



Spring 2025 Number 2025/1



Troon War Memorial

See inside front cover

AYRSHIRE NOTES is published in Ayr by the AYRSHIRE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL & NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
in association with AYRSHIRE FEDERATION OF HISTORICAL
SOCIETIES

The copyright of the articles belongs to the individual authors

Contributions for the Autumn 2025 edition of Ayrshire Notes to the editor,
Jane Jamieson email: jfjamieson31@yahoo.co.uk

postal address: 247 Guardwell Crescent Edinburgh EH17 7SL

Further information about the AANHS and AFHS including their meetings
and publications can be found on their websites: www.aanhs.org.uk and
<https://www.facebook.com/ayrshirerefederationofhistoricalsocieties>

AANHS President: Rob Close FSA (Scot)

AANHS Secretary: Mr Denis Rattenbury, 4 Ewenfield Avenue, Ayr KA7
2QG

Telephone: 01292 280593 email: info@aanhs.org

AFLHS Secretary: Abigayle Brown abigaylecbrown@gmail.com

Front cover: Troon War Memorial was sculpted by William Henry
Gilbert and is located on Troon sea front. A full list of the names
present on it can be found at <https://www.roll-of-honour.com/Ayrshire/Troon.html> Some of the servicemen
commemorated died at Gallipoli in 1915 such as Robert Howie,
Thomas Laing, John McCaig, James McCormack, William
Morrison, John Quail, Peter Steele, James Strachan and John
Taylor. Troon Family History Society has a publication Troon,
Ayrshire WW1 War Dead 1914 – 1918 available by contacting
them by email on publications@troonayrshirefhs.org.uk

Table of Contents

Page Number	Title	Author
4	Gallipoli Diary of John Allan, Southridgehill Farm Beith	Wm M Watson and Rob Close
45	Editor's short note on collecting golf memorabilia	
46	List of AANHS publications	

GALLIPOLI DIARY OF JOHN ALLAN, SOUTHRIDGEHILL FARM, BEITH

Introduction

Early in 2024 the Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society published Boswell's Galloping Farmers, a collection of accounts of the experience of the Ayrshire (Earl of Carrick's Own) Yeomanry while serving in late 1915 in Gallipoli¹. These accounts had been brought together through the assiduous work of one of the editors, Willie Watson. Willie has continued to search for material, especially unpublished material, relating to the experience of the Yeomen in Turkey. Through his farming contacts, he has located the diary which follows. It is the diary of John Allan, of Southridgehill Farm, Beith, who served with the Yeomanry throughout their time in Gallipoli. As a diary, as opposed to the official field note books of David Brown, the letters of Norman Kennedy, and the latter-life memoirs of Sandy Barclay and Larry Nimmo, it offers a slightly different view of the events, and broadens and deepens our understanding of those few unimaginable months. His account of the time spent at Mudros, after evacuation from Gallipoli, is fuller than any of the others, while his position, as a Staff Sergeant Major, puts him somewhere between the men and the officers in the military hierarchy. He continues the story into Egypt and his own return home in April 1916². John Allan was born at Southridgehill Farm, Beith, on 11th December 1881. He was the first child of Robert Allan and his wife, Mary (née Crawford), who had been married in Dalry on the 31st March

¹ Rob Close and William M. Watson, eds., Boswell's Galloping Farmers, Ayr, AANHS, 2024. The book contains an appropriate bibliography, and is comprehensively referenced.

² This was noted in the Ardrossan and Saltcoats Herald of 5th May 1916.

1879. He had two younger siblings, George Crawford (1884-1970), and Mary, born in 1888. On his return from military service, and in partnership with his brother George, he farmed Loanhead Farm, Beith (just over the border into Renfrewshire), where he died on 13th November 1973. He married, on 27th June 1917, Mary Craig, a farmer's daughter from Hardcroft Farm, Dalry. Many of the names mentioned must be yeoman colleagues and farmers from north Ayrshire, especially the Garnock Valley. Due diligence would, no doubt, identify more than we have been able to do. We are grateful to J. Allan Parker and William A Parker, the grandsons of John Allan, for allowing us to reproduce their grandfather's diary here.

William M. Watson, Rob Close

1915

Sunday 26th September Left Ladybank 11.30 a.m. via Carlisle Birmingham to Devonport.

Monday, 27th Arrived Devonport 6.30 a.m. followed by Lanarkshire Yeomanry and Devon Regiment, all on board Arcadian, roughly speaking about 2,310 exclusive of crew; left port 6.30 p.m. accompanied by two torpedo destroyers.

Tuesday 28th No land in sight; sea getting rough. Several sick. Torpedo boats left us. Everyone inoculated for cholera. Steamer heading south-west; report west of Bay of Biscay.

Wednesday 29th Sea very rough. Few able to take any food and very sick. 2 p.m, sea rather calmer; men rather brighter.

- Ayrshire Yeomanry, guard. Steamer heading south.
- Thursday 30th Sea calmer, men feeling better. Sun very warm; medical inspection. Rifle inspection. Major Patrick ³ informed me that our steamer went 200 miles off usual course to avoid two submarines reported in Bay Biscay. Order issued as to letter writing.
- Friday, 1st October Sea calm, lovely day. Very warm. Sighted land 5.30 p.m.; no one allowed on deck after 7 p.m. Through Straits of Gibraltar 8 p.m. Visited by torpedo boat using search light. Everyone ordered to sleep by lifebelts.
- Saturday 2nd Weather and sea same as above. Got occasional glimpse of land both sides. At night lights of Algiers could be seen in distance. Troops getting physical exercise daily. Ayrshire Yeomanry, guard
- Sunday 3rd Sea still calm, sun warmer. 10.30 a.m., church service. By midday African coast south beginning to get quite plain; by aid of glasses houses could be easily seen. 4.30 p.m., steamer passed, going west.

³ Robert ('Robin') Ralston-Patrick of Trearne and Hessilhead (1877 – 1925), who lived in the Cotswolds. His early death was the result of illness contracted 'as a result of exposure in soaking field and trenches in France.' [Leamington Spa Courier, Friday 4th December 1925, 5a, per britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk, accessed 19th December 2024.]

Monday 4th

Weather showery and cold. 3 p.m., passed island on our north side; saw houses with glasses. During night steamer reduced her speed.

Tuesday 5th

Malta sighted. Arrived harbour 7 a.m; swarms of natives in small boats selling cigarettes, cigars, chocolate, apples, grapes &c. Boys dive out of boats into sea for money. (All inoculated). Officers, Warrant Officers and SQMS allowed ashore till 5.30 p.m. At 10 a.m. I, along with doctor, minister and RAMC took Private Brown to hospital suffering from pneumonia. Afterwards went and saw sights of town. Purchased grapes 2d a pound. Wine, 2s a bottle. Arrived back 5.30, having enjoyed time ashore. Also purchased and sent home some silks.

