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ROUND AND ABOUT.

Gharial to Jullundur. The march from Gharial to Pindi started with the weather threatening rain or snow, but fortunately this cleared away, although it did not "pick up" properly. Dinner was served at the Murree Brewery, and the kindness of this Company in its efforts to allay our thirst was much appreciated. From Sunnybank the road was all downhill, and many were the blisters and sore toes when we reached Trett. Next day's march to Bharaco was uneventful, but we were lucky to reach there when we did, as in less than half an hour after our arrival, the rain came down in earnest, and had not stopped when we went to sleep. The last march, to Pindi, was managed without a single man falling out, but it makes one almost shudder to think of the agony some of the men with sore feet must have endured. The night was spent in Pindi rest camp, and we entrained for Jullundur the following evening. Everything appears just as we left it last May, and at times it seems hardly credible that the Battalion has been away for so long.

New Helmet Flash. I think all will agree that the new flash is a decided improvement on the old one, and it seems as if it will keep its colour much longer. With the disappearance of the old one, a red cycle wheel inside a blue diamond, goes the last link connecting us with the good old cycling days, as the lettering on the new one, 25 London Regiment, gives no indication of the oldest cycling battalion in the world. However, we are purely an infantry battalion now—and don't we know it?—so the new flash is, perhaps, more appropriate.

The Canteen. One cannot allow the changes in the canteen to go by without a note of appreciation. Much has been done to make the place more comfortable, and whoever is responsible for this deserves our hearty thanks. In the first place the wet canteen has been moved into the other end of the bungalow used for the dry stores and supper bar, and so is much handier for men who like beer with their suppers. A large number of palms and curtains have been introduced, and do much towards removing the bare appearance of the place, whilst the fires make things almost cosy. In addition to these comforts, games can be obtained, and chess, draughts and ping-pong are in great demand.

Musketry. Just now the Battalion is in the middle of the annual musketry course. The ranges up here are certainly of a unique kind, the butts being up the side of one hill, and the firing points dotted about in the most convenient places on the opposite hill. There are three lots of butts for the various ranges, so that firing can be going on in three places at the same time. This is a decided advantage, as the course can be completed in a much shorter time. The firing is far better this year than last, and we hope to have quite a number of marksmen in the Battalion.

GHARIAL NOV. 1917.

Since our return to Jullundur the details have been firing their course, hence the musketry course is almost completed. So far Pte. W. H. Riddell, B. Coy., holds the men's record with 161 points, and Sergt. G. J. Riches the sergeants' record with 162 points.



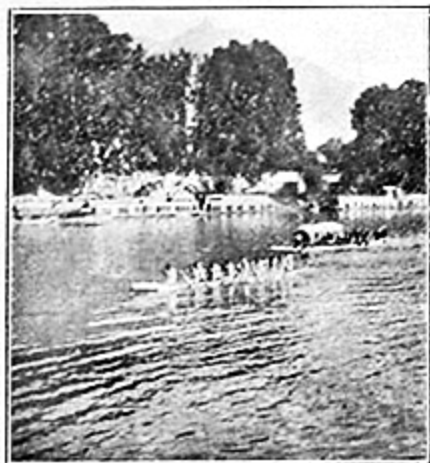
PREPARING CAMEL TRACK AT ———.



A HALT BEFORE BARWAND.



THE PALACE, SRINAGAR.



SCHOOLBOYS' RACE, SRINAGAR.
(Takht Hill in background.)



ENTRANCE TO GOLDEN TEMPLE,
AMRITSAR.



GOLDEN TEMPLE, AMRITSAR.

A FLYING VISIT TO AMRITSAR.

Trains leaving Jullundur, 6-42, 8-53
 „ arrive Amritsar, 8-19, 10-30

Trains arriving Jullundur, 17- 2, 21-9, 22-31.
 „ leave Amritsar, 15-22, 17-43, 20-56.

(Fare: 15s. 3p. Intermediate Class.)

THE town of Amritsar is situated right in the heart of the Punjab—that Indian Province known as “The Land of the Five Rivers”—midway between the rivers Ravi and Beas. It is said to derive its name from a compound Sanskrit word “Amrit” meaning immortality and “sar” “water.” It is a large town containing an extensive bazaar and is specially noted for the carpets and fine ivory carvings it produces. Being only 52 miles from Jullundur—the present station of the 25th—a visit can easily be paid in one day.

Just before the train reaches the town one notices on both sides of the track some extensive banana groves, planted, as is the Eastern way, so thickly that it makes one wonder how the trees survive.

Refreshments are obtainable at the station and also at the Civil and Military Hotel just outside. Probably the first thing the visitor will wish to see is the Sikh temple known as the “Darbar Sahib,” or more popularly the “Golden Temple.” As it is some distance from the station it will be advisable to take one of the numerous tongas. The road leads through the Hall Bazar, past a stately white mosque, along an avenue of palms—in the midst of which stands a statue of Queen Victoria—under an archway over and around which is the Public Library, and thence through another portion of the bazaar until it finally ends at the foot of an ornate Clock Tower. Here one has to discard boots and gaiters, if any, and don a pair of rope soled shoes, at the same time leaving all sticks, luggage and tobacco in the charge of a somewhat doubtful looking custodian.

The temple, which is much venerated by all Sikhs, stands just to the south of the Clock Tower in the midst of a tank over 500 feet square and is itself about 40 feet square, having a large dome in the centre which is covered with a thin plate of gold, and a small minaret at each corner, these and other portions being richly gilded on copper. It is connected with

the west side of the tank by a causeway of white marble and one is struck by the number of doves and parrots that make it their home. At the commencement of the causeway is a large entrance gate known as the “Darshni Darwaza” or “Gate of Prayer,” and a gilt notice outside prepares the visitor for the fleecing he is about to undergo. This gate is well worth minute inspection, being very beautifully decorated with inlaid, stencilled and carved work. Some ivory carving will be noticed on the inside of the doors.

The temple has four doors and the visitor will be conducted through the north one—the western (the one approached) being reserved for Hindus and Sikhs—and as soon as he gets inside will probably have flowers and rose leaves showered upon him.

Within he will see many figures prostrated in religious ecstasy before the *Guru Granth Sahib* or “Sacred Book” while they proffer their offerings of pice, etc. The visitor is informed that one-half of all moneys received is devoted to charity and a polite but insistent gentleman with a flowing beard and top-knot extracts all he can, commencing with an ideal of, if you are a private, Rs. 5, and if an officer goodness only knows how much.

Both the inside and the outside of the temple are beautifully decorated in the Eastern fashion and most of the marble is inlaid with flowers and other designs. There are more than a hundred *Pujaries* and priests belonging to the temple and the sacred book is never left alone.

Proceeding upstairs to the middle story a similar style of decoration meets the eye with the addition of coloured convex glasses let into the walls. Here again *baksheesh* is demanded before some more stairs are ascended to the dome, where one meets another claimant for *baksheesh*.

From here a splendid view is obtained of the tank and the marble paving surrounding it from which Sikhs of both sexes are bathing.

The fact that one is not allowed to take photographs is annoying as some splendid pictures of the general surroundings could be obtained.

The white marble with its fantastic carving, the bright colours and the gaudy dresses of the worshippers, the glittering gold of the temple, all reflected in the pool form a splendid sight and one that will not easily be forgotten.

The tank is plentifully stocked with fish. These are very tame swimming on the surface quite close to the sides.

Long before one is ready to leave the absorbing scene the guide will be making signs for the departure, and by this time having acquired a little wisdom, one deems it prudent to dodge the *baksheesh* merchants by going down another way. Take care, however, not to use the western door.

And now let us consider the history of the temple. The Punjab was the original place of settlement of the *Aryans* when they invaded the land from the East, and consequently the birthplace of Hinduism in India. Here, after subduing the *Rakas*, as the aborigines were known, they settled down and commenced a term of spiritual fervour. The site between the rivers Beas and Ravi was selected for their devotions and here they performed their rites and offered sacrifices to bring down blessings upon themselves. It was here that one of their priests received direct from heaven the "Water of Immortality." This he buried upon the site where the Golden Temple now stands and the sacred pool or *Amrit-kund*, as it was known, thus formed, was worshipped from far and near. Its popularity died down finally and although it was revived by Buddha, it eventually returned to its primitive jungle state, the pool, however, still remaining. In course of time came Guru Nanak, the founder of the Sikh religion, who was born near Lahore, and attracted by its holy traditions one of his followers chose it for the propagation of the cult. About this time a leper who was lying near the *Amrit-kund* observed a cow entering the waters lame and ill, emerging healed and whole. Bathing in the sacred waters he immediately became cleansed of his leprosy whereupon its fame travelled far and wide, attracting enormous crowds, with the result that in 1589 a temple was erected in its midst. This was destroyed in 1761 but was afterwards repaired by the Sikhs, forty

years later being further embellished by the Maharajah Ranjit Singh. Among the better class Sikhs it is still considered an act of virtue to contribute towards its adornment. Thousands of Hindus and Sikhs are attracted to it in the course of a year, no less than eighty *bungas* or resting places for the visiting pilgrims being provided around the elaborate pavement surrounding the pool. The revenues of the Golden Temple are considerable, enabling each of the hundred priests to receive no less than twenty-seven rupees daily together with a percentage of the offerings of the pilgrims; in addition ten thousand rupees are set aside annually for miscellaneous expenses.

