

Annie Bell's Diary

5th December 1914 – 11th November 1918



Threads of Connection

The threads of connection between family members, friends, colleagues and acquaintances that tie our lives together are intricately woven. Unravelling and then resewing the threads of my grandmother's life during these vital four years of her life and of Australia's history has been exciting and rewarding.

I hope you also enjoy discovering the many connections that merely start here.

Stephanie Kihlstrom
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The Journey Out

Dec 5th

Left "Burnswark" 10.15am with Mother, Bessy, Jean & Buttons, also Mrs. Quartenay. Went to "Killearnan" to say goodbye to Granny, then to Miss G's office, but she was out. Found Mr G in his office - saw a M.H. patient when getting into taxi outside his office - met Aunt Jean & Bess at pier. J.C.H. also came down. Granny & Aunt Lil in afternoon. Saw Nurse Rogerson, Miller, Mason, Taylor, also Mr Woods, who spoke of Dave. After much delay left at 6.00pm. Passed through Heads at 11.40pm.

Dec 6th

Shall draw a veil across this day. Read Gran's gift about 5.00pm.

Dec 7th

Button's birthday. She will have her hair up when I see her again. Carl brought me up on deck, could not have managed without her.

Dec 8th

Feeling better. Concert in the evening. "Little Grey House in the West" one of the songs, made me think of & long for the evenings at "Alma" last winter.

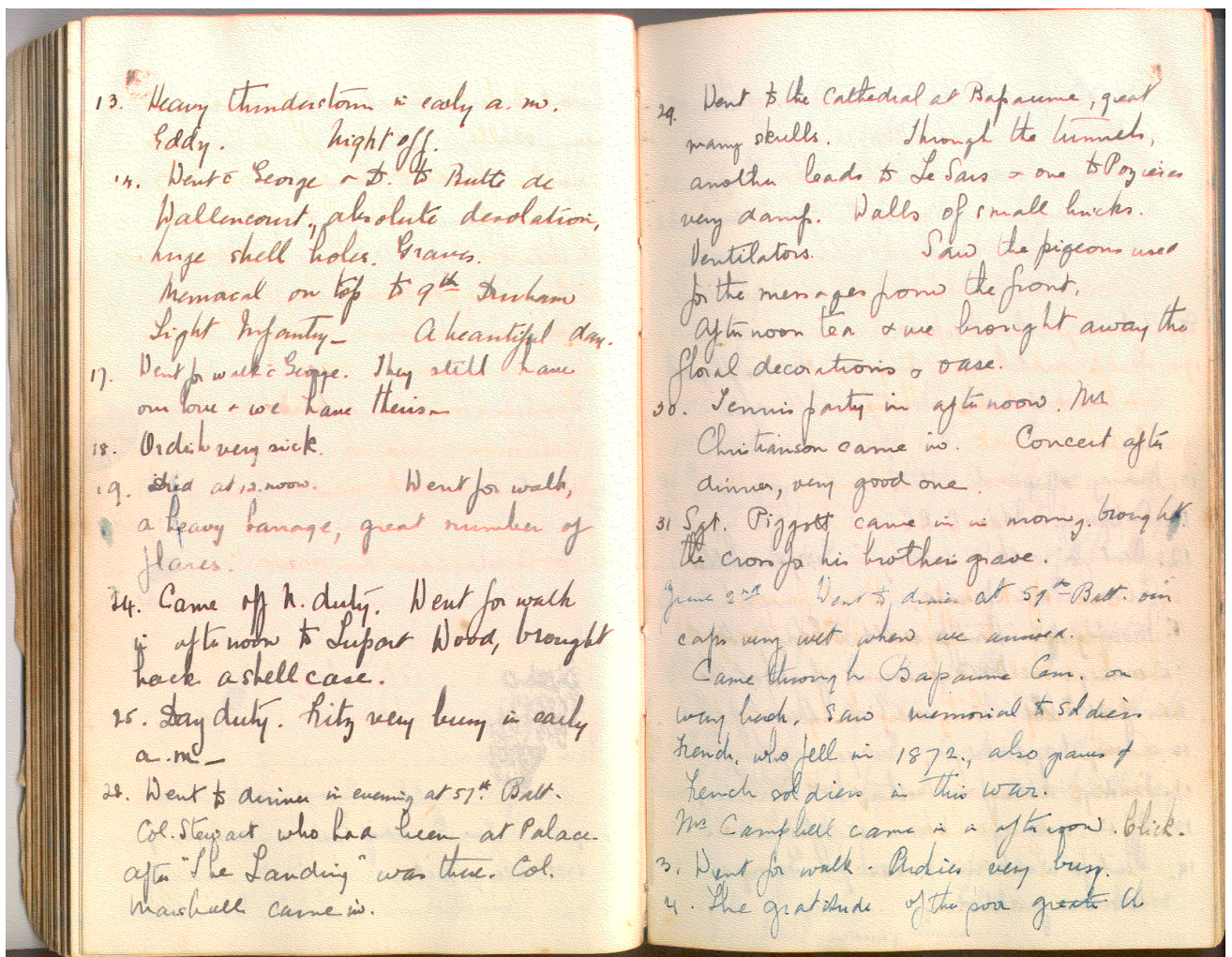


Figure 1: Entries in Anne's diary 13 May to 4 June 1917

Dec9th

A beautiful sunny day, wrote Biggie & Mrs. McClure.

Dec10

Sighted land 3.00pm. barren looking, King George's Sound.

Paid 13/-

Dec11th

Raining, saw flying fish

Dec12th

Reached Freemantle, but anchored in stream. Coaling began almost at once. Not allowed on shore.

Saturday

On board all morning, left ship at 2.30pm, walked on to coal barge, & climbed down rope ladder into motorboat, thought we would never arrive there. S. Hart, D & McC. Came in same boat, also Red Cross boys. Very glad to reach the shore & feel land beneath our feet once more. Sent to Fremantle R station, & waited for 4.00pm train. Hot dusty day. After leaving Fremantle, saw Cable Station Rottnest Is. where prisoners are being kept. Also saw Garden Is. Agricultural Showground very fine. Land from Fremantle very sandy, marran grass planted – also trying the effect of Pig's face. Between the stations, country, strange to see it so near city, beautiful trees, saw Scotch College. Many familiar names on buildings. Robert Harper, Kitchens Velvet Soap. Foy & Gibson.

Arrived in Perth about 5pm & decided to at once have a cup of tea. Tea at Albany Bell tearooms, then J.M.K. showed us to King Edward Hostel. Very comfortable. A fine view of bedroom window across Swan River with King's Park beyond. A bowling green just near window & a hedge gay with flowers surrounding it. Beautifully quiet after the noise of the boat. After dinner went for a tramride to Victoria Park, across the Swan & along The Causeway, which extends for a mile. Saw racecourse where every Sat. night there are trotting races. This the W.A. people say, almost takes the place of theatre. No good theatres usually come to Perth. People not dressed as well as in Melb, but heard that every drought, poverty is marked, especially in country. Came back part of way in tram, then walked, each found our own church. The R.C. church, Bishop's Palais & schools occupy excellent position. Walked along the street facing Gov. House, beautiful grounds. Saw the Deanery like a picture of an old English home.

13.12.14 Sunday

A beautiful morning & we all felt well after a good night's rest & a hot bath. Soon after breakfast S.D. & I went to Perth Public Hospital, saw S. Gill who took us over it. Fine views of the Darling Ranges from the balconies. Saw J. Levi who was resident at H.H. for a time. The grounds well kept & several beds of flowers. Quiet after the noise of the H.H., floors of jarrah wood looked v. well. Ward, one with 34 beds. Saw theatre, instruments made us long for work again & feel homesick – Strange to see so many empty beds. Nurse's home very comfortable & a nice sewing room, good large table. Sister G. kept us to dinner, saw Matron & Miss Gray for a few minutes, had been to church. Part of the hospital wall had been made by convicts. The theatre not large, black & white tiled floor. In afternoon took tram to King's Park, & entered at back gate instead of front. Were to meet S. Gill at Tea House, found it closed & after waiting over an hour for her, found we were at the wrong entrance. But the time was not lost, the trees were beautiful, & the bush like home. Walked round to front entrance, red road leading through the bush, saw S. Hart, also S. Carlile driving. Arrived near front Entrance, a very fine view across the river, a clear day so saw it at its best. A long avenue of gum trees, some just coming into bloom, others out. Flowers in profusion near entrance, a scarlet hibiscus, colour very vivid, walked back to Hostel along streets, struck by the number of asparagus ferns growing almost wild. Bougainvillea also very numerous. Went to church in evening, St. Andrews. A nice service, well known hymns & had the 46th Psalm. Think it was the church Mr Gray used to have. Text, "Many are called, few are chosen", special prayers about the war & for those who were going to minister to the wounded. Not many people in church. After church met Ss D & L & went across to S. Perth with some friends of S. Gills, only waited for a few minutes.

Monday 14

Returned S.S. "Kyarra" at noon, left Perth at 11.10a.m. Liked Perth very much, fine trees in the streets. Electric trams. All the horses look very tired. S & Lady Barron came on board during the afternoon. Sailed about 7pm. Matron Gray came to see boat off. Very funny waiting for the crew to turn up, some appeared looking drunk but were sane enough to have their passed ready.

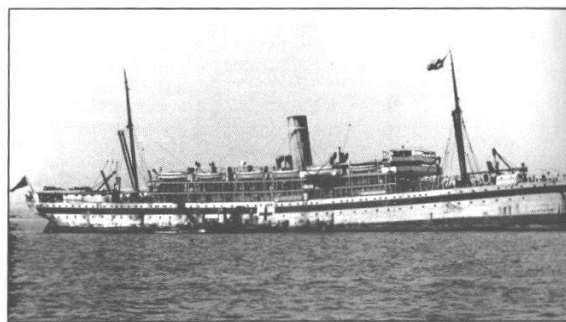


Figure 2: S.S. "Kyarra"

15.12.14

Lecture by Col. Nash in evening on the Vascular System, (lantern slides) photographs taken by Mr F. Bird. Fine day, but boat rolling very much -----

20.12.14

Service on deck in morning. Text "I have learned.....content." Deck full. Passed Cocos Islands about noon appeared to be one long island, two smaller & then one long, bet. small island you see the surf breaking.

First saw what looked like a wire fence, these were coconut palms. Did not see The "Embden" said to be on the other side of island.

Service in Music Room in evening, unable to get to it, no room. Heard hymns from deck all ones we knew very well – Church makes me very homesick.

21.12.14

On duty from 10 to 2 pm. Wrote letters in afternoon. Very trying day, muggy.

Christmas Day

Nice bright day. Duty in morning. Opened Jean's present, very pleased with it, also N. Rogerson's book & Miss Key's letter. Afternoon tea Melb. Hosp. people, enjoyed it thoroughly. Mr Syms, Mr. Givar etc. Dinner in even, 1st Aust. Gen. Hosp. had it together.

Very homesick.

Paid 15/-

26.12.14

Reached Colombo, view v. fine when entering harbour, long breakwater. Sunset gorgeous, deep orange, boats rowed by niggers everywhere. Mails brought on board, letters from Mother & Jean. Heard of Uncle George's death, Jean enclosed cutting re unveiling of Mr Macrae's tablet – Mother going Sydney.

27

On duty till 2 pm, then went across with Miss L. to jetty, going across to G.O.H. saw M & S Douglas, decided to go with them to Kandy. Drove in gharri to station, entered r. carriage then found that Peter had brought wrong tickets, frantic rush to get others, train kept waiting (quite an honour). On our way saw the bullock carts, banyan trees, my first glimpse of The East & its people. They chatter incessantly. Saw Salvation Army of M.G.A.

R. station is quaint & natives offering lemonade etc. Tea carried along in teapot, & glasses for it in quaint tin box with handle across. Saw the native fruits, natives washing in the running streams, washing clothes, beating them on a rock. Rice fields, tea, rubber, Dusk, fire flies in myriads, like fairyland, mists on mountains beautiful. Watched the natives in their huts moving about, small lamps. Strange to see a native appear out of what seemed dense jungle. Colours of flowers vivid. Arrived Kandy 7.45, gharri to Queen's Hotel, again saw hundreds of natives, very keen to carry our bags. Dinner almost finished, gay scene, some nurses in caps & capes, others in evening dress. S.D. & I went for walk at lake, not far. Struck by the reflections in the lake.

28.12.14

G and I walked before breakfast, in 15 min. got there. 9 different kinds of flowers, also ferns. After breakfast drove to Paidiniya Gardens, saw natives washing their babies, one pouring water from tin over its head. Some children ran after us with bunches of flowers, all anxious for coins. Saw the cakes (small statue to Sir George Ward, governor from 1855-1860. Wrote letters in evening. Most of the "Kyarra" people had left.

29.12.14

During night heard tom toms, had seen a funeral afternoon before, three brass poles carried, then candles.

Left Q.H. 7.a.m. Views from train worth getting up at any hour to see. Mt. Allagalla 2,500ft. At Scout's Hill column erected to memory of Capt. Dawson, who planned & superintended the construction of the road, erected 1832. Point Sensation, see far to the valley below. Mists in morning, light glorious. Went to G.O.H. on arriving in Colombo, headache, stayed there till going on board. Others went shopping. Sailed 8.p.m.

31.12.14

Last day of the year, wonder where we will be next year, little we thought last year that we would be on our way to nurse the wounded – Passed Island in a.m., lighthouse. Fancy dress ball in evening.

1.1.15

New Year's day. Saw whale spouting in afternoon, not near. 1st Gen. Hosp. had a tea together at centre table. Moonlight on clouds & sea beautiful, sorry to have to retire to our cabins.

4.1.15

Passed Socotra Is. Wrote letters.

3.1.15

Church on deck a.m. Hymns in evening, Communion after evening service.

6.1.15

Sighted land about 11pm, rough & barren looking, shadows wonderful. Anchored Port Aden, blackies came along with their wares. Natives blacker than at C. Hair very curly. Sunset behind rocks beautiful tins, mountains a deep purplish colour. Left about 11p.m.

7.1.15

Land on both sides when first going on deck. Empress of Russia, Himalaya Frewgal, to be seen – Passed Perin Is. Dry looking. Lighthouses ---- Very interesting.

10.1.15

Church morning & evening. Passed Doedalus Island.

11.1.15

Land both sides. Wonderful sunset, colours pink, blue, purple, misty colours. Wonderful. Arrived Suez during evening.

12.1.15

Up to see sunrise. Left Suez about noon, canal very interesting, Indian troops, trenches etc. Saw a crow.

13.1.15

Arrived Port Said, coaking began almost at once. Allowed off, walked round shops, better than in Colombo, charms, feathers, corals very pretty. Letter from Chris. Also received Recorder. Went to Mosque, put on cane shoes. Grace walked on ahead, very funny. Saw Koran, Egyptian flag. Beggars very annoying. Called at Hospital. Sisters very queer cape, told us the way hospital managed, linen & store room like M.H., but much smaller. Lunch at Exchange Hotel, Grace & S. Green. Returned to boat 4 p.m. Sailed 6.15 p.m. Saw aeroplane in p.m.

14.1.15

Letter from Duckie. Arrived Alexandria 9.a.m. Breakwater such numbers of vessels in harbour. Glorious day. Heard in evening that we could go off in a.m. Waited for our passes, got to bed about 11.30p.m.

In Egypt

15.1.15

Up at 5.15a.m., a great scramble to get some coffee & bread & butter. Went off in boat, a sail up so went across in good time. Walked to station, stars v. bright especially one.

Narrow streets, houses close together, small balconies round windows, no verandas. Saw child driving goats out of alley-way. Great scene at R. station, much talking, unable to get tickets, rushed for train. Lucerne, cabbages, crops, everything very green. Plains like at home. Trees like hose, pine trees. Donkeys, mules. People sitting v. far back on donkeys. Mud villages. Cemeteries to be seen frequently. Arrived Cairo, Dr. C. Ryan on station. Out to Mena H. in electric tram, five bridges over Nile. Passed some --. Saw D Honman. Fine trees along tramway. Passed Zoo. Dinner at Mena House. Saw Miss Gould, remembered Uncle L and G, said they were very fine men. Pyramids, very very dusty & windy. Huge blocks of stones. Sphinx, weird looking. Huge blocks of granite & alabaster, took a piece of each away. Sphinx. Represented to the Egyptians a form of their god Horus. Carved out of solid rock.

Measurements

Length of body 150 ft.

“ “ head 30 ft.

Width of mouth 71 ½ ft.

“ “ face 14 ft.

Height of ear 4 ½ ft.

From crown to base 70 ft.

Length of Paws 50 ft

Bet. paws, kind of temple discovered, reached by an ascending flight of steps.

Memorial tablets of Thothmes IV & Rameses II

In this temple a small lion & an altar, facing Sphinx. Returned home in tram, shoes cleaned on our way, large sum of 1d. Miss Green & I went for walk in Cairo, called at chemists, who said they are now speaking English in Cairo, on account of the - being there. Had our hair shampooed, very necessary, as we were white with dust. Dinner exceedingly nice, hotel quite elaborate. Wrote letters in evening.

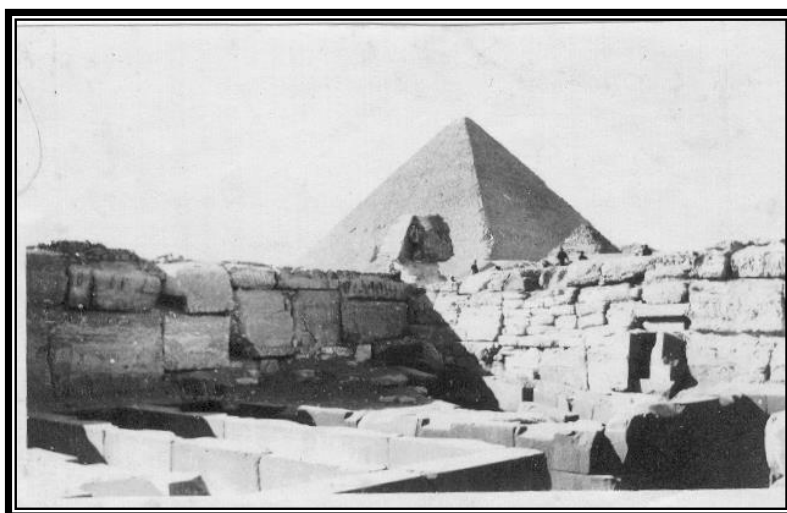


Figure 3: Sphinx - Taken from Temple of The Sphinx

16.1.15

Wrote letters before breakfast.

Heard we were to stay in Egypt. Went to Museum in morning. Saw mummies Rameses II, nails, teeth, hair still to be seen. Jewel Room beautiful, saw the scarab said to be the finest known of. Carvings on different stones wonderful. Bought guide book 5/6. Walked in afternoon, streets very gay. In a.m. saw turkeys being driven along footpath, man & boy, when turkey went away boy would hit it under the head with a stick. Just after they passed a mob of sheep passed along. Motors, carriages, very numerous. Tram 4.15 good journey home, some difficulty in finding boat, no one knew where it was.

17.1.15

Muddling day, packing, all to be ready at 6.15 a.m. Monday.

Paid 7/-

Letters from home, Mother, Bess, Helen, also one from M. Howlett.

18.1.15

Called 5 a.m., had tea & toast with S. O'Connor & Cameron. Carriage to be ready for us at 6.15a.m., we were to catch 7 a.m. train. Waited, no sign. Orderly sent for one, arrived 6.45 a.m. Furious drove to station. Carriage swaying from side to side. Arrived but saw train departing just as we alighted. Waiting room til 8.30a.m., argument with luggage porter re payment. Porter offered to wheel S.R. in wheel chair. Lovely day, saw numbers of camels, some quite hidden with brush. Arrived Cairo 2.30p.m., met by ambulance wagon, four orderlies in attendance. Four good horses. Beautiful drive through the avenue of lebbekh trees. Passed some soldiers on the way. Arrived Mena House 3p.m. - everyone very kind. S. Cameron & I went tour beds about 4pm, after the luxury of a bath & a good cup of tea. Dark faces appeared at the door about 6p.m. Saw Captain Hurley in evening, looking very well. Having every consideration shown to us. Road from Cairo crosses the great Kair en-hil bridge & the south end of the Gezira, another bridge over the other arm of the river, dry during low Nile. Passes Zoo. This fine shaded road hastily made by Ismail Parke in 1868, so that his royal visitors, who came to the opening of Suez Canal, might more easily view Pyramids.

19.1.15

Night duty, a very trying night; went for walk before dinner.

20.1.15

Called early, moved our room to next flat. 2nd Aust. General Hospital arrived. Moved to new Dining room. Waiters appeared rather confused with the numbers of arrivals. Saw Dr. Honman, when returning from our walk, asked about M.H. people. He looks v. well, admired his horse. On duty 10p.m.

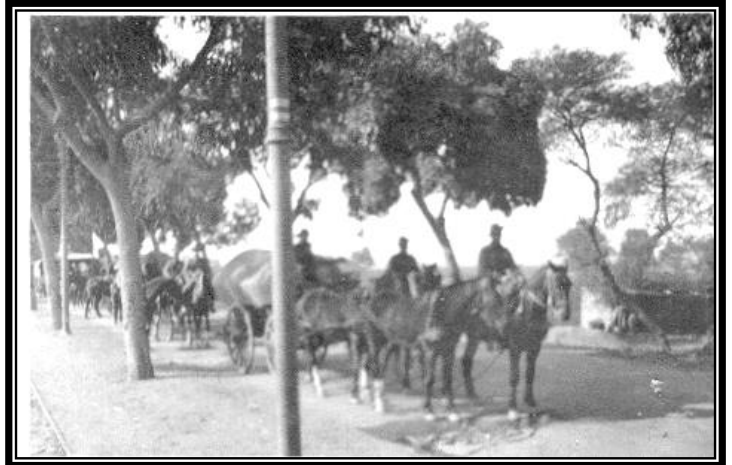


Figure 4: First day in Egypt - on the way to Mena

21.1.15

Walked round Pyramids and Sphinx in afternoon, on way home met Dr. Chambers, pleased to see him again, has not altered & looks well.

22.1.15

P.C. from Grace. Cloudy, little rain. Received notice from "Kyarra" re joining A.A.S. on 13.1.15. Returned paper.

23.1.15

L.R. had good night. Drs. S & L to see her in a.m. Dr. S. very cheerful. Sorted clothes and rearranged them before going to bed.

24.1.15

Grey misty sunrise, beautiful to watch. Mists on Pyramids. Saw horses in early a.m. being taken to water. After breakfast S.O.C. went to church. S. Jackson & I set out & after wandering about, found that the C of E. Parade was on, did not find the Presby. One soldier took pity on us & showed us where C. of E. were. Said we would see many things before we finished. When going met a party of four, two women beautifully dressed ambulance horses became v. frightened, one woman more so than the horses, result, she fell into a sand heap, great consternation, her friend looking v. worried at seeing her nearly hurried. Sat on balcony, numbers of people going to Pyramids. Home v. often in my thoughts. Walk before going to bed, offered a ride to Cairo in motor car. When asleep rather startled on waking to find a figure moving mosquito net, Carl there, had come to see me. S. Green & Geoghegan. Also came in. Matron had come----- All very grieved & vexed about her treatment.

25.1.15

Misty in a.m. Letter from Bessie Stewart - glad to hear all the home news, & to hear there had been rain.

26.1.15

Took train to Cairo in afternoon, just got into one tram, told it was not going, then into another, very high step. Chaplain in tram, who on arriving C. went with us to the P.O. & helped us with our buying of stamps & envelopes, and to collect our right change. After that walked with us to a teashop. He then went to a meeting & said if he were able to come back would show us round. Chose our own cakes, very nice & dainty, coffee good. 9d. Met S. Tait and Cuthbert & before we left S. Craig & Watt, pleased to see them & to hear their news. Then went & bought some trinkets, could easily spend heaps of money in these shops. A New Zealander there, who went with us in a carriage to the Bazaar. They are just wonderful. Shoes, precious stones, beads, etc. Narrow & became narrower when you get further from street. The carriage was told to wait, so left guidebook & to my horror the c. drove off, however a boy ran after & rescued my book from the hand of The Philistine. Went to one shop where our escort was well known. The owner greeted him as an old friend. Beautiful bags & silk work. Saw old weapons, one beautiful dagger, told us it belonged to the Sultan, fine handle, blade encrusted with precious stones. One long Sudanese dagger the man thought I would like. Were offered Turkish delight & later on tea was brought. Several in small glass vessels, no handles, on a tiny pink saucer. No milk with it, but sugar, tasted like dates. Passed on and came to a shop, owner named Cohen, saw two letters from L. Kitchener saying he was satisfied with all the good he had bought there. Saw two beautiful evening coats, gray worked with gold thread, scarves & beautiful little mats. Brass workers at work, saw them using their compass, then drawing like design in black, & then hammering it out. Saw jugs being mended. Drove & caught tram, had to follow tram up for some distance, but caught it. Two of hos. sisters in it. On our way out passed a tram, saw Carl & E. F. in it, sorry to have missed them. N.Z. told us that 4000 of their men went to the Canal expect to be fighting tomorrow. View of the Pyramids very fine & a good sunset. On reaching M.H. found Kate arguing with a motor man, L.A. had decided in the afternoon, to drive into Cairo. Sorry not to have seen our Matron & to hear what had been settled.

27.1.15

Duckie's birthday. Intended going to Zoo but too sleepy & it was a very dusty day. Wakened in evening. Home letters, from M.B.B.A.M.C. & Jean, one from B. Stewart, saying had sent a book for my birthday. L. from Mrs. Tuart. 55 points rain at "Alma" – One letter from Mother at Tumut. Bess at Barwon Heads. J & M in Sydney. Heard we were to go to Heliopolis. Mr Bird, his nurse & some of No. 2 nurses moved to Ismailia.

28.1.15

Packed in early a.m. A trying morning. Told to go to Heliopolis. L.R. left behind. Tram ride in & then came on tram to H. Some of the way just like a train & stations at which to alight. Arrived shortly after 5p.m., an immense place, wondered where we were to get in. Very glad to see them all again, especially A.K.H. & G.D. Found two Australasians waiting for me. Dinner 7 p.m. all wait till President goes in before taking seats. Waited on by orderlies, some of them had been in "Kyarra" hospital. Saw Dr. N. at dinner & after, glad to see him again. Looks very well. Quite ready for bed by 9 p.m., as we had been up since midnight.

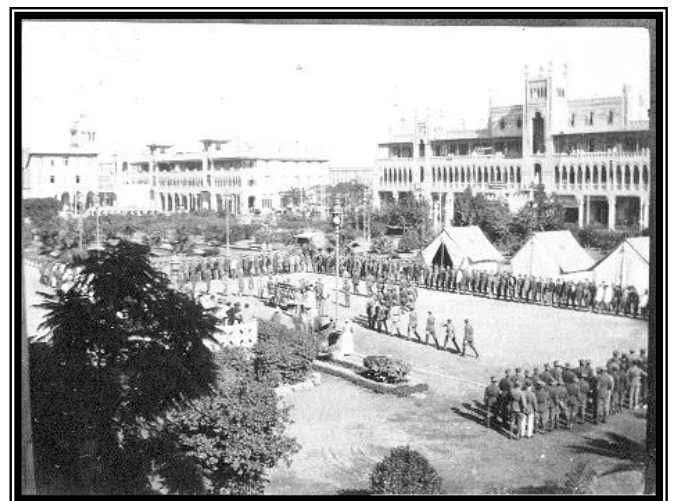


Figure 5: No.1 A.G.H.Heliopolis - "The Palace"
Christmas 1915

29th Friday

A fine, calm day. Put bedrooms in order, moved furniture etc. Told we would not be going back on Transport duty. In afternoon went into Cairo visited P.O. Had a tea. Visited one shop where they had

beautiful embroideries. Saw children playing marbles. Bought a pair of white gloves 1/6, much the same as we get in Melb—Paid 1486 P. 8m.

30.1.14

S. Forsyth & S. McKinnell left for Alexandria. In afternoon went to Egyptian Hospital to see S.G. Walked, asked several times if we were on right road, each time told “Just the next house you come to.” Went over Hospital, while on balcony saw The Sultan of Egypt Hasseim Kamel pass. Beautiful horses in his carriage & ridden by his attendants. Came home in tram, a nice ride, while waiting for tram watched a glorious sunset, pink. A.J. gave a farewell supper to S. Bleach in our room.

31.1.15

Church Parade in a.m. Not ready when we first went, while waiting saw a monkey appear, next thing found it on my shoulder, managed to get it off. S. Jackson did not fare so well, as it bit her hand. At dinner very glad to see Miss B. back. After dinner helped make 89 beds in medical ward. Wilkinson came in & later on Dr. Woollard. Glad to have some work to do.

1.2.15

Monday Very amusing letter from Carl - she informs me that all the cats in Egypt assemble in a square near her room & have glorious concerts when she is trying to get to sleep. Wrote home letter.

3.2.15

Went to Abbassia in afternoon. Very glad to be at work again. Letters from Mary & Jean. Very homesick.

4.2.15

John's birthday. On duty all day. Dinner when we arrived back from Abbassia, very slow waiters, long pause between each course.

5.2.15

Quite a Riverina day, off from 2 p.m. Across at Heliopolis Palace, saw the Chaplain from Mena Camp. Numbers of soldiers passed Abbassia. Quite an entertainment to watch the people while we are waiting for teams. One pretty picture, grey donkey with two baskets of tomatoes swung on back. One very odd, pants, then shirt (on outside), then what looked like a coat of a kilt, many buttons. Heard that the monkey has been misbehaving again, bit a little girl yesterday.

