

Papers of Surgeon General Francis Innes

Publication/Creation

1834-1859

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/yyakkjt3>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution, Non-commercial license.

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

THE R.A.M.C. HISTORICAL MUSEUM TRUST

Trustees:

Director General Army Medical Services
 Representative Colonel Commandant, R.A.M.C.
 Commandant, R.A.M. College
 Commandant, Depot and Trg. Estb. R.A.M.C.
 Sir Arthur Porritt, Bt.
 Dr. W.S.C. Copeman
 Maj.-Gen. R.E. Barnsley (Hon. Secretary)



R.A.M.C. Historical Museum,
 Keogh Barracks,
 Ash Vale,
 Nr. Aldershot, Hants.

Aldershot 24431, Ex 292

Curator:

Lieut.-Col. J.T. Moore

Papers of Surgeon General F.W. Innes :-

- (a) Report on 84th Regt 1858
- (b) Med Rept on the Alderney Regt Hospital 1857
- (c) Application for Special Allowance 1859.
- (d) Copy of Testimonial for Alice Ewing, Surgeon
 Alderney Regt Infantry 1834.



Copies presented to the R.A.M.C. Historical Museum by

Mr C. Barclay, Innes, F.R.C.S.,

708 Diagonal Buildings,

Queen Street,

Auckland, NZ

R. V. J.

16/9/69.

(Copy)

RAMC 509/1

Aberdeen 27th June 1834

I hereby certify that Mr. Francis James served
a regular apprenticeship to Medicine of 3 years
under me, that he was for a considerable time
my Clerk & Dresser in the Hospital. I have
also much pleasure in stating that he gave
me the utmost satisfaction by his diligence
attention & progress in his studies, & general good
conduct, & further that I consider him a young
man of very superior talents & attainments, &
highly qualified to discharge the duties of his
profession, with credit to himself & advantage to
the Public. Attest. Ewing M. D.

Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary
Lecturer on Surgery to the Universities
of Aberdeen &c. &c.

James

[Faint, illegible cursive handwriting]

[Faint, illegible cursive handwriting]

Medical Report on the Cude Field Force &
Hospital Allum Bagh from 19th September to 27th Nov^r
1857. —

This little Army was composed of the Allahabad movable Column reinforced by the arrival on the 15th September 57 of 1500 men under Sir James Outram, consisting of the 5th Fusiliers from "Mauritius" & the 90th Light Infantry from Home, Evers Battery and details of Corps composing General Kavelock's original force, which had suffered frightfully in the first expedition into Cude. — They were however progressively recovering under the benign influence of the shelter and good food they enjoyed for a month at Cawnpore, — Cholera however still lurked about the Camp, many men suffered from Diarrhoea, and more from the debility with Anorexia and white flabby indented tongue, which were all but universal when (15th August) the force retreated to the right bank of the Gange. —

Early on the morning of the 17th the united force crossed the sacred river on a bridge of boats. — Here the Enemy, though in force offered no opposition, though they made a nominal resistance to our advance to the Sand hills, a mile from the rivers banks, — Here we encamped - halted & on Sunday the 20th, waiting for our heavy Guns and baggage, all of which arrived in the course of that day. — The foe entertained us with their Drums & Bugles and an occasional shot. — At day break on the 21st in drizzling rain we marched for Lucknow and at ³⁰thumgalwar, the village at which we had halted so often, & suffered so much on our first advance, we found the Enemy in great force and strongly posted. — As we approached their position the sun came out for a few minutes and shone brightly on our advance. — In half an hour this strong position was turned and the Enemy, losing three Guns, were driven out of the place

in
to the 61st, 78, 84, & the 1st Madras Fusiliers, Bengal Volunteer Cavalry
& Artillery in all 1500.

in some confusion, which was speedily converted into a total rout by the Horse Artillery and Cavalry, led by Sir James Outram, in person, who captured five more Guns, Tents, Camels, & Cattle.

As we marched on to Busherat Gunge, we found the road strewn with shoes, accoutrements, &c. which the fugitives had thrown away. Rain fell in torrents with scarcely any intermission during the whole day. In the afternoon we reached Busherat Gunge, where the Troops found the same shelter as on former occasions. The baggage did not come up until very late, and some men had nothing until next morning. The wet did not damp the men's spirits, they marched admirably.

At 8 A.M. on the 22nd we resumed our march, reaching about noon "Benny bridge" which to our great delight we found uninjured. — This doubtless we owed to the Cavalry's charge of yesterday. — At Beby Gunge three miles further on we halted part of the force finding shelter from the still pouring rain in a ~~vill~~ filthy village, while others had to bivouac on the wet ground. — Two men of the 8th Fusiliers were severely wounded by the accidental discharge of a Comrade's rifle. One Artillery man was shot through the head by some one of the many men who were firing off their pieces (rendered damp by the rain) in spite of all orders to the contrary.

At 8 A.M. on the 23rd the march was resumed, the men in high spirits & heart, notwithstanding the constant wet by day & night, to which they had been exposed. — The day was dry and rather hot & about 2 P.M. we saw the minars and domes of Lucknow, and not long afterwards the Enemy appeared in vast numbers drawn up to oppose us. — As we advanced along the road the shot & shells fell thick amongst us, one of the latter killed one & wounded 3 officers of the 90th very severely, both of whom died a few days afterwards in this Hospital. One of the ^{men}

7 Wounded 1 Man of 1st Madras Fusiliers, 1 of the 8th, 1 of the 90th and 6 of the Volunteer Cavalry. — Killed none

men were injured by this ^{shell} and the ill-fated Officers
were all in different parts of the Column.
As the Army advanced in line the enemy retired
taking their Guns with them. — At Allum Bagh
house & Garden they made more resistance but they
were soon driven out with considerable loss & the
forces bivouached on the ground they had won,
which shortly after sun set was so deluged by a
storm of Wind & rain that most men had to
walk about all night in mud as deep as the
ground. — Immediately after the fight Sir James Outram
announced the fall of "Delhi". — This day work
sent 19 Wounded Europeans into the Allum Bagh
Hospital, of whom two were by musketry, the others
by large projectiles. — On the morning of the
24th many of our Tents were got up for the men &
the Army halted for the day in and around the
Allum Bagh Garden, and suffered much from the enemy's
Guns, which every now and then dropped a shot amongst
us & were so well concealed by the dense trees around
the City, that our Artillery failed to silence them.
So exactly had they got our range that the 8th of
while lying down in line had 4 men struck by
our shot, and immediately afterwards there fell a
shot within 3 yards of where we had established
an operating ^{surgey} which literally cut a man in
two at the hips, carrying away also penis and
scrotum. Our Surgery was soon removed to a
safer position, and I was fully occupied during
the day in assisting the Surgeons of the Force
in various amputations, of the men wounded
this day 23 were admitted into this Hospital
half of whom were by round shot & shell.