Wednesday 6th

(Weather warm). Natives start coaling from large barges alongside of ship. Coals carried in creels on shoulder. Officers, Warrant Officers and SQMS allowed ashore from 4 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Had look through town in gas light. Very busy. Returned to ship 9.30 p.m. Sent several postcards in town.

Thursday 7th

(Weather warm). Left Malta, 5 a.m., heading south-east and going fast. Sea very calm.

Friday 8th

Sea getting rough. Very warm. Every man parade 10 a.m. with life-belts and remain in position all day except for meals. 2.30 p.m. two patrol boats crossed our bows. Orders for every officer, NCO, man to sleep on deck, all with life-belts. This order was cancelled later as we were escorted by 2 patrol boats. Land sighted, 5 p.m. Orders came out that we would land tomorrow and preparations made for same.

Saturday 9th

Entered Lemnos Bay. All baggage and equipment put on deck and preparations made to land 12 noon; this order cancelled and preparations made to remain on board. Large number of navy boats of every description, also troop and hospital ships. On shore large number of camps could be seen. Weather very warm. At night the Ayrshire Yeomanry held a concert on deck; many of the officers present. It was announced that a ship which left Malta three hours behind us had been torpedoed ⁴. It also was announced that the chief reason why we remained so long at Malta was that the captain refused to move until he was promised an escort in a certain portion of route. Three cheers

⁴ Possibly the collier, HMS Apollo, which was sunk by U-39 on the 9th October, south of Crete.

- for the captain was asked, which was heartily responded to. Letter writing granted.
- Sunday 10th Weather still very warm. Several troop ships passing through the bay. Several of the Queens Own Glasgow Yeomanry passed on board. Church service. At night orders issued to prepare to disembark tomorrow forenoon.
- Monday 11th Lanarkshire and Ayrshire Yeomanry left Lemnos on steamer Partridge 2.30 p.m. Arrived Cape Helles 6.30 p.m., came ashore 10 p.m. Walked two miles and slept in trenches, 2 miles behind firing line.
- Tuesday 12th Very warm. Improving trenches most of day. Quite a lot of shells fell on our camp but did little damage.
- Wednesday 13th Very cold during night but strong sun during daytime. A few shells came over camp killing a few mules and wounding an Indian. Major Patrick started to dig a new trench. Heavy shelling started at 7.30 p.m; lasted for about one hour.
- Thursday 14th Several officers and NCOs left for front trenches for instructions. I drew rations for two days for regiment. Enemy rather quieter; less shells coming over. Dry and warm.
- Friday 15th Still dry and warm. Cleaning up trenches, rifles, &c

- Saturday 16th Left for trenches with second party for couple days. Met several Beith boys. Private McCall, Beith, shot through the head; died shortly after⁵. Close and warm.
- Sunday 17th Dull; little rain in the morning. 1st/4th Royal Scots Fusiliers left trenches for rest camp, 10 a.m. One man in firing line shot in neck but not expected to be serious. Got supper down at Dump cookhouse and brought up rations for breakfast.
- Monday 18th Dull and cold. Cooked breakfast and prepared to return to rest camp. Returned to camp 11 a.m. Had a good wash up.
- Tuesday 19th (Saw Majestic keel up). Warm. Parties attending bombing instruction. Had walk around Cape Helles, saw wrecked forts and steamer River Clyde, which was run ashore at landing of troops. Came back through the French lines and saw big guns firing.
- Wednesday 20th Mild. Fatigue parties attend at Lancashire landing.
- Thursday 21st Breezy and cold. Parties attend beach, &c. Very quiet all day.
- Friday 22nd Cold and showery. Nothing much doing in camp, keeping under cover. At night very wet; several dugouts flooded.

⁵ Private J McCall, 8027, 1st/4th RSF. Memorial: Skew Bridge Cemetery, Special Memorial A 27.

Saturday 23rd

Very cold. 'A' squad, less 'D' Troop, left for ESKI lines, 2 p.m. Attached 5th RSF. I came up with rations at night. ('D' attached to KOSB).

Sunday 24th

Cold. 9.30 a.m. left ESKI for firing line, attached to 5th RSF. Heavy shelling of our lines all day; no casualties of consequence. Met Bob Fulton in lines at night.

Monday 25th

Very warm. Turks quiet all day till 4 p.m. when both sides opened a terrific bombardment lasting about one hour.

Tuesday 26th

Dull. 9.30 (a.m.) left firing line for support lines.

Wednesday 27th

Very warm. Windy. I went down to rest camp for few things. Captain Vivers of 5th RSF shot through head at night⁶.

Thursday 28th

Letter from M. Letter from G⁷. Very warm. Left support for firing line, 9.30 a.m. Ayrshire Yeomanry mail arrived. Turks quiet. Captain Vivers buried.

Friday 29th

Wrote home. Very warm. Lieutenant Fulton wounded in neck, stray bullet. Sergeant Kilpatrick slightly wounded in cheek (shrapnel). At night small portion Turkish trench

⁶ Captain John Vivers, 1st/5th RSF. Memorial: Redoubt Cemetery, Secial Memorial B 158. From Brydekirk, Annan.

⁷ Frequent letter writers: George and Mary. George is presumably his brother; Mary is most likely to be Mary Craig, whom he married in 1917.

- taken with little opposition. Worked late.
- Saturday 30th Very warm. Snipers and bombers accounting for several Turks from new position. Our men owing to late work previous night before were allowed an easy day. Turks quiet. Our warships firing a lot all day.
- Sunday 31st Very warm. Left firing line for ESKI. Ayrshire Yeomanry occupy position by themselves. Up to this time a good many of yeomanry have been troubled with dysentery and several sent to hospital. R. Arneil sent to hospital; dysentery.
- Monday 1st November Warm. Men improving lines, several on fatigues. J. McCulloch, Beith, wounded in shoulder; stray bullet. Ayrshire Yeomanry mail; letter from M. & G. Went down to rest camp to arrange about rations. D. Howie went to hospital (dysentery).
- Tuesday 2nd Very warm. (Washing). Men on fatigues improving trenches. Went to rest camp, got rations up by pack mules in afternoon. Private Marr, 'B' squad, wounded in hip by shrapnel. Report at night that King of Bulgaria had been assassinated.
- Wednesday 3rd Warm. Improving trenches, several parties on fatigue. ~~Private J. McCulloch shot in shoulder with~~

- ~~bullet and sent to hospital.~~ Again went to rest camp for rations.
- Thursday 4th Dull. Slight showers. Improving trenches with sandbags. Few men sent to hospital (dysentery). Wrote Mary.
- Friday 5th Warm. Fatigue men on duty. 2 men, 'B' squad, struck rifle shot.
- Saturday 6th Very warm. Parcel mail, Ayrshire Yeomanry. Received parcel from home.
- Sunday 7th Very warm. Ayrshire Yeomanry went into firing line. Took up my Dump in nullah.
- Monday 8th Very warm. Quite a lot of firing going on but not much doing. Still a few men going to hospital (dysentery).
- Tuesday 9th Warm. Lieutenant J.L. Mackie went to hospital (malaria fever⁸). Heavy firing from warships at night.
- Wednesday 10th Showery and colder. Letter mail (letter from Mary and Supp). First issue of cheese. Private J McCall, 'A' squad, Ayrshire Yeomanry shot through head while on sentry. Death instantaneous⁹.
- Thursday 11th Colder. Trenches and gully very slippery, many men falling while going along trenches. At night

⁸ James Logan Mackie (1893-1917), only son of Peter J Mackie of Corraith, and of White Horse whisky. Lieutenant Mackie was killed in December 1917, on the Zeitoun Ridge overlooking Jerusalem, where he is buried.

