15 more which he did & Celliers trotted them off to his camp. The day before all our rations were quite run out but we got lots of chickens & potatoes at this farm, not to speak of sweet potatoes, which I cannot eat.

The farm house itself was very full of women & children about 60, in all, in these rooms, not to speak of two of our sick men. We found tobacco in another place and as ours was all finished we were now thoroughly king on the country even for luxuries, if tobacco can be called one. Old

Overweight
(Friday)
Cellers had the day previous got a message saying Lyle was lay up about 8 miles or one L. found men in trouble but had had seen fit to advise us of it now started up the valley & the rest of us were wanted to follow but there was so much delay that it was about 3 pm before we started and we did not reach Lyles camp till well after dark as usual.

11th April
Our route most of the way ran up a very beautiful narrow glen gentle as fine as a Scotch one, between in some places high rocky hills. The path merely a track one round up and crossed & recrossed the stream many times every mile.

We found Lyle lying very peacefully having had practically no fighting but nearly 80 of the boughs drawn from the net by the Colonel had surrendered to him. This camp where we now are Lyle has occupied for 3 days. It lies about 8 miles W & slightly S of the Net.

12th April (Sat) Melips Part.

We have now got back to camp and I am staying with the Colonel, the hospital being a mile away on the P. line road. We trekked this morning back the way we came till we joined the main valley about 3 miles north of Pylkop then came along it up to the net. It was somewhere at this point that Beys with most of his mounted men escaped towards Haeretsburg on Wed. the 9th. The hills seemed much easier here than those we had climbed. The river at parts quite overflows the whole narrow

valley and has filled it full of
sand making going heavy. The valley
at the top ends in a regular am-
collosum somewhat triangular in
shape with the base N. and here the
hills are bolder more rocky and
precipitous. There is a very steep
path at a lower part forming the so
called neck. We climbed that by
moon light since refused to see
the camp lights 3 miles away on the
(comparative) flat.

13th April (Sun). Melips Post.

I am writing
this at the hospital. The Major is
very sick having had fever since
leaving P. burg. A new C.S. is here
now called Dolman. Butler is also
messing with us. The Col. of the
Greenstallings. Murray is in hospital
with a g.s. wound of the abdomen
but is doing very well. Walker
Henderson is in with a head snow
stroke. In all about 17 were
wounded here & 1 officer killed.

From what I can learn scraping
at the Port started about a mile
from it on the P' long tracks, (quite
a recent road on Tuesday, and
continued about these ridges all day
the Boas holding our people, who
consisted chiefly of Inuitlings and
nearly 200 R.F.S. under Henderson &
Bennet, supported by a cow-gun &
2 field guns and one pom. pom. They
must have mostly cleared over the
Nek that night which they held
the following day (Wed) That evening
our people were again checked on
the hills about the nek and there
some loss was sustained. Early
on Thursday morning the nek was
gained and all fighting practically
over. No prizes were taken here
but the attack here doubtless drove
them on to Lyle. It was extremely
unfortunate we were not taken
to the right place instead of being
hauled away to the R. near as
we would have stood a grand

chance of having a go at Beyris
and perhaps rounding up a crowd
with decent luck. Our O.C. got
a terrible telling off from the Colonel.
Old Cellen nearly killed his infantry
and some had to be rescued from
the hills where they had dropped
from thrusts. I believe there are
only now one or two men still missing.

14th April At 6. pm. left Melip
Port and traked NE
resting at a drift from midnight to
4. am. but never unsaddling.

15th April Haenelttsburg We
continued
at daylight up a steep hill N. then
E till we came in sight of a very
steep rocky mountain to the SE. A
steep path led up at passing thro' a
gap in the Krantz. On the lower slopes
below the Krantz are cuttings result
of old mining operations. The SS SA.
B E Squad. KFS + Beddies Scouts went
up the steep path reaching the top
about midday. Blane was sent up

to supersede McQueen. The Col. with
his remaining force consisting of 45 yds
K.F.S. the P.I.H. & Gen. Collins Nat. Scouts
(about 40 strong) trucked N. to Hamersburg
where we are putting up in a small
tin house. It is a small mining camp
consisting of about 1/2 doz tin houses.