It will well repay the visitor to spend an hour or so in the crowded bazaar with its maze of narrow and twisted streets crowded with small emporiums displaying every conceivable kind of ware. Dingy and most unimposing shops will be found to contain packed away within dark recesses some of the most beautiful of ivory carvings; animals, figures and scenes being wonderfully executed. Naturally they are fairly expensive. Bone carvings are also supplied, possibly in the hope that they may be palmed off on gullible folk.

A visit to a carpet factory is also time well spent and here if one is lucky a carpet of silver thread or of silk may be seen in the making. There is also a goodly supply of the beautiful Bokhara work for sale. This consists of a copper vessel upon which brass wire is laid in patterns the interstices being filled in with coloured enamels, the whole forming a splendid work of art.

The Fort is also well worth a visit, as also another mosque called *Baba Attal*, a seven storied edifice. On the way to this one passes a place named *Guru's Garden* where, at midday, bread is distributed to fakirs and beggars.

These are the chief places of interest and if the visitor can manage to do the lot, he will have spent an interesting and instructive day.

CHING.

WAR WORK.

Extract, *The Tatler*, Aug. 29th, 1917.

"Mrs. W. B. Leeds..... is keenly interested in war work, and subscribed a million pounds sterling to the last war loan."

With such incentives some others might be induced to take a keen interest in "war work!"

BOXING TOURNAMENT HELD IN REGIMENTAL THEATRE, GHARIAL, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11th, 1917.

OUR Boxing section is to be congratulated on staging a very fine show so soon after the Waziristan expedition. A *pukka* stage had been constructed with A. I. F. tables lashed together, the ring itself also being complete in every detail and reflects great credit on Sergeant White and his willing helpers.

The seating arrangements were all that could be desired and the "boys" appeared to appreciate the efforts made to accommodate them. We were very pleased to see the tournament so well supported, a gratifying feature being the presence of a large number of officers, the bout between two of the latter being one of the most popular during the evening. The whole of the officials performed their duties in a most efficient manner and the show all round was a great success.

Unfortunately with one or two exceptions the competitors did not appear to unduly exert themselves.

We wish the Boxing section the best of luck at the forthcoming All-India Competitions at Amballa and hope that they will bring back their show of the "pots."

9 STONE NOVICES' COMPETITION (SEMI-FINAL) DETAILS.

Pte. Silverman, "C" Coy., v. Pte. O'Gorman, "C" Coy.

O'Gorman used his left well and Silverman who appeared to be in poor condition shook hands in the first round.

Pte. C. H. Morris, "A" Coy., v. Pte. Emanuel, "D" Coy.

Morris (the lighter man) boxed very pluckily and won easily.

Final.—O'Gorman v. Morris.

Morris was again giving away a good deal of weight but stuck to his man and lasted much better than "Pat," a rattling good bout: Winner—Morris.

Three Rounds Contest.—Pte. Parkinson, "B" Coy., v. Pte. Willis, "B" Coy. Willis was quite a veteran and stood no chance with Parkinson who put him down for counts of 4 and 8 and eventually out. Winner—Parkinson.

Three Rounds Contest.—Pte. Fern v. Pte. Silverstone, "D" Coy.

This contest was spoilt by too much clinching and holding, very little real boxing being shown. Winner—Fern.

Three Rounds Contest.—L.-Cpl. Kerr, "C" Coy., v. Sergeant Dobbs, "C" Coy.

Kerr appeared to be giving away a good deal of weight but was inclined to cover up and after an extra round Dobbs received the verdict.

Three Rounds Contest.—Pte. Connolly, "A" Coy., v. Pte. Gleadow, "A" Coy.

A slogging match in which Connolly floored Gleadow four times with his right to the jaw and eventually put him out.

Three Rounds Contest.—Pte. V. Hawkins, "A" Coy., v. Pte. Hoffman, "A" Coy.

After being told by the Referee to box both showed a good knowledge of the game but did not seem to be in earnest. Hawkins by good use of his left appeared to just win but Hoffman received the verdict.

Three Rounds Contest.—Cpl. Jones v. L.-Cpl. Mesley.

A lot of hard hitting was the principal feature of this bout, Jones appearing to be better than his opponent. Winner—Mesley.

Three Rounds Contest.—Sergeant C. J. White v. Pte. Brookes.

A very one-sided contest, Brookes being obviously out of condition and lacking the knowledge possessed by White. Cannot a man be found in the Battalion to put up a good show with the Sergeant?

Three Rounds Contest.—Pte. Francis, "C" Coy., v. Pte. Denton, "C" Coy.

The contest started well, Denton proving to be a real terrier, but finally developed into a hugging and holding exhibition. Winner—Francis.

Two Rounds Exhibition.—2nd-Lieut. Morrison v. 2nd-Lieut. Lysarth.

Mr. Lysarth was handicapped in the matter of height and reach but showed a good knowledge of the game. Mr. Morrison was very plucky and boxed in clean style but lacked condition. A good bout.

Contest for the "Murree Brewery Championship."

L.-Cpl. W. Powell v. Pte. T. Morris.

Morris did not appear to be serious in this contest and it took a good deal of persuasion from his opponent before he could be induced to put the gloves on.

When he was eventually convinced that the correct place for the gloves was on his hands, not his feet, the bout commenced. This was beyond description and almost developed into a waltzing competition.

At last, however, real boxing commenced but Morris evidently stopped something which almost put him out, time alone saving him.

In the second round one of the seconds was unlucky and was floored by Uncle Joe.

A few moments after, a double knock out almost occurred but time was called.

They both came up for the final round looking groggy. Morris in particular looking anything but a "giddy old coon." However both recovered and finished up strongly in what was a very amusing exhibition.

Three Rounds Exhibition.—Pte. S. Silverman, "C" Coy., v. Pte. Greenstone, "A" Coy.

The "mighty atom" lacked weight but proved to be the possessor of a "left." He however nearly came to pieces in the second round. It is rumoured that Sammy has challenged Greenstone to a violin playing contest at our next concert!

T. P.

ON THE RANGE.

THE order is given to open fire. The Rookie on No. 1 Target after a few minutes' waiting appeals to the sergeant in a distressed voice.—"Sergeant, Sergeant, I can't see the target." *Sergeant puzzled*: "It's still there." (short wait.) *Rookie*. "But, Sergeant, I can't see it."

Sergeant. "Let me get down." Takes rifle, examines sights, and finding all is normal takes aim. Target remains stationary. Rookie again gets down and after an agonized suspense, comes in woeful tones, "But, Sergeant, the target is not there."

Sergeant. Beginning to have suspicions of *du* *lal*, feels if *topee* is still on.

Then in desperation he gets down alongside the Rookie and makes the breathless discovery that the man is shutting his "sighting eye." No wonder all is dark!

THE MONKEY GOD.

A FAMILIAR object in Southern India is the figure of Hanuman, whose history is contained in the Ramayan, a popular book of the Hindus dating back ten or twelve centuries.

The broad facts of the story centre around the wanderings of Rama some thirty centuries ago. Rama, the son of a king and one of several heirs had, through a conspiracy, been banished together with his lovely wife Sita who was the envy of gods and men, to the forests of the south where they lived the life of hermits.

A rival of Rama was Ravana, the king of some powerful demons who in a lust for vengeance had resolved to carry away Sita. Disguised as a religious beggar he followed them to their retreat and beguiled away Rama by an artifice, but before leaving Rama took the precaution of placing Sita within a charmed circle which would protect her from harm while she remained there. Soon after his disappearance Ravana came begging rice; Sita not daring to refuse the demands of a holy mendicant stepped outside the circle and was immediately seized and carried away in the air chariot of Ravana to Ceylon.

Rama, returning to find his wife gone, wept and mourned until "all nature, both birds and beasts, sympathised with him in his grief, and the very earth shook with his moans." The first to comfort him was Hanuman, who had witnessed the abduction and offered to find Sita. Carrying a message and the signet ring of Rama the monkey made his way to the southern extremity of India, leaped the channel and proceeded to the palace of Ravana in Ceylon. Assuming the form of a rat he crept into Sita's chamber, and delivered the ring and the message, receiving in return tokens of devotion for her husband. Unfortunately his change back to the form of a monkey was witnessed, and caused Hanuman to be hailed before the king as a spy. Every indignity was offered him, not even a seat being accorded, but the monkey simply coiled up his tail and sat down on it.

The punishment agreed upon was that a torch covered with pitch should be tied to his tail and that, after it had been set on fire, he should be liberated. The verdict executed and the torch beginning to burn, the monkey ran to and fro among their rice fields setting fire to the ripened

grain; then to the houses, building after building marking his course with flames. Satisfied with the havoc wrought, he took his tail between his hands, put out the fire and then clapped his smutty hands to his face, making it black; from that day the grey monkey with a black face and a long tail, the tip of which is black, roams all over India, the object of worship by millions of people.

Returning to Rama, Hanuman gathered together his army of monkeys and proceeded to Ceylon. The monkeys bridged the strait between India and the island by tearing down the mountains and throwing them into the sea until Rama and his devoted followers were able to cross over dry shod. A severe battle followed in which victory went to the righteous; Rama coming out with flying colours having killed the demon king and rescued Sita from her prison.

The term of banishment having ended ere this, the devoted pair returned to their kingdom, and commenced a long and prosperous reign which the bards agreed in recording as the Golden Age of Ayudhya. Their sons became the founders of mighty empires.

Such is the story believed in by all orthodox Hindus to-day. The temple of Ramanath, one of the great shrines of India, stands on a small island not far from Madura, the point where the strait was bridged, a sacred spot visited by millions of worshippers of this, their favourite god.

H. H. G.

WIND.

There is a Latin proverb to the effect that crossing the seas does not alter one's nature. This seems specially applicable to a late member of this Battalion whom I will call Tupman, because that is entirely unlike his name.