About mid day the enemy's Cavalry
made a dash at our baggage & being mistaken
for our sowars were allowed to come so close
that our men began patting their horses on the necks
& men of the 8th & 90th were killed by the enemy
Late in the evening I heard accidentally (not having
seen the order) that the force was to advance on Lucknow.

Next morning & that previous to doing so, all the sick and Wounded were to be left in the Murr Bagh with the heavy Baggage and Cattle of the force, also the Native followers except the Syces of Field Officers. How to furnish the additional Medical Aid which this arrangement rendered necessary was no easy matter. — The attempt to form a Field Hospital for the force, before it left Cawnpore, was abandoned, from the utter want of means, which were scarcely sufficient to supply the ordinary peace establishments for Regiments & No. Corps had more than two & many only one Medical Officer. — Fortunately there were two more who had no distinct executive duties, the Medical Store Keeper and Assistant Superintending Surgeon, Dr. Domenichitto & Myself & upon these the duties of this Field Hospital devolved. —

At day break on the 25th I rode round to the different Hospitals to make arrangements with the Medical Officers particularly as regarded the Sick Men's Rations, which had been already drawn by their Regiments, also promised to feed their Sick for that day. — By 7^½ o'clock the Sick began to pour into this place but as the Garden and building were fully occupied by H. M. & Fusiliers and the General Staff, no arrangements could be made until 8^½ o'clock, when the Troops vacated the buildings. — The Sick had to be brought into them at once as the Doobys were to accompany the Column. — Long before this could be done, there began to come from the advancing Column, many men with frightful wounds the results mostly of shell & round shot. — Of these 22 were admitted into the Hospital, besides several who died before their names could be entered in the Hospital books. — Indeed it was two days before any complete list of admission could be obtained owing to several Regiments in the hurry of starting, sending no nominal Returns with their men. — Of four Medical subordinates, one was prostrated by Fever, one laid up with a broken arm, two were mere lads of little experience,

in 9th Oct 1847
 so that the duties devolved on Asst Apothecary Doyle, who was himself suffering from Liver & Dysentery. The great majority of the Hospital menials left by Regiments, took advantage of there being no one present who knew them, either to absent themselves entirely from duty or to perform it in a very negligent manner.

Of the wounded just brought in, nearly all seemed to think, that their injuries demanded immediate amputation, & that if done under Chloroform, this would at once end their suffering. Their screams for aid were therefore incessant and heart rending. Fortunately there was one Native table, about a foot high in the building & this was at once made available for operations. Of these, there were then performed two amputations of the thigh, both very high, two of the leg, one of the thumb, with fracture of the Humerus on Europeans, besides an amputation of the thigh and one of the Arm on Native followers. These with the extraction of balls & dressing wounds, occupied the early part of the day, and before night fall all the patients in Hospital had been seen and prescribed for but it was late before any of them got food, and some had only a supply of Gugo & Port Wine, which I had prepared for them. Early next morning 3 more amputations were performed.

The "Allum Bagh" or garden of the World, destined to be our Field Hospital is the suburban Palace of the Queen of Oude. It is distant from the entrance to Lucknow one mile, & four foms our Garrison, or the Bailie Guard. The Garden is a square of 450 paces surrounded by a brick wall 8 feet high, with Octagonal towers surmounted by gilded domes at the corners. On the N. E. face is a large gate way and posterns on each of the other sides. In the centre of the enclosure is a large house (with towers at each corner), consisting of two stories each.

Containing a Center Hall 50 x 75 x 15 feet surrounded by two 15 feet Verandahs the inner completely inclosed below and partially above, the outer completely open above & partially so below. - The roof flat-terrace. - The Area available for the accommodation of the Suck was 110 x 65 feet below or 50 x 55 above, without deducting dividing walls. - The house was substantial and in good repair, contained no furniture save Pumps & Mirrors. - The Garden is laid out in Mathematical figures by roads radiating from the central house. - The plots are all enclosed by hedges 4 or 5 feet high and contained fruit Trees - chiefly Oranges, ^{and} adapted for irrigation, & mostly under water when we took possession. -

The Cultivation had however been neglected for some time & the whole place was full of filth and ordure, and it took some time to establish & enforce sanitary regulations in a mass of animated nature consisting of 400 Europeans, one third of whom were sick, 5000 Natives, 200 Elephants, 200 Camels, 5000 BullOCKS, & 300 Horses, all confined within the 4 Walls of the Garden.

The Regiment took some supplies of medicine with them into the City, but left the heavy Hospital baggage here, and supplies of medicines & dressings &c were readily ^{obtained} from their large medicine Chests. - That belonging to the 5th Fusiliers was left for us in the building by Staff Surgeon Proctentham.

When the supplies there were exhausted, the Chests of the 84th, 78th, & 90th Regiments were indented upon.