16th April Alten Russels Grablefonten
To day we

had a very rough trek going first E along
a very good road then turning NE into
a beautiful sub-tropical valley with
profuse undergrowth cleared at places
for native gardens (?) growing manioc
sweet potatoes tobacco etc. The path
at places very steep & rough was entirely
overgrown at parts with rank vegetation.
A beautiful little stream ran down the
valley which had to be crossed rather
frequently. At 4 pm we formed
up for battle & at 4.30 the Col.
charged down on a German Corp's
Tobacco & fruit farm at Grablefonten
(managed by Alten Russel) where Boers
were supposed to be lying. The

assault was well timed but we drew a blank. This farm is a beautiful one growing all kinds of fruit, coffee tobacco etc. To day's hike was at least 15 miles. It is very warm during the day but the nights are cold.

17th April Burghis Fort We are

Camped on the site of an old Boer fort where a famous compact was made with the natives. We came along SE. about 14 miles thru the same thick undergrowth along a little track. The grass at places is 14-16 feet high. We are sleeping tonight in an unfinished native kraal with plenty of grass. Very warm up here during the day but distinctly cold at night.

18th April Fort Burghis This

morning we had alarm of attack but nothing came of it so we came back to the same camp situated on the N.W. slope of a steep ridge of kopjes. There have been

persistent rumors of fighting on the hills presumably Blanes' camp but no definite news from any quarter. Dispatch orders have been sent back to Melipis Port.

19th April 1902. Messengers have come from camp telling of Blanes' discomfiture and that we are now alone in the country all the rest of the column being at Melipis Port. The Boers' natural headquarters and all the heights around. It appears that Blanes got to the vacated laager, he had reported being occupied during the night, on the morning of the 16th and then advanced about 6 miles on their spine down a valley ending narrowly & blocked by a low rise. Some Boers being sighted there the order was given to charge. S.S. & H. being in the advance. The Boers let them come to 300 yds then gave them pepper, killing & wounding some & knocking a number of horses.

They retired for cover Beddes retiring
out of sight & the R.F.S. about 200 yds.
The firing then became general the
Boys opening fire from all sides having
command of all the heights. Their
numbers are estimated at at least
5-6 hundred. Blaine put up a fight
there for about 4 hrs but finding that
they were being surrounded retired
fighting all the way when apparently
offered till they reached the ridge
above Haunatabay which seemed to
be occupied by Beddes Scouts. The
mounted Boers now made a sudden
rush round to cut off their retreat
down the very steep path to H. Bay.
Beddes wanted no longer but taking
the hit man for it. Shortly afterwards
Blaine seeing the opening gave the
order of all went pell mell and
came straggling back to Melips Port.
Casualties 6 killed including old
Greffen the scout and 55 H. formed
55. R.F.S. 14 wounded including
young Robertson formed 1045 (the

only open hit. About 30 were captured
& sent back with Boer clothes on.
The horses suffered pretty badly but
only about 20 serviceable ones fell
into the Boer hands.

21st April Main Camp 6 miles

W of Haenertsburg

We arrived here very
early this morning about 1. am with
no notable incident leaving J. Breyer
at Sandown previous evening. We
expected to have a hot time on the
journey but found the road clear
and we were pleased to meet the
column with waggon which had
been ordered to come on.

23rd April Marcus Farm

This
camp is on the main road to
P'burg & about 10 miles from that place
Peace, that is all the go and
it seems likely this time
we have just recently heard all
about Rich Breyer de Wet Brother
de la Rey etc. being in Pretoria

and from the last camp Jack Home
(Charles brother) and McArthur went
out to Byers as peace woggy.

Today Home returned. They were very
well received indeed and Byers &
his officers are now just beside us
waiting further developments which
seem to depend on the Colonel
who is just now in P.burg. It is
quite delightful to go around as one
would if no Boers were around. There
is not much sport however and
the Coran are awfully shy I
only got one after 3 hrs work last
evening.