⁹ Private J McCall, 1614, 1st/1st AY. Memorial: Pink Farm Cemetery, Special Memorial 168.

- Private McCall buried at rest camp. I, along with Lieutenant Dubs¹⁰, Sergeant McKie + four men, went from the firing line along with the corpse in a gharry to burial ground. Brigadier and staff and all rest camp men turned out to burial. Only a small candle lamp gave a light while the minister conducted the service which was very impressive.
- Friday 12th Cold. Artillery firing a good lot in the afternoon. At night rather quiet. Report that the Ayrshire Yeomanry were likely to be sent to Salonica shortly, and get mounted as cavalry.
- Saturday 13th Dull and colder. Went down to rest camp. Ayrshire Yeomanry parcel mail. Ordered lot canteen stuff with QMS.
- Sunday 14th Dull. Preparations made for an advance next day. Issue of bully and biscuits.
- Monday 15th Stormy and wet during the night and morning. Final preparations made for advance: exploding of mines. (Private Sloan (headquarters) died in hospital from peritonitis after operation).¹¹ Advance made by bombers under cover of smoke, followed by heavy bombardment which continued 5 for over one and

¹⁰ Clarence Ivor Alastair Dubs, of Cloncaird Castle (1891-1943), who ultimately became Lieutenant-Colonel of the regiment.

¹¹ Private W Sloan, 1581, 1st/1st AY. Memorial: Pink Farm Cemetery, III B 16.

a half hours. During bombardment heavy thunderstorm passed over which added to the 'awfulness' of the situation and rain fell in torrents. Most of the night was passed in solidifying position taken. Few casualties.

Tuesday 16th

Dry and warm. 4 a.m., feeble counter attack by Turks, easily repulsed. Most of day spent in improving position taken. 5.15 corporal McCormick killed in gully near cookhouse by shrapnel ¹². SSM Templeton, narrow escape. At 9.30 another counter attack by Turks also repulsed.

Wednesday 17th

(Private Hamilton, 'B' squad, killed) ¹³. Dry and cold. Removed down gully to cookhouse and made fresh dugout. 2.30 p.m., official note to Ayrshire Yeomanry to return to rest camp. 4 p.m., arrived rest camp; squad arrived shortly afterwards. Temporary [] at new dugout. 6.30 p.m., high winds followed by torrential rain. (Burial of Corporal McCormick, Private Hamilton and Private Sloan at 6 p.m.) Personally returned with two gharries to gully cookhouse for baggage, &c. Returned rest camp, 8.30 p.m. and

¹² Corporal H McCormick, 1140, AY. Memorial: Pink Farm Cemetery, Special Memorial 56.

¹³ Private A E Hamilton, 1850, AY. Memorial: Pink Farm Cemetery, Special Memorial 40.

found regiment washed out of dugouts except that of my own, kept dry by the energy of our worthy SSM Templeton. Through the generosity of the officers of 'A' squad, every man was provided with a tot of whisky, which was much appreciated. 9.30 p.m., hot cocoa issued to men and then rested for night as best as we could. SSM, QMS and Private Russell occupying one bedroom.

Thursday 18th

Very cold but dry. Issue <of> rum first thing in the morning, then general clean up and prepare new dugouts all day.

Friday 19th

Dry but cold. Several men on fatigue, others working at dugouts. Roofing with sheet iron.

Saturday 20th

Dry and very cold. Several men on fatigue. Requisition for payment of men. Mail arrived; letter from George and Mary.

Sunday 21st

Dry and very cold. First payment made to men. Another mail and letter and box from Mary, contents all right. 5.30 p.m., terrific bombardment. Took place in firing line and we were ordered to be ready to move in 15 minutes time. The hustle was more than pen can describe; luckily after we were ready

Monday 22nd

to move this order was cancelled, of which we were all very proud (sic). Still very cold. Sorted out remainder of previous day's mail and made two small chests to hold stuff in case of emergency. Turks very quiet all day but at night got busy again.

Tuesday 23rd

Still very cold. Issue of winter caps to men. At night the usual rapid firing took place, lasting about half an hour then got quieter again. Wrote several letters at night.

Wednesday 24th

Rather warmer. Turks very quiet all day. Parties of men out on fatigue digging trenches &c. Names of all men who are entitled to their discharge in April taken in.

Thursday 25th

Mild. Parties on fatigue, same as above. Nothing of importance to relate.

Friday 26th

Mild. Preparations made to return to trenches on Sunday. Had an auction sale of parcels sent [to] men who had gone to hospital. 71 parcels, realising 47s.

Saturday 27th

Very cold. Final preparations for going into firing line tomorrow.

Sunday 28th

Sleet and frost; very cold. Breakfast, 6 a.m. Bombers and snipers moved off 6.30 a.m. Squad at 7.30; Quartermaster and orderlies, &c., 10.30 a.m. Miserable day. Trenches very muddy and slippery; altogether

was very miserable. All stores, water &c having to be brought up mule track on pack mules. Extra issue of rum order for men. 'A' squad, being in firing line, did not get it until next a.m. Russell M and I were accommodated for the night by RSM; 9 of us slept in dugout, 7½ ft by 12½ ft.

Monday 29th

Hard frost¹⁴. Issue rum, 'A' squad, 6 a.m.; men almost benumbed with cold. Made small dugout near headquarters.

Tuesday 30th

Hard frost. Went down to rest camp with QMS Brown and Shanks. Cut up hard on downward journey. Got parcel from home dated 13th October. Returned 12 midday. Afternoon made fire place in dugout which seemed rather a novelty in trenches. Several officers came in to see it; Major Patrick rather envied it and asked if there was any room for him to sleep with us, but he did not accept. Major J.C. Kennedy¹⁵ sent to hospital suffering from rheumatics, &c. Captain T.C. Dunlop¹⁶ succeeding him in command of 'A' squad. Slept better that night owing to place being heated with small fire.