7.2.15

Went to The Citadel in afternoon. “Fortress dates back to 1166, when Saladin, according to Arab history, brought stones from the small pyramids at Giza to build it. Thought it commands the city, it is itself commanded by the surrounding Mokattan Hills & is therefore practically useless in these days of modern artillery. Ceilings very fine, small pictures painted at top of walls. View from balcony wonderful, across the city, & to the left The Pyramids & The Nile, we saw the sunset, fine colours.

9.2.15

Went over to Palace in afternoon. In evening, went with Grace & Miss Walker to concert. After leaving tram, took a gharry driver said he knew where to go, but after he had driven us hither and thither we decided he did not. Asked the way – was told we had come the wrong way, started off again, - at last a soldier when we asked, stood on the step & shows the driver. The driver had said he would take us for 3 piasters, & we paid him that much to his disgust. Concert very good, like “The Pierrots”. Men smoking, thought it would help keep the moths out of our clothes. Some familiar songs. When we came out not a gharry to be had, walked first in wrong direction, & inwardly vowed not to go out again in this country at night without an escort. Found the tram & so reached our dwelling.

10.2.15

On duty all day. Reached hotel feeling very tired & lonely, revived on seeing letters from Mother, Duckie, & Biggie. P.D. from Miss Rich. Holiday news from “Burnswark”. Biggie's letter just like her

dear self, she is a friend worth having. Glad to hear of Rowe & Billy. In the morning from 8 a.m. till about noon, troops passed by. A splendid sight, makes you proud to be an Australian---

11.2.15

Day off. Went into Cairo with A.K.H.. & G.F. in afternoon, walked round shops, bought a scarf, saw some beautiful ones –Sultan visited Hospital at Abbassia in p.m., great preparations & then he only visited two wounded Egyptians & the one Eng. Wounded----

12.2.15

In evening came to hotel in a gharry, tram not in sight. A tight fit to get in, we all enjoyed the drive.

13.2.15

In afternoon, went for donkey ride with Miss Frater, across desert to old cemetery, saw soldiers who had been digging. Got some beads taken from the mummies. Saw human bones, very brittle. Went to Obelisk, a nice ride up to it, through lebhekh trees. Said to be 64ft high, of red granite. Passed ostrich farm. Went into R.C. church, six pictures. Slaughter of the Innocents. Joseph told to go to Egypt. The Flight. By The Nile. Resting under the Tree & The Entrance to Heliopolis, fine colourings. Near it is The Virgin's Tree, and old sycamore, many names carved on it. The well, had a drink a very quaint old place. The donkeys travelled well coming back. Letter from Bessie Stewart, all well at home---

15.2.15

Off in afternoon, went into Cairo with Sister F., bought some p.o. Went to afternoon tea with Miss A.D.- charming manners these people have. Room very nicely furnished. Saw Carl in evening.

16.2.15

Went into Cairo with AG.D. shopped, bought necklaces etc, for those at home --- a beautiful day.

Letter written from the Front

Dear Boy,

Thanks ever so much for your letter which was forwarded me from home.

Of course it's jolly rough luck on you chaps being held up in Egypt when like the rest of us, you want to be fighting Germans. But that will come in time.

You won't think I am putting on airs. I'm sure when I saw that you need training. We are not soldiers by profession & when we were mobilized we spent three months in England slogging into field training – marching, open order, trench digging, semaphore & a host of other things which were irksome. But it's not good sending men out here who aren't absolutely fit. Just at present for example, the conditions are absolutely awful The papers give a splendid description of the trenches – not a bit exaggerated, & “up to your neck in water” is no idle phrase. Of course it has to be endured, but I often marvel at what is really takes to kill a man. So don't despair; you are booked for the front all right & this war won't be over before you get here.

Before I knew you were in Egypt I used to think that some day, perhaps, we should be relieved by the New Zealanders in the trenches & I might find you standing by the side of me. Following is a sketch of the trenches.

“It has been raining all day long (it has rained continuously for the last two months). You can see twenty or thirty yards up & down the trench. Every few yards a sentry stands with his rifle stuck over the parapet. The constant rain has caused the sides of the trenches to partially collapse & the earth thus loosened has fallen into the bottom of the trench & mixed with the muddy water already there. People are constantly passing up & down the trench with the result that the river underfoot is churned up into a ghastly sticky dough of mud. The rain meantime pours steadily down. Those not on sentry are hard at it, bailing out, digging out, building up – anything to make the trench tenable. The sentries look out across a mangolwuzee field, flat as a pancake, to the trenches opposite where no doubt the G's are doing

precisely the same thing as our fellows. Needless to say everyone is soaked to the skin & covered from head to foot in a coating, an inch thick, of mud.

Night falls, & every man "stands to" for an hour' that is he puts his equipment on & stands at the parapet in readiness for a rush, for at dusk and dawn most assaults are made. The double sentries are set for the night & work proceeds. Some are told off to go out of the trench & fetch rations – a drag of about a mile & a half to a farmhouse in the rear. Others go on digging, some go into an advanced trench to do "a listening patrol." This trench is cut T-shape from the trench with a short parallel communication trench.

You can see how near the enemy you get on that game – you can hear them talking.

Those who are lucky enough to be off duty for a couple of hours get into their dug-out – a hole cut in the side of the trench – or rather they get head & shoulders in with feet stuck out into the pond outside & try to sleep.

Morning comes at last & with it "stand to" again followed by an issue of rum.

The daily ration is issued & off we go again for the day. At last the final day comes & word goes round that you are going to be relieved. At dusk, you get your equipment & pack on, & stand to. Then you hear the new lots splashing along the communication trench. They pass along behind you till all are in their places. Then you change with them & get out yourselves. A few miles tramp & you get to your billet where you hope to get dry & have some sleep. And what an ungodly looking lot of scarecrows you are too! No one marches in step out of the trenches,. You just shove one foot in front of the other & hope that the mechanism won't give out till you get there.

Not all come back like that. From time to time in the trenches the word goes down "Pass the word for stretcher bearers". Then after a time the procession carrying something on a stretcher, "Who is it?" you say. Then "Don't know him", or "My god, poor old ____" Because when you get hit in the trenches it's in the head you usually go west.

And it's that that you want to come out to. Come on, boys, you are all wanted, but don't be in too much for a hurry.

I know I was the only boy at home, old man, but I had to come, same as a few thousand others. No particular credit due here.

So glad you met – Canall out there. How I want to know all about yourself & your doings so get on with it.

Yours all the way

Cyril

18.2.15

Wrote letters in afternoon. Very tired. S.Finlay went to the Palace – Letters rec. dated Dec 22nd.

19.2.15

On duty all day. Some of the sisters came to afternoon tea.

21.2.15

Day off. Went to All Saints with Grace. Night Duty. Rev. Horan inducted. A queer service, the clergy moving from place to place. Many memorials, amongst them one to General Gordon. After walked to St.Andrew's, a grey stone building, looks Presby. The minister & his wife glad we had called, invited us to see them. Had lunch & sat in gardens, returned to hotel 3p.m.

20.2.15

Day off. Went to Zoo in afternoon, beautifully laid out, paths some paved with small stones, each stone said to have cost ½ d. Gathered from the desert by a Sultan, who taxed the people heavily. Said to have cost him his crown. Giraffes very fine. Glad to see a galah & kangaroo. Other animals much the same as at Melb. Zoo.



Figure 6: Pathways at Cairo Zoo

23.2.15

In afternoon went into Cairo with Carl.

Took guide & went to Mosque. A beautiful one, small, windows deep colourings. Work inlaid with mother of

pearl, turquoise, ebony. Went on to Blue Mosque, 800 years old. Fine blue tiles, some have been stolen. A large courtyard, where the people are taught. Saw the blackboards. Good view of the people in the narrow streets. Saw a funeral, men in red & yellow aprons carrying silver vases with flowers walked first –

A hot day. Col. Maudesley at hotel to see us about vaccination.

25.2.15

Vaccinated at Hospital, Abbassia.

March

Sent cable to Biggie ---

5.3.15

Year today since V.R. died.

6.3.15

Moved from H. House to Palace. On duty, J.N. in afternoon. Did some shopping in evening –

7.3.15

Note from Carl!

10.3.15

Capt. Aspinall called to see S.W. in p.m., had had a letter from George last week.

11.3.15

Very hot day. Went to Lady Wilcock's in afternoon, went in Red Cross motors. She met us at gate. A nice house, first went into garden, given iced lemon. Saw round garden. Very nice afternoon tea, people v. good to us. Children's nannies perfect. Raymond very old-fashioned. One child very like Va. Letters, one from Aunt Peg.

14.3.15

Sunday. Day off, which I appreciated to the full. Had breakfast with Dug & Ethel Forsyth. Went to church St. Andrews. A very helpful service & hymns we knew well. Text "It is well", story of the Shunammile woman. In afternoon went with Carl to The Camp, saw the horse taken to water, also saw the pet kangaroo & monkey. A fairly cool day.

15.3.15

Told to hold ourselves in readiness to have our photos taken. Summoned to be ready at 11 a.m., & it was afternoon before we got back to our work. Sat on the marble steps wishing people would be punctual, however at last we were told to go out. Officers sat, we stood, when the elect moved away, we were allowed to sit. Got off about 3.20pm. sat with Grace in theatre. M.S. came over. S. Amy King operated on in evening. Rained in afternoon quite nice to see it again. Weird dishes we have at meals, tonight had fish in jelly, eggs very much used, we will be growing feathers soon ---

17.3.15

Letters from home. Heard about Click joining the Light Horse. Our domain visited by the O.C. & Maj B, got some information. Was sweeping the corridor and was asked if I were taking a little gentle exercise.

21.3.15

J. Bell came in in afternoon, looks very well & has been kept busy. In evening, went to church with E.L.F. & S. Tait. The church well filled, mostly our own soldiers singing. Very good sermon "what we owe to St John's Gospel." Quite cold going home in the tram. A man in white flannels, pink tie & red cap amused us. After dinner a Mess Meeting from 8.45 till 10.45p.m., no more mess meetings for me.

23rd

Saw a plague of locusts, said to be the worst for 20 years. The men ran round heating kerosene tins. Sisters went for drive in morning. Letter from Miss Mitchell thanking us for the present. Went into Cairo with G.G & E.L.F. in afternoon, saw the locusts again. Purchased a brown hat. Pestered by beggars while waiting for a tram some of the beggars amused themselves by fighting.

25th

Letters from home, also from Gran. B.S. Puddle Duck, the latter having a very hard time ---

27th

Morning hours on partly, off for an hour and a half. J. came in to see if we could go out in afternoon. Opened S.S.4 in afternoon, a real muddle, no notification of it, patients arrived, asked who was in charge.

28.3.15

Dusty windy day. Re ward. In afternoon went with G to Barrage, to Cairo by tram, saw a young camel. By train from Cairo to Barrage, from there we went by a quaint trolley pushed by Arabs, across the bridges. Saw The Model Museum, crossed Damietta & Rosetta branches of Nile. Flowers beautiful, May especially, brought away some Lupin seeds. On our return to R.S. had to wait over half an hour, amused by the crowd which collected two soldiers. Bought oranges – threw them to the kids one with a pink cap, had such a bright face. Dinner at Continental. On our way saw camel carrying bedstead, chairs, pillows, stools.

29

Our convalescents went to Review in p.m.

30.3.15

G & I went to Cairo in afternoon, shopped.

31

S. Richardson, Simpson, Sorenson went out. S.F. admitted. S. Wyse went to Mena, and had a very good day.

1.4.15

Mother's birthday.

3.4.15

Off in afternoon. Went with G. to Virgin's Tree etc. After returning walked to Baron Onto's villa, very much decorated, also to R.C. church, a fine building, very plain.

5.4.15

A very dusty day. Dorcas meeting in my room, binders, etc. G. also sewing. Band played in evening.

6.4.15

Gran's birthday. Letters from Home, a very amusing one from Buttons. Uncle S had arrived safely. Heard of Aunt S's new daughter. Letter from Sister Dobbs.

7.4.15

S. Jackson went on night duty. What will tomorrow be like! Grace went to Cairo in search of pictures. Wrote letters in afternoon. White operated on.

9.4.15

Turned out of war near theatre. Went to Bazaar with Grace in afternoon. S. Thomas & Paton went in by same tram. Bought p.c.s. of Pontoon on which the Turks tried to cross Canal, also of the arrival of T. prisoners at Cairo Crows in The Bazaar. Saw a funeral. Met Major Smith & Lieut. Hawker - one of their friends had been purchasing some shawls for them. We bought some beads, also brass tray & vases. G. some shoes - some native cloth. A. Tea at Groppis, menfolk much amused at the way we chose the cakes.

10.4.15

A muddle, surgical wards moving to our blocks - a beautiful morning.

12.4.15

Violet's birthday. Letters from G & Mrs Tuart in evening.

13.

Went into Cairo with S. Good, did some shopping, met Dr. S. Delivered S. Dobb's message. Found letters from home on my return.

14

S. Wyse operated on.

15.

Off in p.m. Read & slept.

16.

Heard that Mr S is leaving us, very very sorry.

17.

Heard that Wounded were coming, saw beds & mattresses being brought in. Dinner at 6 p.m. a very noisy meal. Train arrived about 7 p.m., white with crescent on each carriage. Medical cases - brought from train in hospital in motor ambulance.

19.

Called on with Grace. Met Mrs. Brown. Capt B. asked me if I were staying long. Went into Cairo - bought some groceries. Also ribbon 18/6 on Panama hat not lost to have its surface partly covered with ribbon tip to Left ear. Concert fine voices - Covent Garden 200 pounds a week.

20

On all day. S. Farquhar went to Mena. Letters from home, also from Gran & B.S.

21

Paid Mess account

22.4.15

Off in afternoon. Went to zoo with Grace, got out at wrong corner, had to walk a long distance. The grounds beautiful. G. took some snapshots. Had afternoon tea in sound of "running water". Coming back in tram had a very dirty woman sitting beside me. A dear little French baby made friends with us, played with the tram tickets. Called at Mrs. Maddison's.

23

Day off. Had breakfast with S.A.N. & Ethel Forsyth. Ironed & had a general tidy up. Went to Museum in afternoon, very interesting, bought a virgin's lamp which came from "The Soudan" for Granny. Very hot.

24.

Off in afternoon. Went to Mrs. Black's. very anxious to know how the H's were in evening. Mrs. Knowles sang. Saw Vernon at church, he hopes to return to Australia. Grace had a day off, bought her some nourishment on my way back, found my belt made for me when I arrived back.

25.

On duty all day.

26.

Papers from Burnswark – from Granny.

27.

G. went to a. tea at Mrs. Madden. Cam had a party & we went to see Sphinx by moonlight. A beautiful sight, moon came out in time, would like to go without so many people about. Pestered to have our fortunes told. S. Good had hers. Rode back on donkeys, my saddle kept slipping, donkey's name Moses. Carl on a donkey, & an Arab beside her, telling her fortune was too funny for words – Arrived back before 11p.m.



Figure 7: At Pyramids with S. Wyse. Donkeys

28.

Leave stopped. Convalescents transferred to Luna Park, ready for 300 who were expected from Lemnos. None wounded. Told that Capt. Lind had comp. fracture skull, do hope it is not true.

29.

Leaves topped. Train 3 p.m. wounded but most able to walk. Transport nurses working n & day. Mr. Syme given treat praise by the ones he had attended - Another train about 7 p.m., mostly stretcher cases. Sisters moved.

30.

A busy day. Train with wounded 5 p.m. All the wounded so cheerful, reading a few minutes after getting bed. Saw Johnnie B. for a second could not wait long. S. Isambert discharged. Doug. in theatre till nearly 4 a.m.

1.5.15

A very busy day. Train 6 p.m., with wounded – Oh, for a few minutes at the instrument cupboard in The Bowan. Don't know what we would have done without the Red Cross sewing. See that Major Downes and Capt. Cane are here. Wrote home letters – Mr Skerchley very sick. Hear that more nurses are

coming, they are badly needed. Our men at the Dardanelles given great praise. All the wounded so brave, poor Mr Patterson to have his foot amputated tonight. All so willing to help each other.

2.3.15 (Note: should be 2.5.15)

On all day. No train. Mr McDonald went out. Doctors came to do the dressings.

3.3.15 (Note: should be 3.5.15)

Still very busy – S. Plant adm. Allowed out in afternoon, out from 5.30 p.m. to 6.45 with Grace. Took a gharri, told driver to go to Suez Rd. We reached there after much talking & driving. Part of the way over sand which tried the steeds. A yellow sunset – the g. man very anxious to get more than his fare. G. went to Bootmakers for her shoes & he took our part. Saw J.B. as we were going out – sewed and darned, dusted room, to bed about 9 p.m.

4. Tuesday

On all day. Very busy. S. Wheeler adm. That makes the 5th sick sister, we are wondering how many will weather the storm. Letters from Home, Mrs. McClure (a beautiful one). G. E.A.O. Chuttie, S. Will etc. Bessie Stewart not well. Uncle G. over for Gran's birthday. Very sorry to hear she has not been well. Letters from the kids most entertaining. Got quite a lot of M.H. news.

5.

Much the same, plenty of work. S. Baker in sickroom now. G.O.C. came. Mr Patterson taken to theatre again, very very ill. Shortly after 6 p.m., went to Cairo with Grace, had dinner at C. and enjoyed it thoroughly, read our letters & discussed them. Quite cold coming back in the tram. Purchased some postcards, brown & black & white.

6 Thursday

On all day. Busy as usual. Mr S. seems a little better T. down. Hope it stays down.

7.5.15

S. Hart comes to take charge, am truly thankful. S. Wheeler went out. Off in p.m., wrote letters. Mr. Butler explained how the Queen Elizabeth was firing, showed me the map & when Australians, English & French landed – Col Downes looking after one side of ward –

9.

Went into church with S. Tait & Grace, not many at church, elders inducted. Had tea in room, bought some biscuits before coming in. Palace well represented in the shop. Train came in during the night.

10.

On all day. Train in afternoon., very busy. S. Quartermain went to Helowan.

11.

Very windy & dusty in morning. Off in afternoon, did nothing but sleep in bed, a little sewing. Grace off for a short time.

8.5.15

Saw Capt. N. for few minutes, said he was leaving that night ---

12.

On all day. Train came in about 8 p.m.

13.

Went into Cairo with A.K.H., did some shopping sent watercolour painting to B.S. for her birthday. A. tea at Groppis, some of the dresses most weird. Found letters from George, Ag. John and B. Turner, on my return.

14.

Did a few odd jobs. S. Knox went off in middle of morning. J. Mack came in, but saw my namesake instead of me.

15.

Off in afternoon, did the family washing, sewed, slept---A bundle of papers arrived in the evening – 19.

Went to Ghezirah in afternoon to see Myra Wyse, she looks much better for the fresh air. A fine view of The Nile from the back. Saw Miss Gould. Very tired. Ag's birthday 17th. Home letters.

20.

Heard of Dr Mathieson's death, not able to realise it.

21.

S. Hart warded. H. Knox much better. Letter from Mrs Black.

22

On all day. Very busy.

23.

Off in p.m. Went to Mrs. Black's & then to church with G.F., not many there. Organ went wrong, so we finished with a very small one. Had dinner in town. Pestered to buy while waiting for tram to go, roses, chocolate, flowers, oranges, papers, tickets. Some soldiers in carriage, only been here a week ---

26.

Off in p.m., retired to bed. Very hot & dusty.

27.

On duty in afternoon.

28.

Jean's birthday. Train came in after 8 p.m.

29.

Off in afternoon. Went into Cairo with Grace, posted book to Father for his birthday. Had dinner in town. A little cooler. 10 p.m. - can hear the darkies singing.

31.

Day off. Slept, read & wrote during a.m. Went to Helouan in afternoon. The drive most interesting, mostly along The Nile at one point Pyramids of Gizeh, Danshua & Sakkara can be seen. Saw oxen treading the corn. Saw S. Quartermain. The Hotel large & a glorious view from the hotel windows. Enjoyed the day.

1.6.15

On all day. My trial in evening, most amusing. Home letters, some written in Jan, one from George wishing me M.H. Returns of 17th.

4

Twins' birthday. Went with Major Elliot & Lieut. Combes & A.K.H.. to Zoo by motor. Drove back to Cairo in gharri, dinner at Continental.

6.6.15

Off in afternoon. Rested.

7.6.15

Matron, G & S.R. King went to Alexandria. Mr Wilton, Butler & Room came to say goodbye before leaving for Dardanelles. Train in evening, none to our ward.

8.6.15

Wakened at 1 a.m. by The Fall In for the orderlies. Patients brought by car from Cairo. Watched the cars coming along the Abbassia Rd. S. Richardson caused a sensation by saying The Fall in was a fire alarm. Mr. Morpeth, Mr McFarlane, Capt. Laming left in a.m. for N.Z. Mr Smart, Major Smith & Mr Barton for England --- A busy morning getting things tied up. Trains in afternoon, some newcomers objected strongly to being admitted to hospital. Mr. Kersell very sick. Misses Frater & Walker came over to see J.M.Hart in evening. Very tired. Went to bed early.

9.6.15

Off in a.m. "Kyarra" people left.

10.6.15

On all day. Heard that L.G.V.H. was at the Front. Saw Capt. Fogarty, more reinforcements have arrived at Alexandria. Mr. Stead remarked tonight "That a fellow could stand anything as long as he got his letter from home", quite agree with him, as we are anxiously waiting for our mail which has taken a jaunt to Alexandria.

11th June

Letters came in afternoon, heard that Click was likely to leave at any time ---

13

Off in morning, slept in. After duty went for motor drive over bridges etc, enjoyed it thoroughly, a nice way to take the air without walking. Supper at C. & back to the Palace.

14.

A busy day. S. Bolton & Kerr came to call. Our optician to be attached to Head Quarters Staff "as well as his other duties!!!!!!"

Mr. Kessell very sick. Mr. W. more cheerful.

Lieutenant E. Morgan
11th Taranaki Com.
Wellington Inf. Regt.
NZ
Main Body

13. Off in p.m. Very hot. Major G. took A.K.Hart for drive, through avenue of gums. Passed through orange grove, beautiful scent, went over all the bridges round Cairo, past Zoo. Supper at Continental.

15.

Went out with Mrs. C. in afternoon. A. Tea at Groppis, motored to zoo. Saw the tontoons. Out to Mena, went round Pyramids, guide very funny re Sphinx & Maori. Dinner at Continental.

16.

Very busy. Heat strokes etc. Mr. Nancarrow came in. In the midst of getting seven new patients settled was asked if I were busy. Mr. Saunders wanted to know who it was that walked through the fiery furnace, said he knew it was Daniel, but his roommates were not sure. Major Elliot took A.K.H.. & I to dinner at Continental, had taxi into Cairo. Mr Winslow also came to dinner, very anxious to hear about Australia. Went for motor drive after part of the way to Mena, passed Zoo, tire blew out just as we got near Heliopolis.

19.

Went out with Mrs. C. in afternoon, went to Mosque at Citadel, nearly tipped out of the motor going through the gate. Our drive by his good driving said to have saved us -- Saw Cairo & all its mosques. Had snaps taken with the big shoes on -- The lights in the mosque beautiful. Motored to Mena, crowds of soldiers. I suppose the new arrivals. Went to Pictures. When we came in saw S. O'Dwyer & T. Morrison there. Dinner at Continental, enjoyed The Band which was very fine. Motor drive after, enjoyed the outing very much --- Re band programme.

20.

A busy day. S. Bicknell very sick. Train came in. Went to early communion. Special prayers for the soldiers. S. Knox & Hart look better after their trip to Alexandria. Grace went to A. -- very lonely without her, hope she is better.

The Roll Call (Oriel in Argus May 8 1915)

We have tendered the toll, we have paid the price,
We have braved & battled & bled,
And set in the shrine of our brothers-in-arms
Are the names of Australia's dead;
We have given our share of the grist that
Goes to grind in The War God's mill
But every place that another has left
Is a place that you can fill!

Oh! Some were killed in the open boats
Before they had time to land,
And some were killed in the rally & rush
Across the sloping sand;
But whether they died in the breaking surf,
Or whether they died on the hill,
Yet every gap in the ranks this day
Is a gap that you can fill!

You scan the scroll of our sacrifice,
And you hope that the list will end
Ere you feel the throb that tears your throat
As you say "He was my friend"
And it's "Poor old Bob I knew him well"
Or "Bill -- my God! Not Bill!"
But every place that a pal has left
Is a place that you can fill!

Do you remember the day they left
That day they passed through town
When the bayonets glanced like a spray of steel
On a river of rolling brown?
And now?...in the same old town today
There are slackers who're slackening still
The far-off note of a bugle call
And the pulse of a distant drum
Tell not the tale of the men who've gone
But the men who have got to come;
Oh! Duty is calling & vengeance is calling
Their cry shall never be stilled
Till the last of the gaps in Australia's ranks
By Australia's sons are filled!

21.

B. Stewart's birthday. Off in a.m., had splinter taken out of nail.

22.

S. Bicknell still very sick. Mr. Winslow left us, very very sorry.

H.P.W.

2nd R.N. Brigade

Collingwood Batt.

23. Wed.

Went out in afternoon to Barrage – a beautiful drive through the cultivated fields. Mr. Draper, the curator, showed us round, told us that only three trees were natives to Egypt. One tree grown from a seed brought from Peradengia.

(Some pages missing here.)

15.

Letter from F.- at Lemnos when written.

17.

Mail, letters from S. Dobbs, S. Wyse's mother

18.

Letter from T. – in the thick of things.

20.

Click came in in evening, expects to go at any time. Gave him my letters.

21.

Re. Faith in woman while taking temperatures – Mr. Baxter came in in evening, expects to go at any moment.

22.

Thought Click might be in. Went out to meet Mr. B, unable to get off duty.

23.

Went across at 5 p.m. to Heliopolis House Hotel, afternoon tea to Miss Bell, good number came.

25.

Two trains came in, heard from one of the men that LDSB's ?? had landed at Salt City.



Figure 8: A part of the garden at Heliopolis Palace

26.

Went into Cairo with A.G.D. & A.K.H. C. from Click.

27.

Click came in to say goodbye, gave me snapshots & message to mother re money, also for Mr Gunn.

28.

Went out with Mr Baxter in afternoon, spoke of Mrs. McClure. Volunteered for bomb throwing & one other. To send present to his mother.

29.

Went to early communion. Heard trains going out all through night.

31.

Letters, one very amusing one from Buttons, posted it to Click. Letter from Mr Baxter, saying C. had left 5 p.m. & they were to leave 2 a.m, Waiting for letters from the front.

2.

Train in during afternoon. Shanahan to go to Australia.

3. Called up 12.15 to go on Day duty. Rest disturbed by dreams & S. Bailey with cramp in her legs. Busy afternoon, everyone new. Very tired but revived when I found a good supply of letters, one especially. Photos from Mother, herself and Father also one of Agnes. Long letter from Mary. One from B. Stewart, first one for weeks. On going to my room, found that A.K.H.. had moved my goods & chattels.

4.

Off in p.m. Grace very energetic, decided to tidy & clean the room, even to the top of the wardrobe, & the bottle department. Much amused. Miss Conyers came for supper.

5.

Three trains, filled all empty beds, very busy, all stayed on. Re beri-beri. Saw Capt. Griffiths, looks very well.

6.

Off in p.m. Went into Cairo with A. Jackson, bought lace for Mr. Baxter's mother, posted it from shop. Bought picture of Nile Bridge. J. bought a hat, some very pretty ones. A. tea at Groppis.

7.

On all day, things getting somewhat straighter.

Col. Newmarsh thinks George the finest man that ever breathed, a very fine character---

8.

An inspection by Colonel Maudesley in a.m. a few hints for tomorrow's inspection. Received photos of Click & George. Heard that Major Baker was well & very anxious to get back to the front again. Went into Cairo with A.G.D. who hunted all the shops for tent work. Bought pictures, could not get a good one of Our Bridge. Heard of Mr Groom's death very very sorry. Saw that Mr Franklin was wounded ---

9.

On all day. General B. expected, great preparations. S. Kendall spring cleaning, esp. bathroom, did not appear. Letter from F. in evening, can see the Aust. from their position. Having a very trying time.

10.

Off in p.m. Put away pictures. Went into Cairo, re money. Letters – one from Major Baker, who is very well.

12.

Off in p.m. Went to church with S. Andrews, a doleful service. No one seemed to know the hymns. Sermon, Spring cleaning. War perhaps nec. to clear away evil, but some germs are lost in the clearing.

13.

Letters from home, re Mother's advice – Sister left for Lemnos. Sorry to lose S. Monger.

14.

Busy morning. Listened to concert in afternoon, slept & wrote letters.

13.9

Heard of Mr Franklin's & Mr Nancarrow's death. Little Willie wounded -----

14.

Great arguments at dinner about volunteering for England. Newell very funny. Miss Conyers' patient.

15.

Re. Capt. S. changing the sisters' time off. Into Cairo in p.m. did a little shopping, came home with Chris Murray---

21.

Very busy. New sisters came. V.D.

22.

Great indignation; old staff going to Miss Is. New sisters. On till 8 again. Busy but got finished – No letters yet.

20.

Off in p.m. Went into Cairo with Grace did some shopping- posted parcel to F. next morning.

24.

Letters from home. Mother getting ready to go to "Alma". Amusing letters from M. & V.

27.

Off in p.m., wrote letters. Hear that another mail is in. Piggott better today. Mail in evening, one from Click dated 9.9.15, very glad to get it. Letters from Mrs. McClure, Big & K. Edwards, all about the one thing. S. Woiniaski & King came back.

29.

Went to dentist. Saw S. Thistlewaite & Martin while waiting for tram, heard about Major Baker from the latter. Met S. Ralston & S. Snelling & took tram to Mena. The crops wonderful, maize and cotton. The waters everywhere – The sunset wonderful – Dinner at Sault's; other red capes there, some of the new ones. Letter from Aunt M, also snapshots of Boysie & The House – At Mena Sisters had their fortunes told, most amusing. Took some snaps. Dead donkey.