6th May 1902 Johannesburg

Since last entry much has happened.
Ridgby returned on the 24th and
I got off on a month's leave. I
went to P.burg where I saw Major
Pitchee convalescing well and
was hospitably received by Mr.
Lindson & Johnston. I then went
down to Tabery taking a truck for

the mare and dogs. Coming down
here I found Wilnot on the animal
line & handed over the stock to
him. He got 712 107. for the pups
but has not yet parted with the
mare, there being some trouble
regarding her registration. On May 2.
I returned to Pretoria and started
clearing up in my papers that
morning. I met & lunched with
Shepstone & Charlie Stone lunched
with me. I was up again at
22 General where Duncan Hight
etc were going strong. We had
a jolly night at the Abner's,
the 3 Seats and Mr. Hight was
more entertaining in words that
cannot be written over the
treatment of horses by Co. Surgeons
& nurses than the piece, which
all the same was quite good.
Yesterday I got my orders to
proceed to C' town for duty
home, so started off this
morning but had to switch

off here to square up the Bann
Cubnot & Pattison deal. We
fixed it off before Friedlander
and I gave on promissory note of \$500
to Cubnot this afternoon. I am
now clear and fairly start for
the Cape tomorrow morning. I
met the same people here and
all seems going on as usual.
Peace negotiations I believe are
progressing favorably. The weather
is quite delightful, of course
inclined to be chilly at night
but quite warm enough during
the day & always gives sunshine
11th May, 1902 Capetown

I arrived here
on the 9th early, after a very
decent railway journey. Col
Murray (Industrious) who was hit
at Mafep's note came down in the
same train all the way. To
Bloubaarten I travelled with old
Serg. Meyer Noisynthe who hopes

to be included home. He has had
a long tough time & has stood it
wonderfully. Lately however he has
had double ration so is determined
to make for home. He is a bright
& jolly as ever known & knowing
all down the line. We met ~~W. J. Ste~~
to the famous Col. Long R.A. at
Vilgers drift. & Col. Hicken at
~~Rheinfonten~~ ^{Rheinfonten}. I went to the
theatre ~~then~~ at Rheinfonten and
saw the Australian Kids. They
are very smart indeed.

On my way in the tramway at
Meyerton station I saw what
will probably be the last shot
I will see on this war. There
was a stonish grey on there
within $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the line. About
30 Buss enjoying some scrubs
they said. The journey down
was of little interest & was found
chiefly at "Bridge." We came
thru' all the interesting part at
night.

Here I am staying at the inter-
national hotel. Good enough
rather on the boarding house plan.
The P.M.O. here was very decent
and put me down for a passage
in the first boat - the Lake Erie
early on the 12th.

I met Jones yesterday and
he lunched with me yesterday and
we had a walk around. I also
met Williams from Liverpool who
had been under my care at Bethesda.
Weather here is very pleasant
indeed Cool & dry.

On Friday I called out at Weyburn
Street the Messes Spragg - In G.

Spragg's daughter.

12th May SS. Lake Erie.

We have just pulled
out and the coast is fading from
view. We left dock at 1.15
and sailed right away.

There are about 20-30 Cabin Passengers
on board and 500 troops, mostly

volunteer company I believe. There
is $\frac{1}{2}$ Coy. 1st L.I. Vol. on board and
Maj. Pat. Henry is O.C. Troops.
C. Eng. Hargest is the other doctor
on board. There should not be
much to do as there are no
wounds. The only nuisance is the
plague. There is plague inspection
every morning for 10 days.

The Hospital arrangements are
really far more different from
the old Contingent. Altho'
not fast rate she is a regular
passage boat and is likely to
be very comfortable.

There are several ladies and
children on board but no
mascots or stowage.

She is very light heavy no cargo
subsidium so we must hope for
a smooth sea.

20th May. SS. Lake Erie

9th day out from Capetown

Nothing much has happened so far. The weather at first pleasantly cool has turned warm for two days or so. Last night I took to the deck. Our average going has been 270 miles. I got a prize in the sweep for the first three times but did not make much as I bought a lot. 'Budge' is the chief in fact almost the sole form of amusement. We are in the middle of a tournament in which my partner Anthony & I stand well at present.