In this way a sufficiency of all essential medicines & instruments was at once obtained. - For some days no one was allowed to go outside the Walls & all attempts to get in supplies of any kind from the surrounding Country proved futile. -

On the 28th we first heard from Sir James Outram, that at 8 P.M. on the 25th he had succeeded in relieving the Garrison of Lucknow, but from that
day

day until 25th November communication, with the force
in the City ^{then} was none, save by spies, carrying for enormous
rewards) infinitely small notes, in the Greek character
inclosed in Quills or other envelopes easily swallowed
or secreted. — of notes so despatched not one third ever
reached their destination,

About this time the supplies of food for Native
followers became very scarce, and the famine soon increased
to the verge of actual starvation. — Foraging parties with
strong European escorts were often sent out, but they
found very scanty supplies of ~~Hoona~~ Rice in the Villages
but abundance of food for Cattle. — Many of the Natives sub-
sisted on Grass and Sugar Cane, and when on searching
for this food they were often cut off or cut up, by the
Enemy's Cavalry. — On the 1st October the Killed & Wounded
brought in amounted to five followers. — Rhusti "Lullum",
is given at page 4 & shows how rapidly and
easily Natives recover from the most severe injuries

In consequence of our close investment, the only
diet for the Sick was their ordinary rations with the
addition of Beef Tea, Mutton Broth, Sage & Arrowroot.
Onions were the only Vegetables the Commissariat had.
Fortunately there was an abundant supply of Wine & Beer
& Spirits for the worst cases, and one dram of Arrack was
allowed daily to all parties for whose Cases it was suitable.
The great wants of this Hospital were beds, Furniture,
Utensils, Stationary & Clothing. — of these there were
literally none. — a few Chatties & flower pots, were picked
up about the Gardens. — Preserved meat and Sardine
tins &c, the packing tow of the Medicine Chest were
made most available for washing & dressing wounds,
and of Lint and Calico there was an ample supply.
But by no such expedients could the want of warm
Clothing be obviated. —

The few Corps that had any Hospital
Clothing were obliged to leave it at Cawnpore for
want of Carriage. — The bedding of all the men
employed in the first expedition, were completely
rotted by incessant wet, and such as they were they
could seldom be found, and as the Kits of the whole
force were brought in here on the morning of the
25th

25th & were immediately used to render musket proof
the Verandahs of the Hospital and the Picquet houses
at the corners of the Garden wall. — For the first
week the majority of sick had no covering but their
Coats & no beds but the bare floor. — Mattresses &
Pillows from the Doolies were however found for the
worst Cases. — Fortunately the weather in the end
of September and beginning of October was warm &
muggy, so that the want of clothing was less felt,
and by the 15th October when the nights began to get
cold, a Subringie (Cotton) Mattress or blanket of
some sort, was found for every sick man. If his own
bed could not be got, that of an absent Comrade was
taken.

For the first fortnight the sick and wounded
did right well, and their numbers decreased from
138 to 104, but on the 5th October there arrived
a Convoy from Cawnpore (the first Communication
from that Station) under a Guard of 250 Men,
a great many of whom had contracted Ague on the
Road, a few days afterwards this disease — the endemic
of the Country at this season, began to prevail amongst
the Sick & Wounded, as well as the duty men, &
on the Wounded, whether by Gun shot or sword Cut, it
exercised a most unfavourable influence. — A healthy
granulating surface became suddenly converted by
an agonising paroxysm into a livid, bleeding & perhaps
sloughing sore. — On the cure of the Fever by Quinine,
the sore generally resumed its favourable aspect,
but when the disease relapsed, as it was apt to
do once or twice, the same favourable result
was not obtained, as shown in 2 Cases detailed in
the appendix, in which the fever seemed to aggravate
the wound, and the wound the fever, until between
the two the poor Victims perished (McGrother & Appleton)

As the weather became colder Diarrhoea
& Dysentery became very common complications
of the intermittent, and were after more intractable
and distressing than the original disease. —

This complication was most common amongst
the

The men whose health had been undermined by service during the rains in Cude, but even in these, was neither so severe nor fatal, as the forms of Dysentery I have usually seen in many Madras & Burmah Stations. - It differed from these in the Tongue continuing clean & moist throughout, and in the absence of hemorrhage & Sloughing. -

At an early period there appeared in Hospital a form of Phagedonic ulceration very like Hospital Gangrene. -

It was at first attributed to the contusing effects of Gun shot, extending further than was at once apparent. - When this occurred early it was unaccompanied with pain or much constitutional disturbance, and the Slough separated speedily leaving a healthy Sore. - Vide Cases of Bruce & Roberts

In others, when the Contusion was slighter, the wound appeared indolent at first, and made no progress for a week or ten days, when great pain, was complained of, and in about three weeks from the receipt of the injury, Sloughing commenced, - extended rapidly, and was checked by the application of Native Aids and the use of Opium (4 Grs per diem) Stimuli & nourishment. -

The Slough then rapidly separated and the Sore did well. - This Phagedonic however that has been most intractable, was that connected with the accession of endemic fever. -

In a good many of the Stumps, Sloughing commenced about a fortnight after the operation, but in all, save one, was rapidly arrested, only two cases of secondary hemorrhage, both from Sloughing occurred, and in none of the Amputations had we to contend with this untoward Symptom.

The famine so far as regarded the Natives was but partially relieved by the arrival of the Convoy which brought but little Attah or Rice, and on the 12th October when orders were received to fortify the Allum Bagh it was resolved to
issue

issue rations only to such Dooly Bearers &c as would work in the trenches. The wages being 5 Annas $\frac{1}{2}$ Ser of Attah or Rice per diem. On my representation, rations were allowed to the Native Hospital Servants. From the 12th to the 26th, the scarcity of food was so great that many of the Natives deserted, the Doolie Bearers going off in Scores. Cattle or Sheep were slaughtered nearly every day, and the flesh sold at 1 Anna per Ser, $\frac{1}{4}$ no man being allowed to purchase more than $\frac{1}{2}$ Ser per day. The crowds of buyers struggling to get forward showed how pressing were their necessities.

On the 25th October Major Barnston & the 90th Regiment arrived with ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{medical stores} supplies of Hospital Clothing &c escorted by 500 men and 24 Guns, when there was plenty for once in the Allum Bagh.