¹⁴ In his diary, Lieutenant Dubs recorded 'Still desperately cold. Very wet. Major J.C. Kennedy seedy and everyone ill with rheumatics.' Quoted in W Steel Brownlie, *The Proud Trooper*, London, Collins, 1964, p.251.

¹⁵ John Campbell Kennedy of Dunure and Dalquharran (1873-1934). He was ultimately Colonel of the Regiment.

¹⁶ See Boswell's *Galloping Farmers*, op cit, fn 10.

Wednesday 1st
December

Rather milder. Nothing of importance took place. Operations rather quieter. Small mail arrived. Little rain at night.

Thursday 2nd

Mild and little rain. Ground beginning to dry up a little. Sharp artillery bombardment from 3 to 4 p.m. Otherwise, very quiet.

Friday 3rd
Saturday 4th

Mild. Same as above.

Mild. Wrote a letter home in time to catch Christmas mail. Official report of deaths in hospital of Private D. Blackwood, Kilbirnie, from dysentery¹⁷, also Private G. Hamilton¹⁸ of Beith of enteric fever, which caused a gloom amongst us.

Sunday 5th

Mild and warm. Exceptionally quiet all day, till night when usual sniping commences. Information that we were likely to be in the firing line for another week, so made a little improvement to dugout. At night had a visit from SM Popkiss¹⁹, SM Templeton, Sergeants Spiers and McKie and discussed the topics of war, which we all much enjoyed and helped to pass the time.

¹⁷ Private David Blackwood, 1604, AY. Died on 13th November 1915, and buried in Alexandria (Chatby) Cemetery, in Alexandria. He was the son of James and Barbara Blackwood, of Darleith Farm, Saltcoats.

¹⁸ Private Gavin Hamilton, 1641, AY. Died on 16th November 1915, and buried in Alexandria (Chatby) Cemetery, in Alexandria. He was the son of Gavin Hamilton, of 39 Reform Street, Beith.

¹⁹ Lionel Victor Popkiss (1874-1952) was a career soldier, who came to the Yeomanry from the Life Guards. He subsequently became a publican. He was born in Dover, hence the remark in a Brigade magazine to the 'effect 20 that he had come on wonderfully and could now even say "Auchtermuchty"'. Quote from W Steel Brownlie, *The Proud Trooper*, London, Collins, 1964, p.225.

- Monday 6th Mild and warm. Quiet all day. Ayrshire Yeomanry mail. Small parcel and letter from G. Lieutenant Dubs went to hospital suffering from bad throat.
- Tuesday 7th Very warm. Nothing much doing in firing line. Another mail; letter from Mary.
- Wednesday 8th Mild. Small artillery bombardment for short time. Turks more active, but nothing of any consequence to report.
- Thursday 9th Mild. Nothing new to report; just usual sniping & clothing. Put in application for pass to Cairo.
- Friday 10th (Wrote to uncle Gavin). Mild. Same as above. Small parcel mail. W. Crawford received parcel from home.
- Saturday 11th Mild. Turks sending down rather more shells but no damage done to Ayrshire Yeomanry. At night, W. Crawford came in to my dugout with piece of cake, so I did have a piece of cake for my birthday. Preparations made to return to rest camp following day.
- Sunday 12th Mild. Returned to rest camp early in day. Made slight improvements to the dugout. Issue of parcels.
- Monday 13th Mild. Another parcel mail; also four letters. Several shells coming down

- from Turks but not much serious damage done.
- Tuesday 14th Mild. Several parties on fatigue. Still a few shells coming down. Nothing much to report.
- Wednesday 15th Mild. Same as above. At night had visit from Sergeant Coutts, Signal Company.
- Thursday 16th Mild, same as 14th. Captain Montgomery and Lieutenant Hamilton went to hospital. Several officers went up to inspect firing line. Lieutenant Campbell went to Lemnos²⁰, and purchased some wine, groceries, &c.
- Friday 17th Mild. Put in requisition for cash for 'A' squad. Lieutenant Campbell went back to Lemnos and purchased more stuff. Turks very quiet all day, also night.
- Saturday 18th Mild. Made payment to squad. Very quiet all day.
- Sunday 19th Mild. At 2.30 p.m. every man ordered to take cover. Mines exploded, followed by bombardment of our artillery. Simultaneously infantry rushed first line of Turkish trenches. At occasional periods we viewed the situation from rest camp. Achi Baba scarcely visible owing to burning of our shells, &c. 4.30 p.m.,

²⁰ i.e., to the base at Mudros, on the island of Lemnos.

report reaches rest camp advances successful; meantime position being consolidated.

Monday 20th

2 a.m., RSM Popkiss called at dugout with orders to be ready to move at 7 a.m. Cooks were on move early and breakfast was issued at 5.30 a.m. Everything was in order and we moved off punctually arriving at ESKI lines about 8.30. Orderlies returned to backhouse post at 9.30 for baggage &c. At 9. p.m. I was informed that we would probably get a move to firing line early. Order later came to be ready to move 5 a.m.

Tuesday 21st

Breakfast issued 4.30 a.m. Moved off 5 a.m. to firing line, ultimately arriving Horseshoe. Made arrangements for cookhouse and fixed on dugout for myself near Brigade Dump. 2 p.m. rain came on and later came down in torrents flooding the trenches to depth of one foot and over. Orderlies having everything to carry from the dump were soaked to skin with rain and mud; everything hung in a deplorable condition. Dugouts and parapets falling in in several places.

Wednesday 22nd

Rain in morning but dried up during the day. Half ration of rum issued at 6.30 a.m. Men feeling wet and

miserable and trying time in trenches wading through mud. Trench boots issued to ration carriers, &c., which was a great benefit. At night Sergeant Frew and two men wounded by explosion of Turkish broomstick.

Thursday 23rd

Dry and milder. Turks getting rather livelier every day, with artillery bombardment. Ayrshire Yeomanry mail; no letters from home.

Friday 24th

Mild. Slight improvement of condition of trenches. At 2 p.m. Turks opened heavy artillery bombardment of our trenches; this being the most sever bombardment we had received from them since landing. 15 minutes later our artillery responded with apparent effectiveness as the Turks became quieter again. During bombardment Turks were assisted by aeroplanes, which were more numerous on this occasion than we had ever seen them before. Prior to finish of bombardment Turk aeroplane believed to have been brought down. Our casualties and damage done were slight compared to number of shells sent down by Turks. Privates Jack and Watson severely wounded, Lanarkshires having two killed²¹.

²¹ Corporal G Semple 584, and Private A Melrose, 695. Commemorated at Pink Farm.

Saturday 25th

Mild. Turks again bombard heavily. Private Carter, 'A' squad, wounded. W. Crawford's rifle and equipment blown to pieces by shrapnel. Turkish attack expected but not realised. Several other casualties.