The ladies on board are pleasant and quiet - no worrying or deck games. The sleep on board is extremely good as good as I have ever had on board ship.

The stewards are very attentive & ships off. good sort. So she is very pleasant indeed to travel in.

There is really nothing of note & it is too much to attempt to know.

June 4th 23rd day out

S.S. Lake Erie

We are now passing the 18th of
light and expect to get along-
side early this afternoon. The
voyage has been quite successful.
On the 29th we stayed several
hours at Las Palmas and I
went ashore with some others
including Mr Foster Mr Harris
Bentley Norman & Hampton.
There was a big do in the
Cathedral, choral mass and
the music was quite a treat.
We drank wine at the Catalina
Hotel, really a beautiful spot
with surroundings
but for the small town.

North. Fus. Cap. Culbert.

Subs. Wright & Benders.
Shrops. Cap. Lucome

Subs. Anthony & Mansell.
N.L.I. J. Smith.

Black Watch Cap Christie.

Subs. White

K.R.R. Stullard.

Durham Lt. Cap. Cook.

Unattached. Mg. Hendry.

Cap. Chester Adj. Borders.

Cap. Peate Warrington (Reg)

Burley ^{Warrington} Cap. McCulloch S.F. (M.L.)

Burham Worcester Newman
S.A.C.

Glasgow W^o Stirling 6 Charing X.
20th June 1902.

I have been knocking around here chiefly staying at Kilmalcolm.

Found all well. Stayed with Fred McKillop at Prestwick. Found every one practically I.S.G. Weather much more like winter.

London. 30th I have been staying up here since the 26th with the Liverpool crowd. James and Mrs. Woolley Vera & Ina come up daily from Aldershot. Mr. Danie Harman & Roland, the latter at least has been in daily attendance.

He is on leave from Coventry. Of course there has been no coronation so we have just been doing the town. It has been dreadfully hot and the crowd is awful. But for the company it would have been mendacious.