1.10.15

Off in p.m. Called on S. Andrews. Knitted. Trains in evening, two V.C. we hear.

2.10.15

Silence is the element in which great things fashion themselves together; that at length they may emerge, full formed & majestic, into the daylight of Life, which they are henceforth to rule.

3.10.15

Day off. Stayed in bed in a.m., slept & read. Went to Ghizeh Gardens in afternoon, very different to the last afternoon I spent there. Plenty of red capes about. Hear that Capt. Fleming died suddenly in N.Z. S. Stevenson saw Sunny Jim & Yanall while in N.Z.—

4.
Letters from home, & Granny.
Card from Click dated 18.9.15. Wrote in evening.

5.
Off in p.m., but on call. Two trains, walking cases in first.

6.
Find that outpatient Graham has been at "Alma", the year the new stockyard was built. Came in from "Culpataro" with wool. Came over from Singapore on A.E.2 - he says submarines are alright but they sometimes forget to come up. Graham went to Port Said.

7.
Off in p.m. Went into Cairo, saw about train to Alex. For Grace. Shopped for the Dardanelles people. P.C. from Long from Port Said, & letter from Chris. H.M.K. most entertaining at dinner. Hear that Capt. J. Nicholls has gone on to the Front.

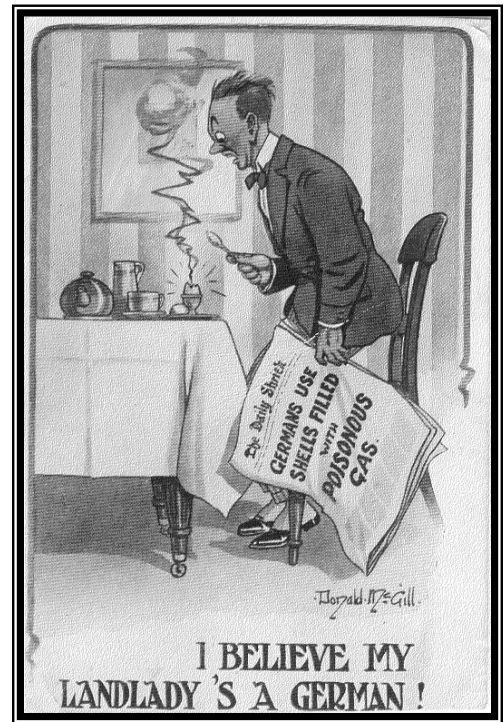


Figure 10: Click's postcard - See Letters From Click

9.
Off in p.m. One train in, some walking & some stretcher patients. Letters from home in evening, sent them on to Click. Grace went to Alexandria. Elsie to afternoon tea at Continental. Hear that Bulgaria has joined the enemy - Times, sent them on to The Front. Miss Conyers called in evening.

10.10.15

S. Davison warded in a.m. Major Zwar called in evening, looks very well - was able to go out on 10th day. He had seen Col. Syme - travelled over with him. His hand much better & able to operate. Colonel Maudesley wished to be remembered to us all. Called on A.K.H.. after dinner - she had heard from her young brother.

11.10.15

S. Robertson went to Henonian, sorry to leave our ward. Went into Cairo with G. Good, did some shopping, looked at water colours, bought one "A Nile Scene". Went to dentist 5 p.m., but found that he had been ill so unable to keep the appointment. A beautiful evening, moon for short time. Saw Wilkinson in C. - foot not healed yet, spoke of Capt. Matherson, also of Capt. Hurley. Glorified First Aid. Said we would not be home for five years, he was worried about Bulgaria joining the enemy.

12.

Letters from George. B.S. & Myra Wyse in evening. G. in S. Hospital, on duty at Randwick Military Hosp. for three days.

13.

Inoculated against cholera in afternoon. Called on S. Andrews & Davidson. S. Andrews up, but looking very tired. Dreamy Daniel left for The Front & McKecknie in a pair of dark purple pyjamas went to the Abbassia Hospital.

15th

Went to Cairo with H.M.K. in afternoon, to dentist first. A. tea at Groppis, saw Miss Green- after went to Steins to try on Panama hats, very large size. Letter from F. Went across to Imbros to rest but brought back again. S. Ripper went to Suez.

17.

Letter from Click, he was well – getting plenty of good food. Went to All Saints with S. Kendall & Cameron. Dinner after & back again--

19.

Numbers of Patients left for Australia. Watson went. Went into Cairo in p.m. tried to get lamp for Click, but no success. Met L. Snelling. Late in evening, S. Ken brought along letters from F. & S. Monger, weather good at Lemnos. S. on night duty – 36 points. Most of the orderlies sick.

20.10.15

Rough, Chanter, etc, left for Port Said, all hoping they will get home to Australia for a trip. Re. Good night.

21.

Into Cairo to dentist. Letters from Big. & Home on my return & was then told that someone wanted to see me. Pte. Ashton – he had seen Click three days ago, said he was well & putting on weight. Said that a p.c. or letter was much appreciated. Lollies they want. Half bottle of water daily & most of this is needed to keep their eating utensils clean. All very cheerful & they share their gifts. Very glad to get the news. Elsie May called in evening. Saw Miss Conyers in afternoon. Austral very well.

22.

Transfers to Ward.

Re railway from Salonika to Nish & Belgrade. In May 1914, a convention was signed between Greece & Serbia by which the latter country obtained on a 50year's lease a piece of ground on the railhead at the Port of Salonika to use for importing without control anything she req. This all important railway which only runs through Greek territory for 60 kilometres, is only a single line, but it has crossing places about every 20 kilometres & also possibilities of being further developed without much difficulty. Owing to this convention the Gov at Berlin has been unable to protest at Athens against the supply of munitions to Serbia via Salonika, & it is by this route that all war & hospital requirements have been furnished by her Allies since the outbreak of hostilities.



Figure 11: Elsie May on balcony of our house at Ismailia. May 1916.

23.

Went out with G. Good, to Mouski, bought brass work after much bargaining, bought bands for Click. Dinner at Sault's, then bought biscuits & returned laden with parcels. No mail in. Mess meeting to be held. Will keep well out of the way after the last one we went to. Re Pyjamas. Saw Mouat, he was very sorry – his box of heather had not arrived from Scotland.

25.

To dentist then to Mouski, bought the three monkeys. Saw beautiful kimonos, one gray with pink blossoms.

26.

Letter from Thompson re Port Said, most amusing descriptions of temperature taking. Letter from Click in evening.

27.

Off in afternoon. A. tea in theatre. A.K.H.. to supper, her birthday.

28.

Letter from B. Baxter, great scarcity of water, not much doing where they are, he had seen his nephew.

30.

Left Cairo by the 9.30a.m. train for Bedresheim. Nile boats. Saw the most leading to Pyramids from Level Crossing. Arrived B & took donkeys, only one side saddle, so rode astride with grey apron for drapery. Most amusing cavalcade. Saw statues of Rameses, granite, 32 ½ ft. long. In small wooden building another statue, hard limestone. 42 ft. figures by side son & daughter. Step Pyramid Road by Nile & thoroughly cultivated fields, maize very high – Mariettes house, very hot before we got there. Lunch most amusing – eggs & bread in heaps. After went to Tombs of Sacred Bulls & tomb of Thi. Sarcophagus blackened granite on limestone. Donkeys from here to Mariettes & then left for station. Donkeys behaved well. Capt Rosenthal came off. Glorious sunset & fine view of The Pyramids – Citadel looked as if built at water's edge, colouring wonderful – Back in good time & found letters from home waiting. Re Candy Man.

31. Went into church in evening with S. Ashton & S. Bonnin. C. well filled. S. sang a solo.

1. (Note: November 1915)

Letters in evening. V. sorry to hear B.S. sick again. Letter from Click dated 20th Oct. Wrote in evening.

2.

Moloney, Hodge etc. left for P. Said. Re photo.

4.

Went into Cairo with J.M. Hart, went to Kussal.

6.

Grace's party. Home letters.

8.

To dentist in afternoon. Bought Xmas stores for the Front.



Figure 12: Savage left front, Brown and Maynard at back, Hainier front right

9.

On all day. S. R. King went to Alex. Lance-Captain Savage (16th Batt. B. Coy. 4th Brigade) came to see me, been at The Front since May, now at Ghezireh for last fortnight. Mentioned in dispatches. Letters from Click dated 27 – 29 Oct. , was well tip top, also one from Mrs. Baxter. Letters from “Alma” & George. Miss Conyers came to see us ---

10.

Went to Cairo to get oilskin for Click, none to be had. Saw S. Robertson & S. Lehman.

11.

Capt. Tolhurst called, said Laura Baxter had asked him to, says he is anxious to go to The Front. Locusts in myriads. McKenzie had a box from home, shortbread – Scotch words. Says he would not go to hear Harry Lauder for 1d. About the little boys who carried his trunks. Baker & Tukpen & their accounts of their shopping & also meals. D.B. Grace went to supper party. Posted P. puddings to those at Front.

12 Nov.

Went into Cairo to dentist, but found he had telephoned to say he could not see us. A glorious sunset, clouds.

14.

To church in evening, special service for Young Men & Women. Retiring collection for Red Cross – a good congregation.

15.

Letter from F, just out of firing line. Another star.

16.

Listened to concert, they played "The Rosary" by special request. St. J.

Went to Cairo with Elsie, sent oilskin to Click, registered parcel. Pat. Dressed in new blue suits.

17.

Bright moonlight. Aust. Mail said to be in -----

18.

Off in p.m. did up parcels for Front – cool.

20.

Went with G.M.A. to At Home at Continental given by Mr & Mrs Gillan. Afternoon tea, two small children handed round cakes. Pipers played. Sir A. Baird spoke, also Mr Rolland – songs. Letters from B.S, Mrs. McClure & Mrs. Hyndes.

21.

Wondering what G will do. On all day. Concert in afternoon.

P.P.P.

22.

To dentist in p.m. Re Thanksgiving Day. Letters from kids, Jean & Aunt. Sent parcels.

23.

Train in afternoon. Letters from B.S. & Aunt Bess.

25.

Letter from Click dated 10th Nov, says he is very well & not feeling the cold too much. Very glad to get it.

26.

Letter from Mother. W.R. had been to "Alma" after measles. Letter from F. dated 12.11.15, admitted to hospital with diph. & going to hosp. ship. Into Cairo, bought electric torch & refills for The Front. Saw S. Ross & Yuille. Colonel Maudesley in Cairo.

27.

Finch, Piggott, etc left for Port Said.

28.

A year today since called up for Active Service, a full year --- Inspection by Col. Fetherston but he did not call on us. Went to Zeitoun to Mission school, drove in gharry. Miss Clinch has been at St. Hilda's. Took train from Zeitoun, walked to church. St. Andrews day on Tuesday. Some English people said to have said that Presbyterians would not be satisfied unless they had a real apostle for their saint. Church well filled – On influence whether for good or ill. Mr. McDonald at church – Church decorated with flags - The R

2.

Telegram from A. in evening.

3.

Train 8 p.m. 19 to our ward.

4.

Went to Cairo with J.M.H. Christmas shopping. Home letters.

7.
Miss Griffiths called in afternoon, to tell me J.B. is in hospital Malta Blue Sisters. Lady Oakes also came along.
8.
Sgt. Horner called in morning – J.M.H.'s name on list for transport – so grieved.
9.
Pte Ashton came in & said he had seen Click 5 days ago & that he was very well. Quarter rations & water. Weather cold. Letters from C, sent plants & rose cup of 75mm. to send to Granny. V. glad to hear all the news - Ward to be emptied, hospital to have 2000 beds by Saturday morning – some to Port Said. N. Barnard & S. Heywood arrived in evening ----
10.
To Cairo with E. M.A. bought leggings & oilskin for Click registered them.
12.
To church in evening, very well attended, Dr of American Mission preached – Carl, J.M.Hart left for Australia.
15.
Day off. To Zoo in p.m. with Grace.
16.
Went for drive with S. Good.
17.
Hear letters to be censored. Aeroplanes in p.m. Leigh S. called, told I was out.
18.
Leigh came in, went out with him. A. tea at Groppis, then drove round Rhoda Island. Dinner at Sault's.
19.
Sent cable for Leigh.
20. Fixed maps. Heard Nick is back. Box from Australia- slippers, toffee, soap, scent, tape pins, shortbread, powder. Our room very noisy, visitors will come when we try to write ---
22.
Went into Cairo with E.M.A. & M.B.
23.
Two trains. Hot & dusty. In orders that the Mayflowers to be sisters from Dec. 1st.
24.
Pte Lawry came in with letter from Click, had seen him last Friday & said he was looking very well. To Cairo with E.M.A. Christmas Dinner. Rained in evening.
25.
Early communion. Went on early to let S. Bonnin go also. Wards decorated. Saw Miss Griffiths - G.B. in England with his mother. Saw Capt. Nicholas in afternoon. Dinner in room, did not go with others to Abbassia.

26.

To Zoo with E.M.A.. & Leigh. Church well attended. Christmas service.

31.

Letters from home dated Nov. 30th. L. came in p.m., thinner but looks well. Dinner at Continental to celebrate the chocolate stripes, went in with S. Plant, S. Knox, S. Miller. Saw New Year with A.D. & E.M.A..

1.1.16

New Year's Day. Went with Leigh & E. to Mena by motor, dinner in town. Letters from Mr Baxter & Mr Hyndes.

2.

Sunday. A.D. day off.

3.

Shopped – bad business people in Cairo

5.

To opening of Nurses' Club with A.D., a great honour. Bolting horses. General Maxwell ____ Hat

7.

Shopped with E.M.A..purse, etc.

9.

Went to Citadel & mosques with Leigh & E.M.A., to church. Refreshments to be given before & after, not during.

10.

Sgt. Came to tell me that Click was at Tel-el-Kebir & was very well. S. came in evening.

11.

Leigh came in to say goodbye, great work to get leave. Telegram. Letter from Click.

12.

On all day. Very quiet.

13.

Went into Cairo with E.M.A.. Letters from George, B. Turner & M. Wyse.

14. S. Jackson came up to tell me Click was waiting in evening, looks very well. Unable to procure a sleep in good abode, so put up at 1st A.G.H. Kelly had supper party in our room, M.H. people to help eat her Christmas Cake from Australia. To Cairo with G in afternoon. Letters.

14.

Click to breakfast. Went to dinner with him after duty.

15.

Letters from home. To Zoo with C. in p.m., came back early & C. left for train. Had seen J.D. Mack.

16.

Cable from home. They had heard I was returning.

17.

To Cairo with Elsie. Got money order changed & one to send home. Tea at Club.

19.

Off in p.m., wrote letters. Saw Mr Hyndes.

20.

S. Dalrymple left.

21.

Sister Mowbray died in morning. Took over at 9B. then told in p.m. to get ready for No.1 Stationary. Ismailia. Packed.

22.

Left Palace. Saw Nick on way down. New houses.

23.

Went on duty in morning. Light duty alone –

29.

Drove to Canal ---

31.

Afternoon at Officers' Mess. O.C.'s birthday. After went for walk, sHowse over "Monitor", saw guns. Hamper from home, Letters dated Dec 13 & 20.

10.Feb.

Went to Arabia.

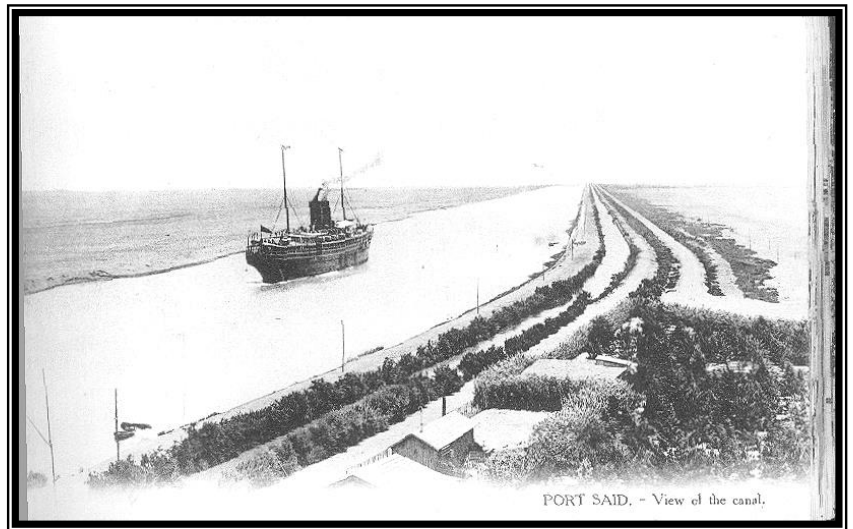


Figure 13: Port Said - View of the Canal

12.

Letters from Click.

12.

Saw Click, he went to Cairo. Mr. Hyndes called.

16.

Letters from home & Ida. Capt. Barton came in on 15.2.16.

18.

Called on Eye Spec. S. Larkin not well.

19.

Letters from home dated 19.1.16, all expecting me home.

20.

Visitors in afternoon ---

21.

To Cairo by 6 a.m. train, plenty of desert. Breakfast at Club, shopped. Funeral gharri. To Palace. Went out with Grace to Zoo. 5th Royal Scots. A. tea at Club & wild rush for the train. An amusing train journey. Capt. McK. met us, also Capt. Nerlet. Letters from Click & J. Dawson.

22.

Day duty in B. Very little to do. Saw Capt. Nicholas in morning. Hear that D. Webster is engaged. Wrote letters & sewed in p.m. Thistle & G. went boating.

23.

Worked in three wards.

Nt. went to 13th L. Horse for afternoon tea. Drove & saw balloon., Went over on pontoon bridge. Drove back through palm grove. Click's letters. Much traffic through day ---

26.

Spent a profitable afternoon sewing , writing, etc.

27.

Worked

28.

E.M.A.. & Thistle went to Port Said. Matron & seven of us packed into one motor & went to concert. Supper after.

29.

Five newies.

1 March

Lady Maxwell came to hospital.

2.

On all day. Very hot & dusty.

3.

Wrote in p.m. Went to jetty, saw the Sir Thomas Picton & heard their band. Saw Col Rosenthal who was in Palace last May ---

4.

All day on duty.

5. Sunday.

To concert in p.m. Lady Maxwell. The Rosary. Little Gray House in the West. Photo taken. To church in evening. Excellent address by Canon Reed, 13th 1st Corinthians – Hymns. D.H. there.

6.

Busy day. Gen. Birdwood came to Hospital, patients very glad to see him.

7.

Letters. Wrote in p.m. Bert. Baxter came in, had seen Click & says he looks very well---

9.

Day off. Went for walk with E.M.A.. in a.m. Elsie went to Seupkum –

10.

G went on night duty.

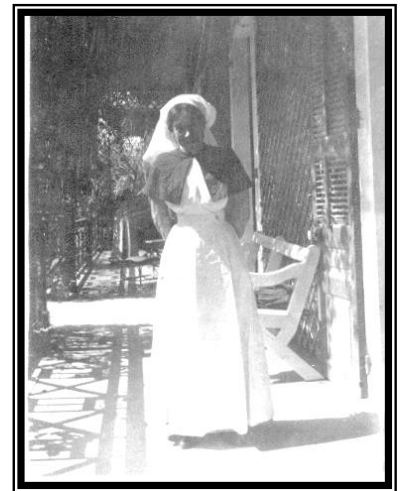


Figure 14: Thistle
(S. Thistlewaite)

11.

Letter from Betty, had been to Luxor. Very windy & dusty, cold in evening –

12.

Click came in during afternoon, looks very well. Te Deum.

13.

Sent cable to “Burnswark” – Mr Cowan to say goodbye ---

15.

Letters from home. Went for walk with E.M.A..along avenue.

16.

On all day. Saw Capt. Lordanch in a.m.

17.

Sent letters to Click with Mr Catarin. Hot and windy.

21st at 6.30 pm.

19.

Went to church with S. Renard, v well attended. “Eternal Father”.

23.

Prince of Wales expected, did not come. Dr Ceechi came to afternoon tea. A.K.H. & I went for walk along avenue. S. Plant went back to Cairo prior to leaving for Australia. Saw 13th. L.H. coming in.

24.

Great clearance in ward.

The Last Post

And now the hour has come

The Spirit takes its flight

To its eternal home

Lights out: Lights out.

Good night.

A long long night of rest

And in the morning bright

Reveille with the blest

Lights out.

Good night.

Goodnight.

25.

Letters from home.

26.

Prince of Wales came, also Gen.

Birdwood. Prince very young looking.

27.

Went to Cairo to say goodbye to Grace. Saw Mr Y. Walker. Grace at station. Lunch at Club, then



shopped. Saw Capt. McLaren ----- Some difficulty in obtaining a seat in the 6.15.

28.
Gen. McCay visited hospital in p.m.

Figure 15: The Prince of Wales Edward VII, The Colonel,
Matron, General Birdwood, and Mr. McColl W.O.

The Soldier

If I should die, think only this of me:
That there's some corner of a foreign field
That is forever England. There shall be
In that rich earth a richer dust concealed,
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,
Gave, once her flowers to love, her ways to roam
A body of England's, breathing English air,
Washed by the rivers, blest by news of home.
And think this heart all evil shed away,
A pulse in the eternal mind, no less,
Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England given;
Her sights & sounds; dreams happy as her day;
And laughter, learnt of friends & gentleness,
In hearts at peace, under our English heaven.

29.
Went with S. Renard, also Elsie & Thistle to a tea at Belgium Club, a walk afterwards. Very hot. RE Bible in ward.

30.
Patients from route. March 240. Frank Lind came in.

31.
Printed photos in p.m. D.B. Glorious day. Cool wind after the heat. Pink leaved flower very delicate colouring.
Re wool. We have pleasure in sending you the above result. The wool sold excellently & was much admired by the buyers. The values realised in 3 instances represent record prices obtained in this market within the recollection of the present generation, viz,

	32 ½ Previous record 32 ¼
1 st pieces	31 ¾ Previous record 25 ¾
	24 ½ Previous record 22 ¼

April 1st.
Mother's birthday. On all day.

2nd.
Off in p.m. Busy a.m. Cain v. sick. Visitors in afternoon. Church in evening with S. Renard & Graham. Church full.

Why One Boy Enlisted.

Why I enlisted is because I had no mother & my father never gave a penny to keep us. I did not see him till I was 14 years of age. My mother died on the 24th May 1915 & I was out of work at the time I enlisted. I signed the papers myself. My grandmother was going to bring me out of camp & I told her that she couldn't. So she said I could put up with the consequences if the Military found my age out. I landed in Egypt on the 8th Nov. 1915 & I have not been in good health since.

Pte. Swanborough.

Made me think of another boy ---

3.

Inoculated in evening, candles for the occasion as lights failed – O'Reilly etc. went to Review, a march through the sand.

4.

Concert in evening. Flem. Sang, also members of No.1 A.S.H. Padres remarks- didn't approve of them. Came home by Punt – One did not arrive, much perturbed.

5.

Juggler came in afternoon. Gulla, gulla, gulla.

6.

Gran's birthday. Busy a.m. No letters & we expected them.

9. Sunday.

On all day. Elsie went to Cairo & to Barrage—

10.

Letters from Home, & B.S. - also Biggie, very happy. Mother & motor car.

11.

Inoculated 2nd time. Hear we are to go to Cairo before going on.

Faith must learn a deeper rest
And trust God's silence when he does not speak.

12.

Va's birthday.

13.

Very very dusty.

15.

Mr. Y. Walker came in ---

16.

Elsie had p.c. from Grace. Ward very busy. Re Thistle. Went to Church with O'Reilly. Bishop from Fuich preached. Greater love etc.

17.

Busy day, Winter better. Re "Another sad home". Letter from Leigh dated April 1st, from somewhere in France, said they were comfortably quartered ---

18.

Day off. Went to Seupkum with S. Graham in morning, fine cloudy day & quite cool. Feluccas very pretty. Passed Tousiorum & saw bullet holes. The water very blue. Soldiers diving. Back in time for first lunch, read in afternoon, wrote after dinner.

19.

On all day. Busy. Hear mail is in.

20.

Went for walk in p.m. Lilies very fine especially white ones. Mad dog. Pte Day called in evening, leaving at 8.30 p.m. 2nd Cas. Cleaning. S. Holdsworth came back.

If

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs & blaming it on you;
If you can trust yourself when all now doubt you
And make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait & not be tired of waiting
Or being lied about don't deal in lies
Or being hated, don't give way to hating
And yet don't look for good, nor talk too wise
If you can dream & not make dreams your master,
If you can think & not make thoughts your aim,
If you can meet with Triumph & Disaster
And treat those two imposters just the same,
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools
Or watch the things you gave your life to broken,
And stoop & build them up with worn out tools:

If you can make a heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss
And lose & start again at your beginning
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart & nerve & sinew
To serve their turn long after they are gone
And to hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the will which says to them "Hold On"

If you can talk with crowds & keep your virtue,
Or walk with kings – nor lose the common touch
If neither goes nor loving friends can hurt you
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds worth of distance run
Yours is the Earth & everything that's in it
And – which is more – you'll be a Man, my son.

R. Kipling

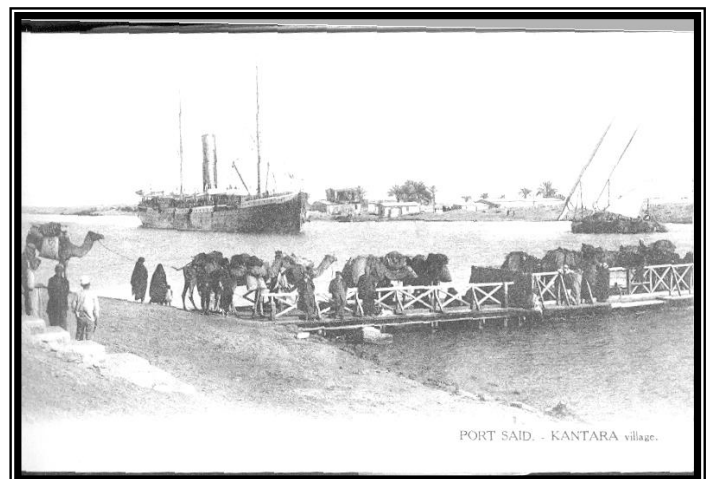
23.

S. Bonnily - The family very devout, nearly all went to church. Very quiet day in ward.

24.

Great budget of letters, darning needle in one. Mother had rec. cable saying both well (cable sent 13.3.16). Letter from Snelling, J.M.H. Andrews & Keys had left. Miss Conyers came – S. Bonnily & S. Bailey went to Port Said.

Say trouble at Kantara...



25.

Anzac Day – on duty. E.M.A.. & others went to sports. A post.

26

Very hot. Went to dressmaker with Thistle.

B. hurt her foot.

27.

Gun practice. Letter from Galway.

28.

E.M.A.. took me to afternoon tea at The Canteen. To dressmaker after. Australian mail said to be in.

30.

Went out with S. Graham in afternoon at Belgium Club, & drove to Ferry Post. Saw Charlie. To church with Elsie & Thistle. Mr. Glover called in evening.

1.5.16

Morning off, sorted things to go to Australia.

3.

Went to Duke of Sutherland 's yacht The Kataina, across in a motor launch . Band playing when we arrived. Rec. by Duke, sHowse by doctor over ship. Boxing.

4.

Took some snaps in p.m.

5.

General Watson expected.

6.

General came in a.m., first we knew of his arrival was that he was there, so for once the hospital seen as it really is.

7.

Morning off. Re tickets.

8.

Left by 6 a.m. train. Major Rosenfield travelled part of way. E.M.A..& I went to Club & then to Miss Conyers. Saw S. Green. Then drove to No3. J.M.H. Andrews & Keys there. Lunch – tea. Saw S. McFadgen & S. Ball, Allen & Proctor. Into Groppis, and after having snap taken. Saw Col Stawell. To Helmiel in tram, Palace very deserted, not like this time last year when so many wounded were coming in. Drove to Helmiel. Very comf. Gramophone & to bed.

9.

Went to Cairo by train, hundreds of camels. Jacaranda trees in bloom. Met Jim. H & shopped. Barney had lunch with us. Drive in p.m. & then to train. Saw S. Ruth Allan & Heywood. Saw Capt. Steele in train. Motor from Ismailia St. Letters on return.

10.

To Eye Department in a.m.

12.

Busy day. Eyes requiring much attention. Col Crookston called.

12.

Off in a.m. Flamboyant trees coming out. Letter from W. Stewart at Tel-el-Kebir.

14.

Off in p.m. Went to church. Mr. Crookston preached, a fine address, "Sea of glass mingled with fire". Elsie played the hymns, & God Save the King.

15.

On all day. Dwyer very sick. Went & heard the practice for the concert.

16.

S. Bonnily came on duty. Walk after dinner with E. Bright moonlight very pretty on water. Thistle.

17.

Ag's birthday -

18.

Acted as bridesmaid at Dorothy Moss' wedding, bride & her sister arrived from Suez, luggage late, Mrs. Harris dressed and undressed several time. General Godley gave the bride away – Padre Tape took the service – Lunch at Club. Bridal couple left for Cairo by 2 p.m. train.

Went to concert given by members of No1.A.S.H. Flem sang. Concert held in open. Dark room entrance acted as platform.

19.

Letters from Mother & Click. Click had rec. his letters. Letter from Lambkins, they had 600 beds ready, no patient but expected them at any moment. Doug in theatre. Capt. Smeal came from Suez, looks v. well, all well when he left England. After duty went for drive in Motor Amb, road very fine. S is going. Through Saide St.

20.