Sunday 26th

Mild. Another artillery bombardment, scarcely as severe as formerly. Small parcel mail.

Monday 27th

(120 Turk shells came down in 20 minutes time). Rain during night and morning. Exceedingly heavy bombardment by Turks. Our casualties rather more serious. Sergeant Watson and McKerrow and several others; Lanarkshire Yeomanry also suffering heavily.

Tuesday 28th

Dry. Usual artillery bombardment but no casualties in Ayrshire Yeomanry. Preparation for moving to ESKI lines. Ayr dead taken to rest camp at night and buried next day.

Wednesday 29th

Dry. Started for ESKI lines 5.30 a.m. Shelling again in afternoon. Successful advance of British on left of Krithia Nulla. 'A' squad warned to be ready to support RSF if required but luckily did not require to move. Men very much done up. About 50 Turks supposed to be taken prisoner. Aeroplanes very active all day. At night feeble counter attack by Turks easily repulsed. Small parcel mail.

Thursday 30 th	Dry. Heavy artillery bombardment on both sides. RSF supposed to have suffered heavy. Turks took two trenches but were lately re-taken. Ayrshire Yeomanry ordered to be ready to move for embarkation to Mudros at 5.30, arrived rest camp 7.30. Left for V beach, midnight. Boarded lighter, 3.30 a.m.
Friday 31 st	Arrived Mudros 12.30, went three miles and slept in tents at night ²² .
Saturday 1 st January 1916	Heavy rain and washed out. At 6.30 a.m. conditions improved and dried up. Improved trench around tent.
Sunday 2 nd	Dry. Church service 10.30; at conclusion letters of great praise were read from Divisional Commander on the way they did their duty. Visited several small towns in afternoon.
Monday 3 rd	Dry and cold. Made requisition for payment of men. Major J.C. Kennedy laid up with bad ankle. Men allowed to rest.
Tuesday 4 th	Rain in morning but dried up later; still very cold. Made payment to men. Parcel mail. Wrote George. Received letter from Mrs T Davis.
Wednesday 5 th	Dry but cold. List of deficiencies to men's equipment taken. Details from hospitals rejoined their squads

²² It is again clear from Allan's account of how unexpected the evacuation was. The arrival of a parcel delivery the previous day is also striking.

- making 'A' squad 84 NCOs and men, making it 57 under its embarkation strength.
- Thursday 6th Parcel from K.E.? Much warmer; many men went to sea shore and had a wash up. SM Templeton and I had a dook. Parcel from home.
- Friday 7th Dry and cold. Made up deficiency of men's equipment. Went down to beach in afternoon. At night Alex Gardner and W. Holmes came in for a short time. Received letters from M. Fife on board HMHS Dongola²³, also souvenir from Port Said.
- Saturday 8th Milder. Wrote several letters. Went over towards RSF camp with A Gardner, came back and went up to hospital with W. Murray for Mr Lammie's coat, mask, &c.
- Sunday 9th Mild. Church parade, 9.30 a.m. Kept about camp all day.
- Monday 10th Mild. After dinner went to Thermos hot baths with Sergeant Spiers and Corporal Gibson, about 5 miles distant. Had good bath; returned about 6 p.m.
- Tuesday 11th Mild. Making up equipment, &c. 'B' squad moved further along camp and returned some large tents. Sergeants Templeton, Kilpatrick and McKie

²³ The Dongola was a P&O Linen, built by Barclay Curle at Whiteinch in 1905. She served as a hospital ship during the Dardanelles and Gallipoli campaigns.

- and myself went into tent vacated by 'B' squadron.
- Wednesday 12th Colder. After noon SSM, Sergeant Kilpatrick, McKie and myself went over to RSF about 3 miles distant and met some of the boys we came in contact with on peninsula; also met SM B. McAuley for first time. Returned about 5.30. Wrote letter home. In morning ... in censored letter of Sergeant Templeton.
- Thursday 13th Sharp frost in morning. Squadron doing drill for a short time every forenoon. In afternoon W. Aitchison came in for short time.
- Friday 14th Hard frost, but warmer during the day. Lieutenants Moon, Kennedy, McCulloch from 2nd Ayrshire Yeomanry joins us. Regimental drill for short time. SM Templeton met General Lee at night [who] informs him that we go to Egypt and get mounted in short time. Every day since we landed at Mudros large bodies of troops are being taken away.
- Saturday 15th Torrential rain during night and continued all Sunday a.m., several tents being flooded. Owing to high wind and heavy rains cooks were unable to make some of the meals so we just had to make best of it and

Sunday 16th

live on what we could get. Everyone remained inside their tents all day.

Dry and cold. Voluntary church service. YMCA Tent at 9.30 a.m., went along with Sergeant Kilpatrick but very few turned up. Wrote a few letters and went for short walk in evening.

Monday 17th

Slight frost. At 10.30 a.m. inspection by General Lee, afterwards regimental drill. Afternoon Sergeant McKie went to small Greek village 11 close by and purchased two loaves at 1s each, as our bread ration for that day was only half loaf per man.

Tuesday 18th

Very hard frost during night but strong sun during day. Afternoon Sergeant Templeton, Sergeant Kilpatrick, and McKie and myself went over to sea shore and had a good wash up.

Wednesday 19th

Hard frost, very cold. Afternoon 'A' squad went over to camp beside 'B' squad and occupied 6 EP tents.

Thursday 20th

Very hard frost but strong sun in day time. Men out in drill for short time. Afternoon, I got copies of letters from various committees.

Friday 21st

Milder. 'A' squad went to San[atorium] Baths and had bath; at 1 p.m. Sergeant Templeton, Sergeant Kilpatrick and I had bath in officers'

- quarters. Afterwards purchased little Maltese lace off a sailor. Some sports took place between Lowland Mounted Brigade and SEB in afternoon.
- Saturday 22nd Very wet and stormy during night. Daytime dry, but cold strong wind. Afternoon, went over to village and purchased some plates at 1s each.
- Sunday 23rd Dry and cold. Church service in YMCA tent at 10.30 a.m. Communion service was afterwards held at 12.15 but very small turnout. After it was over I went down with SM Popkiss and HQMS Lamb to their tent and had dinner with them. Received orders from Major J.C. Kennedy to put in a requisition for cash.
- Monday 24th Milder. Put in requisition for cash and made up papers. Paid out in afternoon. Men out in afternoon for five mile walk.
- Tuesday 25th Mild. Men out for practice for five mile marathon race to take place on 27th. Regiment tried to get a barrel of beer to help celebrate Burns' anniversary but was unsuccessful. The RSM managed to get a small quantity of whisky and divided it amongst the three squadrons. At 6 p.m. SM Templeton proposed we should hold a night wi' Burns, which

was unanimously agreed to. We asked 'B' squad SSM Popkiss and a few friends. At 9 p.m. our tent was fairly well filled; all told we numbered 25. SM Templeton acted as chairman and a very pleasant evening was spent with song and entertainment and finished at 12 o'clock with God Save the King. Enclosed is a copy of the programme²⁴.