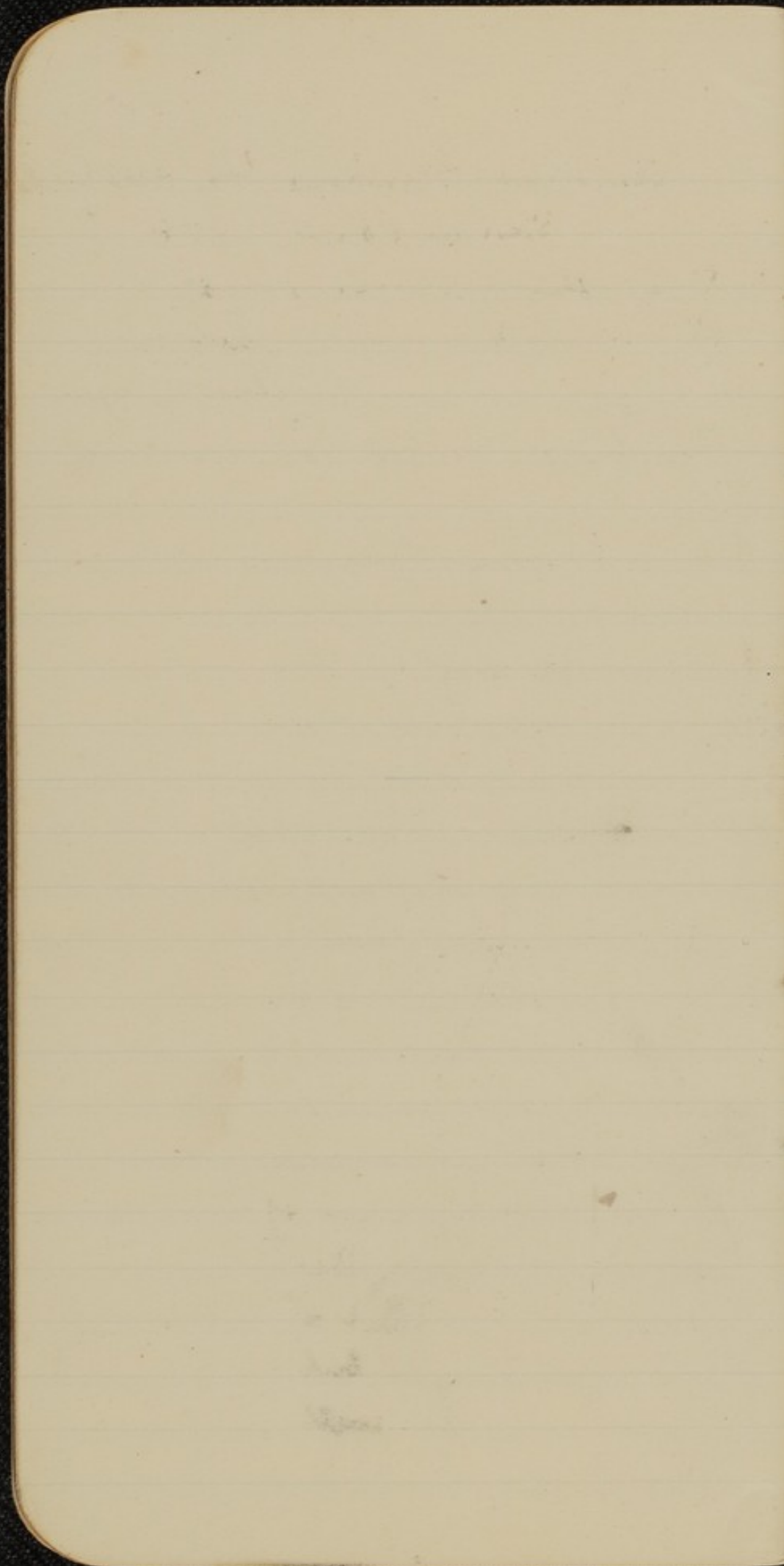
Tues. 1st June. Mr Woolley & Mrs Percus are here above with me and we are going out on our own the rest left for Liverpool today.

June 2nd Hereford I am here with Mr. Sam Reid of Toling and we have a boat & intend going down the Wye.

7th June Chepstow we have made the trip & it is very fine. There is no real difficulty to navigation at the present state of the water and we got down safely without local aid. The men along are very jolly & we had them

practically to the ourselves. The
ruin is really very picturesque and
full of historical interest. Not being
gilded that way & but poor tourists
we stuck pretty closely to the ruin &
only saw what was absolutely checked
in our way. Lintern Abbey is
really magnificent & the whole place
really beautiful. The ruin to the
north from Lymington is perhaps
the finest but all is interesting.
Chapelton Castle is perhaps the finest
ruin I have ever seen and must
be of the highest interest to the archaeologists.
The weather was fine all the time
and not too awfully hot in the sun.

9th September We took a
steamer which
happened to be coming here with
the idea of black bass fishing: but
that has not come off. To-day
it is raining so I am writing.
I am desperately hard up for some.
Ming really to do, not being able
to loaf elegantly.



Epitaphs Founhope Ch. Hereford.
Susan Powell 1758

All you that by me pass along
Pray think how sudden I was gone
God doth not warning always give
Therefore be careful how you live

Henry Kenwood 1783

Pain was my portion
Physic was my food
Prayer my devotion
Drugs done me no good
Christ comes my physician
He knew what was best
To ease me of my pain
and take my soul to rest.

Mary Wheatstone 1797.

Here lies a mother near this stone
Sleeps with the rose of her womb
So cruel thorn was death you see
That with the fruit shoo'd down the ^{tree}
It's cruelty was but in vain for
fruit and tree will rise again

E. L. Cole. Scottville Michigan USA

Herrn. } Charles Hellmuth.

Mitchell } Box 752 Dawson JI.

Whaygan

Hellmuth

Tom Arthur 17 Aron Terrace Glasgow

W. Salisbury Aluston Hk. 183 Evening Rd.

Stoke Newington N. G. E. Rail.