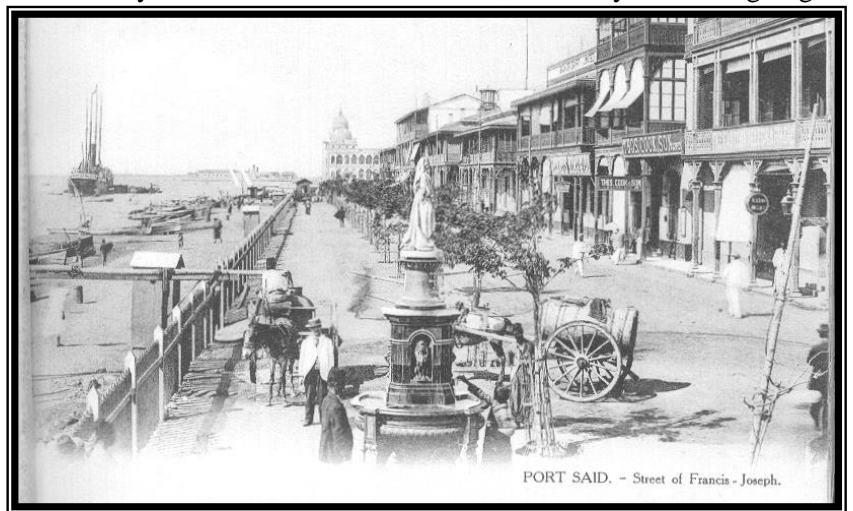
Off in p.m. P.C. from Betty, at Rouen. Some sisters at Clearing St. Went with E.M.A.. & S. Menhennet, afternoon tea at Canteen & drove to Ferry Post. Afterwards called on Miss Clinch, who told us about a native wedding.

21.

Willie Stewart came in p.m. - went to dinner with him after duty. Very hurried as W. had to catch 8.30 p.m. Cooled our coffee & tea with our ice cream. Letters from Home & B.S.

22.

Printed photos in p.m. To dinner at Club with S. Holdsworth, Capt. M & Major Suth.



23.

Letter from Leigh dated May 3rd. Comfortable billeted in France. Young came across, much better after he went to Cairo. Motor drive - Wrote some letters.

24.

To Port Said by the 10.30a.m train, quite cool travelling. Went to casino for lunch. Little kid with hair cut American fashion. Walked along Breakwater to De Lesseps' Statue. Drove to see where bombs were thrown, not much to see. Visited shops. Afternoon tea at the Exchange. Room brown furnishings, mottoes on wood. Over door "Will ye no come back again." Train journey back & saw a glorious sunset. Re Lieut. Richards who thought Gallipoli would be one wild rush up the hill & then glory, instead for a month he was road-making at Mudros. Letters from Chris & Jean Simpson when I came back.

25.

On all day. Sgt. Pent brought the copy of his week spent in an Aust. Hosp. Motor drive after dinner. Sister from Suez spent the day here.

26.

Thistle had day off. We went for walk in a.m., lunch at Canteen, very amusing. Took maps of R.B. on our way back. Dr. Bullen called. Night Duty.

28.

Went out with E.M.A. & S. Menhennet in p.m. 53rd Eng. Div. passed in early a.m. Part of 8th came from F.P. Letters from Geo & Buttons. J's birthday.

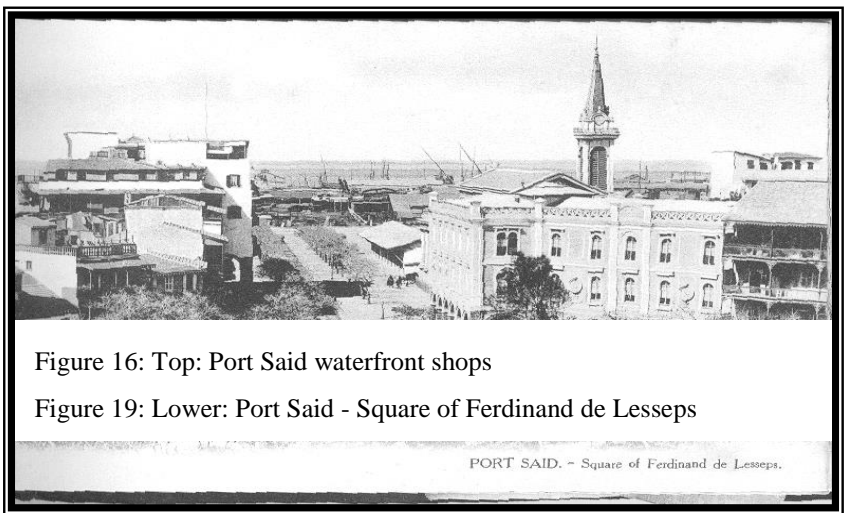
Recessional 1897.

God of our fathers, known of old,
Lord of our far-flung battle-line
Beneath whose awful Hand we hold
Dominion over palm & pine
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget – lest we forget!

The tumult & the shouting dies;
The captains & the kings depart:
Still stands Thine ancient sacrifice,
An humble & a contrite heart.,
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget – lest we forget!

Far-called, our navies melt away
On dune & headland sinks the fire
Lo, all our pomp of yesterday
Is one with Nineveh & Tyre!
Judge of the Nations spare us yet,
Lest we forget, lest we forget!

If drunk with sight of power, we loose,
Wild tongues that have not Thee in awe,
Such boastings as the Gentiles use
Or lesser breeds without the Law –
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,



Lest we forget, lest we forget!

For heathen heart that puts her trust
In reeking tube & iron shard
All valiant dust that builds on dust,
And guarding calls not Thee to guard,
For frantic boast & foolish words-
Thy mercy on Thy People, Lord!

1.6.16

Went out with E.M.A.in p.m. Sister Watson very sick.

2.

S. Watson died, all very grieved. S. Deere brought word from Cairo that E.M.A., Keenan, Munro & Gordon were going on transport duty. Saw Capt. Honman in evening --- V.D.

Vitai Lampada

There's a breathless hush in the Close tonight
Ten to make & the match to win –
A bumping pitch & a blinding light
An hour to play & the last man in.
And it's not for the sake of a ribboned coat
Or the selfish hope of a season's fame
But his Captain's hand on his shoulder
Play up! Play up! & play the game!

The sand of the desert is sodden red
Red with the wreck of a square that broke;
The Gatling's jammed & the Colonel dead,
And the regiment blind with dust & smoke
The river of death has brimmed its banks
And England's far, & Honour a name,
But the voice of a schoolboy rallies the ranks
Play up! Play up! & play the game!

This is the word that year by year
While in her place the School is set
Everyone of her sons must hear
And none that hears it dare forget
This they all with a joyful mind
Bear through life like a torch in flame,
And falling flings to the hat behind –
Play up! Play up! & play the game!

3.

Elsie, Keenan, Munro & Gordon left by the afternoon train. Bonnily went to Serapum to say goodbye to her brother.

S.Watson buried in afternoon –

7.

Went out with S. Menhennet in p.m. re the Scotch piper who said he was an Australian. Matron told us at dinner that Kitchener was said to have been drowned.

14.

Wounded from bombs came to hospital.

15.

E.M.A..& others came back from Cairo. E. looks very tired – S. Bonnily off duty with some ear trouble. Went out on lake with Thistle & Mr. Wylde, a good sail. Hear that S. Menhennet has The Royal Red Cross.

16.

Hear that A.G.D. has Very hot. Wrote letters in p.m. Posted parcels to Click & W.S.

23.

Went for sail on Lake with Thistle & Mr. Wylde, very calm coming back. Staff gave Concert in evening.

25.

Major Gardner not so well, throat. T. high.

26.

Major G. much worse, died in evening. A tragedy. S. Bonnily went on duty.

(Several days missed out here)

9.

Went for sail on Lake with A.K.H.. & Mrs. Gregory & Kemp, enjoyed it very much. A quick sail & got rather wet. To church at 6.30 p.m. no music, singing not bad –

10.

Mr Campbell went to base, also 6 others including Mr C or the fat man.

11.

Very quiet. Light out.

12.

Went to afternoon tea with S. Menhennet, for walk & drive. A very hot day.

15.

Bacsheesh night off.

16.

Came off the Night Duty. Went for sail on Lake with A.K.H.., the Col. & Mr. G. Came home quite dry. Church 6 p.m. E.M.A..at the piano. The minister knew Dr. Marshallson's son.

17.

Went to Le Cairo with E.M.A..Breakfast at Club. Shopped. Lunch at Shepherd's & thought of Leigh. Drove to No.3 and saw Proctor, McFadyen & S. Ball, the last in sick room. Back to Cairo & Ismailia.

18.

Off in p.m. Went in motor amb. For drive.

19.

Went to lecture on mosquitoes by Col. Balfour.

20.

Printed photos & fixed them. Went shopping.

21.

Saw Max Yuille. Marjorie not invalided.

24.

S. Graham & S. Holdsworth went to Alex, nearly missed train.

26.

Printed photos in p.m. Aeroplanes Bristol & deHaviland.

27.

Father's birthday. Capt. W's party. Major Neish, gums in Jamaica. Motor drive to El Feidan. Elsie lost her cap but found it again. Saw some of the 8th L. Horse.

28.

J's birthday. Day off – Letters from home. Granny better, able to sit on verandah. Letter from K. Edwards, Mrs. Mc & B. Biggie better.

Noises heard by one patient at night.
Frogs croaking, Camels groaning,
Dogs barking, Whistles blowing,
Crickets dancing, Trains shunting,
Cats murdering, Syrens sounding
Donkeys braying, Orderlies washing up
& the gentle tread through the wards.

29.

O'Reilly went to Cairo. Sisters for England.

30.

Decided after much thought to go to England. To go forward. Church -----

31.

Patients to Base. S. Campbell & Lecly came by 9.00p.m. train, great wondering as to when we will move.

1.8.16

Letters from Bert Baxter & Leigh Stewart, the former not enjoying life. Letter from Leigh Stewart: Hear from sisters are coming tomorrow & Miss Wilson on Thursday, awaiting results.

2.

Printed photos. Given swap of "Pals".

3.

Bombs dropped in early morning, one nearly on S.H.2. Capt. Grant Dalton came in to give us the news. Miss Wilson came, all who volunteered to go to England ---- She was taken motoring in morning & boating in afternoon.

4.

On all day. Went to dinner at Club with Mr Stock Lawsen. Mr. Chanter came in. McD. Stapley, Larkin, R left.



Figure 17: Companions in Egypt

5.

Busy a.m. S.E.M. Smith sick. Fighting said to have begun on Thursday night at midnight----- L. Horse said to be engaged.

6.

Had own photos taken before our departure ----- Told at lunch that wounded were expected, three came to us. Major Mill, Capt. Harris & Mr Gordon, the first two wounded, action started midnight Thursday – said to be 70000 Turkish prisoners. L.Horse very sorry for their horses.

Heard that Capt. Grant Dalton had attacked four enemy aeroplanes, lost two fingers, shot through ankle & thigh but brought his machine safely to Kantara. Told this by an airman who came in as an O.P. He had been up with Mr. Freeman in the a.m. Motor drive in evening, a halo round the moon.

7.

Busy a.m., patients (7) to Base. Off in p.m., but on call, went on 7 p.m., 5 wounded all to be x-rayed 8.00p.m. Very cheerful. Sister Keith off. Dinner at Club with Capt. Harris & Major Mills, short gharri drive after. Moonlight on Timsah very fine.

8. On in a.m. till the other sisters arrived. Photos taken--- Left by afternoon train, most of the medical staff, Matron, O'R & Deere there to see us off. O'Reilly & Fifi caused great amusement. Went to dinner at Continental with Capt. Snedley & motored back.

9.

To Sick Room, S. Ball came to see me. Hear that we are to sail on Tuesday next. Thistle, Robertson & two others went to Abbassia IV to muse The Turks.

10.

S. Robertson, Larkin, Keenan came in p.m., very happy where they are. Discharged in p.m. Have enjoyed the rest to the full -----Had our hands read, shy, so have missed a lot of pleasure, work never troubled if had to be done & could always forego pleasure for work.

11.

To be ready this evening, then changed to Sat. morning. Went to Cairo with E.M.A.. & Madge, shopped, lunch at Shephard's drove back. Sent cable home "In hospital for two days, quite well now." S. Allan brought me early morning tea in bed -----

12.

Breakfast at 6.30 a.m., left Cairo 10 a.m. , travelled in hosp. train, very comfortable. Orderlies fed us with tea & biscuits, beef tea & chocolate. Arrived Alex. About 1 p.m, went straight on board & thanks to Ninn's advice, got beds near the door. Bess O'R & Rees came down with Mr Campbell allowed off boat. Drove to Groppis & had a tea. Keenan & the pup --- Drove to Nouza Gardens, as fine as ever, cannias especially--- Came back & had dinner at Majestic. E.M.A., Mr. C, Mr Wynne & self, then drove to boat----- May things turn out well, wherever we go. Very noisy, very little sleep.

13.

Sunday. Up early. Wrote home letter, Bess O'R & Rees came down after we had waited a long while for them. Mr. C. got them passes, he & Mr Wynne came on board & took our letters to post. Letters. Mother. Sailed 1p.m., niggers nearly killed when big gangway fell. Very calm & water smooth.



Leaving Egypt

14.

Boat drill, very funny appearances in Life belts. Saw one man from “Embden” – Slept part of day. Boys had concert in the evening.

15.

Boat drill. Read and slept.

16.

Sea very smooth. Arrived outer harbour at Malta. Fortification. Small boats came round & boys dived for coins.

17.

Went to Grand harbour, almost land-locked. Valetta. Allowed off in p.m., went with E.M.A.. & Mr Scotland, rowed to shore & went up in lift. Before reaching lift passed under huge archway cut out of rock. Lift 205 ft. high, fare ½ . Fine view on leaving lift, many monuments in gardens. Shopped, rode in carozzi, higher than gharry, one horse. Went to Temple of Bones. Chapel of the Skulls. Went to St. Johns, hangings of rich crimson, glorious shade. Seven chapels, English, Fresh, Italian, German, etc. Paintings on roof by famous Italian painters, depict the life of St. John. A fine picture of the Virgin Mary, necklace of precious stones. King’s chair kept George V. Large silver gates darkened in Napoleon’s time, so as he would not know them to be silver. Altar, lapis lazuli, large silver candle sticks. The Knights of St. John lie buried beneath the floor being composed of thin slabs – Back to the water by the street & step. Some hasty shopping, then on to a boat & back to the “Kanowna”, reported to O.C. Left Malta 5 p.m. Saw two large troop ships, men boarding one.

18.

Rather rough in a.m. Passed Cape Bond in afternoon & a lighthouse. All the family very sleepy in p.m. E.M.A.. & two others only left on deck. Seeing African coast all day, coast of Morocco. Saw several vessels. Boat drill.

19.

Troop ship said to be going to Salonika came back, on account of submarine.

20.

Church Parade. Convalescents at one end of deck, sisters in double file along deck.

21.

Arrived Gibraltar 2p.m. Rock stands out very clearly. Cement on rock to catch water. Enough water in reservoir to last three years. An Imperial sister came on board, pointed out the hospitals & the old Moorish tower. Three things found on Gib.- Union Jack, a small plant, ape, said to come by a subterranean passage from Ape point in Africa. Several people have tried to pass this passage, several killed. Now forbidden. Three German subs said to have been destroyed by our guns on New Years Eve – Saw Algesius, Spanish town. Saw old Moorish forts on Morocco coast as we were passing through the straights. A fine sunset, & the glow lasts longer. Passed Cape Trafalgar. Governor’s cottage seen when approaching the Rock.

22.

Boat drill, wrote letters.

23.

Concert in evening.

25.

Passed Ushart about 8 a.m. Our ward the scene of packing during most of the day.

26.

Ship anchored when we awoke. Up early, saw Isle of Wight, Oshome House, Netley, (corridors 1.4 mile long). Arrived Southampton about noon.



Figure 19: Group of nursing sisters in Port Said
(By permission of the National Library of Australia)

In Britain

26.

Left boat 3.45. Train to Waterloo. Luggage at Southampton in squares with first letter of surname. Country beautiful. Waterloo, met by Miss Conyers, down I lift through tube, up moving staircases, train to Southall, met by S. Weston, Miss Kellett, tea. Just in to bed before 12p.m.

27.

Sunday. Rested. To church in morning – great cracking of seats.

28.

A great day in the city. To Base, saw Col Maudesley, Victor Hurley. To Bank in taxi. Shopped. Home on Bus, passed Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens. In a.m. saw Cleopatra's needle. Saw Mr. Room, thinks he will be boarded to Australia.

29.

Went to town in a.m. to Westminster Abbey to Base & Banks. Shopped. Rang up Guys. Saw Mr. Brittingham. The only one left out of 20. Heard of Mr Denny's death yesterday – others well so far.

30.

On call, told in p.m. that we were to go to Whalley, Lancashire. Went for walk in evening with Ethel Forsyth.

31.

Left Southall by 8.30 a.m. train. Thistle, Holdsworth and Stapley came to station. Met at Paddington by Miss Davidson. Left Euston at 10.25, changed trains at Manchester & Blackburn, difficulty in getting our luggage moved – Elsie & I taken for Aust. Members of Parliament at Euston. Arrived Whalley 5p.m., not met so left our luggage on the platform & took taxis. Interviewed by the Matron. Delighted to see Jean & the others.

1.

Went to G2, not busy.

2.

Went to afternoon tea at tennis court with Jean & Field, walk to village. Concert in evening. Very good.

3.

To Church with Florence. C. of England, band & organ.

5.

G.O.C. inspected. Home letters.

6.

Went to the station all by myself.

7.

Garden Party given by M.O.s In p.m. off duty, went with S. Paton & Miller to The Nob – a steep climb, but a fine view, when we reached there. Tea at The Nob, a real country one. Saw the children in the streets with their clogs. S. Birkett & Neil came.

8.

Elsie & others had afternoon off. Heard Mr. C was in hospital in London. Letter from Grace saying Click was well on Aug.29th.

9.

Moved my room, assisted by S. Paton, S. Simpson & Judd left.

10.

Sunday. A quiet day. Mr. Pollard's talk on "Life at Sea". Chapel of Bones, Malta. Bones the remains of the Maltese soldiers killed in defending Fort St. Elmo against Turks in the great siege of Malta 1565. They were buried in the graveyard preceding the chapel & in 1585 they were by a Maltese priest dug up & arranged in this place. The skeleton at the right of altar is of the French General who com. The Maltese troops, the other at the left an Italian Lady's who built a large hospital for the poor & sick. The five skulls with bullet marks placed under the lady's skeleton were five Maltese gentlemen who in 1798 revolted the pop. Of Malta against the French gov. This wooden statue of the Virgin Mary over the altar was formerly the figurehead of a Maltese vessel & it comes from the 15th Cen. The monogram under the statue shows the letter M. within a circle & is made up of fingerbones & ribs. The chapel holds over 2000 skulls besides all the other bones. A service is held each Nov. 9th in commemoration of All Saints Day.

11.

Packed etc. Left Whalley by 5.40 train, changed Blackburn & Preston. Conversation in train most amusing bet. two women. The Father & his sons. Very hard to get a taxi, went to Ivanhoe.

12.

Saw Ida O'Dwyer & Nap in a.m. J.C.H. came round, went with her. Very glad to see her. Spent part of afternoon with Mr. Campbell, St. James Park, War Office.

13.

Mr. Baxter's letter about Click –

14.

Went to Base, no news. Saw Miss Conyers, got concession tickets fixed – Saw Dress etc. Met Winnie Smith, just the same. Went to The Abbey –

15.

Friday. Went to Tower in a.m., met Keith & Calvert in p.m. Sent telegram to France.

16.

To Houses of Parliament in morning. Sat on the red cushions.

17.

To Westminster Abbey in morning, met R & C & went with them & S. Robertson & MD to Hampton Court, saw the famous grape vine, the sunken gardens, etc. saw Stapley.

18.

Went to Bank with Mr C & got telegram from France, same news as B. Baxter's. Went to Richmond, saw about our tickets on return to Euston. Went to station early, Mrs. K. Lawson's story. McD & Mr P. saw me off.

19.

Arrived Edinburgh soon after 8a.m. Walked to St. Andrews Station. Afterwards drove round Edinburgh. Left at 1.25, good trip. Arrived Kingussie 6.40. Aunt Peg & Uncle E. to meet me – anxious to know about Click.



Figure 20: Passengers at Kingussie Station

20.

Went out with Uncle E. when he did his rounds in a.m. & again with Aunt Peg. Saw the monument erected by the Duchess of Sutherland who founded the Gordon Highlanders—

21.

Went out in a.m. Walked in p.m., saw house where Maggie Baxter lived when here.

22.

Motor drive in a.m., saw Creag Dhubh, cave in mountain where Prince Charlie was hidden. Spray of water usually over mt. side. Went for walk, motor drive in p.m., walked back to the loch.

23.

Walk in p.m.

24.

Church in morning, good sermons, Rooted in Christ. Went for drive with U.E. & Boysie, lights on Mts fine, gathered heather. Leigh's letter, the same news.

Kingussie (kin-you-sich) means the head of the firwood. 750 ft, above sea level. North bank of Spey. North Monadhliath hills.

Creag Bhaig, on top cairn erected to memory of fifth & last Duke of Gordon, one time lord of Badenoch.

Ruins of Ruthven Castle – ruins really those of barracks erected by Eng. Gov. during times of Scottish Rebellions. Some ref. made when speaking of Wolfe of Badenoch. Maybe the seat of the Comyns.

Facing road a small monument to soldiers killed at Atbara, in Kitchener's Sudan campaign.

On top of Tor Alvie, pillar, erected to memory of last of the Dukes of Gordon, "The Cock of the North".

Lynwilg Hotel walked past on way to Loch.

Locn an Eilan echo

Clan Chattan

25.

Monday – Left Kingussie by the 10.07 a.m. train saw Killiecrankie. Drumochter 484 ft. Arrived Perth, met by J.B. McD. Evidently took the wrong train as we arrived at Waverly, went to another platform & then back to where we came from. When in the train & going discovered that we were in the wrong one. Arrived Carlisle 5.30, had dinner. Arrived Blackburn & S. Robinson came to our carriage. At last got to Whalley. Zepp raids. Letter from Grace.

26.

To G2. 56 patients. E.M.A.. on night duty. Hooter went 7.45 p.m., so a convoy must be coming – Nurse Studholme's brother has been killed in France. Our talk –

27.

Home letters, George having final leave. Granny better.

28.

Afternoon off, wrote letters. Went to The Nab for tea with S. Miller & Neil.

29.

Up at 1 a.m., convoy. Eleven patients all very cheery in spite of their long journey – Bazaar the talk of all – Letter from Aunt Peg. Measles at K. School closed.

30.

Lt. Tait's letter.

Belgium

Dear Miss Bell

I received your cable asking if your brother Alex was well & when with great regret I had to reply back saying that your brother was missing, at the same time saying I was very nearly certain that he had been taken prisoner, if I had only known your address I would have written & told you about Alec some three weeks ago, but I will now tell you every detail of information that I know of poor Alec's misfortune to be missing.

On the morning of the 26th of August, the 21st Batt. Made a charge at daybreak to endeavour to take a place called Mouquet Farm, & Alec having been previously made a corporal was in charge of my 3 right flank machine guns. We took our objective with very few casualties, but as you know yourself what an Australian is like when his blood is up, & not being satisfied with having taken our objective we must go further on, right over to the third German line, the left flank did not go so far but the right flank that Alec was on went right on, & consequently I regret to say were nearly all cut off & surrounded by the Germans, this I might mention happened on the Sat. morning & in all about 70 men were cut off including Alec & his three gun teams each of six men. We did our utmost to get to these unfortunate men & relieve them of this position, but sorry to say we never had the men to reinforce us, so we had to give our task up after receiving severe casualties. We were relieved by another Batt. at daylight on the Sunday morning. Although these men were surrounded the Germans had made no attempt to take them prisoners, that was up till Sunday morning. At 7 a.m. on that morning, we left the trenches & came back to Albert; well then on the Monday afternoon about 4 o'clock, 2 of these seventy men arrived back to me. I reported the following – that on the Sunday night these 2 men decided to have a try to get back over the German lines into our front lines & after some very thrilling experiences & narrow escapes, they succeeded in doing so. It would have been impossible for more than 2 men to have done this wonderful escape as they would have been seen, as it was these men were seen by the Germans & heavily fired on, but luckily escaped. These men reported to me as follows- that up to Sunday night when they left the remainder of the party that Alec & most of his men were quite well, but as all their ammunition had run out, there was nothing else for them to do but to give themselves up, which was a very sensible thing to do under these circumstances. And a further report came in saying that all these men had given themselves up & were seen being marched away the Germans. Of course, our men could not fire on them as they would have shot our own men down. So under this evidence I have every right to be almost certain that yr. brother Alec has been taken prisoner. Do not think for one minute Miss Bell that I would say or tell you the above information about Alec unless I was quite sure it was official As I witnessed a lot of it myself & the man that came back reported the last information is quite reliable as he has known Alex ever since we came to France, I think you will agree with me when you have read this note & in the face of everything, it looks almost certain that yr. brother has been taken prisoner.

Your brother & yourself left Australia together & I might say we were very close friends & I miss himself & his services greatly. He was a splendid fellow Alec & was liked & loved as a brother throughout the whole Machine Gun Section. The whole section has asked me to convey to you & your family their deepest sympathy in the loss of your brother & son & trust he is safely a prisoner in Germany & will be returned to you safe & well at the end of the war, or even before. I myself having one of the section, am included in these wishes. If there is any further information you require Miss Bell & it is in my power to give it to you, I would be glad to hear from you.

Further it is like I may be in England on leave in the near future & if you would write & give me your address I would call on you & tell you all about Alec. I will now conclude by conveying to you & yours my heartfelt sympathy, but trust your anxiety will soon be relieved by hearing good news of Alec, for which I feel certain you will.

I remain, yours sincerely

2nd Lieut. N. Tait

Lewis Machine Gun Section

21st Batt. 6th Inf. Brigade

On active service in France

I might mention that I have only just received my commission. I was Machine Gun Sergeant up till recently –

I might mention that your brother Alec did some fine work in the trenches previous to the attack. He was such a reliable man & his men would do anything for him. I will never get another Corporal to take the place of Alec.

1st. Sunday

To church in a.m. with S. Neale.

3rd. Tuesday

Went to the village with S. Field in evening.

2nd Monday

E.M.G. & Miller left for holidays

Thursday 5th

Convoy about 5 a.m. 9 cases to our ward. Home letters. Went to Mitton & had tea, back by 8 p.m. James operated on & went to another ward.

6.

Letter from bank telling me that they had received the following message from their Melbourne Branch.

“Advise Sister Annie Bell Alec missing. August 26th. Inform Capt. George Bell on arrival”

Wrote to Bank & to George. A cold wet day. Neale to be off duty for two days.

7.

Off duty from 5p.m., wrote letters & talked

8.

Off duty in p.m. To Church with S. Robertson at Wes. Church. Old fashioned seats & ladle for collection.

9.

Nurse Osborne’s farewell party in evening.

10.

Rainy and windy. Went for walk, wrote letters.

11.

Convoy 9.45 p.m. two patients to our ward.

12.

Took over stock of G1.

13.

Went to G1.

16.

Had our papers about voting given to us. Heaton v. sick. E.M.A.. & Miller came back from holidays.

17.

Voted. Afternoon off duty. Read & knitted. Went out with N. Studholme.

19.

Letter from George saying he was in England. S. Robertson & others arrived late train off line ahead of them.

20. Wire from George. P.C. from A.R. Hutton dated July. Letter from Pte. Long dated August 1st.

21.

Two cards from Click came. Had been sent to Egypt –

Two aeroplanes over in p.m. S. Robertson to Blackburn. Col's address.

24.

Went to Blackburn to meet George, arrived about 8 p.m. Dinner at White Bull.

25.

To Liverpool, left Whalley soon after nine a.m. Went to Walker Gallery, to Post Office, cabled home that we were well. To Sefton Park after lunch at The Adelphi, saw Palm House, statues of Mercatton, Cook, Columbus. Got telegram from Uncle Bob. Back to Blackburn, dinner White Bull, & then G brought me back to hospital. Telegram & again to station.

26.

G. went to Manchester, & at 5p.m. came to hospital & took S. Robertson & self to Blackburn to dinner. Motored in. Left by the night train to London.

29.

Church in Lecture Hall in a.m. Very wet day.

31.

Dinner at White Bull, farewell to S. Paton, Field, Thomas. Champagne surprised everyone.

1.11.16

S. Field, Paton, Thomas left for London.

5.

Off in p.m. Walked up the Nab. For tea, very funny coming back.

7.

Went to Blackburn with S. Robertson, rained a good deal.

8.

Letters

14.

Left by the 1.30p.m. train for London, good trip down, went round to Bemers hut, found J.C.H. out.

15.

George came up at 9 a.m., we went round to Berners and saw J.C.H., talked & had morning tea. George's breakfast. Went to Hyde Park & watched the riding. Lunch at Stewart's. Went to The Abbey & to the The Tower.

Saw S. O'Reilly & Stapley at train, Bess not looking well. Left London 6 p.m. Letter from Grace. Re Clarrie.

16.

Saw that Capt. Sheen was killed –



Figure 21: Civilian photo of George Bell

19.

Went to afternoon tea with S. Robertson to Mitton Hall. Sat in the wishing Chair. Saw the oak cupboards & rafters.

21.

Went to Clitheroe to the dentist.

26.

Off in morning, went for walk to Mitton Bridge, quite fine at times. Letters from home, they had heard of Click being reported missing. Mother at Burnswark, but going to "Alma". Convoy.

28.

Went to Clitheroe to dentist in morning.

2.

No days off we hear. Letters from Aunt Peg, Grace & Thistle.

1.12.16

Miller went to London.

3.

Went to Mytton Hill in afternoon, very restful. Walked back in the moonlight. Convoy.

5.

Walked to Clitheroe with Ethel Forsyth.