Once in the long ago I was on guard with Tupman at a L. O. S. on the coast. It was a fairly fine night, with a clear sky save for a heavy bank of cloud in the east. We were all new to the job and very keenly on the alert for any strange craft, unusual occurrence, or "spish-light" (short, of course, for "suspicious light.") The Colour-Sergeant—we had Colour-Sergeants in those days—looked in on us about half past eleven and a minute or so after his departure

Tupman, who was standing sentry, put his head in at the door of the boat-house that served us for guard-room and cried "Corporal, Corporal, quick! Here's a Zeppelin!" I rushed out, followed by the Corporal, and asked excitedly "Where, where?"

"Up there!" cried Tupman pointing up, "see the shine on it! Search-lights!"

"By Jove!" said the Corporal, or words to that effect, and ran down the beach calling to Colours. He was evidently much impressed. I was less impressed, as I had seen the moon struggling out from between clouds before, so I remained with Tupman, trying to turn an honest penny by means of a small bet against the Zeppelin theory. Unfortunately, however, the slow-moving clouds had by this time opened out, and the bet was declined. The Corporal, too, lounged back, trying hard to look as if he had been for a stroll admiring nature. Lunn, now unhappily a prisoner in Germany, was immensely pleased with the incident and pulled Tupman's leg unmercifully at intervals during the night. At dawn he convulsed us by rushing in crying "Corporal, here's the sun getting up! What are you going to do about it?"

This was nearly three years ago and I had almost forgotten the incident when, not long ago, I again heard news of Tupman. He now belongs to another regiment which was at the time stationed within a few miles of our camp at Gharial. One night, some time before our arrival in the Hills, the people in the valley were celebrating some kind of a fete or "rain-sammy." All along the opposite slope every cottager (?) lighted a bonfire in front of his mud hut, and the flares dotted about over the distant and almost invisible hillside produced an effect most pleasing to the artistic eye. But I suppose Tupman's eye is more military than artistic, for once again he rushed to warn his superiors,—to the Sergeants' tent this time.

"Sergeant, Sergeant!" he yelled, "the natives have risen! They're all coming up the Khud!"

No, Tupman's, at any rate is not one of those unstable natures that run the risk of being changed by crossing the seas, or by three years' additional experience. Tupman will be ever Tupman.

BACILLUS.

KOHALA.

THE Murree Hills have many spurs, some running southwards on to the Punjab plains and others northwards, terminating in the valleys and water-courses of the Himalayan mountains. One spur in particular branches out from the main range near Ghariāl, and terminates at the little native town of Kohala, situated in the valley of the Jhelum, at an altitude of 1,900 ft. above sea level.

This spur, then, forms a natural "staircase," about 15 miles long, with a total drop of 5,000 ft., and it is not surprising to find that the "Road Engineer" of the past, made full use of such a valuable, natural, asset.

There are, in fact, two roads—one the "old Kashmir road" and the other, the "new tonga and motor road": the former is 16 miles long in its existing state and parts company with the modern road at Jhikka Gali re-uniting a little short of Kohala; passing through Kashmir bazaar, Burban, Ausia and a number of "chhota" villages on the way, and between Ausia and Kohala it proudly occupies the crest of the spur.

The new road is 25 miles long and stealthily winds around the minor hill features, exchanging freely, mileage for gradient; like the old road it feeds many small villages, better known perhaps, in the "posting" days than at the present time.

It was to explore these roads in general, and Kohala in particular, that we set out, armed with a mid-day "feed" and a regimental pass, entitling us to be absent from quarters (Ghariāl) for 36 hours. We walked briskly and soon left Kashmir bazaar and the now deserted Burban bazaar well behind: the road gradually narrows to Ausia and in one place has been completely carried away by a landslide; a new road however has been cut connecting the broken "ends."

Ausia is only a small village, but possesses a dāk bungalow, used mostly by pedestrians and "tat" travellers. Beyond Ausia the road is very rough, and in places steep; there is no scarcity of habitation however and the appearance of all the tiny villages and their inhabitants spells clearly—prosperity!!

An occasional glimpse is obtained of the white tonga road, winding in and out like a huge snake, still well away to the right and many

feet lower, though promising to rejoin in the near future: presently the river Jhelum makes its appearance and is perhaps disappointingly narrow, yet deep and swift.

At last, within two miles of Kohala, the old road, after a wickedly rough hairpin spasm, rejoins the new road, which just here is running parallel with the river.

The dāk bungalow is reached a little short of the town, and as this was to be our "home" we lost no time in making the acquaintance of our native "host." After a refreshing wash and a fairly substantial tea, we set out to explore the town, and as much of the Kashmir side of the Jhelum, as we could comfortably crowd in, before late dinner.

The town itself is purely native and contains little of interest; a modern girder bridge, carried on two brick piers—both well out of the water, with the river at its present moderately low state—carries the road across the river into Kashmir. The toll-house on the Punjab side and the customs house on the Kashmir side are interesting features. I cannot say the extent to which they are used, but a long queue of heavily laden bullock carts, on either side, seemed to suggest that some kind of "official" business had to be carried out.

By the side, of the new bridge, there are the remains of the old bridge, built in 1871, and subsequently carried away by the river in flood: the two buttresses are the only remains. We strolled two miles along the road, on the Kashmir side, which follows the Jhelum valley to Srinagar, and then returned to the dāk bungalow, which, to our surprise, was completely filled by this time with European travellers—motorists—on their way back to the plains. Some of the rules concerning the running of a dāk bungalow are a little strange from a European's point of view: one for instance, to the effect that, "each room is furnished with one bed, but in the event of the bungalow being overfilled, the khansaman is entitled to place two beds in each room, to be occupied by two persons, whether married or otherwise": another is to the effect that "a traveller may not use the bungalow for more than 24 hours, if other travellers are waiting to use it."

The increase in temperature was marked, owing to the decrease in altitude; so we decided to make an early start in the morning, on the

return journey: this time we followed the tonga road for 13½ miles, and found the steady gradient (1 in 24) and improved surface, moderately easy going.

The road follows the river for a considerable distance, gradually getting higher, until at last the river breaks away to the left, and disappears in the mountains; presently the road swings gradually by an irregular semi-circle back towards the spur and passes through a wooded area, which gives welcome shade for a mile.

At a tiny village (13½ miles from Kohala) we left the tonga road, and followed a narrow steep path, continuing the semi-circle, until we once more reached the crest of the spur, where we could look down on to a portion of the tonga road, we had traversed about 3 hours previously, though now probably 1,500 ft. below.

The cross-country track landed us at the dāk bungalow, Ausia (2½ miles), on the old Kashmir road once again, where we were able to appease a hefty appetite with a substantial tea. After tea we returned to Gharial by the same route as on the outward journey; the total distance covered being 42 miles.

The scenery throughout was of the mountain type, familiar to all dwellers at Gharial and therefore scarcely needs further description, and all those familiar with the Wye valley, in dear old "Blighty," would recognise an elder sister in that of the Jhelum valley at Kohala.

P. G. P.

BOOKS ON INDIA.

FOR those wishing to understand some of the problems of India, the following list of books may prove helpful:—

HISTORY.

	Rs. A.
Peoples and Problems of India by Holderness, Williams and Morgate ...	1 0
Punjab and N.-W. Frontier, etc. Very Exact and Scientific. Cambridge University Press ...	6 0
Peoples, Manners, Customs, etc. (Hindu). Pictures of old India, by Dubois ...	6 0
History of India, by Wilkins ...	5 0
Kellie's Directories of various large Cities as Benares ...	2 0

Also much information may be gathered from the GUIDES published by the various Railway Companies.

NOVELS.

Kim, Seven Seas, from Sea to Sea, by Kipling. Various editions.	Rs. A.
Scenes behind the Bungalow, by Eha ...	4 8
Tribes on My Frontier, by Eha ...	4 8
Works by Alice Perrin for Eurasian Problems.	
Works by Maud Diver: General Description.	
Works by Mrs. Penny on the Malabar Coast.	
Tipoo Sultan, by Col. Medows Taylor ...	12 0
Confessions of a Thug, by Col. Medows Taylor...	1 12

MISSION PROBLEMS.

The Desire of India, by Dr. Datta ...	1 12
Renaissance in India, by Revd. Andrews.	
The Outcast's Hope, by Godfrey Phillips.	0 12
Primer of Hinduism, by Farquhar ...	1 12
	& As. 12
The Crown of Hinduism, by Farquhar ...	1 8
The Heart of Jainism, etc. (whole series).	7s. 6d.
Mohammedanism: The Faith of the Crescent, by Takle ...	1 12
The Heart of Buddhism, by K. J. Sanders.	1 12
The God of India, by E. Oswald Martin.	8s. 6d.

BOOK REVIEWS.

"How to Control a Company in Attack at Great Distances." Published by Ispana Raghza Press. Price ten shillings or two casars.

"A thrilling work, full of points, and one can realize that the writer well understood the importance of *distance*."

"Bull Fighting; Dealing especially with the Pitfalls of the Game." By M. Chasburt. Kalabagh-Tank Press. Price (less).

"The author has a wide knowledge of beef and knows how to deal with it under all conditions. Experience has taught him that the pitfalls are somewhat wet."

"Rifles, with Cut off or without." By Wee MacGregor. Boji Khel Printing Co. Price sixpence.

"The author evidences a deeply versed acquaintance with the various makes of rifle at present used by the Allies. All Musketry Sergeants are advised to obtain this book."