G. W. F. Johnstone Palace Hotel S. Francisco

D. L. Fleming St. Georges Church

Leadville Colorado.

Mrs N. Colley Innskaya Insdvickovsy

home Pegoff. Moscow

Mrs D. Aubrey Banker 4 Boulevard Van

Brughem. Ostend Belgium

L. Brock-Cleland of. Col. Eddington

6 West Mainland St

Edinburgh.

J. C. Dickson of. J. L. Wilson

1804 Resort St. Baker City ^{Oregon}

J. MacRobert Mrs Sinclair 35 Alcorn

Terace Portobello.

W. Millis 14 Flora St Leicester

Glegg 32 Blacket Pl. Edin.

A. MacRobert 14 St Vincent St. Edin.

D. L. Fleming St Georges Ch.

Leadville Colorado.

Mrs N. Colley Moscow Innskaya

Insdvickovsy home Pegoff.

Gottschalk Lewis Schuyler

1123 Broadway N. J.

Films.

Rustenburg, Johannesburg. - Vlakfontein.
1 box sent. 1 Feb. 02 to Bunting.

Diamond Cullis. Mr. Meene.
Petersville. C.A.

Royal Cafe. St. Mary and head St.
off Alderley St.
A. Morrison Photographer St. Louis.

G. M. Ridge. Inghfield
Widdesey.

A. Anthony. (Shops) Glenview
Hereford.

Mrs. W. H. Foster. Stillwell. + San
Bakers. 42 Pall Mall

CAP. Bentley (Warrington) Mitchell
St. Thomas.

Mrs. Dixon Fancett. The Mill Home
Unstone Sheffield.

Mr. J. A. Leaman. Halifax (Kootenay timber)

Max Johnson Red. Cross Fishing Co.

Roche Harbour Washington. USA.

Photographs.

25th Nov. Boy abnir Maklala stad.
Wambathis.

Wav. Stewart Hartenbury Wambathis.

Mr Russell of W^o 2^o. Russell,
P.O. Box 22. Joburg,
Mamelout, Womfuntin

Castro. Longart Natal
Shackery I.F. Hutton C. C' town.
Anderson (W) Grand Hotel Bulwags
Marley. Box 8. Bulwags-

Wm Friskin 288 Ansonworth Rd.
Radeloff Manchester.

Wm 5 W Snell (daughter of W^o Snell)
off. Cathedral Kilmantin

Wm Spence 63 High St Marybone I.

F.C. Jackson Spencers Crescent Stone
Nannanno. P.O. Box 13.

Crause to Glatter St. James P. Mariposa
M. R. Armas 31. Water St C' town Kibog,
Wegington Road. King St.

70 Johannesburg Cont. Rd. Tolm

Eleri Lillie-

Mr AE Ash. Stoke on Trent. Eng.
William Fiskin 288 Answorth Rd.
Radcliff Manchester.
Mrs Darling. Barker 31. Bedford Row Eden.
Mr W. A. Dunham of Mr H. B. Wensham.
Stockton-on-Tees. Eng.
Mrs. Lotte Mitchell & ^{Box 31.} ~~Box 31.~~ ^{Box 31.} Mantling.
Young Pagan McArthur Dale St. Liverpool.
Capt. Bell clubs. Wellington London.
Union Newcastle.
Capt. Morrie Babington Pica dely.
13 Rue de Lubec. Paris.
Pattison Geoffrey Mrs Henderson.
Lansvale Est. F. Buid. Tobing.
Glaeser L.V. Home coal estates Middelburg.
Ors Alex. S. E. Masland Price Co
Magazon Bombay.
C J. de Jong 71. Milton Rd. Observatory. C.S.
Major Knott. Stamford Hill Durban.
Aid. Major. Lamellen.
St Judy. R.S.O. Cornwall.
Messrs J.T. Hutton Co. Shipping Agents
St George St Capetown.
John Segrested 16 Phoenix Buildings
Minneapolis Ill. U.S.A.