10.

On in afternoon & evening. Letter from L. Stewart 1.12.16.

11.

Left by 1.30p.m. for London, good trip arrived 7.30p.m. Telegram from George.

13.

G. came at 10 a.m., to Berners & saw Jean Howatson. To Bank, & then to St. Pauls, Tombs of Nelson, Wellington, Florence Nightingale's mem. white stone. Saw the pigeons being fed – Met J.C.H. again, lunch at Stewarts, shopped in p.m., very crowded – Afternoon tea at Buzzard's numbers of children. Saw one of my old Ismailian patients at St. Paul's. Left London 6 p.m. Fog. Arrived Whalley 1.15 a.m., taxi waiting. Letters & flowers from Ros. Studholme.

14.

Letter from Leigh Stewart, had received oilskin.

15.

Saw an account of Alan Bishop's death. Letter from Kipling to Albert Dorrington's little daughter Billy.

Dear Miss Billy,

Because I do not always answer letters personally, I am considered a very husky fellow at times.

Between you & myself there is a grain of truth in this report, & I am often very terrible when the post comes in. I am glad you knew & loved Frank Bullen. He was also my dear friend, & had a fine regard for your splendid Australians. I had a boy who came near writing storied about kangaroos & Queensland pearl fishers. But another call came & Johnny went to France, where the stars are still shining, although Johnny's drum has ceased to beat.

Very sincerely

R.K.

17.

Climbed the Nab & slid home. Tea at Whalley Arms.

19.

Went to Blackburn with Sister Amos to do the Christmas shopping.

20.

Cable from home re Click:-

Sister Annie Bell. Care Throbalin London. Get Prisoners War help Committee 5 Southampton Street Strand. Make enquiries about Alec. Inform them contents Lt. Tait's letter. Find out names two men who escaped. All well, Bell

23.

Great preparations in ward.

24.

Sunday. Getting ready most of day.

25.

Convoy 4 a.m., patients glad to be in England for Christmas – Concert for patients in afternoon, then the nursing staff tea to patients. Whist drive. Hagies doll.

26.

Convoy in early morning.

30.

Convoy 10.10p.m., in bed by 2 a.m., patients a long while in coming to ward.

31.

Off in afternoon. Went to Milton for a walk, tea at The Three Fishes. Letter from Aunt Chris.

1.1.17

Mr. Baxter came in afternoon to tell me about Click, thinks there is very little hope. Saw Click just before the charge. The 24th Batt. relieved the 21st in the trenches, so that the 21st could make the attack. Mr. Baxter's experiences of different hospitals.

2.

Went to service at 6.30, S. Robertson. First Presby. Service we had had. Very stormy day.

4.

P.C. from Neil to say he was at Salisbury Plains.

5.

Seventeen dysenteries left in early a.m. Wired Neil & Aunt Chris.

6.

Letter from Leigh, in hosp. at Bethnall Green. Wired Aunt Chris.

8th.

B's birthday. Letter from George, had had a cable from home.

9.
Off in p.m., went for walk with S. Symonds & E.M.A.. A fine sunset. Church. To stand back & see our work from afar. Wrote home about Click.
14.
Off in p.m., convoy 9.20. Twelve to our ward.
15.
Off. V. sick.
16.
Left at 2p.m. for London, taxi to Preston. Great work at Euston to get a taxi. Went to Langham. Aunt Chris & J.C.H. there. Talked till midnight.
17.
George came up about 10 a.m., then we went to Base & Bank. Went to Stewarts for lunch & saw Leigh & his friend Neil Cameron. Went to see John Howatson, Jean v. worried about him. Went to St. Paul's in morning & to the Whispering Gallery – a great climb up the steps. George, Aunt C, J.C.H. came to the station, left at 5.20p.m. Good trip to Preston. Taxi from there to Whalley. Snow. Supper & hot bags in our rooms when we returned.
18.
Went for walk in evening with S. Symonds.
19.
Convoy. Seven patients, all very weary. Hear that Hilda Knox, King & W. are expected at Southall -- Letter from Mr Baxter, those who were missing same night as Click, their names were through the end of November – Letter from Daisy Rogerson.
20.
Had my Christmas pudding from home, we had it in the sitting room.
28.
Off in p.m., went to Miss Hick's, very cold walk. Walk in evening.
29.
Last thing in disp. To send back empty thermometer case
30.
Convoy 10.30p.m. Eight patients.
31.
Letters from home. Snap of Bob.
- 1 Feb.
Went to Clitheroe with S. Robertson, shopped. Robertson's minced meat, Aunt Ann's Plum Puddings. Tea at The Swan – very cold.
3.
Snowing. Notice about Sisters paying if lids of special dishes were not returned in three days – Ward very cheerful, great singing when the Boot Room was being scrubbed.

Trust that those we call the dead
Are breathers of an ampler day
For ever nobler ends.

4.
John's birthday. Sunny day, plenty of snow on the trees. S. Symonds took snaps of us in the snow.

5.
Safe. A Te Deum.

6.
Off in afternoon. Did not go out. A convoy at 9.30 p.m., nine. Very cold.

7.
Letter from George who enclosed letter from Aust. R. C. Society.

Dear Captain Bell,

I regret to inform you that a post card has been received from No 1526. Pte. Stewart Campbell, 21st Batt. who is a prisoner of war at Stendal, about your brother No.1516 Cpl A.A.L. Bell, 21st Batt. A.I.F. He writes that he last saw his "Friend" Alex Bell, lying very badly wounded in the body in a shell hole, & to all appearances dead – because of the violent nature of the fighting he cannot give a very clear account of what happened.

We have still to hear from Pte. Membrey at Gottingen & we shall at once inform you of his reply.

In the meantime, we offer you our sincere sympathy

Signed V. Deakin, Secretary.

7.
How you keep calm.

8.
Letter from Elsie to say she is to be married on the 14th.

10.
Hogg's story.

11.
Off in p.m. Clark hurt her hand, but still to remain on duty.

13.
Taxi to Preston & caught 3.55p.m. train, arrived Berners 9.30 p.m. J.C.H. waiting for me.

14.
George came at 1 p.m., went to Bank & to Red Cross. Saw in. Saw Rita Wilson. Lunch at Stewarts, Leigh Stewart & J.C.H. & Rita. Went to see John Howatson in afternoon, looks much better. Left Euston 5.20. Whalley at 11p.m.

17.
S. Robertson & McD. in London, brought back word that six sisters were coming here. Hope it is true.

18.
Long day on. Sunday.

21.
Word at 11 a.m. that we were recalled. Great excitement. Handed over ward & packed. Miss Jones came to say goodbye.

22.

Left Whalley 7a.m. Breakfast at Blackburn. Good trip. Reported at H.Q. McD & I to go to No1 General Florence & Lidge to Weymouth. Robertson & Miller to No.2.

23.

Came to Berners. Shopped in morning, went to Romance in evening.

24.

George came up in a.m., shopped. Lunch at Stewarts, Aunt C, J.C.H. John, Leigh, George and I. They went to Professor's Love Story. G & I to The Abbey, Houses of Parliament & The National Gallery. Rembrandt's picture of his mother. Gainsborough's Blue Boy. Dinner at Larchan with Aunt Chris. Saw George off to Brighton.

25.

Packed in a.m. Lunch at Langham, went to Concert in Queens's Hall. Church in evening.

26.

Waited in to see if George would come in a.m. Drove round London in p.m. To theatre in evening.

27.

To Base in a.m. Out in afternoon. George came up in p.m., dinner at Rendez-vous with J.C.H. & self.

28.

Went to Charing Cross at 11a.m. with J.C.H., Aunt C. also came down. Later saw S. Duff, Bonnin. Left Charing Cross 1.40p.m. for Folkestone, pretty country from London. Crossed Channel on "Onward" smooth passage. Arrived Boulogne, waited & then the 70 marched off. Then 10 for No 1 General walked through many streets. Letters from home. Jim had measles, but was better.

In France

1.3.17

At Boulogne all day. Went & saw the cathedral pulpit beautifully carved. Went to the ramparts of the old city. Stood in the sun.

2.

Up early, walked to Station, seated peacefully in train, when we saw our luggage being put out at Saint Roche, then we were told to go on to Amiens. Reported there & then J.M.Hart went to find a resting place for us. Some Australians offered to carry out luggage. Very glad to see anyone from Australia one said. Went to see The Cathedral, saw The Weeping Angel. Aisles of the Cathedral very fine. J.M.Hart heard from a N.Z. that Col. Powell had gone up Line 3. Up early, no sign of ambulance, so we started to walk to station. Arrived Rouen about 1.30p.m., waited for ambulance, very glad to arrive, saw A.G.D. soon after arriving - she looks well.

4.

Went to theatre. Busy.

5.

On all day.

6.

Off in p.m., went into Rouen in p.m. with Snelling – Told to put on lights out at dinner time.

7.

Busy day.

9.

Told in evening to go to Cas. Cleaning.



Figure 22: In theatre at an A.C.C.S near Rouen

10.

Letter from George, arrived safely at

No2. Packed. Left No1. 3p.m., Rouen at 4.40p.m., an E. Sister travelled with us. Helped with luggage at Station by a Lt. Randall whose father used to practise at Hillston. Made tea in the train.

11.

Arrived at Nurses' Home Abbeville about 4p.m., met by S. Longham. Went out for short time in p.m.

12.

Left Abbeville by the 10.20 a.m. Nearly missed train as a Major took our car. Waited at Amiens for our car. The N.Z. Matron & sisters very good to us. Drove to No3. Arrived 9.30p.m., met by S. S McD. All look very well.

13.

To B1. Surgical.

18.

Went for route march to A, saw Col. Elliot, saw Major Chambers & Cook.

25.

Went to Pedemont with M. Baker, Kelly. Saw the Chateau, saw where the German line of trenches were at Pozieres. Tear shell gas. Saw Major Embleton & Chambers.

28.

Major Wilson came in p.m., looks very well. Letter from Grace.

31.

Isolated in the bathroom.

1.4.18

Mother's Birthday. A good number to afternoon tea by the sounds from the Messroom. Heard I was to depart to another hospital.

2.

Left Edgehill at 10 a.m. in motor ambulance, saw plenty of "Us" on the way. Changed cars at Beuval. To Abbeville through a storm. Arrived 5 Stationery had some nourishment there, then came on to Le Treport. Took a long time to find the hospital. To bed about 7 p.m.

3.

Awoke after a very rough night, snow through the roof. Hospitals for the convenience of patients. Salts for tea.

4.

Wrote some letters. A calm day. The conversation re Convalescent Homes.

8.

Went for walk in morning. Letter from George, with Mother's enclosed.

9.

Very stormy morning. Miss Martin, Webber & Sister Seely ready to leave.

13.

Left Le Treport 6.45 p.m., went to No 3, & another sister joined the car. Arrived Abbeville, went to Nurses' Home, saw Longham. Saw Miss Martin in p.m., saw the Cathedral.

14.

Came to Amiens, travelled with Sister Johnson. Came by car from Amiens, passed through Albert Bapaume & Pozieres. Great desolation. Arrived 3rd C.C.S. & saw George who had arrived that morning, looking very well.

15.

Went to A2, a busy day.

18.

Twenty-seven letters. Off from 5 p.m., so read them. Mrs. McClure "Wished for good with God is done".

20.

Some whisbangs over in a.m. Morning off.

22.

Gas helmets presented to us & we had a lecture.

23.

Went for walk in evening with George.



Figure 23: Anne with George

24.
Mr. Baxter came in, saw George.

25.
A heavy bombardment in early a.m., all
awake early.
Anzac Day. Letters from home.

27.
Went on night duty. A good
bombardment.

28.
Went for walk with George after dinner.



1.5.17
Saw G. aeroplane in early a.m., shots being fired.

Figure 24: 3rd A.C.C.S. Grevillers April 1917 -
Anne on far right

3.
Heavy bombardment in a.m. Busy day 1500.

13.
Heavy thunderstorm in early a.m.
Eddy. Night off.

14.
Went with George & D. to Butte de Warlencourt, absolute desolation, huge shell holes. Graves.
Memorial on top to 9th Durham Light Infantry – a beautiful day.

17.
Went for walk with George. They still have our love & we have theirs.

18.
Ordish very sick.

19.
Died at 12 noon. Went for walk, a heavy barrage, great number of flares.

24.
Came off N. Duty. Went for walk in afternoon to Luport Wood, brought back a shell case.

25.
Day duty. Fritz very busy in early a.m.

28.
Went to dinner in evening at 57th. Batt. Col. Stewart who had been at Palace. After “The Landing” was
there. Col. Marshall came in.

29.
Went to the cathedral at Bapaume, great many skulls. Through the tunnels, another leads to Le Sais &
one to Pozieres. Very damp. Walls of small bricks. Ventilators. Saw the pigeons used for the messages
from the front.
Afternoon tea & we brought away the floral decorations & vase.

30.

Tennis party in afternoon. Mr. Christianson came in. Concert after dinner, very good one.

31.

Sgt. Piggott came in in morning, brought the cross for his brother's grave.

June 2nd

Went to dinner at 59th Batt. Our caps very wet when we arrived. Came through Bapaume Cem. on way back. Saw memorial to soldiers French, who fell in 1872, also graves of French soldiers in this war. Mr Campbell came in in afternoon. Click.

3.

Went for walk.

4.

The gratitude of the poor, a better payment than the riches of the rich. A letter.

5.

A busy day. Went for walk with George in evening – some of the 56th came in. Saw Sgt. N.J. McClure's grave in the cemetery.

8.

A barrage about 11 p.m.

9.

Tennis match in afternoon, officers played left handed. Went for a walk after dinner.

10.

Morning off, wrote letters.

11.

Supper for Ida's R.R.C.

12.

Went for walk in evening with George. Letter from Annie Munro.

15.

Morning off. Went for walk with George and Mr C. in evening. Mr C's account of what the men of 21st told him re Click. The best of all.

16.

Busy day, taking in. George very busy.

17.

Sunday. Letter from Mother & Mrs. McClure.

18.

Off in morning. Storm in afternoon.

19.

Went for walk in evening. George working all day.



Figure 25: Road leading down to Bapaune - taken from a footpath leading onto the turn in the road. (H. Foxton's writing on back)

20.

Terser's letter re Click. Too good & cons. for this world.

21.

Bessie Stewart's birthday.

26.

Went to 24th Batt. for afternoon tea. Poppies & cornflowers very pretty along the road. Saw Capt. Smythe & Mr. Sellick. Pierrot entertainment, but we did not wait long. Went through the lines, saw the cookhouses & carts. Machine gun. Aeroplanes up. 1st Field Amb. boys left.

Sunday. Myra left for leave.

28.

Gen. Banbury came in.

29.

Barry I A3 had seen Neil Stewart yesterday. Cavanagh knew Mrs. McClure of Flinders. Col. Pye came in to see George. Went to sports at 45 C.C.S. Saw Capt. Fleming, Scartlebury & Capt. Burnie.

Hosp. in a fine position. Divisions in theatre.

30.

Off in morning. Cam & Martin went to Amiens. Saw The Kilties go by. Rained nearly all day.

1.

Click's birthday.

2.

George gave me book of snaps.

Sports in afternoon. Told we were to move. Tents coming down.

4.

Packed up ward material. Went for long walk in evening.

5.

Lou's birthday.

Went to Sapignies in the morning, a fine vegetable garden at Red Cross Office. Saw German cemetery on our way back. Poppies out in great numbers. Went over Ambulance train with Thistle, George & Capt. O'Sullivan in afternoon. Train 28 had been to Marseilles last week & brought patients from Salonica.

Went for long walk in evening, flowers beautiful. Saw lots of unexploded shells. Saw equipment chair quite near.

No 6382 Pte. A.J. Nicholson.

2nd Batt. Shattered R. thigh

Ad. 3.5.17, Died same day.

Father Arthur Nicholson.

Riverlea, Booligal, N.S.W.

McCurley. Police Station

6.

Went to Pozieres & Mouquet Farm in afternoon, the field a mass of poppies & wild flowers.

7.
Heard that we were to go by car to -----
Went to 29 C.C.S. for afternoon tea. Watched 3rd C.C.S. play the Engineers at cricket. 3rd A.C.C.S. won.
Went for walk with George in evening.
8.
Heavy thunderstorm through night, cleaned up, went for walk. Most of the family dressed up to go to 2nd Div. No cars arrived.
9.
Very heart broken, left Grevillers at 3.20p.m. George came to No 6. A beautiful drive.
10.
George's birthday. Went to Officers Ward. Much excitement when Capt. Rodd appeared in the evening.
15.
Capt. Fookes & O'Sullivan came in afternoon and went to see Thistle & Sadie.
Went to Ward 5.
16.
Quiet day.
20.
Thistle & Sadie came in a.m. Major S. & Major O'S. in afternoon, in the motor lorries. Heard that the unit was to pass – at 6.30, no sign. Went back to dinner. Then along rails to the points, saw them all passing – The others saw them to speak to.
K.G. a man in a thousand –
The dead we have truly loved, have their part in our lives to the end
I see the vision of a soul striving after good.
In the end it learnt that holiness is an infinite compassion for others;
That greatness is to take the common things of life & walk truly among them;
That happiness is a great love & much service.
21.
Baker came in afternoon. Concert in evening, two fine voices, a v. good violinist.
22.
Off in p.m. Went to Joods. A glorious afternoon, trees, etc. Went to church with Cress. By the Brooks.
A fine sunset.
24.
Letters from G, had arrived 6.30 a.m. on 21.7.18. A good trip. In line with the balloons, Fritz very active. Hop gardens. Went for walk by river in evening.
25.
Parcel from Home
26.
Had day off.
27.
Left Trevent at 10.30 a.m. Passed this v. pretty country, changed trains at ----- R.T.O said to change at another station. Arrived H, changed trains. Saw Geoghegan, Anderson, Watts.
Arrived Abeele 6.30, & told we were not to go to 3rd A.C.C.S. Sad afternoon, a pretty spot. Ambulance to 62 – all v. good to us.

29.

George came in evening. Sisters had arrived at 3 A.C.C.S., not ready.

30.

Capt. Henley & Major L. arrived with our mail, plenty of home letters.

31.

Left at 2p.m., road crowded with traffic. Through P. Saw 300 German prisoners being marched along road.

In tents, sandbags round them. Martin & Collis at work next door. Cam went to 32 for Surgical team with G.

Very heavy barrage.

1.8.1917

Rained heavily all day. Fixed wards, all equipment in mine – Thistle & Sadie returned to the fold – Collis came to call –

2.

Changed ward to A2. Macks.

5.

Bomb dropped at lunch time, a dash for tin hats. George came to ward after fixing & sandbagging tents. Capt. Rodd to dinner & his story of St Julien.

Aeroplane v.low after dinner. Heavy barrage. Told at 10.30 p.m. that we are to move tomorrow.

6.

Packed up & got ready for a jaunt. Some went to 62 & 63. Saw Gen House & Gen. Birdwood. Came to 32, a very comfortable tent & beds.

7.

Went to ward 7. The Jack who had been in Shell hole 7 days.

8.

Thunderstorm in evening, heavy thunder.

9.

Awakened by bombs 4 a.m., Sadie announced we had better wear our tin hats.

10.

Busy a.m. – antiaircraft in p.m. just after returning to duty. Patients evacuated by train, the first time a train had been past P – for two years. 10 of our patients went, Major Milne, etc, came while we were at afternoon tea. George came over after dinner, working from 11 p.m. to 7 p.m. at 44---

11.

Wakened in early a.m. 1a.m. by bombs, again later on.

12.

Saw balloon come down.

13.

Heard we are to return to our own unit tomorrow. Another balloon down. Campion went to Base. Letters from home. July 3rd from Melbourne. Mr Gregory called in morning – Collett.

14.
Returned to No 3 A.C.C.S. in morning. Fixed tents. Sgt. Teams four arrived.
Intelligence. Aeroplane came, brought down after bringing one of our balloons to earth.
Hear from Kelly that there is a C.C.S. at El Arish.
16.
Stunt. Very busy day in ward. Capt. Dundee, l. arm amputated.
Bombs in evening. Capt. Harris & Puddy, killed. Tents damaged.
17.
Busy. Saw Fritz with Search lights.
18.
Miss Conyers came, also Miss McCarthy.
20.
Anti-aircraft very busy in evening. Fifty over.
21.
Shelled during day, sent to dugouts. Saw Mr. Gregory. Patients evacuated. Left about 6 p.m. for St. Omer. Saw the New Z. sisters. To 59 British General.
22.
Went in search of a bath & shampoo & at last found them.
23.
Went out seeking for hats in morning. Heard in afternoon that Thistle & Kelly were to go to No. 3 General.
24.
Told at 8 a.m. to be ready to depart at 9 a.m. to 10 C.C.S. A beautiful drive esp. through Cassel & St. Omer. Arrived before the others. Several of 32. Sisters here – Another C.C.S. taking over – Heard that Corp. Thornton & one of the cooks had been killed, also that Mr Robinson & Mr. McCracken had died. The others were evacuated. Went for walk in the afternoon, saw where bombs had fallen, saw batt. marching out. George had seen Neil, who was very well. Cables home from George. Saw Sister Anderson- had been in theatre.
25.
On call in p.m. Letters from home. Sisters went back to 32.
26.
One year.
To Pre-op ward in a.m. Theatre in p.m.
27.
Heard from Aunt Chris. Keith killed on August 6th ; she had heard from Clive Tully.
Heard guns in afternoon, a very wet day. Letters from Leigh, quite near Neil.
28.
Walked to Monte des Cats with George & Captain O’Sullivan, saw Bailleul in distance. A fine view.
Women not allowed in chapel. Trappists.
29.
Not busy. Matron left – her mother ill.

30.

Went to Abeele with G. & Capt. O'S., a good walk. George bought souvenirs of Ypres & Pozieres to send to Cuthero.

31.

Heard soon after breakfast that Collis, Cam, D & self were to go to 10 Stat. at St. Omer. Left soon after lunch. Went to cemetery & saw Lt. Robinson & Cpl. Thorston's graves. Arrived 10 Stat., found that Sadie & Newton had gone for leave. Saw Major Le Mesurier.

1.9.1917

Gave our particulars to sister. Re Annie O'Dwyer & Cress. went on leave.

2.

Went to kirk in a.m., to park in p.m. Fritz very busy about 11 p.m. Heard that two officers at aerodrome had been killed, one badly wounded who died. Saw Nick.

3.

Baker left for Rouen. Shopped or tried to in p.m.

4.

Had morning tea with Mr B. Said that Mouquet Farm was now being gone over. Had heard from Mrs. McClure, who was at Greenbank.

Fritz busy again last night. Hear Field Amb. between here & Calais suffered badly. George & the rest of the family came down. Descended to the cellar once again. Fritz very busy.

5.

On duty in C3. in p.m. Fritz up a.m. & p.m.

6.

Morning hours. M.O. a cousin of fighting Larry's. Quiet night.

7.

Did the shops in afternoon. Mr. Baxter called in evening.

8.

Saw Jack Hall on my way to duty. Capt. Smythe called.

9.

Went to C. Church in morning.

10.

Off from 5. Went to cathedral, service on.

11.

Went back to C3, very quiet.

12.

Went to Cinema. George came down in p.m. Brought home letters.

13.

Told I was to have leave, packed.

14.

Left St. Omer. 9.15 a.m. Boulogne 1.45, arrived Blighty 5 p.m., at Berners soon after seven. Mr. Wishart looked after us. Saw J.C.H. – looks much better.

On Leave in Britain

15.

Went Base in a.m. To Park & walked in afternoon. To Round The World in evening.

16.

Went to Cobhan Hall in morning. Pretty country, met by Amb. S. Robertson looking well. Listening hose—Dickens' house. To church in evening. Re Dinsdale Young – He hath hid himself amongst the stuff.

17.

Met Myra in morning—B. O'Reilly & Kitty Rees in evening. Went to General Post.

18.

Shopped & to dentist. Letters from home in morning. Shopped in a.m. Lunch at Fullers with J.C.H. & Lt. & Miss Young. Spent p.m. with B.

O'Reilly. Went to War Office. Heard that our people are going into action. Madame's furniture.

20.

Went to French Red Cross with J.C.H. Shopped, lunch at Fullers. Dentist twice in p.m. Left King's Cross about 10.30 p.m., seen off by Mr. Wishart, who got us a carriage. Had tea with Miss White.

Mrs. McClure's letter. Emerson.

"It seems an injury that he should leave us in the midst of his broken task which none can finish; a kind of indignity for so noble a soul that it should depart out of Nature before yet he has been sHowse to his peers for what he is, but he at least is content.

His soul was made for the noblest society – he had in a short life exhausted the capabilities of this world. Wherever there is knowledge, wherever there is virtue, wherever there is beauty, he will find a home." Re Norman.

21.

Arrived Edinburgh. To British Hotel. Breakfast & then set out – went to St. Giles, Chapel of the Thistle, Tablet to Robert Louis Stevenson. Saw Castle (Edinburgh) and saw the Heart of Midlothian. Went to Merchiston Castle & wandered round the paths. John Knox's house. Australians. Greyfriars Churchyard, the stone on which The Covenant was signed – The Castle, a fine view. Did the shops & into many postcard shops, the tartan fascinating.

Figure 27: Postcard of Mary Queen of Scots at John Knox's House. Anne wrote on back: Painted on a small oak panel by Zuccherio in 1571. Engraved by Shervin in 1771. Reproduced by W.J.Hay. John Knox's House.

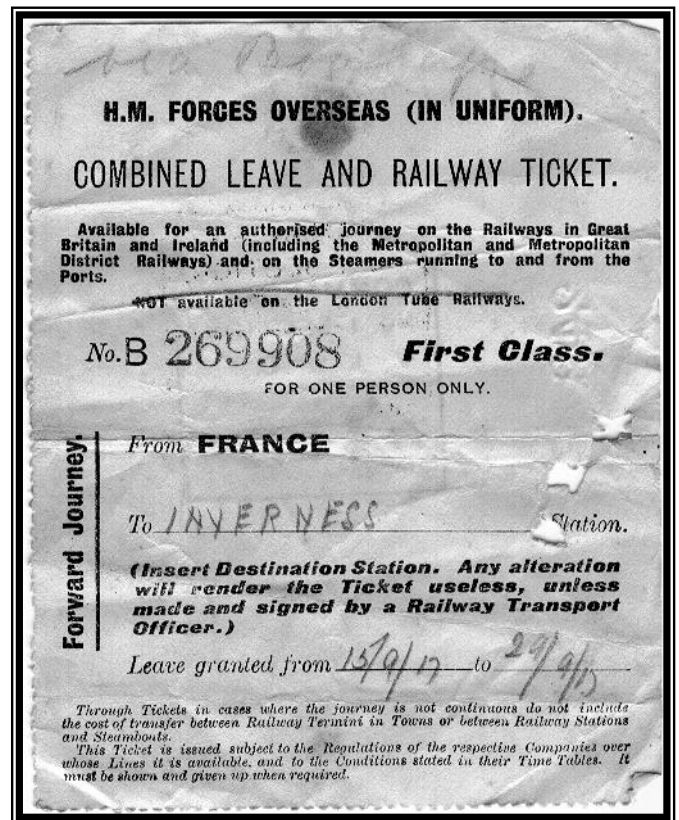


Figure 26: Leave Pass from Boulogne to Inverness 15/9/17 to 29/9/17



22.

Went to Holyrood in morning. Left by 1.7p.m. train, arrived Kingussie after 6.30p.m. Saw Loch Leven.

23.

To church, a missionary session. Went for drive in afternoon, a beautiful evening, & the hills.

24.

Went for walk to Golf Links in a.m. Drove to Loch an Eilan in afternoon, a glorious drive. Saw the ruins of a castle on the island. A monument to a Gen. Rice who was drowned while skating on the loch. Saw The Monument to Martineau.

25.

Letter from George dated 19th. Expected to be very busy next day. Walked to Loch in p.m.

26.

Went out in car in a.m. Left Kingussie 5p.m., arrived Edinburgh 9.25p.m.

27.

Passed through Durham & York on way to London. Saw Cathedrals. A clear night. Letter from G.

28.

Shopped in morning, went to lunch with Chut. Went to St. Bartholomew Church.

29.

Left Charing Cross 10.35p.m. J.C.H. to see me off. To Nurses Hostel on arrival at Boulogne.

In France

30.

Bomb has fallen. Went to No2 General, saw Field, Simpson, Miller, Dingo, O'C., & Col. Hurley. Left Boulogne after 9p.m. A clear night.

1.10.17 October

Arrived No1 Australian General. Heard of Nick's death.

2.

Went to section X1. Busy.

3.

Off in p.m.

Give us grace and strength to forbear & persevere,
Give us courage & gaiety & the quiet mind,
Spare to us our friends, soften to us our enemies,
Bless us if it may be in all our innocent endeavours,
If it may nor, give us the strength
To encounter that which is to come
That we may be brave in peril.
Constant in tribulation.
Temperate in wrath.
And in all changes of fortune.
And down to the gates of Death,
Loyal & Loving to one another.

R.L.S. Born 1850 Died 1894. Samoa.

Under the wide & starry sky dig the grave & let me lie,
Glad did I live & gladly die, & laid me down a will
This be the verse you grave for me: here he lies where he longed to be.
Home is the sailor home from the sea, & the hunter home from the hill.

4.

Busy but straighter.

A boy of my age.

Worth the pain to be fussed over.

7.

Very cold. Off in p.m., but not able to leave hospital.

8.

Busy. Schofield very sick. Letter from G. The C.C.S. starting again & we're not there.

9.

Still raining. Went into Rouen in p.m. with S. Snelling. Letters from J.C.H. & Ida, about the new home.

10.

Well; it helps to be remembered when things are strenuous.

11.

Letters from Mrs. McClure; had heard I had seen Norman's grave. She is better. Went for walk with S. Symonds, fine after ward, walking a pleasure.