"Clothes for Emergencies." By C. O., 1st edition published at Ispana Raghza; 2nd at Tank, by Sandals, Blanket & Co. Price Rs. 8.

"Carlyle knew something of clothes, but here is more practical advice."

DEPARTURES.

ON 1st November a Draft of 80 men left Gharial for transfer to the 1/9th Middlesex Battalion T. F. At Jullundur they joined with 120 more from the depôt, and the complete Draft of 200 men proceeded to join their new Regiment.

Although perhaps the majority of the men were new arrivals there were quite a number who were with either the 1st or 2nd Battalion on the South and East coasts. After so many months of fellowship and comradeship, sealed with the common hardships of Waziristan the parting comes rather hard. We shall always be glad to hear from them in whatever field of action they may find themselves.

"A" Coy. Draft at Gharial were given a good send off in the shape of a spread breakfast. Tables, resplendent in white linen cloths, plate, etc., were laid out in an empty bungalow, and many volunteers lightened the task of serving a bumper breakfast to the twenty lads that were leaving us. Major Swinnerton wished all a pleasant journey and all good wishes in their new sphere of work.

At 7-30 A.M. the whole Draft paraded outside the Guard Room and just before setting out on the march for Rawalpindi, Major Easton, as Commanding Officer, addressed them.

He recalled the fact that in days of peace the 25th and 1/9th Middlesex had worked together on manoeuvres, and that they regarded each other in mutual esteem. Those leaving were taking the traditions of the Londoners to a Regiment with a worthy record. In their new Battalion they would always be known as the London Draft, and he could confidently look to them to maintain the London's name clean and unsullied.

Whilst regretting the necessity which compelled the separation he wished them Farewell and God-Speed, in the name of the Regiment.

At 7-45 A.M. the Draft marched off headed by the Regimental Band.

WANTED.

Copies of No. 3, Vol. I, and No. 1, Vol. II, are wanted. Anyone possessing spare copies are asked to communicate with the Editor.

TO THE CHAWALLA.

Hail! dusty herald of the dawn,
We hear thee and rejoice,
Oh! wallah! shall I call thee boy
Or but a wandering voice.

While stern reveille's notes still ring
Thou bring'st—the livelong year—
The cup that not inebriates,
The cakes that ever cheer.

We welcome thee in eager strains,
Hey! Abdal! *idhar ao*;
Do anna chah and umpteen cakes
And cut a *jaldi* now.

And after many a weary march
Or field-day in the sun,
As back to camp once more we trudged
Grunting "Thank Heaven that's done."

We've spied your patient figure there
Waiting—and not in vain,
For as we quaffed the flowing bowl
Our spirits rose again.

Whether beneath the torrid skies
At Tank or Boji Khel
(That much-loved camp site up North-
West
Whose hill station is—well

Perhaps we'd better not say where,
The censor might erase,
The enemy have fed it much
Since 1914 days).

Whether in less obnoxious climes
Jullundur or Burhan,
Or, picturesque in naught but name,
Old Dera Ismail Khan;

Whether in sunshine or in rain,
In calm or monsoon gale,
And even up in Gharial
Midst snow and ice and hail;

In every month, at every place,
In this great land of thirst,
Of down-trod Tommy's Indian friends,
Old Abdul you come first!

W. R. F.

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The course of treatment has proved a boon to men returning from a holiday on the nuptial N.-W. F.

Simplicity is the key note of the Treatment, consisting as it does of a judicious mixture of Quinine and a Tonic specially compounded at the Institution.

Patients are also taken through a course of enforced hill climbing, this being beneficial in lowering the spleen from the mouth to its normal position.

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A Senior Wrangler writes:—"Since first starting on your course of Treatment I have found life softer and less annoying than before and recommend all jaded human creatures to see (c) for themselves."

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Solly Major.

ORCHESTRA AND CONCERT PARTY NOTES.

THINGS have been moving some in the musical line lately. Soon after we arrived at Gharial the Orchestra was restarted after a lapse of twelve months. There was a determined search for new talent and we succeeded in unearthing one or two promising members. Practices were started in the school-room under the conductorship of Pte. S. Silverman, and every one was very keen. New instruments were ordered and while these were on the way the Duke of Wellington's Band came to our rescue and lent us what we wanted. We take this opportunity of thanking Band Master Langtry for his unfailing courtesy and kindness at all times. To him we are indebted not only for the loan of instruments but also music, without which we should have been unable to make a start. Rapid progress was made and by dint of constant practice, we were able in a few days to put on our first show.

We would welcome any musical critic to record our performances. Several very successful concerts held at Gharial by the Orchestra and Concert Party proved that this combination is absolutely the *goods*. Having seen a few of the other regimental concert parties in India we need have no fear of taking our show anywhere with every confidence of making a hit. Of course it is one thing to play to your own boys, and quite another proposition to take your party on tour, and open at what is probably the most critical station in this part of India—Rawalpindi. Critical for this reason. Besides being the most important military centre, it is a station well served by entertainments and the audiences one gets there are fairly well qualified to judge. Suffice to say, a show has got to be tip-top to go well at Pindi. Well, we have done Pindi and scored all along the line. Partly in the nature of an experimental trip whereby charity, in the shape of "Our Day" Fund, was destined to benefit, the result has been to justify our existence up to the hilt. In accordance with the happy knack the 25th has of getting a move on "all of a sudden" and doing things in a hurry surprisingly well, we received the news that the combination would show at the "Our Day" concert at Jullundur on December 7th and that the Orchestra would pack up after the show and be

ready to leave for Pindi by the 6-45 a. m. train next morning, to open at the Club the same night. This was carried through without a hitch and our first appearance at Pindi with full orchestra quite successful. The following day the Concert Party arrived and they soon got to work rehearsing new business. We were all staying at the attached Section of the Somersets at Victoria Barracks (where Q. M. S. Farmer soon made us comfortable) and the theatre of the "Mascots" was placed at our disposal for rehearsals. We saw the "Mascots" show and it was pleasing to note our old friend Rue Vaughan in such good form. The "Mascots" gave us every assistance and we played in their theatre on Thursday to a packed house. The whole show went exceedingly well and the "Mascots" were amongst the first with congratulations. We gave a matinee with the full combination at the Officers' Club before a select audience who were so enthusiastic that they stood after the "King" applauding us, which is a sure sign of success and "return dates." The Orchestra played again the same night at a club dance. In fact during the ten days we spent at Pindi the orchestra only had two nights free. The general run was, to bed somewhere in the small hours; rehearsal in the theatre 9-30—1 and if no afternoon engagement, a few hours' rest till tea, and then get ready for the night performance. Most of the orchestra spent their spare time copying music—Ellis working like a Trojan in this department. It was work that had to be done to enable us to put on the programme we did. In spite of all the rush we managed to squeeze a "flying matinee" to our boys at the West Ridge Hospital where our old friends and fellow-musicians Howard and Avery welcomed us. It was a delightful little incident to see these two in hospital rig resume for this occasion their old places in the orchestra, Howard at the piano and Avery on the cello. We shall be glad to see them back permanently. We managed to dig out three "of the best" out of the Station Hospital, viz., Sergt. Blott and Charlie Stevens and King of "B" Company and run them up to the West Ridge show in a tonga to their huge delight and satisfaction. We were well repaid for our trouble in taking the "Londoners" show to our boys at West Ridge

by their evident appreciation and enjoyment. We wound up the Pindi visit with a big concert at the Railway Institute which was in every sense a record night. Every man in the Party was at the top of his form and the show finished with a clinking sketch entitled "The Chaperon" which we put on for the first time after short rehearsals at Pindi. These notes would not be complete without reference to a few of the men who were mainly responsible for the success of the whole show. To S. Silverman, musical director and violin soloist, much praise is due both for the able way he conducted, and his big support to the Concert Party. To Tom Morris, who stage-managed and produced the sketches and was as usual a host in himself. To Reg. Winter who we have never seen in better form,—he seems to get funnier every time. Reg. scored heavily with Will. Powell in the burlesque "A Wedding in Joy Town," and in "It and Bit" this clever duo "beat the band." They have worked up their business very nicely and the improvement is distinctly noticeable. To Will. Powell, who has a fair share of work to do and does it well. His stage craft and general deportment are a great asset to the Party and he shows up well in the sketches and concertos and is a certain winner in his dances. To Harry Oke who has "come on." His turn was in particular favour at Pindi and he went especially well at the Club. To Leslie Harris who, in his cowboyrig seems to please the ladies, judging by the faces of the fair sex in the stalls. His musical monologues were in great demand and he had a fine reception. He also works well in the sketches and with Tom Morris in the "Valet" burlesque. Perhaps the surprise of the trip was the success of the two straight turns, Walter Hennings and Cecil Stinchcombe, Hennings taking double encores. Stinchcombe was in fine voice and did well. Another surprise packet was Cecil Lowrie who made his first appearance as the Lady of the Party. He makes up well and was really excellent considering the short time he had to work up his part. J. C. Shaw at the piano was in his usual good form. He has put in a great deal of work at orchestration and wrote up two or three new numbers while at Pindi. The bulk of the "Londoners'" programme is now orchestrated and Shaw is responsible for it. The front of the house and business side

was looked after by Sergt. Jones and the whole Party was under the direction of Lieut. C. A. Easton who unfortunately was unable to travel with the Party and only got away for the last three days. No doubt the next time the Party goes away "the powers that be" will allow the General Manager to go with it. We hope so. Mr. Easton, as President of the Entertainment Committee, has been the driving force behind the scenes, and it is largely owing to his energy and enthusiasm that "The Londoners'" Concert Party and Regimental Orchestra has attained its present high standard. We were glad to notice Lieut. Hurburgh amongst the visitors over Christmas. Most of the men in the present Orchestra were under Mr. Hurburgh's baton at Bangalore and we affectionately remember him as the man who started the Orchestra and worked so well for it. A. J. W.