Wednesday 26th

Mild. Men out practicing for race. Took sizes of mens' boots, clothing, &c.

Thursday 27th

Mild. Race won by 'C' squad, Ayrshire Yeomanry. 24 men doing five miles in 33 minutes 14 seconds. 'B' squad second, 35m 45s Third, 12 Lanarkshire Yeomanry, 36m 30s. Mail arrived in evening; many parcel and several letters. Received letters from Mary (2), George (1), R. Logan, M. Hogarth, H. Taylor, Mrs Duncan. Also 2 parcels from Mary, M. Hogarth and M. Kirkwood.

Friday 28th

Mild. Few more parcels arrived. Reported death of Private J. Jack. East Kents running marathon race one man dropped dead when within 100 yards of winning post.

Saturday 29th

Colder; strong wind. Men out on usual parade.

²⁴ This has, unfortunately, not survived.

Sunday 30th

Cold and windy. Wrote George, R. Logan, M. Hogarth, M. Kirkwood. Visit from R. Fyfe, RSF, Beith. Sergeants purchased case of port wine, 36s.

Monday 31st

Very cold; strong wind. Another mail in harbour but too stormy for lighters to come into pier. Orders to strike surplus tents as early move expected. South Eastern Brigade under orders to be ready to move following morning. Tug-of-war challenge between SEB and Ayrshires, latter winning.

Tuesday 1st February

Very cold. South Eastern Brigade moved from camp and went on board Caledonia. Ayrshire Yeomanry mail; 2 parcels from Mary, 1 from Mrs F. Turner, Mr McIlwraith. Letter from George, J. Miller and Mrs F. Turner. Received a lot of stuff from Major J.C. Kennedy to distribute among squadron. Orders issued to strike camp at 7.30 next day and embark.

Wednesday 2nd

Cold and windy. Struck tents and packed up. Regiment moved off for embarkation at 10.30 a.m. I, along with six men, remained behind and loaded motor wagons with baggage. Went to pier and joined rest of fatigue party. Went on lighter with

- baggage and boarded P&O Simba about 4.30 p.m.
- Thursday 3rd Mild and warmer. Everyone issued with life-belts. Large quantity of baggage and stores put aboard. Several troops of ASC, also large numbers of Egyptians. At 4.30 p.m. steamer moved out of harbour and anchored inside mine net. Supposed to start for Alexandria about 4 a.m. next day.
- Friday, 4th Breezy. 4 a.m, steamer moved off. Midday, sea becoming a little rough but steamer kept very steady. By night became rougher and a few became sick.
- Saturday 5th Strong head wind, but mild. Sea very rough and steamer rolling very heavy. Many men sick and many drenched with waves breaking over ship. Owing to heavy seas and bad coals reported to be six hours behind time.
- Sunday 6th Very mild. Sea calmer. Church service, 10.30 a.m. Steamer reduced speed as not to be allowed to land till following a.m. Men much better and taking some food. 8.30 p.m., lights could be seen on both sides.
- Monday 7th Mild and warm. Arrived harbour 6.30 a.m. Tugs took into dock. Commenced to unload baggage. Went up town (Alexandria).

Tuesday 8th

Purchased some wine. Sent postcard home (unstamped). Loaded baggage on train. Left for Port Said 6.30 p.m. Letter mail: 2 G 1 M. Very warm. Arrived Port Said, 6.30 a.m. Unloaded baggage and cooked breakfast. I, SM Templeton, had [plains tea?] at station. 12 o'clock went half mile from station to camp, pitched tent and made tea.

Wednesday 9th

Warm. Pitched remainder of tents and formed sergeants' mess. Several men got pass to go into town.

Thursday 10th

Very warm. Clothing inspection. Requisition for cash. Bathing parade for men. Information that we were likely to move again by Saturday.

Friday 11th

Very warm. Paid out squad. Struck several tents and made preparations to move out next am. Got pass till midnight; went up town with SM Kelso, SQMS Brown, Sergeant Speirs. Had look through town, purchased several postcards, some wine, went to pictures, got hair cut. Had supper and returned to camp, 10.30 p.m.

Saturday 12th

Warm. Reveille, 5 a.m. Struck camp; sent baggage to station. Breakfast, 7 a.m. Moved off to station, 7.30, leaving behind 'B' troop, 'A' squad. Regiment got into open trucks and moved off 9.30 a.m., south along

- Sunday 13th Suez Canal. 'C' squad got off at station about eight miles along, 'B' and 'A' at station (Tineh), twelve miles. Pitched tents and put camp in order. Strong patrols put out at night. Warm. General clear up around camp. Owing to night duty men are allowed easy during the day.
- Monday 14th Cooler. Same as above. Parcel and letter mail: 2 parcels from home; letters from M. and G. News of death of uncle Gavin²⁵. Privates Gillies and Craig, time expired men, left to report at Alexandria. Gave Private Gillies private letters for home to post when landed England, also sent handkerchief to Mary.
- Tuesday 15th Cool: nothing to report. A few parcels arrived; received box of biscuits from Mrs Steel Reading.
- Wednesday 16th Colder. Usual duties at night. Daytime, men rest; several try fishing but without much success.
- Thursday 17th Cool, same as above. Wrote several letters. (Wrote Mr Jack, Hessilhead). W. Crawford came into tent and had a long talk together.
- Friday 18th Very warm. Several of details rejoin squadrons. QM Hamilton returned from hospital. Examined barges at night.

²⁵ His mother's brother, who farmed Bowertrapping, Dalry. He died there on 28th January 1916, aged 72.

Saturday 19 th (20 th in text)	Warm. Put in requisition for cash. Small parcel mail. Box from Mary.
Sunday 20 th	Cooler; slight shower. Church parade, 10.30 a.m. Special outpost – 20 men out at 2.30 for 24 hours.
Monday 21 st	Warm; usual post out. Many large vessels passing through canal.
Tuesday 22 nd	Warm; nothing new to report. Several men try fishing and get occasional catch. Small parcel mail: box from B. Hogarth. SM Popkiss arranged with two fishermen to bring net the following day. Captain Montgomery returned.
Wednesday 23 rd	Warm. Midday, Captain Murdoch arrived with draft of men; ‘A’ squad getting 34. Fishing net arrived; got few fish in afternoon, got several more at night but net got torn.
Thursday 24 th	Warm. Paid out and made up squad roll. Also made arrangements for two posts going out for a week at a time.
Friday 25 th	Warm. Two posts of 25 and 27 men sent out. ‘B’ troop of ‘A’ squad returned from Port Said.
Saturday 26 th	Warm. SM Templeton and Sergeant Spiers went on furlough. Sent letter home per SM Templeton.
Sunday 27 th	Warm. Usual routine; nothing of any importance. Small parcel mail.