13.

New Col. did a round. Wrote letters in p.m. Raining hard.

15.
Went with Norah to Bons Secours. A fine view. Letters.
17.
Heard from Leigh in 59 General Hosp. A very nice letter. O'Reilly called after dinner.
20.
Fritz over during night, not disturbed.
21.
Off in p.m., wrote letters. Wondering, hoping.
23.
Went shopping with Grace.
24.
D. Newton came back, looks v. well. Great travel to get here.
28.
Letters. A busy day.
29.
A heavy frost, everything white. Went into Rouen with Grace, shopped. Grace fixed my room.
31.
Went to have our photos taken, no luck. Normandie rings. A fine day.
1.
Heard from Leigh, in Northampton War Hosp. & getting on well. Boyle very sick.
6.
Went out with Grace & Sister Scott- had our photos taken at last. Went to Gallery. Sadie & K. O'Connor came back.
8.
Walked to Petit Couronne with Grace & Florence, woods beautiful. Saw P.C. through the Railway arch. Coffee & full cups, biscuits purchased by la petite, French people annoyed with our leaves. Ride back in motor.
9.
Fair day.
10.
A bomb. Grace going, went into town with her.
12.
Went to see Grace off, but no train.
13.
Grace left.
14.
Off in p.m., went for walk with Florence.

15.

Busy.

16.

Went into town with Sadie, Christmas shopping. Letter from George, may get leave.

20.

Day off. Very tired. Went out in afternoon with D.M. Florence to go to South of France.

Dec. 13.

Quieter.

15.

Much colder. On all day.

16.

First snow, walked to St. Adrienne. No ferry.

18.

Shopped with Dorothy. To Canteen.

20.

Stocktaking. D.M.S. Burow's baby.

22.

Shopped in p.m. Holly & taxi.

24.

B. Baxter called, went to lunch with him, had had a good trip to Scotland. Brought home flowers & finished decorating the ward. A present unexpected.

25.

Christmas Day. Ward looking very pretty. Burnt gum leaves.

26.

A quiet day alone.

30.

Gaines very sick.

31.

S. Kemp not well. P.C. from Violet for Christmas and New Year. Wrote letters.

1918

1.1.1918

May we be home before another year begins.

6.

Sunday. Day off. Heard that Dorothy & Doherty had the R.R.C. Ida 1st Class. The Best Col. the D.S.O. Rested in morning. Walk in afternoon. A question.

7.

On all day.

8.
Bessie's birthday. Went to Petit Couronne - an answer. Letters to George.
12.
Sauerman very sick. Went to Lecture at 11 Stat. Dr. Sinclair & his wooden frames. Walked & talked. Wrote home. Florence brought me home letters & from I. Huntley.
15.
Busy. Graham relieving.
16.
Day off. Graham's. Walked into Rouen & shopped. No dinner.
17.
Busy.
18.
Through to this fine forest, waiting very hard & I agree.
20.
S. Tait went to Paris. Went to Church with Symonds in evening. Weather much warmer. Lowes died in early morning, quite conscious.
21.
Changes again. Johnny Bill had died of wounds at a C.C.S.
24.
Went out with Florence in afternoon. A beautiful day.
25.
Good nights very hard those days.
26.
Sports. Had a day off. Hear golden opinions.
28.
Miss Finlay's farewell. A glorious day.
30.
Sure absolutely. O'Reilly to go to a C.C.S. Walked into town with D., met O'Reilly & Kienan, saw the churches. Letter from J.C.H.
31.
Nesbitt & Cornish came with 8 others. Letter from George. O'Reilly at gas school. Very tired.
7.
Went to concert with D. & Florence, then to town.
12.
Heard we were to go for leave on the 13th. Packed. With all my heart, more unselfish than self.
13.
Left at 8.15a.m. in ambulance- Tickets causing some amusement- sat on suitcase. Crossed & recrossed the river, arrived before 12 noon, taxi to 175 Rue Fauberyy, Poissoniere - lunch & then out to sight see.

Opera House - Intervals between the acts longer than in Eng., this feature is appreciated by the French as they like promenading to theatre & talking with friends.
 St. Germain Church – 12th century statue of St. Michael by Marochetti – from its tower, which faces the Louvre, was given the signal for the massacre of the Huguenots on St. Bartholomew's Day, August 24th 1572. stained glass 16th century. Window of the twelve apostles by Viollet-le-Due, who restored many of the churches in Paris.
 Louvre – Champs Elysies –



Figure 28: Postcard purchased in Paris: Vue Générale du Louvre

14.

Vendôme Column – 140 ft. – covered with plates in bronze obtained from cannons captured by Nap.I.
 Rue de la Paix, rich shops, jewellery, millinery, costumes.
 Saint-Augustin – 1860 – 1871, by Baltard
 Christ & the Apostles (Jouffroy). In the interior, The Evangelists (Signol).

Arc de Triomphe 150 ft high & 146 wide, commenced 1806 & finished under Louis Phillipe – Sand bags – On the frieze, Departure & return of the French armies – On the ceiling of arch panels bearing the names of the victories under the Republic & Empire. Under the side arches, the names of the generals - those killed being underlined.

Place de la Concorde, finest & most spacious. In centre Obelis, of Luxor, from the ruins of Thebes – On this spot stood, formerly the guillotine where Louis XVI & Marie Antoinette were executed.
 Round the place statues of Lyons, Marseilles, Bordeaux, Nantes, Rouen, Brest, Lille, Strasbourg – being boarded up.

Hotel des Invalides – provides a home for wounded soldiers.

Napoleon's tomb by Visconti. The sarcophagus, carved out of one solid block of red Finland granite. Mosaic on the pavement represents a wreath of laurels in which are the names of Laffis, Rivoli, Pyramids, Marengo, Austulitz, Jena, Friedland, Wagram, Moscos – Surrounding the crypt 12 colossal figures, representing principal victories of the Empire –
 Napoleon's brother, Joseph, Tom of Jerome Bonaparte, & his son – small sarcophagus, with the heart of his wife, the Queen of Westphalia.
 Statue of a very spent horse, woman holding dying soldiers.

Chaone – La Marseilles – Lunch at Louvre.

Pantheon, ancient church of St. Genevieve, to the memory of Great Men –
 Statue of the Thnihn (1906) Rodin, Dome 270 feet – St. Genevieve. The small child & the blue robe at left end of picture.
 Statue of Joan of Arc - Down stairs, Victor Hugo, Rousseau, Voltaire
 St.Etienne – stained windows – carved pulpit. Walked down, got pictures - Joan of Arc, The Thinker, old curiosity shops – Did the shopping. Printemp, evidently our accent not like the inhabitants of Paris. The bagpipes. Dinner at Hostel. Our escapes getting to the Opera, Madame Butterfly. Small child in a green dress – back in a cab, driven by a lass.

15.

Capt. Henley called at 10 p.m. – Bois du Boulogne. Trocadero.

Lou Saint-Jacques – is all that remains of the Church of Saint-Jacques – la Bonchene-170ft 1508-1522.

Large statue of St. Jacques le Majeur, an eagle, lion & a bull, adorning the top Statue of Pascal by Cavalier – Sacre-Coeur – windows, blue & red – pulpit white & gold – Service singing beautiful.

Lower, Savoy ande, (with the exception of the great bell at Moscow) is the largest in the world – met here J.C.H. and John.

Notre Dame one of the finest monuments of Ogival art in France. Fuis stone laid by Pope Alex.III 1166.

Rose window 40 feet. The ball supporting the Cross, contains fragments of the real Cross & Crown of Thorns – Choir stall & bas-reliefs in wood representing the Life of the Virgin & of Christ. Children singing, Music for future guidance.

Afternoon – Maxim's met Major Embleton & Capt. Opera for seats, Rue de la Paix (Santa Philomela)

Dinner at Continental – one thing needful – flowers beautiful & the barrows in all parts small feet & beautiful coats, many small dogs led by women.

16.

Met Capt. H., Major G. & Capt. Rayson. Palais de Justice. Ceilings – tapestry.

St. Chapelle – commenced 1245 – 1248.

15 windows – large rose windows dates from Charles VIII – divided into 79 panels

To Versailles – Resevon Ballroom, many clocks, view from windows.

Dinner with J.C.H. & John. Samson & Delilah

17.

Lunch at Café de la Païse. Drove through Bois du Bologne – La Voisin – La Favourite. Battistini –

An air raid – Walked back. A beautifully clear night.

18.

Shops. Hotel de la Ville. Ceilings. Faint colourings.

Palais du Luxembourg.

Galleries des Bustes, busts of former senators & political celebrities.

Salle des Seances, wood work.

Salles des Conferences (formerly the Throne room)

Escalier d'honneur, 12 tapestries from Lobelnis & Beauvais.

19.

Met train. Saw J.C.H. off. Dash for theatre tickets. Fountainbleu. Rigolletto.

20.

Met George & B. Lunch at Ciro's. Drove Bois du Bologne. Left Paris 5p.m., arrived Rouen before 8p.m. Letter from Elsie May, both very well.

21.

Section XI. A beautiful day & quite warm. Tired of waiting.

22.

Miss Cornwell arrived.

25.

A perfect afternoon. Letter from George. Promptly & trustingly.



Figure 29: Anne wrote on back of photo: Looking west from below Belboeuf. Taken from a path we descended from Belboeuf on Monday 25.2.18

5.3.18

Day off. Rained hard in morning. Letter from Grace.

7.

Through the forest. Feel much better. Even though away.

9.

Day off. Drove into Rouen in Scotch amb. Lunch at Normandie. Saw The Cathedral, where heart of Richard Coeur de Lion lies. Climbed the Tower, borrowed matches to come down again. Some shopping. Books from The Times.

Respite in me, miserere mei.

10.

One letter. J.C.H. Miss Conyers arrived.

11.

A great parade. Capt. Buchan & Capt. Niven arrived from The School.

A fine day & quite warm. R. Dougill coming to France. Carl – Matron at Mont Albert.

12.

A disappointment – a wire.

13.

Heard that Mrs. McClure had been taken to Craithie House.



Figure 30: H. Foxton in Montigny,
9/3/1918

(large gap here in Diary)

1.4.18

Mother's birthday. Very busy, but helped throughout.

9.

A letter, probably will change all actions. George settled in his new home – a good theatre & resus. ward to the ready. J.C.H. & Aunt Chris safe & well.

10.

Day off. Fine.

18.

Through the forest, an understanding person. Letter from George.

20.

A busy day.

22.

A day off. Rouen visited by most of the staff in the afternoon.

25.

A reproach & a painful one.

26.

Day off, went up the river with Dorothy & Jessie, trees beautiful especially fruit trees.

27.

Peace again & a great calm.

28.

Off in afternoon, went to Berners with D & G. Church, Words. Letters from home & from many others.

29.

Raining, not cold. Webster. Like heaven to be in the ward. Letter from Katie Edwards.

I sometimes think that never blows so red
The Rose as where some buried cousin bled,
That every Hyacinth the Garden wears
Dropt in its Lap from some once lovely Head.

(Note: must be May)

Lo! Some we loved, the loveliest & the blest
That Time & Fate of all their Vintage prest,
Have drunk their cup a round or two before,
And one by one crept silently to Rest.

9.

Here with a Loaf of Bread beneath the Bough,
A flask of Wine, a Book of verse, & Thou
Beside me singing in the Wilderness
And Wilderness is Paradise now.

10.

Walked through forests. Still no word.

13.

The last day in XI. Busy & just as well.

14.

Moved camp. Night duty XI.

16.

A sleepless day. Up in afternoon. A walk & much peace from it.

17.

Dorothy's visit, soon after breakfast, a fortunate woman.

A cable handed to me.

19. -----

21.

First shopping together, & a new walk.
Sacred days now.

6.6.18

Sharing everything.

7.
Geoghegan, Sadie & A.R.K., the R.R.C., Gen. Howse & F.
here. Miss McCarthy expected.

8. -----

16.
Out in afternoon

17.
Into town with Florence, a long letter from Big. Tired.

18.
Frailty increasing. Shy people.

19.
A well-spent afternoon & together.

20.
Together, a forest meal. Where will we live.

22.

23.
Photos & our tree.

24.
A letter at 4.30p.m. – a great comfort. R.C. Hosp. probably
to be evac. at once.
A visit from his friend, will do whatever possible. Long
days now.

25.
Letter from J.C.H. re Cland Grice. Concert in evening.

26.
Open air concert, a great success.

28.
Told 1a.m. that D & I were going for leave. Left hospital
2.30p.m.- all night in train – entertained at Abancourt by
American R.C.

29.
Arrived Boulogne 5a.m.



Figure 31: Photos of Harry and Anne in forest

In Britain

29.6

Berners 5p.m. Met H.

30. Talked through afternoon & evening.

1.

Horseferry Rd – Bank closed – Westminster Abbey – service – National Gallery. St. Paul's.

2.

Bank. Lunch at Fullers.

H. went to Wandsworth in afternoon.

To dinner at Trocadero. Nurse B.

3.

Left at 10a.m. for Edinburgh – My Lady –

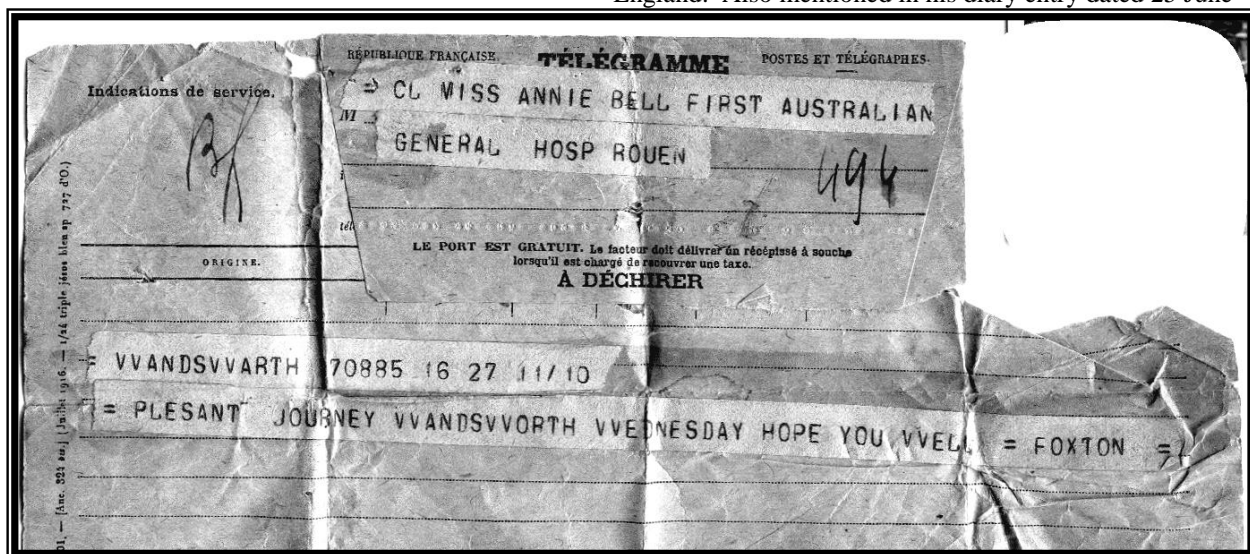
Arrived before 8p.m. Walked along

Princess St. – Punch & Judy Show – Open air service.



Figure 32: Above - Wandsworth Hospital, London

Figure 33: Below - Telegram sent from Wandsworth from Harry to Anne, in the week preceding her leave from France to England. Also mentioned in his diary entry dated 25 June



4.

Shopped – St. Giles – John Knox's house – Lady Stanis Close, etchings, tailors signs, museums & gallery. Forth bridge, not allowed to pass at first, taxi stopped, mended – no films for Kodaks, a disappointment – Mr. Phillips to the Dancing Girl.

5.

From Edinburgh to Callandean – beautiful drive. Walked to Loch Katince. Harry came -----

6.

Climbed the hill, read Ordered South and Sweethearts. In afternoon sailed along Loch Katince – sheep or stones. Walk after dinner – small boy on bridge.

7.

We two in a.m. Read after lunch. Walked after a. tea.

8.

Not called till late, a hurried breakfast, a beautiful drive. A demonstrative station master – Edinburgh-North British Hotel. M. Tea at Fullers. To Gallery – a picture of cross roads & many memories – Lady Stavis Close – amongst the watercolours – Bell's Wynd – the places French – St. Giles closed & also Greyfriars – Left at 9.30 for Kings Cross – a night of memories & the present most fortunate.

9.

At Berners before 8a.m. – basement room. Rested. H to H.R., to embark at midnight. Lunch. Packed suitcases. Went to cable office. Shopped, our stick broken – fountain pen – Saw Myra & her Romeo – their evening together.
The rest in my mind

10.

A late morning – Neil came at 1p.m. & we lunched with Myra & her party. Very lovely.

11.

Neil came to lunch, then to Royal Academy, pictures good, especially the Triumph. Saw the Australian Y.M.C.A. Neil took us to Dear Brutus, splendidly acted, but went back to camp.

12.

To Horseferry Rd, went to Bank & got letters, one most comforting. Had lunch with Ida, then back to Berners, wrote letters. To go to Dartford. Miss Finlay & Sister Whiteman came, went out to dinner. Grace rang up.

13.

Saw Dorothy off by the 8.50a.m.train, bus to station. To H.Road, collected luggage from Fulham, waited at Charing Cross till Grace came. To Kensington Gardens, Dartford most comfortable. Saw Herbert, very amusing questions. Saw S. Green. Not go to on duty tomorrow.

14.

Grace brought me Harry's letter, telling me of his mother's death, think there must be another letter that I have not had. An afternoon with letters. Church in evening.

15.

B22, not busy, a patient Moffatt a great admirer of Major Simmons. Miss Conyers & Mrs. Hughes expected, but did not arrive. Walked to Dartford in p.m. At 5p.m.

16.

Big. In a.m. dressing tent in afternoon. A telegram – A Te Deum.

17.

To Charing Cross by the 1p.m. train. Rang up Cooks, a rather indignant reply. H. Road. Shopped. Two letters & a telegram.

EARNINGS AND OTHER CREDITS.						
Earnings to be entered Monthly and when any alteration of net rate is made.						
Earnings at net rates and particulars of other Credits.					Progressive Total.	Officer's Signature.
From	To	No. of Days.	Net Rate.	Amount.		
20.4.18	20.4.18	1	10/4	16 0	16 0	
1.5.18	31.5.18	31	10/4	15 10	31 10	
1.6.18	30.6.18	30	10/4	15 10	46 10	
1.7.18	31.7.18	31	10/4	16	62 10	
1.8.18	31.8.18	31	10/4	16	78 10	
1.9.18	30.9.18	30	10/4	15 10	94 0	
1.10.18	24.10.18	24	10/4	12 8	106 8	
25.10.18	7.11.18	14	10/4	7 4	114 0	
8.11.18	23.12.18	46	10/4	23 12	137 12	
CRBaker 133-17-0					Forward	

Figure 34: Extract from Soldier's Pay Book for Annie Bell A.A.N.S. - 3rd A.C.C.S. This book commenced on 23/2/17. Total Pay was 10/4 per month

18.

Says quite well – voice a great comfort.

19.

At Charing Cross. To Royal Academy, heard the story, a thankful woman.

20.

To leave tomorrow. Together. Kensington Gardens. Peter Pan. Dear Brutus. Partings harder than ever.

21.

At 10.30a.m. Kew Gardens. Richmond. To train 3.55, another goodbye.

22.

Letters from Paddington. Boys getting ready for Australia. S. Herbert to night duty.

23.

Boys off to Australia. Ryan, homesick, not sick. Very wet. Off after 1p.m. A domestic afternoon, read letters.

24.

Rochester, train to Stroud & then walked. Pigeons on path, very tame. Cathedral, finest piece of Norman architecture in England – one seat & a great longing. Fine view over the hills & river. No diving into Thames. The boys on the skates & the bike seat. Cathedral graveyard opposite, where E.D. wished to be buried. Ye Olde Late Tea Shoppe, oak beams, willow plates, brass candlesticks. Miss House.

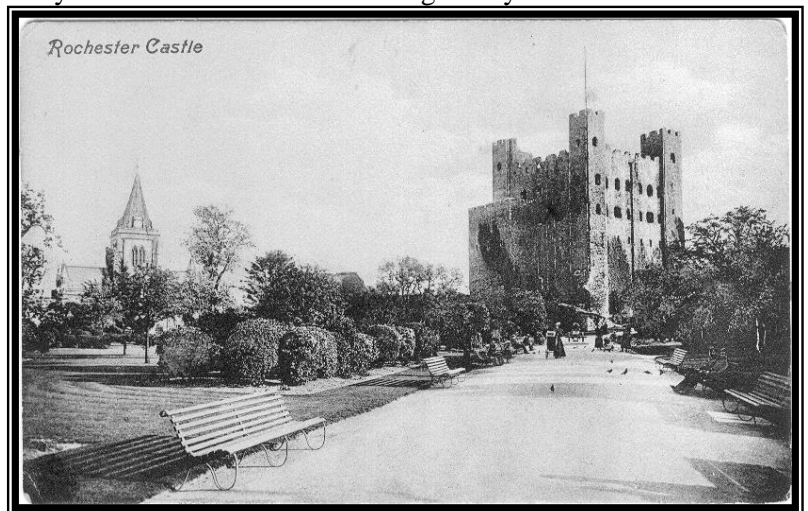


Figure 35: Anne wrote on back of postcard: Dozens of pigeons were on this path, very tame, come & eat out of your hand. Saw them being fed. The lawns are well-kept. Near the path is a gun captured from the Russians during the Crimean War. There is a seat, told you about in my letter of 24.7.18 (See at left)

25.

Scrubbing day. Bullecourt patient, moved room. Wrote letters.

26.

London in p.m., shopped, two coats & skirts, madame most entertaining. Horseferry Rd. Charing Cross a nightmare.

27.

A quiet day. Father's birthday.

28.

Off in p.m., went through some letters. A very nice letter from Sister Cadle.

Figure 36: Written on back of photo: It's not a nice thing – but it's me – corsetless -greyfrocked & aproned – with a white military screen cover to protect my grey apron from the grease of the spinal beds - in short - my night duty rig out. I ought to be ashamed to send to round, but I'm rather partial to it myself-more so as I think my dear old Mother will think me "a disgrace" & I love shocking her. N.B. Taint a wearin' a decoration but a watch on my right chest.



29.

On all day, a hot day. A curious sunset.

31.

Nearer.

1.

Day off. Shopped.

2.

Letter from G. Night duty. Myra to come Sunday.

3.

A domestic afternoon, sewed a wall pocket – bearlike.

4.

Church Parade for Remembrance Day- Grace to call & did not. S. Lodden came while at lunch, suitcase & tin hat. Myra & Ida came in afternoon. Home letters & from S. Paten & Woiniaski.

5.

Easy a.m. Letter re Perry.

6.

Long day.

7.

Letters from Home & George. A diary. London in p.m. Lost a fountain pen. Shopped. Toorak parcel.

8.

On all day.

9.

Day off. To London with S. McLean, saw Brendaw. To Kensington with Grace, Elsie & Joan. Chut. District Railway, inner circle, rush for train. My luggage at Kit Stores.

10.

To B21. Letter from J.C.H. to tell the South of Scotland what she thinks of him. In Paris. Off in afternoon, read & wrote & thought.

11.

Sunday. On, a busy a.m. Letter from Dave Scammel.

12.

Went into London with Sister McLean. To Horseferry Rd., saw Miss D. & Miss I., not to go for a least a fortnight. Through Chelsea, Battisea Park. Chelsea Pensioners. Collected luggage. The motor driver. Shopped a little. Silhouette. Dartford, two Blue Sisters just arrived from Australia, had come through Panama. An Australian mail should be in. No more Australians browse they say. An evening with Grace – a disappointment. Letter from Sallie Bucke.

13.

A cable, so a thankful woman. Letters from Dorothy & Sadie. Grace away to Oxford. A hot day, a red sunset. Too many insects to write outside.

14.

Day off. Wakened early, began to pack. 8a.m., a great sorting. Letters from Gran, Bess, Violet in the midst, Gran "not nice, what a time." George busy. Saved with Grace in p.m., some good advice re -----
Walk after dinner.

15.

Letter from Mother, a short cable sent but sufficient. After light out, last night, stars.

16.

Went to Sidcup in afternoon. Photos. Odd jobs. The small boy at Sidcup.

17.

Benyman sick. Busy, no relief. Sports. A fancy dress parade – Mrs. Hughes and Sports. Ida & Myra to dinner. Concert after, & after up in Sgt's Concert.

18.

Off in p.m. Grace's brother over on leave. Roses. Sister S.

Red as the wine of forgotten ages
Yellow as gold from the sunbeams spent
Pink as the garb of Aurora's pages
White as the soul of the sinless one
Sweeter than Araby's winds that blow
Roses! Roses!! I love you so.

19.

On all day.

20.

Went with Grace & Herbert. Bank. Ivanhoe. No buses. Tube very amusing. Sister Taylor. Very hot, espec. in train. Dorothy & fence. No.1.

21.

Told to hold myself in readiness for transport. A busy day. No Winchester, we fear. A supposed air raid.

22.

Did not go out in a.m. Letters from home, many remarks. The more you look, the more you like. London p.m., told transport in a.m. My handbag – Grace.

23.

Friday. Left Dartford by the 9.30a.m. Horseferry Rd. & Bank. Paddington. Afternoon with Ida at Southwell Gardens. Myra out, Ida's second sight. Paddington Hotel. Myra with me.

24.

Up early, luggage, long queue for tickets. Left Paddington 8.40. Miss Conyers & Ida to see us off. Coast red cliffs. Many lanes & glades & a great longing. Luggage. Before 5p.m., on boat. Beautiful day.

Journey Home

25.

Rained hard in a.m., spent a.m. in cabins. Saw over Hospital & Dispensary. Boat drill. A fine afternoon. Statue of Drake.

26.

Two years. Shall go to him. A life well-lived, an example.

27.

Sailed at 9a.m. Twelve boats. Six destroyers. One cruiser. Drake's statue. Boat drill. McLu had been on "Kyarra" when torpedoed.

28.

Not liking the sea. Rough – first patient admitted Hospital Mr. Hyelt, Mr G's body shield. Rad in p.m.

29.

Smooth – Concert in evening. Destroyers gone when we rose in morning. Still American cruiser with us, zigzags.

In a wood
Watching the shadow of a bird
Leap from frond to frond.
Flint.

30.

Calmer. Siren. Sister Fitzpatrick up on deck in very short time. Sirens.

31.

Finished The Princess – Vision of London – Thoughts

September 1, Sunday

Church Parade. Thou shalt not kill. Went on for night. Convoy 20 ships.

2.

Concert in p.m. Rolling, boats leaving.

3.

Other hosp. opened. Baby v. sick.

4.

Awoke early & thinking. Called 5a.m. to tell Mrs. Laycock her baby had died. Buried 8a.m., very few present.

5.

A rough day & a rougher night. Some of the men up. The Padre's Prayer meeting.

6.

Calmer, going with storm, ship turned.

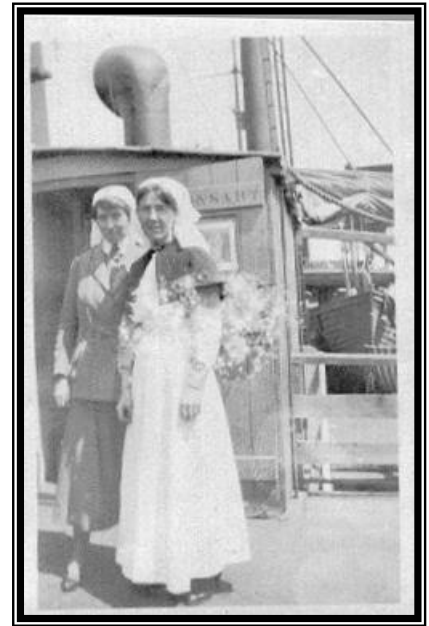


Figure 37: Above and below:
Outside the dispensary



7.
Much warmer. A beautiful sunset.

9.
Hospital in a.m. & through day. A moon that reminded me of another night.

10.
Quiet day.

12.
A storm in the afternoon, very rough. Baby Smith
– Passed the Mona Sound –

13.
Much calmer.

14.
Saturday.



Figure 38: Mothers and babies on board

15.
Church Parade. Faith or no. Saw two sailing vessels.

16.
Awoke to find ourselves near Colon. Scenery much like round Mornington. Minded hospital in a.m., Red Cross ladies brought on flowers, fruit, cakes, magazines. Colon about 5.30p.m. with Sister Pratt. Shopped, shops much as those in Cairo. Silks not good. Panama hats cheap. Films for Kodaks. Had dinner at Washington Hotel with Captain Kemp & Mr Long. The nigger, a Jamaican a trick, with a deep voice. Statue of Columbus facing Breakwater shading the head of a slave girl. Bottle tree palms at entrance to Hotel. Beautiful lawns. Palms & the moonlight. Hibiscus. Roses only saw red ones. Carriages called jitneys. Sisters Fitzpatrick & Gallagher went to the Submarine Base, well entertained. Walked back to wharf, streets very like Egyptian ones. Red Cross women still on board when we came back.

17.
Wakened 1a.m., felt about 7a.m. Passed through locks, two engines on each side to tow us along. People throwing fruit, magazines etc. on board. A band played. The Camera episode. Very different to Suez Canal with the tropical growths of palms. Very warm, moist. Lifts at other locks.
Baby Babcock born at 12.45p.m.
Out of Canal at 4p.m., passed islands until tea time.
Baby Woods worse.

18.
All very quiet after their two days excitement.

19.
Dressings.

20.
Called early. Baby Woods died in a.m. Her mother very good. Mrs. Richards and the Padre showing distress etc. A clear moonlight night. Saw the pointers of the Southern Cross.