INSPECTION BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

ON Wednesday, 14th November, the Battalion 755 strong, paraded at 10 A.M. on Gharial Flats for inspection by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief General Sir Charles Monro. The Battalion was drawn up in line, and after the General's salute had been taken, His Excellency proceeded to inspect the men carefully. After the inspection the two wing companies formed inwards and the Battalion being "stood easy" His Excellency delivered a stirring address.

In the course of his speech, His Excellency expressed pleasure at the rapid strides the Battalion had made towards physical fitness since its return from the arduous campaign in Waziristan. The delightful climate of Gharial should do much to make all ready to meet the next call for service. Referring to the awful sacrifice paid by our comrades on other fronts he appealed to each one, that such sacrifices should cause us to exert ourselves to the fullest extent, to perform any duty which the Empire called upon us to perform.

His Excellency recalled with satisfaction the time when the Battalion served under him during his command of the 2nd London Territorial Division.

Dispensing with the ceremonial March Past, His Excellency took the salute as the Battalion marched back to barracks.

THE MAHSUD TAKES TO TELEPHONY.

WE were encamped at Bojie and most of us recall the way in which the flies got our tails down. There was indeed little else to fix the spot in one's memory—at least for the majority. The daily routine of guarding the perimeter and supplying outlying piquets brought little change or incident.

It was a normal day. Reveille at 6 A.M. Blankets were rolled up and taken into the tents for we used to sleep in the open to make the most of the cool night-air. For those warned overnight for piqueting duty an early breakfast was ready and in an hour everything was ready for the start. The sun had just topped the high range and all the camp was smiling in the clear morning light. The air was fresh and cool, and it was a joy to be alive.

Just before moving off we learned that we were to act as protecting troops to a party of R. E.'s signallers who were to establish cable communication with the camp and helio with another piquet some miles down the route up which the convoy was to pass. After a stiff climb we reached the appointed spot, and settled down to a quiet watch. The cable was working with headquarters in camp and we were also in touch with the surrounding piquets. About an hour passed with "nothing doing." Then a mere speck showed in the far distance eastwards, which the glasses resolved into an aeroplane, and the signaller operated the instrument with the intention of warning those in camp. Ah! no result, and a break is reported.

Two signallers were told off to locate and mend the break. Not at all too pleasant a task, once up and down a hill such as that was quite sufficient without having baksheesh trips thrown in. Foothold was uncertain, for the mountain side was covered with loose shale, and twisted or wricked ankles were easily come by. The cable had been loosely run out on the way up being now and again secured in position by twisting it round a large boulder. It was difficult to see how a break could have suddenly occurred in the line, and many were the theories suggested between the two as they followed the cable down. About half way down the hillside

was a huge shoulder of rock which shut out of view the rest of the way down. The two had almost reached this point, and so far nothing amiss had been discovered, and it looked as though the journey to the bottom would yield a like result. The cable lay as it had been run out in the early morning. Supposing some duffer in camp had disconnected the camp end because he "did not know" that it would matter. Threats, dire and hard, were being uttered when suddenly turning the shoulder of rock, the two stand fast, for about 100 feet below are a couple of Mahsuds intent on some purpose. Unslinging their rifles in case of trouble, they approach the hillmen. Things did not seem to be going agreeably between them judging by the way they were shouting. Imagine the disgust of the signallers when they discovered that this ingenious pair, stumbling across the cable conceived the brilliant notion of trying a little practical test in the way of telephony. Unsheathing their knives they had cut a length of cable about 30 yards long, and one Mahsud held the end to his ear, whilst the other was frantically shouting down the opposite end of the line. On seeing the approach of the sahibs their faces brightened a bit, as they hopefully expected to be initiated into the secret of the "speaking rope." 'Twas well the signallers knew not Pushtu otherwise a lengthy explanation may have been entered into.

IN PASSING.

Who knows? Is my friend Brown returning to the shell fish business? *vide* John Bull.

We congratulate our contemporary "The Invicta" on its success in gaining the right "By Royal Appointment to H. M. the King," *vide* Autumn issue, p. iii.

Vanishing Away.—Much marching and stone-gathering must surely tell in the long run. "The Invicta," p. 155, has already reduced the Himalayan mountains to the status of Hills.

THE LONDONER.

JULLUNDUR, JANUARY 1918.

EDITOR ... Pte. J. E. Ingram.

REPRESENTATIVES.

C. Q. M. S. Oakley	Platoon	No. 5}	"B" Coy.
Pte. Long	"	" 8}	
L.-Cpl. Cooper	"	" 9}	"C" Coy.
Pte. Penn	"	" 10}	
Pte. Bass	"	" 14}	"D" Coy.
Pte. Lewis	"	" 15}	
Pte. Nicholson	Signal Section	}	H.-Qrs.
Pte. Freethy	"		

EDITORIAL OFFICE.— S.-W. corner of No. 10
Bungalow.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.—Contributions must be written on one side of the paper only. If you do not wish your name to appear, sign your contribution with initials or a non-de-plume; but in any case write your name and platoon number at the foot. This is for the Editor's information only, and will be treated as confidential. Contributions should be placed in the box in the canteen or handed to your Company Representative.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—All communications should be addressed to C. Q. M. S. Gerrard, "A" Coy., 1/25th London Regt., Wellington Barracks, Jullundur.

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In our third line Notes appears the news of another Military Medal being awarded to an old 25th boy. Although serving with the 7th London Regiment at the time, his long service with the 25th gives us some claim to share in his honours.

During the past months much extra work has been caused in the publishing of the Londoner, and we wish to heartily thank all those who have assisted during this time of stress. Among others our thanks are due to Pte. Phillips of "D" Company for his contributions of sketches, to Pte. Sparkes in assisting the Advertising Manager in that department, to Pte. Nicholson for general office and accounts work, and to the several Company Orderly Room Clerks in assisting in the distribution of the magazine.

The Battalion is now represented in many stations in India, and in different spots in Mesopotamia. We are anxious to keep in touch with all, and shall welcome any scraps of news for the personal columns.

In the previous issue as many photos as possible were published. Several more interesting snaps are in hand and will be printed (we hope) in ensuing numbers.

The Christmas cards have proved a success, so we flatter ourselves, for the Sussex cards surely prove that "imitation is the sincerest form of flattery." The Printers caused great anxiety through very late delivery. In most matters it appears that time is no object to an Indian Firm, and it required some persuasion to induce them to "get a move on." Hasty work caused some copies to be rather smudged, but on the whole, the work was excellently done. The object of the card was primarily to fill the gap between the publications of No. I and No. II, vol. II. Necessarily a long period must elapse, whilst the Waziristan matter was being collected, and so to allay the thirst for something the card was produced. The designing of the card was entirely the work of Corpl. C. H. Rogers, "D" Company.

A few copies of Vol. I, No. 6, remain on hand, all other issues are out of print.

Have You Seen Buster?

Battalion Notables.



No. 4—Pte. S. P. Chapman, M.M.

BATTALION NOTABLES.

No. 4. PTE. STANLEY CHAPMAN.

STANLEY Chapman, the fourth of our series, becomes so by virtue of his being awarded the Military Medal in the Waziristan Operations, thus becoming the first man in the Battalion to win honours on the field of battle.

The tale of a brave deed can always bear retelling, hence the following details may prove interesting.

Shortly after the arrival of the Column at Kundiwan, in the afternoon of June 23rd, "B" Coy. was ordered to supply a piquet to occupy a hill some 1,100 yards from the camp, build a sangar and remain in position through the night. Chapman formed one of the party.

The terrain was difficult, and, flanking the position to be held was a village occupied by Mahsuds. Although these had been dealt with by the Mountain Battery, they were still troublesome. Crossing the more open ground the piqueting party met with a warm reception as soon as the ascent of the hill commenced, since the summit was strongly held. Just at this stage Chapman noticed Pte. King lying wounded in an exposed position some yards in front of him. With total disregard to the risks incurred he crawled out to King and under heavy fire brought him back to safety, receiving as a reminder a bullet through his mess tin. Having brought King to cover, he then assisted in getting him back to camp. Not content with this he returned to the piquet and carried back three sets of equipment with rifles.

Although Chapman cannot rank as one of our notable athletes he has always figured in the Company games. Then at the age of 17, representing the Northampton Institute he competed in the Bantam Weight Championship of London, but did not travel far into the contest. Whilst at the Northampton Institute during a Gymnastic Competition his team required $\frac{3}{4}$ ths of a point out of a total of 300 to secure the trophy, and as last man in the team he was relied upon to gain the advantage. He was successful.

"OUR DAY."

12th December 1917.

THE outstanding event of "Our Day" at Jullundur was the fair at the City. Thanks to our C. O. tum-tums were provided for those who wished to go to the fair. The tum-tums arrived about 1 p. m. and were soon filled (some over-filled). There was great competition on the road as to who should lead and it soon developed into a race—at least for the fortunate few who had good ponies. The road through Jullundur City was crowded with natives in various shades of costume, evidently all out for a holiday.

On arrival at Bolton Gardens we purchased our tickets (Red Cross Flags) and made our way in. Apart from the amusements the first view of the throng was striking. All ages were represented, from youngsters of about two years to old men of ninety, and there was the usual complement of wives dressed in all colours of the rainbow. Sweetmeats were in great demand if one might judge from the crowd round the vendors clustered near the gates.