As the Enemy's shot was dropping rather frequently into the Garden and falling close to the Hospital, the Commanding Officer, on the 27th ~~th~~ commenced the erection of a traverse on the North eastern face of the Hospital, by which several shot were kept in the Carries towards the sick, - but the 28th all the wounds and sores that had become gangrenous or were not doing well, were removed from the house into Tents and with these were intermixed a good many of the best severe Cases of fever. - This move was attended with the best effects on the Sloughing sores, while it relieved the crowded state of the Hospital,

On the Morning of the 5th Nov^r the advance Guard of the Delhi Column arrived with an immense Convoy of provisions & Stores, under the Command of Colonel Koop & the 93rd Regiment, who had orders to return at 3 P.M. to the main Body which was waiting the arrival of the Commander in Chief at Bunnie Bridge, - He intimated that he was to take with him the sick and Wounded who were fit to travel towards Cawnpore. - Of Europeans

I immediately selected 30 Wounded & 40 Sick, of Natives & Wounded & 8 Sick, all of whom were despatched in Doolies & Commissariat four wheeled Carts. — There were some delay and Confusion in starting this party, owing to 20 Doolies having been sent to the Hospital as being available for the conveyance of Sick, which were, at 3 P.M. reclaimed for the service of the escort. — In consequence of this I had to collect bearings at a moments notice from the Public Works, to take them from their Cooling pits, and to get them together in any way. These men having had no time to prepare for the journey, their ^{stomachs} being broken, and they all fasting, in many instances set down these Doolies and ran away. However the party were all outside the gate by 4 P.M. and their progress onwards was hastened by a Cannonade from the Enemy which did no harm. — Supplies of Wine & Food were put into the Doolies with the worst Cases, and a sufficiency of Medical Comforts for the March handed on to Assistant Surgeon Hindall, in Medical Charge of the party. — Those of the Patients, who had not sufficient clothing of their own, had Hospital blankets &c. sent with them. —

From this date — the Enemys fire on the Allum Bagh became much heavier and many shot struck the building and riddled the Tents, and others fell in the Compound and wounded several Natives followers, horses & Cattle. On the 10th Nov. a man of H^o M^o 64th was killed by a round shot striking him on the Liver while lying on his bed in the upper Ward of the Hospital, suffering from fever. The same shot passed the right Knee of Private J. Thompson of H^o M^o 78th. — This injury caused much effusion into the joint & Constitutional irritation, followed by excessive prostration, but by a free administration of Wine and other Stimulants the man ultimately did well. — On the 11th Private J. Jenkinson of H^o M^o 78th was wounded by ^{the} accidental discharge

discharge of a Comrade's rifle in the right thigh -
the ball passing to appearance through the middle
of Hunter's Canal. A gush of blood immediately
followed, the shot which caused Collapse, and the
Hæmorrhage returned on the slightest motion. -
For 20 hours after the accident the leg was quite numb
& cold and the Veins were filled by dark blood and
it was feared the Artery Vein & nerve might all
be divided or injured, but by pressure with the
finger on the Artery in the groin steadily kept up,
the Hæmorrhage was arrested & on the second day
the Circulation was restored in the limb, the numbness
& Swellings afterwards passed off, the wound healing
with great rapidity. -

On the 11th November His Excellency
the Commander in Chief arrived with forces
amounting to about 7000 men of all Arms, after
leaving 70 Sick Europeans & 400 Natives suffering
mostly from fever & Dysentery, on the morning
of the 15th he proceeded towards Lucknow, and
nothing worthy of special notice occurred until
the 25th when the Army and relieved Garrison
returned to Allah Bagh & immediately afterwards
this field Hospital was broken up, the patients
being either sent down to Cawnpore or to their
respective Regiments. -

Result of Operation

Of 15 Primary Amputations 6 were in the thigh
Of these 3 recovered and 3 died from shock of the operation
1 was in the upper 2 in the lower third. — Of the deaths
1 was close to the hip 1 in the middle and 2 in the lower
third.

Of the 3 Amputations of the leg. 2 recovered
and 1 died. — Of the deaths 1 was Complicated by
Committted fracture of both bones of the other leg —
1 died of endemic fever. — Of the recoveries 1 was Syme's
operation at the ankle, but the heel pad Sloughed
The others were all near the knee. —

There was only one Amputation of
the Arm, which did very well, it was the only case
in the Hospital in which union by the first intention
was in any degree obtained, though it was Complicated
by an enormous Slough in the thigh (see Graves case
in appendix.)

Conservative Surgery

Our attempts in this direction were very disastrous
Of 9 Cases in which the propriety of Amputation, was
matter of discussion 2 only survived and one of these
I am told had to undergo Amputation of the arm
at Cawnpore. — 2 Cases of musket shot wound of
the foot were lost after Secondary Amputation & the
remaining 5 all succumbed before Secondary operative
proceedings were admissable. — Contusions of the Knee
though not producing fracture or opening the joint
were very fatal. —

The general type of disease was adynamia
and Stimuli in Considerable quantities were required
Water droppings were chiefly resorted to and Poultries
ignored.

Medical report to accompany the return of
Sick and wounded of H. M's 24th Regiment of Foot
for the year ending 31st March 1858. —

During this the most eventful period in the History
of the Anglo Indian Empire, the 24th Regiment was
the first to take the field, and has constantly stood
in the front of the battle. — One Company formed
part of Wheeler's Garrison and after performing pro-
diges of valour was treacherously massacred at
Cawnpore, one man only escaped. — Another Company
aided in the glorious defence of Lucknow under
Lawrence and Inglis, and the remainder of the
Regiment followed Havelock & Outram ~~whenever~~
~~led~~ until the Flag of England waved on the
Citadel of Lucknow. —

This being accomplished we commence a new
campaign under new leaders in which the sun
and hot winds are likely to form our ^{most} ~~worst~~ for-
midable foes. — As I find it impracticable to ar-
range this report under the usual heads, I shall
proceed to give in chronological order, a succinct
account of the medical occurrences of the year. —

— In March 1857 we were all pleasantly
employed in house building and gardening at
Rangoon when (on the 14th of that month) the
Corps was ordered, at an hours notice, to proceed
to Calcutta, in the lightest possible "marching
order." The sick were all ordered to be left be-
hind, as were all other impedimenta, including
Hospital Stores and records, and those things

have never been recovered, - On the arrival at Chinsurah the corps marched into Barracks but kept moving between that station and Barrackpore as the exigences of the service and the temper of the Sepoys seemed to require, & on two occasions the men were washed out of their tents, by heavy floods.

Whilst thus employed and exposed.

Cholera began to appear in Chinsurah Barracks but did not assume a severe form until after the 31st of March when the 24th was employed to overawe the mutinous Sepoy Regiments during the disbandment of the 19th Native Infantry.