21.
A beautiful day, & the sea a beautiful colour. Concert in afternoon, on deck.

22.

Church parade. By the faith of the Son of God. Reminded me of Mr. Gray's sermon on the same text. Tennyson & many thoughts.

23.

Rough

24.

A day's rest. Baby Stockdale very sick.

25.

Baby Stockdale died in a.m. Margaret Ellis op. on in p.m., some preparations, Dr. Seager the surgeon.

26.

Dressings again. Warmer. Margaret O'Connor died in p.m., her mother very brave. Margaret Ellis very ill.

27.

Dreams. Margaret Ellis died during night, buried 6a.m. A calm day, very many thoughts. Tennyson. In three weeks supposed to be in Melbourne.

28.

Very rough. Baby Sargood born soon after 5a.m, Captain suggests we call the Cyclone Kate. Cpl. Hurt on deck. Fancy dress parade postponed.

29.

Church parade. Baby Chadwick christened. Suffer little children etc. Mr. Cohen played the hymns. Mrs. Ellis a little better. Still very rough. Church in hospital in afternoon. Calmer in evening.

30.

Two hospitals, two other patients. Much calmer. Fancy dress parade out of bounds. Karachi Stew. Lubra. Mrs. Pate, a Glasgow woman. To reason or forget. Sunset, water a purple colour. Travelling well.

1.

Busy in a.m. Baby Irene.

2.

A year. Fortunes in afternoon. Much cooler. Hospital over-flowing to deck.

3.

Concert in afternoon. Mr.Ellis very funny. The three diggers looked their part.

4.

Rough, quarter speed then half. Hospital scene. Women rather worried about their reception.

5th.

Warmer, no reason. An amusing conversation. Worried to death in half an hour.

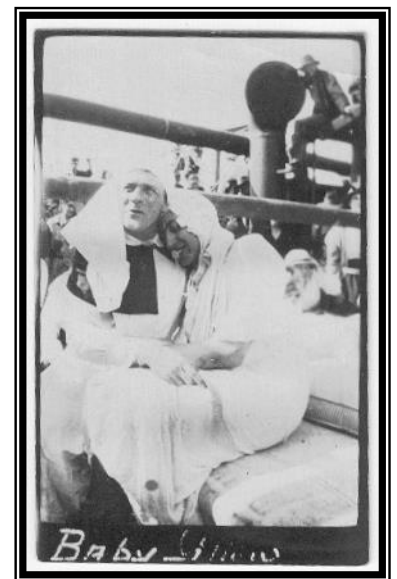


Figure 39: Baby Shaw - Fun on board

6.
Baby Sargood's eyes, a sad day. Singer & church Parade. Colin & Singer in afternoon.

7.
Gun practice. Babies a little better.

All we have willed or hoped or dreamed of good shall exist,
Not its semblance, but itself; no beauty nor good nor power
Whose voice has gone forth, but each survives for the melodist,
When eternity affirms the conception of any hour
The high that proved too high, the heroic for earth too hard,
The passion that left the ground to lose itself in History
Are music sent up to God by the lover & the bard;
Enough that he heard it once, we shall hear it by & by.

8.
Fair, much colder. Singer a long time away, wanted to be washed. Baby West admitted to hospital.

9.
Fancy Dress Parade. Uncle Sam. The End of a Perfect day. In Egyptian Bootblack. Watched jumping & boxing, a short time looking on at the dance. Baby White very sick, admitted to hospital. Mrs. Ryan & Baby Irene. A sunny afternoon – calm.

10.
Baby White. A cold grey morning. Afternoon tea. Mrs. Hyelt & Capt. Dent with the Captain – a route march. Concert in evening. Cold & wet. Happy thoughts.
“We have for so long a period come to regard prayer as a supplication for mercy & an agonized for help & succour, that we have almost together lost the higher, calmer, & far more beautiful form of communion with the Father of Creation, which is expressed in worship. The spirit which overflows is a glittering song from the skylark's throat, & which comes to us in the splendid music of an organ. In the spirit of outpouring & ecstatic worship – adoration of the everlasting.” Other sheep.

12&13.
Sports in afternoon, all seemed to enjoy them. Obstacle race very funny. Loved jumping. Very cold.

14.
Wellington, a wait for the Pilot. Mountains somewhat like the Lomachs. One snow-capped. Off in p.m. at 2p.m., told to send cable, unable to, so send p.c. Went for drive, saw Parliament House, largest wooden building in world. Circular Rd, bridge closed to traffic.
Electric trams.
Theatre entertainment in evening. Karachi well represented, not good.

15.
Minded Baby Babcock, much amused at the different packages brought on by the passengers. A rough afternoon, out in stream. Sunlight on mountains.

16.
A day in the cabin.

17.
Still rough, cold & windy. Baby Halford born at midday – Mrs. West.

18.
Very rough. Baby Morgan born.

19.

Rough but sunny. Some rollers during night. Everyone looking very tired.

20.

Sun shining & calmer in a.m. Rough again. Supper party.

21.

Baby Cooney born. A very rough day. Mr. Arnold sick. "There shall be no more sea."

22.

Very rough, great rolling. Calmer in afternoon. Tennyson. The Skipper's presentation – A Concert.

23.

Calmer. A green sea. Sighted land at noon, much excitement. Wilson's Prom. Just after lunch. Afternoon tea on deck. Brush fires.

Home

24.

In harbour when wakened - landed 2p.m. Father, Mother, Aunt Ret, B.S. M.V. & H. at wharf – Home. Gran & Aunt Lil to tea.

25.

Jamie's sports. General Pau – Mrs Howatson.

Went with Father & Mother in taxi, luggage – Lunch with Mrs. Howatson, Mary Bell to afternoon tea. Aunt R. & Uncle T. Dinner & evening at "Killearnan".

26.

Had lunch at Mrs.Howatson's. Georgie & Donald there. Mary Bell, Uncle G. & Aunt R. came to a. tea.

27.

Sunday. Church.

28.

Wrote letters, unpacked. Mrs. Carter & Mrs. Tuart called. Thistles rang up.

29.

Lunch at Mia Mia with Father & Jean. Car to Derrimut, a good drive. Went to see Elsie on our return. Father & Mother to dinner at Derrimut.

30

Father, Mother, Mary & self to Scots Church. Jean Tully's wedding. Shopped, lunch in town. Saw Bessie S. & then home. Mrs. Tuart to a.tea. The McKenzie's in the evening.

31.

Big came to lunch. Mother & self to Grand Hotel. Saw the Matron, Thistles, Sister Pratt. Thistles came home. Miss Bell to tea, a.m. to the tram.

1.

Mother packing. Gran, Aunt Ret, Mrs H & Mrs Hitson & Miss W. to a. tea. Mother & Father left for "Alma".

2.

Aunt Jess came in a.m., still in bed. Lunch at the Quamby Club. Met by M.C.B. & then to Essendon. Mrs. J. Macrae to tea. Home. Fire.

3.

Church, a fine day. Jean came out in afternoon. Tea with Miss Bell.

4.

To barracks. Saw Cam & Haywood. Spent day with Granny. A beautiful afternoon.

5.

Met express. To the Knights and Mrs. Howatson's in p.m. Aunt Bess came home with us.

6.

To old "Killearnan"

11.

Armistice signed -----

Family as mentioned in Diary

(also see Family Tree and Notes)

Siblings	George	Captain George Bell, Australian Army Medical Corps Birthday 10 July
	Bess	Birthday 8 January
	Ag (Agnes)	Birthday 17 May
	Louis	Birthday 5 July
	Click (Alex)	Born 1 July, 1886 Corporal Alexander Armstrong Thompson Bell, 21 st Battalion A.I.F.
	Annie (Self)	Born 17 January, 1888 Sister Annie Bell, Australian Army Nursing Service
	John	Birthday 4 February
	Jean	Birthday 28 May Nurse in Australia
	Mary	Birthday 2 May
	Violet(Va)	Birthday 12 April
	Kippy (Chris) - twin	Birthday 4 June
	Jenny - twin	Birthday 4 June
	Jim	Had measles 1918
	Joan/Buttons	
	Helen/Duckie	Birthday 27 January Youngest
Parents	Mother - Mary Ann Bell	Birthday 1 April nee Armstrong
	Father - Lewis Bell	Birthday 27 July
Grandparents	Granny Armstrong	Birthday 6 April Melbourne "Burnswark"
Other Family	Aunt Peg, Uncle E	Bells at Inverness
	Boysie Bell	Son of Aunt Peg(Margaretta Jane Bell) and Uncle Edward – in Scotland
	Aunt Ann	Sent Anne plum puddings
	Aunt Bess Sutherland	Granny Armstrong relation?
	Aunt Chris	Christina Armstrong ? - Maternal aunt living in England at the time JCH, Leigh Stewart, George often there
	Aunt M	Maternal aunt – an Armstrong
	Aunt Nell	Connection with an Alex ??? Armstrong or Bell??
	Aunt Ret	Margaretta Armstrong / maternal aunt - in Melbourne
	Neil Stewart	At Salisbury Plains, England / in France
	Keith	Killed August 6 th 1917, Aunt Chris notified Annie
	Aunt Lil	Maternal aunt in Melbourne
	Uncle Bob	Paternal uncle in Australia – R.T. Bell ?, father of Alan Bell, who married Anne's sister, Jean Bell
	Uncle G	Uncle George Armstrong ? – maternal uncle – died 1914
Future Husband's family	Harold Vernon Foxton	Future Husband Major in Australian Army Medical Corps, France and England 14.7.1917 - letter re his mother's death To embark 10.7.1918 Torpedoed on way home from France on "Kyarra" ? - taken back to England-rescued Tennyson book from ship Returned 2.11.1918, Melbourne At "Ear & Eye" Hospital, Melbourne late 1918
	Claude Gibson Foxton (not mentioned)	Husband's brother Captain 2 nd . Div. Artillery No dates
	Eric Gibson Foxton (not mentioned)	Husband's Cousin – Son of Gibson Foxton, uncle of Harold Private in 13 th F.A.B. Enlisted 1.10.1915, Returned 15.5.1919

Places mentioned

In Australia	<p>“Burnswark” at 9 Canterbury Road, Toorak, Melbourne “Killearnan” at Torresdale Road, Toorak, Melbourne Barwon Heads, Geelong “Alma” Station, Freemantle, Kings Park</p>
Journey Out	Kandy, Colombo, Suez, Port Said
In Egypt	<p>Alexandria, All Saints, Bazaar, Bedresheim ,Belgium Club, Cairo, Citadel, Continental , El Feidan, Ghizeh Gardens, Groppis, Imbros, Ismailia, Ismailia St., Lemnos, Luna Park, Luxor, Mosque, Mouski, Nile, Nurses Club, Port Said, Pyramids, Rhoda Island , Sault’s, Shepheard’s, Sphinx, Stein’s, Suez Rd, Zeitown, Cairo Zoo</p> <p>Hospitals - Mena House, Abbassia(NZ hospital), Heliopolis (The Palace)</p>
Leaving Egypt	Malta, Temple of the Bones, Chapel of the Skulls, St. Johns, Morocco, Gibraltar, Algeisius, Cape Trafalgar, Isle of Wight
In Britain	<p>England (Blighty)- Southampton, Euston, Waterloo, Westminster Abbey, Southall, Waverly, Whalley, Carlile, Liverpool, The Tower, Hyde Park, St. Paul’s, Houses of Parliament, Berners Hotel, Stewarts, Whalley Arms, The Three Fishes, National Gallery, Charing Cross, Folkestone, Fullers, Durham, York, Craithie House, Royal Academy, Australian Y.M.C.A., Paddington, Drake’s Statue, Fulham, Clitheroe, Brighton, Manchester, Blackburn</p> <p>Horseferry Rd, Westminster – administrative offices of A.I.F.</p> <p>Salisbury Plain – training depot</p> <p>Hospitals in London – Dartford, Sidcup, Wandsworth, Northampton War Hospital</p> <p>Scotland - Edinburgh, Callander, Kingussie, Killiecrankie, Perth, Murchison Castle, John Knox’s House, Greyfriars Church, Loch Leven, Creag Dhubh</p>
In France	<p>Boulogne, Rouen, Amiens, Abbeville, Piedmont, Pozieres, Le Tréport, Albert Bapaume, Luport Wood, Butte de Warlencourt, Bapaume, Sapignies, Marseilles, Mouquet Farm, Grevillers, Trevent, Cassel, St. Omer, Abeele, Ypres, St. Adrienne, Mont Albert (hospital) Paris, St. Germaine Church, Louvre, Champs Elysies, Rue de la Paix, Arc de Triomphe, Place de la Concorde, Pantheon, Opera House, Bois du Boulogne, Notre Dame, Maxim’s, Continental, Versailles, Palais de Justice, Café de la Paise, Fleurbaix, Forest near Bapaume</p>
Journey Home	Colon. Statue of Columbus, Panama, Wellington, Melbourne

People mentioned

A.K.H. A.K.Hart	A.K.Hart - Anne Kidd Hart – nursing friend from Melbourne enlisted same day as Anne – 20.11.1915, returned 3.7.1919
Agnes	Sister (Birthday 17 May) <i>See Family Notes</i>
Aunt Ann	
Aunt Bess	Aunt Bess Sutherland - in Australia
Aunt Chris	Mary Ann Armstrong's sister (Annie's maternal aunt) – in Melbourne Also aunt to Bessie, Leigh, Neil, Willie Stewart (Annie's cousins) Ran a canteen for service people in France in WW2 <i>See Family Notes</i>
Aunt Jess	Met Anne in Melbourne 1918 – Anne's mother's sister-in-law
Aunt Helen	Mrs. McClure called herself Aunt Helen <i>See Mrs. McClure</i>
Aunt Lil	Mary Ann Armstrong's sister (Annie's maternal aunt) - in Melbourne <i>See Family Notes</i>
Aunt M	Maternal aunt in Australia – Armstrong
Aunt Nell	Click received a letter from her-had a relation named Alex A Bell or an Armstrong??
Aunt Peg	Margaretta Jane Bell – Lewis Bell's sister - paternal aunt at Inverness-shire
Aunt Ret	Margaretta Armstrong
Aunt S	?? had new daughter
B.S.	Bessie Stewart - cousin <i>See Family Notes</i>
Baxter, Bert	In France (Front), in Egypt - related to Bell's
Baxter, Maggie	Once lived in Kingussie (in Highlands between Inverness and Perth)
Bessy	Sister <i>See Family Notes</i>
Betty	Nurse in Egypt, Rouen
Biggie	Surname Bingham – Friend from Melbourne (daughter Gwen)
Bishop, Alan	"Heard of his death" 60 th Batt. Died 9.12.1916 from wounds at Fleurbaix Scotch College student from Brighton John Bell's first wife was a "Bishop" <i>See Family Notes and Database Entry</i>
Boysie Bell	Uncle Edward & Aunt Peg's son – in Kingussie, Inverness-shire – Annie's cousin
Brittingham, Mr	Saw in England
Bullen, Frank	Mentioned by R. Kipling in letter to Miss Billy C.S.M. Frank Ritchie Bullen, 16 th Batt. Enlisted 24.11.1914, Returned 14.12.1918 <i>See Dr. Bullen</i>
Buttons	Joan Bell – youngest sister – often ill <i>See Family Notes</i>
Cameron, Neil	Friend of Leigh Stewart, in England Cam??
Campbell, Mr	in Egypt
Captain B	
Captain Barton	in Egypt
Captain Buchan	In France
Captain Burnie	in France
Captain Embleton	In Paris
Captain Fleming	in Egypt
Captain Fleming	in France
Captain Fookes	in France
Captain Grant Dalton	in Egypt
Captain Griffiths	in Egypt

Captain H	in France, England, Scotland (Harold- future husband)
Captain Harris	killed in France
Captain Henley	in France
Captain Honman	in Egypt
Captain Hurley	in Egypt
Captain Kemp	on ship coming home
Captain Lind	in Egypt
Captain M	in Egypt
Captain Matherson	in Egypt
Captain McK	in Egypt
Captain McLaren	in Egypt
Captain Nerlet	in Egypt
Captain Nicholas	in Egypt
Captain Nicholls, J	in Egypt
Captain Niven	in France
Captain O'Sullivan	in France
Captain Picton	in Egypt
Captain Rayson	in Paris
Captain Rodd	in France
Captain Scartlebury	in France
Captain Smeal	in Egypt
Captain Smythe	in France
Captain Steel	in Egypt
Captain Suth	in Egypt
Captain Tolhurst	in Egypt
Captain W	in Egypt – party
Carl	often mentioned female nursing friend – became matron at MontAlbert 1918
Chris	Sister, (Kippy) Birthday 4 June <i>See Family Notes</i>
Christianson, Mr.	In France
Chuttie (Chut)	Nursing friend – England, France
Click	Brother (Alexander) <i>See Notes and See Family Notes</i>
Colonel Belfour	in Egypt
Colonel Crookston	in Egypt
Colonel Elliott	In France
Colonel Fetherston	in Egypt
Colonel Lordanch	in Egypt
Colonel Marshall	in France
Colonel Maudesley, Henry	Lt. Colonel. A.A.M.C. in Egypt
Colonel Newmarsh	in Egypt
Colonel Rosenthal	in Egypt
Colonel Stawell	in Egypt
Colonel Stewart	In France; also in Egypt at Palace
Corporal Thorsten	Visited grave in France
Cyril	
Dawson, J	letters from
Denny, Mr	Heard of his death
Dorothy (Rylah)	nursing friend from Melbourne - in France, England – acted as chaperone when Anne and Harold visited Scotland on leave
Doug	
Douglas, Grace	See Grace Douglas
Dougill, R.	Mentioned as coming to France
Dr. Bullen	Major Norman John Bullen A.A.M.C.

	in Egypt – Died Of Wounds 16.10.1917 related to Frank Bullen?
Dr. Marshallson	
Dr. Mathieson	died May 1915
Dr. Seager	Surgeon on ship coming home
Dr. Sinclair	In France – wooden frames
Dreamy Daniel	in Egypt
Duckie	Helen – youngest sister <i>See Family Notes</i>
Duke of Sutherland	in Egypt – on yacht at lake
Dwyer	in Egypt, hospital
E.A.O.	
Edwards, Katie	friend in Melbourne - letters from her
Elsie (Stewart?)	letters from her, in England / Melbourne Married on 14.2.1917
Elsie May Allan	nursing friend - in Egypt, letter from her while in Paris (same person??)
Finch	in Egypt
Flem	sings at concerts (Captain Fleming)
Florence	nursing friend in France
Forsyth, Ethel	visited in London
General Banbury	in France
General Birdwood, William Riddle	GGMC KCMG KGSI CSI DSO ADC CB in Egypt – visited hospital 26 March 1916 with Prince of Wales (Photo)
General Godley	in Egypt
General Maxwell	in Egypt
General McCay	in Egypt
General Watson	in Egypt
George (Bell)	oldest brother – served in A.A.M.C., France <i>See Notes and Family Notes</i>
Gillan, Mr & Mrs.	In Egypt
Glover. Mr.	in Egypt
Good, G	in Egypt
Gordon	in Egypt-transport duty
Grace (Grace Douglas) (Alice Grace Douglas)	Enlisted same day as Anne – 21.11.1914 Returned 28.9.1919 nursing friend from Melbourne, in Egypt, England and France
Graham (outpatient)	In Egypt – had been to “Alma”, with wool from “Culpataro” – the neighbouring property
Granny	Granny Armstrong – lived at “Burnswark” Toorak Birthday 6 April <i>See Family Notes</i>
Hall, Jack	In France
Hodge	in Egypt
Howatson, John	In England – Jean worried about him – visited several times – in hospital
Howatson, Mrs.	In Melbourne – close family friend
Howatson, Sandy, Jean	Son and daughter of Mrs. Howatson
Huntley, I	letters from, while in France
Hyndes Mr	in Egypt
Ida (O’Dwyer)	Enlisted same day as Anne – 21.11.1914, became Head Sister of No 3 CCS in Rouen, later Matron - letters from her
J.M. Hart (Julia Mary)	Nursing friend - in Egypt and France Sister of A.K.Hart??
Jean	Sister (B’d day 28 May)
John	Brother (B’d day 4 Feb) Dinner with John in Paris with J.C.H.
Johnnie B	
Keith	Killed 6 th August – Aunt Chris notified by Gunner Clive Tully 29 th Batt.
King S.R.	in Egypt
Kippy, Jenny	twin sisters (Birthday 4 June) <i>See Family Notes</i>
Lady Maxwell	in Egypt
Lady Oakes	in Egypt

Lady Wilcock	in Egypt
Lance-Corporal Savage	16 th Batt. B. Coy. 4 th Brigade – mentioned in dispatches
Lawsen, Stock	in Egypt
Lieutenant Combes	in Egypt
Lieutenant Randall	in France – father used to practise at Hillston NSW (closest town to Booligal)
Lieutenant Robinson	visited grave in France
Lieutenant Tait	wrote from France re Click
Lord Kitchener	drowned
M. Howlett	Matron Howlett
Major Chambers.	In France
Major Elliott	in Egypt
Major Embleton	In France
Major Gardner	in Egypt
Major Le Mesurier, Frederick Neil D.S.O	A.A.M.C. Returned 20.12.1918 in France
Major Neish	in Egypt
Major Rosenfield	in Egypt
Major Wilson	
Major Bernard Zwar	in Egypt
Mary	sister in Australia <i>See Family Notes</i>
McCracken, Mr	patient in France who died
McDonald	in Egypt
McKeknie	in Egypt
Miss Bell	Matron, Melbourne Hospital
Miss Conyers, Evelyn	in Egypt, in England – Matron
Miss Cornwell	Matron of 1 Australian General Hospital (1 A.G.H.) in Rouen
Miss Finlay, Mary Mackenzie	In France, England – Matron
Miss Gould, Nellie	in Egypt – Matron
Miss Griffiths	in Egypt
Miss McCarthy, Maud	In France – Matron
Miss Mitchell	
Miss Grace Wilson	in Egypt – Matron
Miss Young	In England
Moloney	in Egypt
Moss, Dorothy	married in Egypt 1916
Mother	birthday 1 April - Mary Ann Bell (nee Armstrong) <i>See Family Tree and Notes</i>
Mr. Roland	in Egypt
Mr. Wishart	In England
Mr. Wylde	in Egypt
Mrs Fowler	
Mrs Hyndes	letters from her
Mrs McClure, Helen	Nephew Norman buried at Grevillers, France. She lived at Brighton, Victoria - many letters from her, at Greenbank in Sep 1917 <i>See McClure and Norman</i>
Mrs. Tuart	in Egypt, in Melbourne
Munro	in Egypt-transport duty
Munro, Annie	Letter from her while in France
Neil (Stewart)	Aunt Chris Armstrong's nephew - Annie's cousin – at Salisbury Plains <i>See Family Notes</i>
Nick	Heard of his death 1.10.17
Norman	Norman McClure Sergeant, 59 th Batt. No 1690 Parents- John and Lucy McClure of Brighton, Victoria Nephew of Mrs. McClure who wrote to Anne. Anne saw his grave at Grevillers British Cemetery. <i>See Official Documents</i>

	<i>and Mrs. McClure</i>
Nurse Ros Studholme	In England
O'Reilly, Bess	in Egypt, in England
Piggott, Sergeant	in Egypt
Prince of Wales	Edward VIII - Came to hospital on 26 March 1916 with General Birdwood (<i>Photo</i>)
Private A.J. Nicholson	2 nd . Batt.died 3.5.17 at Grevillers, near Bapaume On Honour Board at Booligal with Captain George Bell and Sister Annie Bell <i>See Official Documents</i>
Private Ashton	in Egypt – saw Click, and met with Anne – mentioned in Click's letter <i>See Appendix</i>
Private Campbell, Stewart	21 st Batt. Wrote regarding Click's wounds
Private Day	in Egypt
Private Lawry.	in Egypt – saw Click
Private Swanborough	in Egypt
Raymond	
Robinson, Mr	patient in France died
Sadie (McDonald)	nursing friend from Australia - in France – popular girl - “unreliable” Ran a convalescent home in Brisbane in WW2
Scotland, Mr	on ship to England
Sellick, Mr.	in France
Sergeant Horner	in Egypt
Simpson, Jean	letters from (Australia?)
Sir A. Baird	in Egypt
Sister Allan, Ruth	in Egypt
Sister Amos	in England
Sister Anderson	in France
Sister Andrews, Gertrude	in Egypt
Sister Ashton, May	in Egypt
Sister Bailey	in Egypt
Sister Baker, Maud	
Sister Bleach	in Egypt
Sister Bonnin	in Egypt, England
Sister Bonnily	in Egypt
Sister Cadle	Letter from her while in London <i>See Photo</i>
Sister Cameron, Mabel	Enlisted same day as Anne – 21.11.1914, Returned 29.1.1918 in Egypt, France
Sister Campbell	in Egypt
Sister Dalrymple, Marion	in Egypt
Sister Davidson	in Egypt
Sister Deere	in Egypt
Sister Duff	In England
Sister Farquhar	in Egypt
Sister Finlay	in Egypt
Sister Fitzpatrick	on ship home
Sister Forsyth, Ethel	in Egypt, mentioned as E.L.F.
Sister Gallagher	on ship coming home
Sister Geoghegan	Enlisted same day as Anne – 21.11.1914 Returned 8.7.1919- in France
Sister Good	in Egypt
Sister Graham	in Egypt
Sister Green	in Egypt
Sister Heywood, Alice	in Egypt
Sister Holdsworth, Madge	Enlisted same day as Anne – 21.11.1914 Returned 23.1.1919

	in Egypt, England
Sister Isambert	in Egypt
Sister Jackson	in Egypt
Sister Kendall, Eleanor	in Egypt
Sister Keys	in Egypt
Sister King, Alice	in Egypt
Sister Keenan, Mary	in Egypt-transport duty
Sister Knox, Hilda	in Egypt
Sister Larkin, Beatrice	in Egypt
Sister Lehman	in Egypt
Sister Longham	in France- Abbeville
Sister Martin	in Egypt
Sister McDonald	In France - See Sadie
Sister McKinnell	in Egypt
Sister Menhennet, Edith	in Egypt awarded Royal Red Cross
Sister Miller	in Egypt, England
Sister Monger, Ethel	
Sister Mowbray	in Egypt
Sister O'Reilly (Bess) Elizabeth Hamilton	Enlisted 12.6.1915, Returned 11.7.1919 in Egypt and France with Anne
Sister Plant, Armenia	in Egypt
Sister Quartermain (Rosa Elizabeth)	Nursing friend from Melbourne in Egypt Eventually Matron Enlisted same day as Anne - 21.11.1914 Returned 19.12.1918
Sister Ralston	in Egypt
Sister Renard	in Egypt
Sister Richardson, Ethel Tracy	in Egypt
Sister Ripper	in Egypt
Sister Fiona Athol Robertson	in Egypt
Sister Ross, Clara	in Egypt
Sister Rylah , Dorothy	Nursing friend, chaperone – See Dorothy
Sister Simpson, Jean	in Egypt
Sister Snelling, Louisa (Louie)	Enlisted same day as Anne - 21.11.1914, Returned 1.4.1919 in Egypt, France - remained a friend – visited Anne in Brisbane
Sister Sorensen, Christense	in Egypt
Sister Stapley	in England
Sister Symonds, Carolina	Enlisted 12.6.11915 Returned 31.7.1918 in England
Sister Tait, Helen	In Egypt
Sister Thistlewaite, (Edith Somerville)	in Egypt - Enlisted 3.4.1915 Returned 12.2.1918 <i>See Photo</i>
Sister Watson, Beatrice	in Egypt – died
Sister Weigall, Sylvia	In Egypt, mentioned as S.W.
Sister Wheeler, Katherine	in Egypt
Sister Whiteman	In England
Sister Woiniaski	AANS
Sister Wyse, Myra	in Egypt –Enlisted same day as Anne – 21.11.1914, Returned 8.12.1914 Senior Nurse – remained friend – lived in Sydney (Muriel Gwendolina Wyse, also Senior Nurse)
Sister Yuille, Marjorie	in Egypt
Stewart?, Elsie Maud	Senior Nurse, enlisted 20.7.1915, Returned 10.3.16 Same Elsie?
Stewart, Bessie	Cousin in Essendon, Melbourne(Douglas Stewart's aunt, Bday 21 June)

	<i>See Family Notes</i>
Stewart, Geo	Mentioned by Click in letter to Anne – playing cricket – in Australia
Stewart, Leigh (Sutherland Leigh)	Cousin - in Egypt/France- Driver 2 nd D.A.C. At hospital at Bethnall Green
Stewart, Neil	Cousin - in France <i>See Family Notes</i>
Stewart, Willie	Cousin - in Egypt Arrived sometime around June 1916 <i>See Family Notes</i>
S.W.	Sister Sylvia Weigall
Thompson, Alex	Mentioned by Click in a letter to Anne relation??
Thompson	in Port Said
Tully, Clive	Gunner 29 th Battery. Notified Aunt Chris of Keith's death Note: Jean Tully married in Scots Church, Melbourne 30.10.1918.
Turner, B.	letter from
Uncle Bob (Bell)	Paternal uncle - Robert T. Bell – Alan Bell's father <i>See Family Notes</i>
Uncle E	Uncle Edward - Aunt Peg's (Margaretta Jane) husband – Inverness-shire
Uncle G (Geordie)	Geordie Armstrong MaryAnn Bell's brother <i>See Family Notes</i>
Uncle S	Uncle Sul??
Uncle T	
V.R.	
Va	Violet <i>See Family Notes</i>
Violet	sister in Australia (Birthday 12 April)
Walker, Y	in Egypt
Wilkinson	in Egypt
Yuille, Max	in Egypt

Abbreviations used

13 th . L.H.	13 th Light Horse Regiment
8 th L. Horse	8 th Light Horse – from Victoria
A.C.C.S.	Australian Casualty Clearing Station
A.D.	Miss A.D. -matron? - “a great honour”- in Egypt
A.G.D.	in Egypt
A.K.H.	Anne.Kidd.Hart
A.S.H.	Australian Stationary Hospital
adm.	Admitted
Aust. R.C. Society	Australian Red Cross Society - wrote to George regarding Click Vera Deakin, Secretary
B.S.	Bessie Stewart - cousin
bet	between
C	Click - brother
C.C.S.	In France– Casualty Clearing Station
comp.fracture	compound fracture
D.	Dorothy – nursing friend in France
D.B.	
D.H.	in Egypt
D.S.O.	
Diph.	Diphtheria
E.	Edinburgh

E.L.F.	
E.M.A..	Sister Elsie May Allen - in Egypt, on ship to England
Eye Spec.	Eye Specialist
G	Grace Douglas – nursing friend from M.H., then Egypt
G.G.	Governor General
G.O.C.	General Officer Commanding
G.O.H.	
H.M.K.	
H.Q.	Headquarters
H.Road	Horseferry Rd, London
J.B.	
J.C.H.	In London –visited with George, Aunt Chris, Stewarts
J.M.H.	Julia Mary Hart
K.	Kingussie – Home of Aunt Peg (Margaretta & Uncle Edward Bell – Highlands south of Inverness
L.	Lord Kitchener
M.B.	in Egypt
M.G.A.	
M.H.	Melbourne Hospital
M.S.	
Melb.Hosp.	Melbourne Hospital
O.C.	Officer Commanding
P.	Pozieres?
p.c.	Postcard
P.P.P.	
Q.H.	
R.C.	Red Cross
R.C. church	Roman Catholic church
R.L.S.	Robert Louis Stevenson
R.R.C.	Royal Red Cross – Award ed to S. Ida O’Dwyer, Dorothy Rylah or Dorothy Moss, S. Doherty & S. Edith Menhennet
R.T.O.	Railway Transport Officer
Re.	Reasonable?
rec.	Received
resus. ward	Resuscitation ward
S.	Sister
S. & Lady Barron	Sir and Lady Barron
S. Hospital	Sydney Hospital
S.D.	
Ss	Sisters
T	Temperature
T	Thistle, Sister Thistlewaite (Egypt, France)
U.E.	Uncle Edward Bell (Kingussie, Scotland)
V.C.	Victoria Cross
V.D.	
Va	Violet -sister
W.Abbey	Westminster Abbey
W.S	Willie Stewart - cousin

Notes on Family Members and Friends serving in A.I.F

Click Bell (Alexander Armstrong Thompson Bell) - brother of Annie Bell

Born 1886 at "Alma" Station, Booligal, NSW

Educated at Scotch College, Melbourne. Dux of his year, but returned to the land.