The first side show was the singers' stand where certain gentlemen, who accompanied themselves on a kind of accordin, were endeavouring to entertain some natives seated in front of them. To a Tommy's unmusical ear it seemed like a collection of tom-cats and town-criers trying to sing in harmony, but to judge from the expression on the face of one of the audience it must have been really good.

Attention was next drawn by a wrestling competition. From the point of view of keenness this was good, but if the Marquis of Queensberry had been there he would surely have wept. A favourite trick of one of the competitors was to try to blind his opponent with handfuls of sand. He was eventually disqualified, but that did not prevent others from following in his steps.

One of the shows was reminiscent of some of the catch-penny dodges of dear old 'appy,' Ampstead, but as it was for a good cause no one minded in the least. Outside the show was a picture of a roaring lion and a lovely lady. Near by was an attractive gentleman who invited passers-by to view these two wonders. Tommy, "being easy" paid his money and found inside a wooden lion and an ordinary bazar

lady. There was also a donkey in the show, presumably to console the visitor—truly the East is not entirely devoid of humour! Farther on was a miniature rifle range—an excellent one and doing a fine trade. The prize for the best shooting that day was won by C. S. M. Riches.

It was now about 5 p.m., and we decided to make a move homewards. Much to our dismay we found gharries quite unobtainable, so we had perforce to pad the hoof and arrived home at about 8 p.m. thoroughly satisfied with our day's outing.

The sum of Rs. 314 was sent from the 1/25th London Regiment to the Secretary of the local organization for "Our Day" funds.

THE PROCLAMATION PARADE.

ON January 1st all the troops in the station paraded on the Brigade Training Ground, for the purpose of celebrating the anniversary of the Proclamation of Her Majesty Queen Victoria as Empress of India. The setting was very different to that in which we participated at Burhan last year. There, we were one British Regiment amongst many, but at Jullundur we were the only British Regiment present. The Indian Regiments included 1/56th Punjabi Rifles, 59th Scinde Rifles, 51st Sikhs, 2/54th Sikhs, and squadrons from the 11th (K. G. O.) Lancers and the 12th Guides Cavalry. Nor was the ceremony so impressive as last year, the salute of 31 guns not being fired as the Battery was away on manoeuvres.

Punctually at 10 a.m. Brigadier-General E. C. Peebles, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., with his Staff arrived on the parade ground, and was received by the troops at the "slope." The General and Staff took up their positions in front of the flagstaff and the Battalion having "formed line," the command was given for the Brigade to fire a *feu-de-joie*. The crackle of musketry, as it ran down the front rank and returned along the rear, was quite inspiring. Between the first two bursts of fire four bars of the National Anthem were played. At the conclusion of the third and last volley the Royal Salute was given, and at the same instant the Union Jack was broken out. The Brigadier then called for three cheers for the King-Emperor, which were heartily given, accompanied by a waving of helmets.

Medals and decorations were now distributed after which the "march past" began. The cavalry with their coloured pennants made a picturesque sight as they cantered past the saluting base. This concluded the ceremony, and the units marched back to their respective quarters.

MALARIA.

MALARIA dates back to the remotest times; Hippocrates who lived in the fifth century B. C. mentions it in his works. Since then and prior to the Waziristan campaign of 1917, much has been done in the investigation of the disease, and many a man of the 1/25th London Regiment who has had a "touch of ague" may be interested in the causes at work behind the scenes.

Malaria is a specific infectious disease, due to the invasion of the blood by one of three species of a particular parasite. With very few exceptions, every infectious disease with which we are acquainted is due to some special organism, germ, or parasite, call it what you like, which developing in the body of the patient, gives rise to that disease. The exceptions are those diseases to which no special germ can up to the present time be specified, as probably they are too small to see with the most powerful microscope.

In the same way as fleas carry plague, and lice typhus fever, so does the mosquito carry malaria.

Formerly disease was supposed to be carried by spirits, vapours, bad smells, etc., but since then increased knowledge has ousted these ideas. In olden times it was thought that malaria was caused by the vapours arising from swampy and marshy ground, and there the matter ended. It was not until 1883 that Laveran discovered the specific parasite of the disease, and in 1891 he suggested that malaria was carried by mosquitoes. This was proved by Sir Ronald Ross of the Royal Army Medical Corps in 1899. I do not intend going into the experimental proof that mosquitoes carry malaria, but the fact is now fully confirmed.

The following experiment, however, may interest you. Two doctors with assistants and servants lived for three months in one of the most malarial districts in Italy. They moved about freely during the day, drank the local water, and took no quinine, in fact took no

precautions whatever except that they retired to mosquito-proof huts from sunset to sunrise. The neighbouring Italian peasants all suffered from malaria while the doctors and their party remained perfectly well. While carrying out this experiment some mosquitoes were fed on the blood of some of the peasants suffering from malaria, and forwarded alive in suitable cages to the London School of Tropical Medicine, where they were allowed to feed on, that is to bite, two doctors in the School. Neither of these doctors had been abroad or exposed to any malarial influences, yet fourteen days after they were bitten both developed malaria, and abundant parasites were found in their blood.

Not every species of mosquito is capable of carrying malaria. The chief is the one belonging to the *Anopheles* species, of which there are numerous varieties. The male insect does not cause the trouble, as in other paths of life. It is a case of "cherchez la femme." The reason for this is that the male is not a blood sucker but depends on fruit for its nourishment. The *Anopheles* mosquito can be recognized from the other species by several distinguishing points; the chief, is, when resting it sits with all six legs on the surface on which it is, and the body is at an angle to this surface. The *Culex* (the non-malaria carrying variety) rests with its body parallel to the surface, and its two hind legs sticking up in the air.

The life history of the mosquito, very briefly put, is as follows:—The female mosquito lays her eggs on the surface of water, stagnant for choice, on which they float, in large numbers of boat-shaped masses. In ordinary summer temperature these eggs hatch out in three or four days into the larvæ, which proceed to feed voraciously on the organic matter suspended in the water. These larvæ are air breathers, and are constantly coming to the surface to breathe, which they do through a spiracle near their tails. The *Anopheles* larvæ can be distinguished from the *Culex* larvæ, by the fact that the former lie horizontally, that is parallel with the surface of the water, while the latter hang head down in the perpendicular position. Soon the larvæ, after moulting several times, passes to the pupa stage, ceases to feed, and lies awash at the surface of the water. Two or three days later the pupa case bursts, and the

mosquito emerging stands on the empty case till its wings are dry, when it flies away, to begin its nefarious work.

When the parasite of malaria enters the mosquito it proceeds to develop, and multiply, until ultimately a pair of parasites will reproduce hundreds of a new generation.

These young parasites growing in the mosquito's blood eventually make their way to the salivary glands. When the mosquito next feeds the parasites pass down its proboscis from the salivary glands, and are injected into the wound made, thus reaching the blood of the human being bitten. All blood sucking insects, at the same time as they bite inject something to encourage the flow of the blood. This is why infection takes place. The parasites thus having reached the human blood again proceed to grow and multiply, until they eventually become sufficiently numerous to cause a reaction in the body of their human host, and malaria fever is the result. Should the blood of the host however contain a sufficient amount of quinine this development may be arrested. The parasites grow in the red blood cells, and at the latter's expense, that is to say as the parasites grow they destroy the red cells, and the latter shrink and waste. The parasite having developed, reproduces itself by dividing into from eight to sixteen new ones, the red cell bursts, liberating these new germs, and each one attacks and enters a healthy red cell, and the process is repeated.

At the time a large number of young parasites break through the red blood cells, the patient has a shiver, or as it is often called an attack of ague, and the rise in temperature that follows the shiver is due to the poisons, called toxins, manufactured by the parasite, that are liberated at the same time in the blood stream. The wasting of the red blood cells is the cause of malaria patients becoming pale and anæmic.

As the parasites develop they form brown pigment in the blood, that is why malaria patients look yellow and sallow in colour.

When a fraction of a drop of malaria blood is suitably stained, and looked at under the microscope, the first things noticed are the red blood cells. Each of these measures about $\frac{1}{2500}$ of an inch in diameter, and if the drop has been taken at a favourable time in many of these red cells will be seen the malaria parasites in various

stages of development. A parasite in the early stages of growth occupies a fraction of the red cell, but as it grows, it eventually fills it. Under suitable treatment the malaria patient can be cured of his disease. If however he does not undergo treatment he may not only become a chronic invalid, liable to recurrent attacks of malaria, but is a danger to his fellows. He becomes a carrier of the disease, and every mosquito that bites him will convey malaria to its next victim.

The only way to stamp out malaria is to get rid of the mosquito, no small undertaking. We must remove his habitat, the breeding places must be attacked. As I have indicated the mosquito lays her eggs, and they hatch out on water, it may be on the vast expanse of some marsh, or lake, or in the few drops of water held in the fold of a leaf, or in an overlooked tin in the compound.

All stagnant pools must be drained, hollows likely to collect water filled in, excessive herbage near dwellings cut down, and everything done to prevent the accumulation of stagnant water.

Cresol and kerosene put on puddles, and ponds will kill the larvae in a few moments, by suffocation.

Every regiment should have a body of men trained as a mosquito brigade, to hunt the mosquito and blot out the breeding places, their weapons being the pick and shovel, and their ammunition kerosene and cresol.

Men known to be carriers should sleep in mosquito proof barrack rooms.

If you want to escape malaria don't sit about in bazaars, especially in the evening. Nearly all native children harbour the malaria parasites, and the mosquito does her dirty work after sundown.

Keep yourself fit and well.