To the left wing of my corps, was assigned the duty of escorting across the Ganges, the disbanded men and their families, amongst whom Cholera, in an aggravated form had for some time prevailed extensively, This duty occupied our men from 1.00 to 3. P.M. when, overpowered by fatigue and heat, they had to encamp near their pestilence stricken charge

On the following morning the Epidemic broke out with virulence and in the following 19 days carried off as many men, all of whom with one exception, belonged to the left wing, - Another circumstance probably contributed more than that first mentioned, to the spread of the Epidemic in that portion of the corps, - The Chinsurah Barracks had been long vacant, and the drains and sewers, had become vilely foul, the left wing occupied the lower story of the building, while

the healthy portion of the corps were housed in the upper story, - Assistant Surgeon La Bessle then in medical charge of the corps, soon discovered the condition of the sewers, and represented the matter, when they were immediately cleaned. This was perfected by a heavy fall of rain, about the 20th April, when the plague disappeared.

On the 19th of May two companies of the Regiment were dispatched in hot haste to Cawnpore and Lucknow, the remainder of the corps, stood fast at Ghinsurah, Barrackpore and Dum Dum, perfectly well until the beginning of June, when it commenced to move towards the N.W. Provinces, in small detachments - from 20 to 120 strong, - The smaller parties being carried by horse transit, the larger by bullock carriages, the former making about 100 miles per diem, the latter about 25 or 30, the first party that started was a large one, - The men had been much exposed during the day, in packing baggage, to both heat and temptation, and many of them were quite drunk when they left head quarters. - A scene so disgraceful, I had not seen in the Regiment since it came to India, - Next evening four men were struck down by ^{fatal} Apoplexy and of these only one recovered, - After this strict discipline was reestablished, and the remainder of the party reached Benares safely. In another detachment of 120 which followed by the same road, and conveyance, Cholera

broke out at Shergotty, on the left bank of the Soan river, — In one day 6 men perished from this disease, and when they reached Benares, the total loss in this small party amounted to 9 men, — This frightful outbreak was also I fear in some degree attributed to the misconduct of the men, who not having (through a grievous blunder) their proper allowances, became discontented and insubordinate, and wandered into the Villages drinking whatever they could get.

While arrangements were being made to send us on, — Most of us were halted, for about a week at Benares, — Here the heat was frightful and no less than 7 men, perished from Coup. de Soleil. — These cases occurred most frequently in parties moving and shortly after the first start, though they never moved off until the sun was well down, still the packing of baggage and arranging of hackries, with the excitement that every man feels at a first move in a new country leads to much exposure, and the forage cap ~~cap~~ when covered with a white turban, is a most imperfect protection from an Indian sun in June, — Head the cap covers with capes protecting the back of the neck, temples and cheeks

which are now used, been sooner introduced I believe some valuable lives would have been saved. Several cases of cholera occurred at Benares. - After from that station we were pushed on, partly by bullocks transit, partly by Steamer to Allahabad. On arriving there I found the Fort occupied by the Madras Fusiliers, who were suffering frightfully from cholera, having as I was informed buried 20 men the night before we arrived. - At my request, we were permitted to remain on board the Steamer during the night, and next morning without entering the Fort, we marched into cantonments 2 miles distant.

Here we found shelter in the few buildings not destroyed by the Enemy, the principal of which were the Church, and a Native General Hospital. - In the Hospital of a native Regiment, I found room for my sick and also for the sick of the 64th and 70th Regiments, as they arrived in the station. - Here I found a few medicines, in a cupboard which were highly acceptable, as we had been obliged, to leave all our medical stores at Barrackpore, taking with us only a few prepared medicines, put up in small parcels, such as could be taken by hand, in the Dawk carriages. - Both at Calcutta and Benares, we were told that our wants would be supplied at Allahabad but on arriving there found the whole station a complete wreck,

the ground strewed with fragments of costly furniture, china, carriages, pianos, books, bottles, and every thing, that could minister to the comfort of the Europeans, — A few medicines were recovered from amongst the ruins, and we were encouraged with the hope that on arrival at Calcutta, all we required could be obtained, from the great medical depot there, — In this ^{also} we were destined to be grievously disappointed. —

Heretofore our men had wanted for nothing — supplies, fresh & preserved, — and all good of their kind — in fact all that forethought and money could supply, had been provided for them at every halting place, henceforth our progress lay through a country in which every thing likely to prove useful to us had been appropriated or destroyed by the Enemy. —

On the 30th June, the very hottest period of the year, the first division, of the 24th left Allahabad, as part of a small force, under Major Renaud, sent for the purpose of relieving the beleaguered garrison of Calcutta, — They were pushed on by forced marches, but ere half the distance was accomplished, a native cook boy, who had gone to Calcutta with the 6th company of the 24th Regiment, brought certain tidings of the capitulation and treacherous massacre of the garrison, and the imprisonment of the Women

and children, - Our little force held its onward course, by easy marches until it was joined by General Heavelock, who by a series of marvellous successes, regained possession of Bawnpore. - In these operations the 24th had one Officer Captain Currie, mortally wounded by a round shot, which struck him as he was in the act of lying down with his men on the ground, - It carried away ~~_____~~ three

~~_____~~ The poor fellow survived in great agony for 3 days, - In these operations we lost 4 men - 3 Killed and one mortally wounded. _____

_____ At Bawnpore, the 24th and Head quarter divisions of the Regiment were reunited but owing to our giving many Detachments on our way up Country, we only mustered 400 men, - The rains had now fairly set in and poured down in daily torrents, and before crossing the Ganges it became necessary to provide shelter for our sick and wounded.