Monday 28 th	Warm. Camp and outposts inspected by General. Rumours of us being taken to France shortly.
Tuesday 29 th	Colonel informed us that he had received information that the dates of enlistment from Record Office would have to hold good, but he would let the time-expired men away as soon as he possibly could. Went into Capt House at night along with SM Popkiss.
Wednesday 1 st March	Warm. Nothing to report. Wrote J. Kirkwood
Thursday 2 nd	Cooler. W. Crawford brought in from outpost to prepare to leave for base next day. 180 Bales (Boswell) arrived.
Friday 3 rd	Warm. Sorted out mail and issued them. W. Crawford and A. Peat left by midday train for Alexandria.
Saturday 4 th	Cooler. Nothing new to report.
Sunday 5 th	Cool. Church service.
Monday 6 th	Warm. Small parcel mail. Wrote letter to George.
Tuesday 7 th	Very warm. R. Howie and SM Popkiss interviewing 'General' re commission at Ismailia. Visited Indian officers.
Wednesday 8 th	Warm. Went to No.1 post with Lieutenant Wilson with rations. Came back with Captain Murdoch. Indian came to our tent.

Thursday 9th

Cool. Went to No.1 camp with boatmen, got towed behind barge with engines and heavy guns brought off peninsula. Got few photos from one of gunners. Afternoon, Lord Tullibardine ²⁶ visited our camp and had short (time) with senior time-expired men. Indians came to say goodbye.

Friday 10th

Warm. Issued quantity of new clothing. Put in application for pass to Cairo.

Saturday 11th

Cool. Left Tineh 9.45 a.m. with AK, arrived Cairo 1.45 p.m. Had tea, went to races, met SM Brown and Sergeant Hillhouse. Engaged room in Khedival Hotel. Bed and breakfast, 10 piastres. Went and saw two cinemas; got to bed midnight.

Sunday 12th

Very warm. Had breakfast, engaged room, took train to Heluan station. Drove four miles to Walda Palace houses and saw Sergeant Frew. Came back to town and drove to zoo, 3 p.m. Passed a couple of hours and SM Brown and Hillhouse left for camp, 6 p.m. Had a walk through principal streets. Went back to hotel, 7.30 p.m.

Monday 13th

Left hotel 9.a.m., engaged guide for day. Paid him 30s and he pay all

²⁶ John George Stewart-Murray (1871-1942), who commanded a Yeomanry brigade. In 1917 he succeeded his father as 8th Duke of Atholl.

expenses. Took car to pyramids, about 9 miles. Rode on donkey up to pyramids. Got photo taken on camel at Sphinx²⁷. Saw through inside of vaults and chambers. Had tea; took car to citadel, then to museum and finished with guide, 4p.m. Did theatre and picture house.



Tuesday 14th

Warm. Took guide; visited old Cairo mosques, place where 'Jesus' was found amongst bulrushes²⁸. Visited Egyptian bazaar. Took train, 1 p.m., to delta barrage; met Mr Marr, saw through grounds, also model of dams, &c. Returned to Cairo, 5.30

²⁷ John Allan is on the right in the photograph, A. Kelso on the left.

²⁸ We suspect the inverted commas show that Allan realised, as we do, that it was Moses who was found amongst the bulrushes.

	p.m. Got train for Tineh, 6.15 p.m. Arrived camp, 11 p.m.
Wednesday 15 th	Very warm. Men issued helmets and usual routine of work.
Thursday 16 th	Warm. Paid out squadron. Letter mail; letter from Mary.
Friday 17 th	Colder. Captain Dalglish, McKerrow, Mitchell, Gilbert left for Alexandria; time expired.
Saturday 18 th	Stormy and some rain. Nothing to report.
Sunday 19 th	Stormy. Church parade, 10 a.m. General Lawrence ²⁹ passed down canal but did not visit station.
Monday 20 th	Cool. Nothing to report.
Tuesday 21 st	Cool and stormy. Troops continue to take down fortifications at Tineh. Letter mail; letter (from) George.
Wednesday 22 nd	Warm. Orders for Ayrshire Yeomanry to move and take up new sector further south on canal. Small parcel mail.
Thursday 23 rd	Warm. Struck seven tents and put all baggage on lighters. HQ and MG remaining at Tineh and joined by 'C' squadron. Left Tineh on barges, 12.30 p.m; arrived El Hersh 4 p.m. Captain Murdoch and Lieutenant Buttles and 50 men went off to post (Hill 58) about six miles north-east. Two transport wagons with six mules in each took out water,

²⁹T.E. Lawrence (1888-1935), 'Lawrence of Arabia'.

	baggage, &c., same night. Portion of 'A' and 'B' squadrons occupied El Hersh station 17 and put up tents. W. Russell and I occupied small orderly room made of rushes and boards.
Friday 24 th	Warm. Rations arrived 10 a.m. by boat. Camels took rations and water out to Hill 58 daily.
Saturday 25 th	Warm. Same as above.
Sunday 26 th	Warm. R. Arneil returned from hospital. Nothing new to report.
Monday 27 th	Warm. Mail arrived; letter from Mary &c.
Tuesday 28 th	Very warm. Colonel visited post. Men doing lot bathing and fishing.
Wednesday 29 th	Very warm. Nothing to report; bathing. Major received four horses.
Thursday 30 th	Warm. During the day, four generals visited the post and arranged for alterations in defences.
Friday 31 st	Cooler. Letter mail; letters from G., A. Crawford, J. Millar, J. Foster, M. Hogarth.
Saturday 1 st April	Cool. Major J.C. Kennedy went off to Cairo. Nothing new to report.
Sunday 2 nd	Cool. Church service, 2 p.m. Information that mail expected next day. Got several snapshots taken.
Monday 3 rd	Warm. Made slight improvements to QM stores, &c. Wrote George; no mail.
Tuesday 4 th	Warm. Nothing to report. Major J.C. Kennedy returned from Cairo.

- Wednesday 5th Warm Made out acquittance rolls for payment of squadron. Letter mail.
- Thursday 6th Warm. Egyptians left El Hersh for Kantara. Paid out camp party. Parcel mail.
- Friday 7th Warm; lots of sand blowing. Rode up to Hill 57 (sic) and paid men.
- Saturday 8th Mild. Rode up to El Cap and paid 'C' troop. Had talk on phone with Sergeant Coutts at night.
- Sunday 9th Mild. Orders for several time-expired men to proceed to Alexandria on 12th.
- Monday 10th Warm. Party with engines and wagons went to Hill 58 and brought in all stores, &c. All posts came in, 3.30 p.m.
- Tuesday 11th Cool. Re-fitted several men with Drill Khaki. Got three bottles whisky for squadron, share of a case sent out by Mr Lammie, Ayr, supposed to be in time for Christmas. Went up to Tineh in afternoon with motor boat with SM Brown. Came back by train. All sergeants met in orderly room for hour or so at night.
- Wednesday 12th Warm. Left El Hersh 9.50 a.m. train. Several officers saw us off. Had to wait four hours at Benha, arrived Alexandria about 8 p.m. Met H. Logan, W. Lammie, Dick Frew. Went to camp.