Take your quinine regularly, if recommended by the medical authorities. They do not order it for fun, it is a very expensive drug.

FREDERICK B. JEFFERISS,

MAJOR, R. A. M. C. (T.F.).

PERSONAL.

1ST BATTALION NOTES.

Edward Robertson, old "G" Coy., has received a commission in the Royal West Kent Regiment. He has seen service in France, having taken part in several engagements.

The following is an extract from a letter, dated 14th August, from Lt.-Col. E. F. E. Seymours, Commanding 10th Bn. Royal Dublin Fusiliers:— "What news have you of the Battalion? I hope they have not had very heavy casualties..... Things are pretty strenuous with us at present, but bad weather upsets our plans. Many thanks for sending me the last number of the Londoner. I enjoy very much seeing it, and hearing news of the old 25th, but I suppose though that it will be quite out of the question to carry on with it at present. I have kept all the numbers up to date and intend to have them bound together." We are very glad indeed to hear from our late Adjutant, and congratulate him on his promotion. In a later letter he says he is home on two months' sick leave, after trench fever, and has met Brig.-Genl. Leveson Gower, who asked for news of the 25th.

E. J. Hawkins, "B" Coy., now a L/Cpl, who went to Mesopotamia with the Searchlight Section, is at Bagdad, training for a commission in the I. A. R. O's. Good luck to him.

Williams, late of "A" Coy., who was transferred to the Somersets, is now AI, and was stationed at Jullundur with the 2nd N. Staffords.

2ND BATTALION NOTES.

Sid. Coates has written again, and is still fit and well, though he had a slight touch of malaria after the hot weather was over. He is now a 3rd rate wireless engineer, so has finished with "operating." He says that July 25th was their hottest day and that "a lot of nurses, doctors and about 50 patients died of heat-stroke" in one hospital. He wishes to be remembered to Page Brown, now with the Somersets and to anyone else who knows him. [Have you seen or heard anything of Gussy Prall, who left with you? Ed.]

The Adjutant sent a telegram to Lt. Chamberlain, on his departure to join the 2nd Leicesters in Mesopotamia expressing best wishes from all Londons. We all agree.

Old "D" Coy. will be pleased to hear that G. Boxshall, who was wounded near Ypres on August 19th, is getting quite well again. He with Bill Bowles and other members of the second went to the M. G. C. for duty on the tanks. He writes:—"We had been over to smash some of Fritz's concrete block-houses and were returning after a successful raid when the "Old bus" got stuck in a shell hole. I had to get

out to help to fix her up, and was watching her get on the move again, when a shell dropped just behind. I was extremely lucky to escape with a wound in my thigh."

Men of old "A" Coy. will be grieved to hear that Leslie Bittles has died of wounds. He joined the second in August 1914, and was transferred to the O. T. C. in October 1915 to take a commission. After several months the War Office decided that the O. T. C. was over strength, and sent all men with previous service to various regiments as privates. Coast duty counting as service, Bittles was sent to the Queen Victoria Rifles, and went to France with them in February 1917. He was wounded not long after, but recovered only to receive fatal wounds on 23rd September last.

L/Cpl. Jessett is with the second at Saxmundham, and says he finds the training in Blighty stiff after India. However, Blighty is a long way from such places as Waziristan, and a good many of us wouldn't mind standing in his shoes.

We are informed that Capt. Church, now O. C. No. 2 Coy., went to France as a Corporal and crushed his foot, having his horse shot under him. He also received a bullet wound in the mouth, part of his tongue being taken away. He sends his kind regards to all the old "A" Coy. boys.

Cpl. Stonnard, Bob Butler and "Pie" are still transport drivers, and Etherton is on the Coast. Leslie Day is now in France.

Sgt. H. Watts, late "A" Coy. of 2nd, and "H" of the 1st is now serving in France, having left Saxmundham with the 2/10th Londons, and has had rather a rough time on the whole. He is the eldest of four brothers, all of whom served with the 25th, and are now in France.

All of the 2nd who were at any time stationed at Pevensey will remember Mr. Holly, coast guard, at Pevensey Sluice, and doubtless have had many an hour wiled away with his yarns. We have just received the sad news of his death, after a fortnight's illness. He will indeed be missed when we revisit the favourite haunts of the coast days, and look up old friends. Mr. Harvey, another of our coast guard friends at the Sluice, has been promoted and transferred to Ireland, taking his wife with him. Our hearty congratulations to him, and may the best of luck attend them both. Mr. Morgan is still at the Sluice, and quite well.

Members of old "G" Coy. will be sorry to hear of the death of Cye. Stan. Fisher, who was killed in France on 24th October, and their condolences will go out to his brother, Fred. Fisher. Fred. left the battalion at Burhan, and is now a Staff Sergeant, in charge of the School of Instrument Repairing at Poona.

3RD LINE NOTES.

Men from the third line will be sorry to learn that Lieuts. Beleher and Ellis, and Sgt. Crump have been killed in France, and that Sgt. Brabham has died of wounds. Also that Cpl. Noble and Sgt. Walker have been wounded.

Sgts. Killick and Shackleford have received commissions.

Cpl. Heselden, who went to France with an infantry draft in December 16th after prolonged training with the Divisional Cyclists, is now in Blighty again. He was discharged on medical grounds, but he finds London a very unsatisfactory place in war time, and is doing his best to get past the doctor again, and so back to the trenches.

Cpl. Boshell is at a Cadet School in England training for an infantry commission. His two years with the Chemical Section (R. E.) in France have not damped his ardour.

Most of the third line boys went to the 7th Londons, who have done some very good work in France.

Sgt. Seddon, the late Staff Sergeant at Fulham House has been awarded the Military Medal for bravery in the field. We congratulate him, more especially as he is the second 25th man to be awarded this medal.

L/Cpl. Archibald, Cye. Swift, Sgt. Staples, L/Cpl. Millward and Cpl. Brace are now serving with the tanks in France. Mr. Herbert, late of the 3rd line has been badly wounded, as also has Sgt. Connolly. Friends of cyclists Janaway and Fordham will be very sorry to hear that they have been killed in Flanders.

PUBLISHERS ANNOUNCEMENTS.

From Cab Horse to Flight Commander, by "Short Wind." Published by the Epsom Salt Publishing Co. (Re. 1-0).

How I Fell, or from Flight Commander to Whitewasher, a thrilling sequel to the above by the same author (Re. 2-0).

The Flying Dhobie, by Wing Commander E. E. Rrac. Published by "The Balham News" Printing Co. (annas 8).

THE SIGNAL SECTION.

SEVERAL of the old members have left the section since our last annual classification, but the men who have replaced them have worked hard and well as the result of this year's test will show. The test was conducted by Lt. Stevens, assisted by Cpl. Bidwell, both from the 38th Divisional Signal Company and was run on the same lines as the previous test, except that the helio aligning was not so difficult. Last year a distant helio gave a flash and we had to align on where we thought the flash came from, but this year we had a fixed object.

Reading and sending on helios, flags and lamps was very satisfactory, as was also map reading and telephony. In this last subject we were tested on the six-line field commutator, in addition to the telephone which was a different one from last year. Station work evidently left little to be desired, as before Lt. Stevens left he complimented the section on this, and also on the general bearing and discipline of the men. His report was to the effect that reading and sending was very good, that the section had a thorough knowledge of map reading and telephony, and reached a very high standard of efficiency. What more could we desire?

Twenty-four men of the Battalion section were entered for classification, twenty-two passed 1st class, and two 2nd class. One Company signaller had hard luck in not getting through. When the results were known we were very proud to receive the appreciation of the C. O., in person, and that of the G. O. C. by letter.

L.-Cpls. Engerran, Browning, Billing and Pryce have just returned from a three months' course at Kasauli. Engerran and Browning both secured a "Distinguished," whilst Billing and Pryce obtained A. I. certificates. Sec.-Lt. Francis also at the same course passed out "Distinguished," whilst L.-Cpl. Cooper, "C," obtained an A. I. certificate.

ESSES ESSES.

MISUNDERSTOOD.

THE bungalow was full of men, some occupied in reading epistles to their various friends, one man a sock was mending.

His eye was sul and as he sat, his thoughts aloud he spoke. "Today is only Tuesday but I'm blessed if I aint broke, and I cannot borrow, beg or steal the whegewithal to buy my early morning cup of cha, so really I must try a letter couched in frantic terms announcing to the dear old Mum and Dad my state of woe—they're sure to when they hear of Sonny's plight, send out some dibs and thus I can repay the chawallah the debt I owe. I'll do it straightaway." Well the letter started off alright, as usually they do, with bits of local news and p'raps an anecdote or two. The gist, however, was the fact, in spite of jests and quips that "I am running short of dough so send along some chips (rupees)."

At last he finished, heaved a sigh, went out and caught the post, and then whilst lying on his bed he dreamed about the host of things he'd do when flush again and verily his mind was easy and his glance upon his comrades once again was wondrous kind.

The weeks rolled by, the Blighty mail was suddenly announced as in our hero went along and on his letters pounced. He also saw a roll of papers addressed in Mother's hand and said "By Jove, I am in luck"—and—"Aint it simply grand; I'm sure to find enclosed in this or say p'raps that letter—a postal order or a note—could anything be better."

They found him later in the day—some said it was the sun—but afterwards they actually did find what caused the fun. For clutched inside his grimy hand the answer was espied to his letter—when he read it out to them they simply cried.