Worked as a station overseer at "Alma" Station

Left Melbourne by "Berrima" in June 1915. Went to Egypt, was torpedoed on "S.S. Southland". Was at Gallipoli till Evacuation. On Sinai Peninsula – joined Gun Section in Egypt. Went to France and was missing after attack on Mouquet Farm. 26th August 1916. (Particulars from Roll of Honour of Australia)

See appendix for official documents

George Bell – brother of Annie Bell

Born 1882 at "Warrambean" Station, Shelford, Victoria. Lived at "Alma" Station, Booligal, NSW.

He was educated at Scotch College Melbourne then Scots College Sydney, was Dux of School 1900, and Head Prefect 1901. He served in Australian Army Medical Corps in WW1 in France, was President of Royal Flying Doctor Service, worked with Bush Nursing Association, and served in WW2, then continued his medical practice at 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney. Died in 1970.

Dr. George Bell, C.B.E., O.B.E., MID, M.B., ChM., F.R.A.C.S., F.R.C.S

See appendix for official documents

Annie Bell

Born 1888 at "Alma" Station, Booligal, NSW, and was educated at Presbyterian Ladies College, Melbourne. She boarded at the school and in local area, and also lived with her mother at "Killearnen" Brighton, during school terms. She was a nursing sister at Melbourne Hospital, then enlisted into Australian Army Nursing Service 21/11/14 and returned 24/10/18. She saw service in Egypt, France and England.

See appendix for official documents

Dates Written by Anne on a separate sheet outside diary			
Called up	28.11.14	No.1 Gen.	03.03.17
Embarked	05.12.14	Left No.1	10.03.17
Duty at Mena	18.01.15	3 CCS	12.03.17
Duty at N.Z.H Abbassia	03.02.15	Measles Left Edgehill	02.04.17
Vaccination	25.02.15	Returned Grevillers 3ACCS	14.04.17
Palace	06.03.15	6 Stat.	08.07.17
No.1 Stat.	22.01.16	62 CCS	27.
Left	08.08.16	3 CCS	31.07.17
Left Alex.	13.08.16	32	06.08.17
Eng.	26.08.16	3 rd Aust.	14.08.17
Queen Mary's	31.08.16	59 General	21.08.17
Left	22.02.17	10 CCS	24.08.17
Left Eng.	28.02.17	10 Stat.	31.08.17

Sisters who enlisted on the same day as Anne (21/11/1914)

Sister Grace Alice Douglas
Sister Anne Kidd Hart
(AK Hart)
Sister Myra Wyse
Sister Mabel Cameron
Sister Geoghegan
Sister Madge Holdsworth
Sister Rosa Quartermain
Sister Louisa Snelling

Family / Friends

See appendices for details
Major Norman Bullen
Private Arthur Nicholson
Sergeant Norman McClure
Sergeant Alan Bishop
Sister Ida O'Dwyer
Matron Edith Conyers
Matron Edith Cornwell

Armstrong – Bell – Stewart Family Tree

Betsy Sutherland / Thompson m Alexander Armstrong
06.04.1837 - 5 Dec 1923 20.05.1823 - 12 Jan 1890

MaryAnn Armstrong
01.14.1861-
01.11.1947
m. **Lewis Bell**
05.07.1853-
28.12.1926

William Armstrong 1864
William Armstrong 1868
Bessie Armstrong 1870
Margaretta Bell Armstrong 1873
John Bell Armstrong 1874
Christina Armstrong 1878
Lillias Effie Armstrong 1880

**Jean Sutherland
Armstrong** 1863
m.
**Rev. Alexander
Stewart**

**George
Armstrong**
1868

**Alexander
Armstrong**

Name	Birth	Death	Their Children
George Bell m. Adele	19.07.1882 "Warrambeen"	22.08.1970 Sydney	
Bessie Armstrong Bell	08.01.1884 "Alma"	07.05.1970 Melbourne	
Agnes(Ag) Bell m. E Bibby	17.05.1885 "Alma"	10.09.1966 Sydney	John
Alexander Armstrong Thompson Bell (Click)	01.07.1886 "Alma"	26.08.1916 Mouquet Farm	
Annie Bell m. Harold Vernon Foxton 1919	17.01.1888 "Alma"	1986 Caloundra	Mary Constance (Connie) Alexander Harold
Lewis Bell m. Bella	05.07.1889 "Alma"	21.05.1951 Sydney	Lewis (Gundy) Anne
Margaretta Jean Bell (Jean)	28.05.1891 "Warrambeen"	Sydney	
John Bell m. Muriel McIntyre 1923 m. Marjorie Bishop	07.02.1893 "Alma"	21.09.1942 Sydney	Judy Alan John
Alma Joan Bell (Buttons)	07.12.1894 "Alma"	15.12.1947 "Murnong"	
Christina Bell (Kippy)	04.06.1896 "Alma"	Toorak?	
Janet Bell (Jenny) m. Alan Bell 1927	04.06.1896 "Alma"	Toorak?	Lewis Alan (Lewis) Robert (Bob)
Mary Calvert Bell m. Bill Anderson	02.05.1898 "Mt. Derrimut"	16.08.1971 Delegate	Mary Elizabeth
Violet Lillias Bell (Va)	10.05.1900 "Killearnan"	28.07.1925 Melbourne	
James Marius Bell (Jim) m. Audrey Rutherford	28.07.1902 "Alma"	01.10.1954 buried Corowa	
Helen Howatson Sutherland Bell (Duckie) m. Gordon Bruce	27.01.1904 "Killearnan"	2000 "Ulamín"	David James Alex (Jimmy) Margaret(Midge) Alex

Name	Children
Alexander Armstrong Stewart m. Mary Fitzgerald	Douglas Alexander 1913 N.Z.
Bessie Stewart	
Sutherland Leigh Stewart m. Elsie Parker	
Neil Stewart	
Willie Stewart	
Geordie Stewart m. Madge	Betsy(Rodger) Alex

Family Notes

Anne's Parents

Mary Ann Armstrong from "Burnswark" Toorak, or Leigh or "Warrambeen" Shelford, Victoria. Died 1947 at "Murnong".

Lewis Bell had close family in Kingussie, Scotland. Born 1853 at Roundbush, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, educated at Merchiston Castle School, Edinburgh. Left Scotland for Australia in 1871 with Uncle Big John or James Bell. Grazier at "Alma", Booligal, from 1876. Successful greyhound courser and breeder- Uncle James Bell of Woolbrook, had similar interests. One successful dog called "Alma Bell". Died 17 December 1926 at "Murnong".

Anne's Siblings

George married Adele, had consulting rooms at 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney

Bess never married.

Ag's husband either died early or left her

Click (Alex) was M.I.A. Mouquet Farm 1916

Anne married Dr. Harold Foxton – lived in "Rona" Indooroopilly, Brisbane

Lewis married Bella, managed "Alma", then son Gundy Bell managed "Alma"

Jean, nurse, engaged to a doctor in Darwin who was drowned

John married Muriel McIntyre, who died, then married Marjorie Bishop

Joan (Buttons) never married – ill with arthritis, died same year as her Mother

Chris(Kippy) never married – lived at "Alma"(Booligal), "Murnong"(Albury), Melbourne

Jenny married her cousin, Alan Bell (killed on a horse) – children boarded at Geelong College

Bob Bell (son) – wife Alison, son John

Lew Bell (son) - Elizabeth his wife, had a nursery at Gosford, died in 1980's

Kippy and Jenny lived together in Toorak after Jenny's husband's death

Mary married Bill Anderson – lived in Bourke district – daughter Mary Elizabeth, now lives in Delegate, NSW

Violet died at 25 – kidney disease

Jim married Audrey – went to WW2 – died on property adjoining "Murnong"

Helen married Gordon Bruce (Uliman at Coonabarabran NSW)

Jimmy (son) killed on tractor

Margaret (daughter) died of cancer of the breast

Alex (son)

Anne's Close Family – cousins, aunts, uncles

Aunt Helen – Mrs. McClure – close family friend from Brighton – called herself "Aunt"

Aunt Jess – Anne's mother's sister-in-law

Uncle George Armstrong - doctor in Sydney

Uncle Bob Bell – Robert T. Bell – brother of Lewis – father of Alan Bell, who married Anne's sister Jenny

Uncle James Bell – Lewis' uncle - came from Scotland with Lewis - greyhound courser – lived at "Woolbrook"

Uncle "Big John" Bell - 1821-1876 - Major Bell of "Bell Park", Geelong

Cousin Alan Victor Bell - son of Robert Thomson Bell, died May 3rd 1934 after a fall from his horse at "Alma", buried at Urana.

Cousin Gladys Bell – lived at Barwon Heads, south of Geelong – single

Cousin Geordie Stewart married Madge - lived in Melbourne – worked in Bank

Cousin Alex Armstrong owned "Sleatbank", Hamilton, Victoria

Cousin Alex Stewart was a lawyer who moved early to Wellington. Douglas Stewart's father.

Cousin Bessie Stewart lived at "Appin", Essendon, Melbourne (parents' house), then "Ardshiel" Flinders.

All the Armstrong and Stewart boys attended Scotch College Melbourne. George and Click Bell and Alex Stewart were all duxes of the school.

Properties

- “Alma”, Booligal, NSW – Lewis Bell’s Family home – sheep property – managed by Lewis (Gundy), Lewis Bell’s son, after the family moved to “Murnong” .
- “Warrambeen”, Shelford, Victoria (between Geelong and Ballarat) – sheep property owned by John Bell / Armstrongs? Armstrong-Bell Ltd?
- “Murnong”, Rand, NSW – Bell Family home after “Alma” – sheep property
- “Killearnan”, Brighton, Vic. – MaryAnn Armstrong lived with children while at school in Melbourne – Killearnan is a small town on the coast near Inverness
- “Mt. Derrimut” “Deer Park” W of Melbourne, N of Laverton – Bell?? Armstrong??
- “Burnswark” Granny Armstrong’s house at 9 Canterbury Road, Toorak, Melbourne.
- “Bell Park”, W. Geelong, Victoria – home of Big John Bell (Lewis’ uncle) – *see next page*
- “Woolbrook” – home of Uncle James Bell
- “Sleatbank” Western District, Victoria owned by Alex Armstrong– managed by Bob Bell (Jenny’s son) and his wife Alison until their retirement
- “Greenbank” – Mrs. McClure (called herself Aunt Helen) visited there 1917
- “Ulamín”, Coonabarabran, NSW – sheep property – home of Helen Bell, who married Gordon Bruce.
- “Appin”, Essendon – Bessie Stewart there
- “Ardshiel” Flinders also Stewart family home
- “Culpataro” – neighbouring property to “Alma” – not a Bell family property – mentioned by Anne



Figure 40: Above Harold Foxton



Figure 41: Top right Lewis Bell



Figure 42: Right “Grannie” Armstrong

Newspaper Clippings regarding Family Members

“Big John” Bell

Obituary Paragraph from the “Geelong Advertiser” for Major John Bell of “Bell Park”, Geelong.

“A finer specimen of an English Cavalry Officer was never seen, being of Herculean strength and manly form; indeed the late Dalmahoy Campbell and himself were looked upon as the two most powerful men in the colonies. Many are the stories told of their prowess. It is said of Major Bell that, when in his prime, he could clear a 4 rail fence with a full grown sheep under each arm. The writer of this article has seen him clear 2 bullocks opposite “Mack’s Hotel” and can remember seeing a “Striking Machine” in the Great Exhibition of 1851 smashed. This he was told was the work of a gigantic Australian. This Australian he learnt years afterwards was Major John Bell – see Hobart Town “Mercury” of 4.2.1876.”

Lewis Bell

Obituary from an unknown newspaper

Death of Mr. Lewis Bell

“Old time followers of the sport in Victoria will regret to learn of the death of Mr. Lewis Bell, which took place at his home, Murrnong Station, NSW, on December 27. Mr. Bell, who hailed from the borders of Scotland, where his father, uncles and brother were well known in the sport, was a born courser. As a lad in 1873 he made his first appearance in Victoria at a meeting of the old Grant and Polwarth coursing Club, near Geelong, where he had charge of his uncle’s greyhound, Lord Raglan, who won the event. Mr. Bell always bred a few dogs at his stations at Booligal and other places. A few years ago he raised many flags with the bitch Alma Bell, and he won the Victorian St. Leger with Birkdale in 1922. Mr Bell was a first class judge of a greyhound, and took great pleasure in watching a well contested course, and strange to say, though a man of means, he was never known to bet. The sympathy of all coursers throughout the state is extended to the deceased gentleman’s wife and family.”

Another unknown newspaper article included:

“.....I first had the pleasure of meeting him on the Burnside estate, near Leigh Road, in 1873, when he was assisting at a meeting at which his uncle, Mr. James Bell of “Woolbrook”, ran a red and white dog named Lord Raglan.....”

George Bell

Obituary Excerpts from “Lang Syne”, Scots College Old Boys’ Union December 1970

The Late Dr. George Bell, CBE, MB, ChM, FRACS.

Distinguished in his services to his country, to medicine and to education, Doctor George Bell was loyal to his old school, and unflagging in his interest and support to The Old Boys’ Union..... “Bell of Booligal” came to Scots in 1898, was Dux of the School in 1900 and Head Prefect in 1901..... His memorial service was held at St. Stephan’s Presbyterian Church in Macquarie street on September 1..... Revd. Graham Hardy spoke of his devotion to The Scots College, the grim years of the Casualty Clearing Stations in France between 1914-1918, his support and work for the Royal Flying Doctor Service and the Bush Nursing Association, his service during the Second World War, and the eminent distinction which he achieved in the world of medicine.....”

Letters from Click to Anne – from Gallipoli and France

(Letter)

Somewhere in Turkey
15 – 10 – 1915

Dear Ann,

I received your last two letters safely. Aunt Peg's letter was enclosed in one, thanks for the other enclosed ones also. Your parcel with sox, mortein and also the one with chocolate have arrived safely. I saw a fellow who came over with us from Melbourne the other day. He is going to look you up and give you the news: Pte Ashton is his name. I will let you know if I want anything and get him to bring it over. I have enough clothes at present. Will enclose letters from Chris & Jen received since writing you last time.

According to herself, Chris's son must be a chef d'oeuvre. Not much news.

Yr affect brother,

Click Bell

You can send me over that leather wallet I left, by post. It will be handy for keeping letter paper etc. in. You will note that this is a bit of Geo's paper.

27.10.15

Rec. this letter last night, so am sending it on. AB.

TELEPHONE CITY 1846.
CONSULTATION HOURS:
MONDAY TO FRIDAY:
11 A.M. TO 1 P.M.
6-45 TO 7-45 P.M.
HOLIDAYS:
9-10 A.M. (ONLY.)
OR BY APPOINTMENT.
SATURDAY:
11 A.M. TO 1 P.M. (ONLY.)

Somewhere in Turkey.
~~22 COLLEGE STREET,~~
SYDNEY, 15-10-1915

KINDLY LEAVE MESSAGES BEFORE 9 A.M. TO ENSURE VISIT SAME DAY.

Dear Ann
I received your last two letters safely.
Aunt Peg's letter was enclosed in one, thanks for the other enclosed ones also. Your parcel with sox, mortein and also the one with chocolate have arrived safely. I saw a fellow who came over with us from Melbourne the other day. He is going to look you up and give you the news: Pte Ashton is his name. I will let you know if I want anything and get him to bring it over. I have enough clothes at present. Will enclose letters from Chris & Jen received since writing you last time.
According to herself Chris's son must be a chef d'oeuvre. Not much news.
Yr affect brother
Click Bell
You can send me over that leather wallet I left, by post: it will be handy for keeping letter paper etc. in. You will note that this is a bit of Geo's paper.
27.10.15. Rec. this letter last night, so am sending it on. AB

Figure 43: Copy of Click's letter to Anne on George's appointment notepaper

Private Ashton did contact Anne, who wrote on the 21.10.15:

"Pte. Ashton – he had seen Click three days ago, said he was well & putting on weight. Said that a p.c. or letter was much appreciated. Lollies they want. Half bottle of water daily & most of this is needed to keep their eating utensils clean. All very cheerful & they share their gifts. Very glad to get the news."

(Postcard at right)

France

(Note: Could be end of October 1915)

Dear Ann,

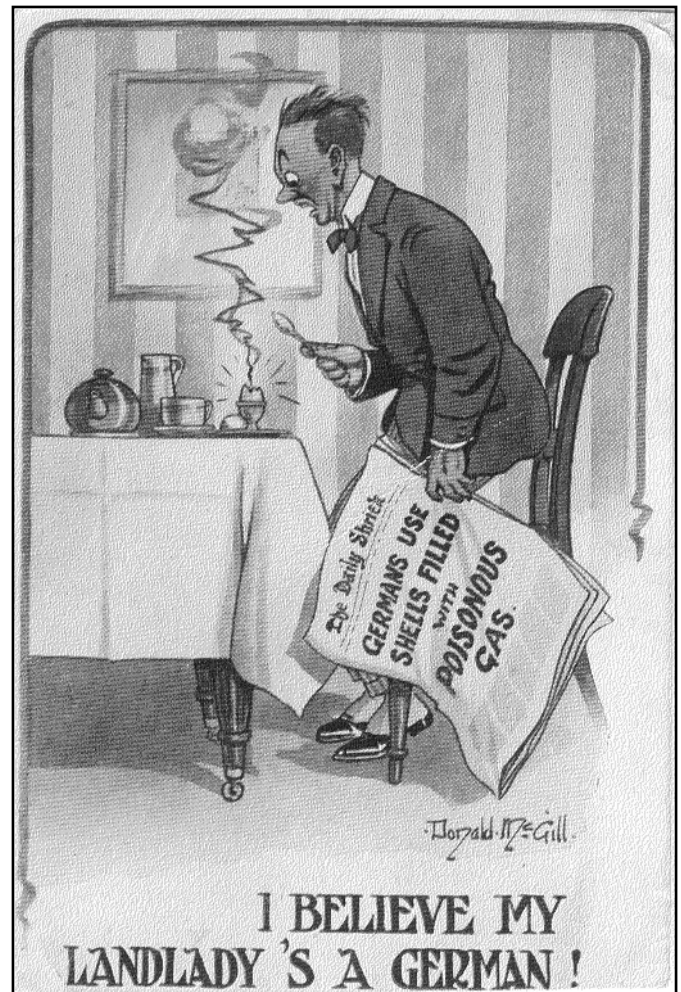
Received your letters and the two parcels two days ago. The last letter I sent you was addressed to the 1 AGH. This card I will address to Ismailia.

Glad to hear you were very well; thanks for the sox etc, they were très bonnes.

Most of the letters I haven't had came this mail so should get them regularly now. Haven't seen Leigh. Received the two lots of snaps alright: you can send one set to Grannie and one home excluding the one with the two in front of a tent as they don't know them.

Hope to see you over one of these days.

AAB.



(Letter)

Somewhere in France

Dear Ann,

I received your letter of 11/5/16 some days ago, and was glad to hear you were well: you must have had a good trip to Cairo. Thanks for the letters. There have been a few Australian letters to 17/5/16, but I haven't received any yet. Saw a fellow who knows where Leigh is camped. This morning he was going to let him know where I was to tell him to come up and see me. They are not very far from here, the drivers ought to be having a pretty good time as I suppose they will only be having their horses to look after at present.

Have had a shift since the last letter I wrote. We have a good room to sleep in on a ground floor. The house has evidently been rather up to date as the old electric light fittings are in it, and the room we occupy has two glass doors with some rather nice embossing on them. Two cupboards and a fireplace on one side, a door in the opposite side, while the other sides each have glass doors. The French seem great on doors into their rooms. It rained a bit last night and is still showery.

W. Stewart ought to be in Egypt by now if he got away alright. What do you think of the Naval engagement in the North Sea?

Am enclosing a photo of the section. It was taken shortly after we arrived in France. Had a letter from Aunt Nell. Alex had left but his destination was unknown.

W. Robertson must have been putting on condition since leaving Australia. There are three or four French kids knocking about here, they are hard cases.

This is about all the news.

Your affect brother

AATB

(Letter)

France

(Note: Could be May/June/July 1916)

Dear Ann,

I received some letters you had sent me on last night: the postmark was 26/4/16. One of them was from Mother in a later date than I have received from her. There was none from you so I suppose it will be a long today: the maps came: you can send me ½ dozen of the group at the tent with me in it, and also send Grannie one each of any that would interest her. Glad to hear you are well and hope you will be getting a trip to France or England. The country is looking beautiful at present. Everything looks so fresh and green: it rained fairly heavily yesterday. The skylark sings very easily in the morning, also the blackbird. It gets light about 4 a.m. We have been having an easy time the last few days. One of the section has a sister, a nurse, she is in France: her name is Regan. Geo Stewart had been doing well at cricket, last report. They had been drafting at "Alma" – Jen's last letter. Father must have been in a hurry as he passed Jen a fork instead of a plate in a turnover. Haven't heard of Leigh yet.

I think I mentioned cameras are tabooed here. Marseilles is a prettily situated place: there is a beautiful view from the Notre Dame there, the Mediterranean looked so blue the day we saw it.

Helen was to go to "Alma" with Mother. I saw Betty Margaret in a marriage group in a Punch we happened to come across.

Mother is coming on in the motor driving business, next thing she will be driving an ambulance behind the firing line.

Eggs are plentiful here at present, we had poached eggs for dinner today. The estaminet?? had a good supply, owing probably to yesterday being pay day. Coffee seems the main beverage, they grind the beans as they want it, so it is always fresh: last time we were going to trenches we went to purchase some coffee but on asking at the shop, they only had the beans so we borrowed their coffee mill and ground up a lb-, it was très-bon. Wine and beer seem to be drunk a good deal by the French.

This is about all the news

Your affect brother

Click Bell

(Letter)

France

(Note: Must be 30 June, 1916)

Dear Ann,

Thanks for the birthday wishes, they came in as tomorrow is my birthday. I received the book you sent on to me alright, thanks. The sox you mentioned some time ago haven't turned up yet, but I am alright in that line.

Haven't seen Leigh yet, he arrived to see me the day on which we went into the trenches last time, but of course missed me. Since then, I hear he went into hospital but came out the same day as one of our fellows as he told him to tell me where he was billeted. I believe nothing much was wrong with him, as the fellow who saw him said he was alright.

We are having peculiar weather for summer, showers nearly every day. I suppose Geo will get over in time, hope he gets surgical work to do.

Had a p.c. from Will Stewart, he seemed to think he might be over this way some of these days. There must be a small party at "Burnswark" now. James was getting interested in the boat race, according to the last letters. The crops are beginning to ripen now, there doesn't seem a great many men about to harvest them.

I wonder if Alex Thompson has arrived in Egypt yet. Mother ought to be right now that she has got to "Alma". I have just been told there is a big Australian mail in: we got two together when we came out again the other day.

There is not much news so will conclude this epistle.

AATB

Letters of Gratitude to Anne

Canadian Contingent

BEF

France

26/11/17

Dear Sister,

Just a few lines to thank you for your kind letters also to thank you for your kindness to my boy. I was worried very much when I heard that he was wounded. I hope to be able to come and see him in a day or two. I would have been down before but we have been on the march for a week. I am sure that the boy will appreciate what you have done for him. I don't know what us fellows would do if it were not for such ladies as you leaving your homes to come to this country to take care of us. Again thanking you.

I remain yours sincerely,

Peter F. Sargant (?)

From Thomas Gordon

C/O Navy & Army Board Institute

Corriton Camp

Bridge of Allan

Stirling

28/11/17

Dear Sister Bell,

My sister at Gordon House Braemar has written how kind you were to write about my son Pte Geo. Gordon of the 8th Argyle's who was wounded 20th. Accept my grateful thanks for relieving our mind. You are doing a noble work. May God almighty reward you. Two other boys of mine are in France, one 4th Gordons, one 1st Gordons – were both wounded. One back in the ranks again. Another boy John has been over a year at Salonica in ASC, was in hospital 6 weeks with diphtheria. Is better and getting out again. Accept my thanks and the family at home's thanks also.

Ever yours sincerely

Thomas Gordon

Notes on Ships and Hospitals Mentioned

HMAT Kyarra

6,953 tons. 14 knots. AUSN Co Ltd London

Requisitioned 6 November 1914 and converted into a hospital ship for the purpose of transporting the 1st and 2nd General Hospitals, 1st and 2nd Stationary Hospitals and 1st Casualty Clearing Station to Egypt. (Something of an abuse of the Geneva Convention.) Departed Fremantle 4 December 1914. Arrived Egypt 13 January 1915. Converted into a transport March 1915.

Commonwealth control ended 4 January 1918. Torpedoed and sunk by Oberleutnant Johann Lohs in a UB-57 submarine in the English Channel 26 May 1918 by. Sank within 19 minutes of attack.

HMAT Berrima

11,137 tons. 14 knots. P & O SN Co London

Commonwealth control ended 10 October 1917

1st Convalescent Depot (1)

Opened 1915 at Mena, Cairo, Egypt. Closed 11 April 1916.

Egypt

1st General Hospital (Queensland)

Formed Queensland August 1914. Departed Brisbane Kyarra 21 November 1914.

Egypt, Western Front 2nd Infectious Diseases Hospital

Opened Abassia, Cairo.

Egypt

2nd General Hospital (New South Wales)

Formed New South Wales August 1914. Departed Sydney Kyarra 28 November 1914.

Egypt, Western Front

Casualty Clearing Stations

These were small hospitals generally located at a railhead or similar transportation hub in forward areas. Their job was to provide emergency treatment and to move casualties back to the stationary and general hospitals

1st Auxiliary Hospital

Opened 19 January 1915 at Luna Park, Cairo, Egypt. Closed 10 July 1916.

Egypt

2nd Auxiliary Hospital

Opened May 1915 at Atelier Building, Heliopolis, Cairo, Egypt. Closed 31 March 1916.

Egypt

3rd Auxiliary Hospital

Opened 10 June 1915 at the Sporting Club, Cairo, Egypt. Closed 1 July 1916.

Egypt

3rd Auxiliary Hospital

Opened 9 October 1916 at Dartford, England by 2nd Stationary Hospital.

England

4th Field Ambulance [Fourth Division]

Formed Victoria September 1914. Departed Melbourne Berrima 22 December 1914. Attached to New Zealand and Australian Division January 1915. Attached to New Zealand and Australian Division January 1915 to February 1916. Assigned to Fourth Division February 1916.

Egypt, Gallipoli, Western Front

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(Military and nursing personnel, and titled people are placed under title, not surname
e.g., Colonel, Sister....., Lord....., Uncle....., Miss.....)

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Alexander Armstrong Thompson Bell
Alan Stephen Bishop
Arthur John Fredrick Nicholson
Norman John McClure

Honours and Awards

Captain George Bell
Sister Annie Bell
Head Sister Ida O'Dwyer
Matron in Chief Evelyn Conyers
Matron Margaret Graham
Matron Edith Cornwell

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Re Mentioned in Despatches
Re Termination from A.I.F.



Figure 44: Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, where Click's name is engraved.