Thursday 13 th	Stormy. Perfect sand storm and almost impossible to remain outside; many tents blown down. At night went up town and met J. Rankin and went to picture house. At 2.30 a.m. tent blown down.
Friday 14 th	Warm and breezy. Lay about tent all day. Night, went into town to picture houses, &c.
Saturday 15 th	Warm. Afternoon went to races. At night went into town. I. Davies with draft of men arrived. Met J. Rankin and had a good time.
Sunday 16 th	Very warm. Lay about tent all day. Met W. Craig, M. Kerr. Report that expect to sail on Tuesday.
Monday 17 th	Warm. Had bathe in sea. All names of men to sail following day read out, altogether about 300. Went up town at night and made a few purchases.
Tuesday 18 th	Very warm. Paraded, 9 a.m. Left camp 11.30 by tram. Boarded Royal Mail steamer Orsova about 2 p.m. ³⁰ . Supposed to be taking English mail and not to sail till following day.
Wednesday 19 th	Cool. Left harbour, 11 a.m. Going very fast; sea a little choppy and several men sick. Very rough during night.

³⁰ Just under a year later, in March 1917, the Orsova was struck by a mine and run ashore in Cornwall. Built by John Brown and Co at Clydebank in 1908, she was repaired and continued in service, on the U.K. to Australia service for the Orient Shipping Co until 1936.

- Thursday 20th Warm. Sea much smoother. By 9 a.m., African coast could be plainly seen. Several boats passed. Snow was lying on some of the highest hills. At night a concert was held. Sea became very smooth. Orders for all men to sleep on deck with life-belts. After dark, ship supposed to always increase speed.
- Friday 21st Passed south of Malta at night. Dull. By midday the sea became very rough and many sick. No land seen all day.
- Saturday 22nd Warmer; sea much calmer. 8 a.m., island seen on south. By aid of glasses, houses could be plainly seen. By midday the African coast could be seen. By 4 p.m., steamer changed course; west-south-west - up till this time she had been going in a west-north-west direction, but always going in a zigzag course.
- Sunday 23rd Colder. Steamer changing course very often. At one time she made a complete circle. Church service at midday, and another at 6 p.m.
- Monday 24th Warmer. African coast quite plain. Sea very calm.
- Tuesday 25th Very warm. Came in sight of Gibraltar at daybreak. Arrived in bay, 5.30 a.m. Several officers came aboard. Ship came to a standstill. Extreme heat during day. Left

- Gibraltar, 5 p.m., escorted by destroyer.
- Wednesday 26th Very cold. Patrol boat left us at daybreak. Sea getting rougher. Supposed to be in bay by night.
- Thursday 27th Very cold. Sea still very rough; several sick. Report likely to arrive in port early on Saturday morning.
- Friday 28th Cold; stormy. From midday till arrival in port everyone ordered to wear life-belts. Report of one of Orient line steamers torpedoed in channel.
- Saturday 29th Mild. Sighted land 6 a.m. Arrived Plymouth, 8 a.m. Dinner, 11 a.m. Came ashore 3 p.m. Went about one mile to rest camp. Left by train for north 8 p.m., via Exeter, Bristol, Crewe, Carlisle, Lockerbie, Carstairs Junction to (Glasgow) Central, arriving 12.30 p.m. next day. Came home by motor from Paisley.

Editor's Note

Readers interested in sporting history particularly golf may find the following organisation - British Golf Collectors Society which was founded in 1987 - of interest. Their website is <https://www.golfcollectors.co.uk> The Society exists to promote interest in golf history and traditions and the collecting of items associated with this. It publishes newsletters and promotes events such as hickory golf tournaments.

AANHs Publications

Publications of the Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society (AANHs) are available from Mr Denis Rattenbury, 4 Ewenfield park, Ayr KA7 2QG

☎01292 280593 email: info@aanhs.org

Further information about the AANHs and its publications will be found on the society's website: www.aanhs.org/publications/uk

Armstrong's Map of Ayrshire 1775 (reprint 6 sheets) £12.00

Antiquities of Ayrshire by Grose (edited by Strawhorn revised 2010) £4.00

11 Robert Adam in Ayrshire (Sanderson) revised 2010 £4.00

13 Toll and Tacksman (McClure) £1.50

20 Historic Ayr: A Guide for Visitors 2nd edition £2.50

30 The Early Transatlantic Trade of Ayr 1640-1730 (Barclay & Graham) 104 pages £4.50

33 Dr John Taylor, Chartist: Ayrshire Revolutionary (Fraser)
112 pages £4.00

35 The Masters of Ballantrae (Hunter) 30 pages £4.00

37 Historic Troon and Its Surroundings 40 pages £3.00

38 Excavations in Ayr 1984-1987 (Perry) 140 pages £9.99

39 The Church Buildings of Ayrshire (Hume) 94 pages £7.50

41 Mining and Quarrying in Stevenston (McLachie) 210 pages £9.50

42 The Battle of Largs (Cowan) 95 pages £8.00

43-45 Ayrshire Collections – 128 pages £7.50

Ayr Jails by Jane Jamieson

Kilwinning Revisited by Margaret H B Sanderson

A Bonnie Lass by Petra Baillie

47 Watermills of Arran by Alastair Weir 71 pages £6.00

48 Oculous: The Musings of a Liberal Victorian in Ayr by
Carolyn O'Hara 140 pages £8.00

49 Ayrshire Castles from Kings to Covenanters 121 pages
£10.00

Ardrossan Castle Revisited by David H Caldwell

Turnberry Castle and Countryside by Piers Dixon and William Wyeth

Seagate Castle with Some Family Resemblances by Aonghas Mackechnie

Ayr as a Garrison Town by Louise Turner

Castle Restoration in Ayrshire by Michael C Davies

50 John McCosh of Kirkmichael: Surgeon, Photographer and Philanthropist

51 The Diary of Thomas McClelland Ayr in the 1790s (Young and Close)

52 The Hog Score in the Great Rink in the Great Rink of Time (McCowan)

53 Witness to War – Arran and the Firth of Clyde in the Second World War (Turbett)

54 Kilwinning's Early Railways (Hawksworth)

55 Boswell's Galloping Farmers – Ayrshire Yeomen at Gallipoli Oct-Dec 1915
(Close and Watson)

56 The Industrial Heritage of North Ayrshire (Hawksworth, Weir and Rankin)