_____ The best to be had was in the American Mission house, which though partially unroofed, was in better condition, than the other Bungalows of the Station, nearly all of which had been gutted and burnt. - Here then a depot hospital was Established under charge of Assistant Surgeons Lundy 64th Regiment, and

Popplewell of the 04th. - With these were left most of our medical stores, comforts and appliances, as no carriage was to be had for them, - On the 21st we were ordered to cross the Ganges, "Officers with only a change of linen, and men as light as possible" all of us believing it, our mission to push on at all hazards, and save the Garrison of Lucknow, as we had in vain tried to rescue that of Cawnpore. - On reaching the left bank of the sacred river, we found what little shelter was to be had in native boats &c &c was appropriated by those who had crossed before us, so we had to bivouack on ground covered with an inch or two of water, here we were halted until the General should join us, & who was expected early next morning, - The force was under arms, and the whole of the baggage and cattle loaded at daybreak ready for a start, but it was late in the afternoon before he arrived and then only were the camels and Elephants relieved of their loads, - This caused us to be detained for another day, in this most pestiferous spot, and in the night the Sergeant Major had a fatal attack of Cholera, and for the next two months, this disease never left us, - Early on the 25th July the force advanced 2 miles and bivouacked near a deserted hamlet,

where there was a spot elevated a few inches
 above the surrounding country which was all
 under wet cultivation. - Here as it rained in
 torrents, the men sought to shelter themselves
 in one or two native huts, and by rigging up
 blankets on Hospital doolies, and on branches
 of trees. - The Guards and Piquets were however
 exposed night and day. - Three cases of cholera
 occurred that day. - Next morning was fine and
 we were employed in packing and returning
 to brownpore, the men's bedding, as no carriage
 could be obtained for it. - In the evening we
 advanced two miles further to Murrungawar,
 a large village on higher ground, in which all
 found shelter in native huts. - Here we rema-
 ined for three days, waiting for guns, - commissariat
 at supplies. - Sick carriage &c. but scanty indeed
 were the supplies, the most strenuous efforts of our
 Staff obtained, the Enemy having destroyed
 everything. - Of tents we had only two a Suba-
 Sterns used by the General, and a little pall
 for a post office. - Our sick carriage was
 less than half that allowed for an ordinary
 march, and of medicines our supplies were
 most scanty, but such was the good feeling
 amongst the various medical Officers, in
 lending to one another, that I believe our
 sick seldom wanted for any essential medicines
 during that short, but arduous campaign.

Fortunately we had for our sick, a fair supply of wine, spirits, and medical comforts, - shelter was what they most missed, - the native huts were so dirty and ill ventilated, that I preferred treating my sick in the Doolies, under the shade of trees. -

At 5 am. on the 29th July General Havelock advanced with 11 guns and 1400. men, of all arms, and about 2 hours afterwards attacked the Enemy, in the village of Onoc, - which consisted of high strong mud built houses, with terraced roofs and parapets all of which were loopholed for musketry. - Here we suffered severely - Adjutant Brown of the 64th was shot through the leg, - He was instantly dressed and put in a Doolie but before he could be removed, he received two more wounds from matchlock balls. - This could not have occurred in an ordinary campaign but we were so completely outnumbered and surrounded by merciless foes, that we never had a reserve or shelter in the rear, to which the wounded could be carried. - Our only safety was to keep as close as possible to the advancing line or column. - And indeed the Doolie bearers observed the maxim well, - After a very obstinate resistance the Enemy were driven out of Onoc, leaving behind them 13 of the Honorable - Company's brass 9 pounders all of which had to be disabled for want of carriage, - This was

effected by firing round shot at them by which the guns were deeply indented. — The ingenuity of the foe however repaired this damage as we afterwards discovered. —

Pushing on a mile and a half beyond the village we bivouached, in an open field under a blazing sun, without a blade or a leaf to shelter us. — Here I amputated one mans leg, dressed the wounded, and after 3 hours rest, if rest it could be called, we marched on to Bushurett gunge, where we had another fight in which we took 6 more guns. — This was a substantially built Town consisting of one long straight street, with gates at the ~~Extremities~~, — This street our round shot strewed with bodies, which ere next day were reduced to a horrible pulp by the wheels of the guns that had passed over them. —

We bivouached in a plantation of young mangoe trees, through which the road passed.

— The ground was very wet but all were too much fatigued to care about that, the loss in the force that day was such as to fill our sick carriages completely. — In the Regiment it amounted to Killed ^{Wounded} and 2 cases of cholera; but other Corps suffered much more severely. — Next day we retired on Onco, and on the 31st we found ourselves in our old quarters at Mungluwar cleaning the huts and making holes in the wall for ventilation,

draining and filling up ponds and doing our utmost to make the place habitable but cholera continued to decimate our ranks. _____

_____ On the afternoon of the 4th August the whole force again advanced in high hopes of fighting our way to Lucknow and bivouacked in a swampy field rendered more comfortless, by a constant drizzle, - started at 4 am and in very heavy rain marched on to Bushurattunge, which had been much strengthened in our short absence. - The place was stormed the 9th clearing every house in good style, and with very little loss, but suffered severely at a bridge a $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile in advance of the Village. - Here Asst. Apothecary Volkens was severely hit in the foot by a matchlock ball while assisting to dress the wounded, - Multitudes of the enemy were seen in all the tops, but the country was so inundated that we could not move from the road, - Here we halted for the heat of the day, - And General Havelock received intelligence that the Enemy 25,000 strong with 30 guns were prepared to defend Brunel Bridge, over which we must pass to reach Lucknow, no road but the main one being practicable at this season, _____ Our force was now reduced to less than 1000 Europeans, and pestilence striking as we were our further advance was deemed

impracticable so wearied and heavy hearted we marched back that evening to Munglewar which we reached about 9 P.M. having won a hard fight and marched 24 miles in 17 hours. ~ During that night and next day 10 men were admitted with cholera in its most virulent form. _____

_____ As no vegetables save pumpkins and onions, were to be had, at my instance lime juice was procured, ~ I also got a bakery established as the biscuit had become unfit for use, ~ As a sanitary measure the corps was now moved from the left to a village on the right of the position, ~ This was better built and on a more elevated site, but was even more filthy than the place we left. ~ The inhabitants were all tanners, and their abode bore too many traces of their occupation to be salubrious, ~ Here the Regiment remained until the 12th August when the General, having sent off all impediments, moved out, attacked the Enemy in a strong position 10 miles in advance beat them well, then marched back to the Ganges and crossed the whole force over to Banpore, so completely cowed were the Enemy that though they must have known what we intended not a man of them witnessed its accomplishment which was so complete, that we did not leave a stick or a rag behind us, ~ During the 24 days we spent in Aude, the loss of life and health in the Regiment was frightful 89 men were sent sick to Banpore all seriously ill,

and there was scarcely a man in the Regiment,
who was not suffering.

The men all looked sallow and worn and their
tongues were white, swollen, and indented like
lumps of wet pipeclay. —

They had however to beat another
Army, before they could hope for any rest. —

On the 16th we marched towards Mitthoor the
residence of the Nana, where a large sepooy force,
had entrenched themselves. — The sun was well

up before we got out of Bawnpore, and the men
suffered dreadfully from sun stroke. — Of the 84th

only 250 strong 12 men were admitted from this
cause, of whom 4 died. — One man became

quite delirious in the ranks, firing wildly on
his friends. — At last he threw himself into

a deep wet ditch, from which his own strug-
gles made it difficult to rescue him. —

So closely were we surrounded that
some of our personal baggage and followers,

though close up to the column, were cut off, and
one man of the 84th who had fallen out was found

next morning with his throat cut. — The Enemy
routed and their guns taken, the force retired

next day to Bawnpore and found shelter in various
buildings in cantonments. — The men's residence

there conduced, neither to health nor discipline &
they were removed out to an open plain about 1

mile from the town and separated from it by the great canal. — Here tents were pitched for the men but the rains were so heavy and the ground so level and swampy, that no sufficient shelter was to be found under canvass. —

So at my urgent representation we were permitted to occupy a range of sheds, which when inclosed with bamboo blinds (made to lift up and down) gave fair shelter. — Native cots. (Charpoys) were obtained for the men. — the drains were cleaned, and other sanitary measures carried out. — Supplies, medicines and stores were procured from Allahabad, and the health of the men improved progressively. —

Still cholera lurked about the camp and very many men were suffering from Diarrhoea up to the 19th September, when reinforced by the arrival of Sir James Outram with some 1500 Europeans, we recrossed to the left bank of the Ganges. — Now the river had subsided considerably and we found tolerable dry ground for our Encampment, about a mile from the bank. — Here we halted on the 20th September until our heavy guns and supplies should be got over, — at daybreak on the 21st we marched for Munglwan where we found the Enemy in great strength and strongly posted, but the Infantry soon drove them from their position, and a charge of Cavalry headed by Sir James Outram, soon converted their

retreat into a complete route. Private Coolie was here struck by a musket ball, where the peak is sewed to the forage cap. - A semicircle was cleanly punched out of the leather peak, and another out of the wollen cap, but there was only a slight abrasion of the skin underneath. - He was at first stunned but soon got up and wished to go on. - I insisted on his getting into a Coolie, but in the Evening as he felt quite well, &c. he was permitted to return to duty. - When he got into Lucknow the wound sloughed and considerable portion of both tables of bone were thrown off. -

We soon pushed on and reached Bushuratt-gunge in the afternoon, where we found some shelter from torrents of rain which poured down incessantly, for the whole of that and the following day. - This delayed our supplies so that many of us had no food till next morning. - The men were all in the highest spirits, and marched far better in the rain, than they ever did in the sun.

On the Evening of the 23rd we halted within 15 miles of Lucknow, where most of us found shelter in a wily filthy Village, - Next day about noon we sighted the Minarets, and Domes of Lucknow, and soon after the Enemy appeared in vast numbers, drawn up to

oppose us, - They moved out very steadily and their round shot told severely on our columns, advancing along the straight road, - One shell caused the death of 3 Officers of H.M.S. 90th Regt. - stout resistance was made at the Alum Bagh House, but that captured, the Enemy retreated on Lucknow taking their guns with them. - Here we bivouacked on the ground we had won, amidst a storm of wind and rain such as I have rarely seen, - Those of us who lay down did so in mud ankle deep but our spirits were high and we had just heard of the fall of Delhi, - Next morning was fine and some tents were got up, but round shot and shell dropt into our encampment all day, and did us much damage, - One of the former rudely interrupted the first Amputation of the day falling within 3 yards of our table, and literally cutting a man in two at the

amputation of the scrotum. - Our Surgery was speedily removed to a safer place, but was kept in full occupation all day, - Late in the evening orders were issued, that at daybreak next morning the whole of the sick and wounded, - baggage - battle - and native followers, ~~should~~ should be sent into Alum. Bagh, and that at 8. am. the force thus disencumbered, should enter Lucknow, - For these arrangements

the Medical Department were quite unprepared, as an attempt made before leaving Calcutta, to establish a field Hospital, was abandoned from utter want of means, which were quite insufficient, to complete our Regimental Establishment, - Some Corps had only one medical Officer, and the 90th Regiment alone had three, under these circumstances I thought it my duty as Superintending Surgeon to the force to remain at Alum Bagh, and extemporise a field hospital, and ably was I seconded by Dr. Dominichetti now Surgeon of the 75th Regiment, - The only material immediately available, were 120 patients, half of whom were badly wounded, - But as I have already given a full report of our doings in the Field Hospital, I shall now follow the bloody path of the 84th Regt. under medical charge of Assistant Surgeon La Presle into Lucknow, _____

_____ At 8. am. on the 25th September commenced the ever memorable advance on Lucknow and in a few moments the force came under a crushing fire from the Enemies guns which swept the straight and narrow road leading to the Canal Bridge, but the first Brigade (of which the 84th formed part) led by Sir James Outram made a brilliant dash at the Batteries capturing several guns which

were thrown into the canal, and gallantly
storming the bridge.

Here fell the gentle and brave
Captain Pakenham a worthy scion of an
illustrious race, and here were wounded
the Commanding Officer, ^{Captain Willis} & two of his Lieutenants.
How many men fell here was never correctly
ascertained. - Most of the wounded here,
were carried back to Alumbagh Field Hospital
and the force crossing the bridge turned to
the right along the Canal and after 12 1/2 hours
spent in storming houses all loopholed and
strongly held, & in street fighting the Regt.
at length reached the block tower in front
of the Residency, where they captured two very
large guns in position within 50 yards of the
gate, and here the men lay down for the
night by the captured guns. - Few of the
wounded were brought in until the following
day and very many of our poor fellows
were cruelly slaughtered in the Doolies. -
- The Dooly containing the medicines and
Instruments for immediate use was also
lost and in consequence our sick & wounded
had to depend on others for these things,

Our warmest thanks are due to Surgeon Scott of H. M. 32^d Regiment, for his Kindness in this respect, Of the wounded brought in, three required amputation, two of the Arm and one of the Leg, - Of these only one Lieut Woolhouse recovered and that solely through the Kind nursing of a Lady, ^{friend} and even with this advantage he was ^{extremely} reduced and emaciated, For the poor soldiers there was no nourishment, save indifferent beef and bread with a very little rum and porter which lasted but for a very short time.

The poor fellows were subjected to much fatigue and exposure by their having, owing to the enemies fire, to be removed from place to place, often without due preparation - being made for them.

During the two months that the Corps (395 strong) were shut up in Lucknow, there were admitted into Hospital 90 cases of gun shot wounds, - Of these 19 died 49 were discharged 30 transferred to Calcutta, -

The chief cause of mortality was Haemorrhagic dysentery and Hospital Gangrene, - Intermittent fever was also common but not intraceable,

- As the men brought nothing with them

save what they carried on their backs, and
 the cold weather set in immediately after
 the force entered Lucknow, they suffered
 much during the siege from cold, all-
 the more intolerable, from the want of suf-
 -ficient food, ~ This difficulty was mitigated
 by the discovery in one of the captured
 Palaces of a quantity of Tents which were
 cut up into sheets and coverings, of various
 devices, ~ The result of amputation was
 very disastrous - Two of the leg both died,
 and of three of the Arm one only recov-
 -ered, - Of wounded officers, one had his
 Arm amputated at the shoulder joint,
 and died from fatigue and exposure,
 (after the relief) during the march to
 Cawnpore, The other Lieutenant Woolhouse
 recovered, The result in other Regiments
 were even worse than in the 84th, Out
 of the whole Garrison of Lucknow, only
 one amputation of the lower extremity
 recovered to reach Cawnpore, Both in
 Officers and men the most trifling wou-
 -nds took on the gangrenous action,

and some of them proved fatal. _____

_____ The relief of the Garrison effected, and women and children, Sick & wounded dispatched to Cawnpore, ~ The 84th (as part of General Outram's Division) took up a position 3 miles from Lucknow, occupying the Alumbagh house, as an out post, Here the men suffered much from the loss of all their clothing, and bedding, which had been destroyed by the Enemy at Cawnpore, or rotted by wet in Alumbagh, They had therefore only the thin cotton suit, they had worn during the siege, and were also much crowded in their tents, 50 men being crammed, into a space calculated for 16. There was also a great scarcity of vegetables, milk &c., but the men saw that the utmost exertions were made, to supply their wants, and ere the end of the year, they began to recover from the depressing effects of the great hardships, they had undergone. Mud huts were run up for Hospitals, and Piquet houses - some warm,

clothing was gradually obtained - vegetables
milk &c began to appear in the bazars,
and ultimately became abundant. - Then
came Tents, Doolies, Carriage & everything
essential to an army in the field and
during the three & half months that we
held the position, the Regiment was as
healthy as it could have been in any
encampment in the plains of India.

_____ The Military position of the
Force was conducive to health, encamped
in a fine open plain, opposed to a Vigilant
& active Enemy, outnumbering
us thirty fold, we were kept in a state of
perpetual excitement, by attacks at all
points, made or expected night and day,
while the invariable success, which attended
all our operations, offensive and defensive,
rendered the excitement pleasurable, The
health of the force was no doubt owing also
to the Vigilant attention paid to the
sanitary condition of the camp, which
after having been occupied for three &

half months, by 3,000 Fighting men and their followers, without almost the shifting of a Tent, was absolutely cleaner than when first taken up. The attention and kindness of Sir James Outram to the Sick in sending vegetables fruits and Newspapers &c greatly contributed to keep up their spirits. —

— The only disease in any degree prevalent, was Intermittent Fever, & Diarrhoea. Of the former we had 75 admissions into the Regimental Hospital, with two deaths, and one of them occurred in an old broken down man, who had suffered for many years from Neuralgia in the scalp. Of the latter there were 51 admissions generally of a mild type yielding readily to Specacuan and opium. —

On the 9th March the Regiment joined the Commander in Chief, before Lucknow and took a prominent part in the capture of that city, and on the 28th March we started for a hot weather campaign, in Southern Oude and Behar, the events of which will

fall to be narrated here after.

During this Eventful year the 24th Regt
has lost.

— Killed by the Enemy —	90
Died of Wounds	25
Of Sun Stroke	25
of — Cholera	94
Dysentery & Diarrhoea	20
All other Diseases	25
Invalidated to England for wounds	40
Do Do Disease	41

J. G. Mearns M.D.
Surgeon H. M. 24th Regt

Period of Service in India of fatal cases of disease

Diseases	Under one year	Under 2 years	Under 10	Under 15 years	Over 15 years
Cholera	5	32	14	33	8
Stomach & Bowels	4	5	4	6	2
Hepatitis	"	"	"	2	7
Sun Stroke	"	7	2	13	3

James
22 Well Walk
Bancroft

James
22 Well Walk
Bancroft

Office of the Dy Inspector General
of M^o Hospitals

Bawnpore 22nd April 1859

Sir

I have the honor to request that you will submit for the favourable consideration of Gov^t my claim to the Extra Batta granted by the Hon the Court of Directors to those who served at Lucknow from 20th Sept^r to 24th Nov^r 1857. This has been refused by the Military Auditor General on the ground that it had been granted to those only who entered the Presidency. I beg therefore to state that late on the evening of the 24th ~~September~~ ^{Sept} when the orders for the advance, on the following morning, were issued I was directed to leave all the sick and wounded of the force - 1000 in number in Alumbagh and as ^{was} ^{some} ~~the~~ ^{had} but Regimental Medical officers - & they fully occupied - I considered it my duty, as Suptg Surgeon, to remain with this extempory Field Hospital, directing surgeons to send there as many of their wounded as possible, & soon after the force

marched some 22 cases of very severe Gun shot wounds were received from the Chazy bagh Bridge ^{position} ~~position~~ from this position stormed and passed our communications were cut off & we remained besieged under fire until relieved by A. P. the Genl in Chief - Under these circumstances I respectfully submit that I am fairly entitled to the Extra Batta.

I have the honor to be

Your Obed^t ^{Sir} Servant

Lt Col Surgeon General ~~Outposts Division~~
Dy Inspector General of M^o Hospitals