"My dearest boy"—the answer ran—"I see that you're in need of "chips" to read, I wonder at your taste, I do indeed. At any rate, I've sent some also Ally Slopers too and I've not forgot the Comic Cuts which may appeal to you and in conclusion let me add—amidst your strenuous life I hope you'll find the time to read the other "Comic Life."

CHUNNICKS,

(The feet have slipped.—ED.)

CHRISTMAS 1917.

CHRISTMAS 1917 was cheerfully passed in the jungle station of Jullundur. Xmas 1914 found the 1st Battalion on the East Coast and the 2nd on the South Coast of England; 1915 we had joined hands at Chiseldon; 1916 found us rolling in the dust at Burhan; and Xmas 1918—where?

Cablegrams with Xmas and New Year greetings were received by the Battalion from Col. Gilbertson-Smith, Commanding 2/25th London Regiment, Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. A. Churchill, and from Mr. Woodof Corton. Telegrams were received from Major-General Sir William Beynon, C. B., C. I. E., D. S. O., Major-General W. Cross Barratt, C. B., D. S. O., and Brigadier-General E. C. Pebles, C. B., C. M. G., D. S. O., as also from the 2/6th Royal Sussex Regiment. The Adjutant read out Their Majesties The King and Queen's Christmas greeting to the troops, at the several mess tables.

COMPANY ARRANGEMENTS.

"A" COMPANY.

The Company arrangements for the Christmas Dinner were excellent in every way. The lower portion of No. 1 Bungalow was tastefully decorated, and each of the panels was cleverly inscribed by C. W. Coles with messages of greeting and welcome.

The roast geese proved a great success, being both tender and sweet. Then the Xmas pudding with white sauce was so well made that the thoughts of exile were lost in visions of the home land. For those "able" all tables were heavily laden with dessert, and after the meal, cigars and cigarettes were liberally handed round.

During the dinner the C. O. came in wishing all a Merry Christmas and expressing a hope that we might soon be on the——Front. We are happy to learn that the Battalion is in a fit condition to put a complete fighting unit into the field.

The men of "A" Company lately transferred to the Middlesex and now in Mesopotamia, were sent Christmas puddings and also all good wishes.

"B" COMPANY.

The question as to "what we shall have" was determined as far as this Company was concerned by their very able and energetic

Messing Committee who decided upon the good old fashioned fare of roast beef, etc. Doubtless the selection was due to the fact that the aforementioned E. M. C. had seen or perhaps heard about the splendid specimen of bird-creation that had been seen strutting about in the proximity of the Sergeants' Mess a few days previous to Christmas. If this is so one feels bound to compliment the Committee upon their wise choice.

Few obstacles were in the way of making this year's dinner anything but a success and with the hearty co-operation of the N. C. O's. and Officers of the Company, together with monetary assistance received from Regimental Funds a very attractive menu was able to be carried out.

It was decided to mess the Company together, and this was achieved by using the upstairs verandah of the "Cock" bungalow. The tables were arranged in lines and tastefully decorated.

Two vegetables were served with dinner together with a healthy-looking Yorkshire pudding. This was followed by a liberal helping of Christmas pudding and Brandy sauce. Apples, oranges and a plentiful supply of nuts were mixed quite freely with coffee and beer, the latter *ad lib.* Bottles of sherry and port were brought forward and quickly disposed of.

The Commanding Officer and Coy. arrived at the most opportune moment and after making a few appropriate remarks and wishes, toasted the Company. This was enthusiastically replied to by the men in no uncertain voice.

At the conclusion of dinner Pte. B. Leveno gave an exhibition of weight lifting. Mention is due to the Mess Orderly Sergeants who behaved quite creditably this year and who enabled the Cook Corporal to have his annual straight talk to them as to their general abilities and non-qualifications as orderly men. The Company cooks are also to be congratulated upon a most successful Christmas dinner.

"C" COMPANY.

Compared with last year's Christmas dinner at Burhan, the table d'hôte by platoons in the double-decker was quite de rigueur moreover, it proved highly satisfactory. It was one of those occasions when the job of mess orderly proved a grateful one, and C. Q. M. S.'s might take note with a view to popularising this duty. The "moorhy" roast was quite a

successful venture. Even if one did click an ancient bird there was the traditional roast beef to fall back on; the cooks distinguished themselves in the pudding, and a certain ingredient in its composition was much sought after; dessert was plentiful, though the fruit wallah might be inclined to think otherwise. It is hardly to be wondered at, that there was but little enthusiasm for tea and with it ended Company responsibility with regard to the festivities. No. 10 Platoon, however, kept the ball rolling with a little dinner of their own on the Thursday following which proved a most enjoyable affair.

Sundry pounds *avoirduois* of pudding have been despatched to Mespots by the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and men of the Company with seasonable wishes to their old comrades transferred to the 9th Middlesex.

"D" COMPANY.

Arrangements in this Company were mainly made and carried out independently by the platoons, and certainly this system, as proved by the results, was very satisfactory. Each platoon discovering a spare room set out preparing a lounge and smoke-room, hiring furniture, carpets, etc., and decorations in the form of pictures, ferns, paper chains, and in the case of No. 13 Platoon some real holly and mistletoe, managed to make very pleasing and comfortable retreats.

At dinner the Colonel and Staff visited each platoon wishing them the season's compliments and drinking the health of all.

The afternoon was passed lazily, whilst impromptu concerts formed the essential part of the evening. The great drawback to these of course was the absence of a piano, but this trouble was largely overcome by the aid of violins, a concertina, and a dulciana, all being capably played. Thus our Christmas Day ended, the bungalows of "D" Company ringing again and again, into late hours with popular choruses, songs, and that irresponsible cheering, always to the fore when everyone's cup of joy and good spirits is full to overflowing.

C. Q. M. S. Putman and the cooks are to be thanked—the former for the fine menu he provided us with, and the latter for the excellent way in which it was prepared and cooked. Dinner consisted of roast beef, baked potatoes,

carrots, turnips and cauliflowers, Christmas pudding with sherry sauce, mince pies, dessert, etc. There was no shortage of supplies.

No. 17 Bungalow was full of joy on the 25th (such an unusual circumstance is worth recording.) Far more comfortable than dust and tents as was our luck last year at Burhan. Our Quarter Bloke, Corporal Passmore, got going about a week previous to Christmas Day and did real great in the selection of the eatables, and the cooks altogether excelled themselves in the preparation of the dishes. The fare consisted of chicken, roast pork, baked *lau*, cauliflower, carrots; Xmas pudding (liberally supplied with currants obviously not thrown in by a third class shot) with sauce, and also custards, jellies and trifles. It is a wonder the I. P. M. K. iron legs tables stood the strain. Dessert of nuts and fruits of all descriptions followed by cigarettes put "vice" to our Xmas dinner. The signallers, "noise" and pioneers joined hands on this occasion. During the dinner the Commanding Officer and Staff visited us wishing us the very best, and hoping that the next Xmas dinner would be eaten in our homes. His departure called forth loud and prolonged cheers.

WHAT THE BATTALION IS ASKING.

Who slammed pain at Tank to get on the champagne list?

What the signals thought when the Major began the kit inspection at their bungalow?

Did they bless him for being punctual?

Who is the "D" Coy. man who embraced one of the Duke's for a full half hour the night before that Battalion left Gharial?

Which genius sent the rumour to Dagshai that Rs. four was being shared out to each man in the Battalion from the P. R. I. Funds?

Whether this is the latest order—"Stand still while you are marking time"?

Who is the Corporal who wears a broken pair of pince-nez for a monocle?

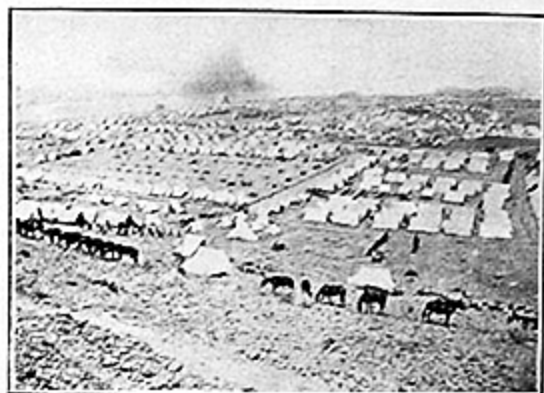
Sergeant drilling platoon, "Slope arms;—now that wont do, unslope arms!" Who says we are not original?



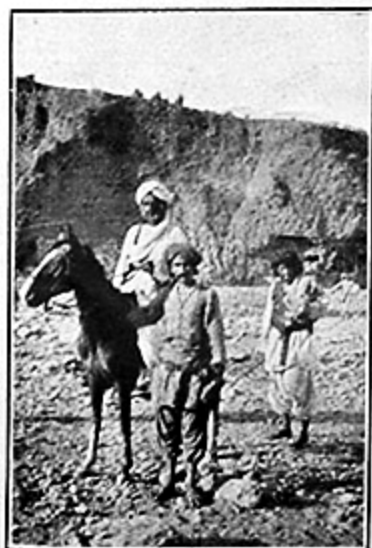
NATIVE CRAFT ON THE INDUS.



KALABAGH.



JANDOLA CAMP.



A "MALIK" AND BODY GUARD
AT BOJI KHEL.



DUST STORM AT TANK.

which the crew and servants lived, and where all the cooking was done. Our little fleet was completed by a light boat, made to seat four passengers, and propelled by a crew varying from two to six paddlers, according to the stream and distance to be travelled. This is known as a "shikara."

For these three boats with their total crew of seven persons, we had to pay Rs. 59 per mensem. If the cost of food be taken at about Rs. 2 each per diem, and, say, another Rs. 10 be added for the cook's wages, it will be seen that, apart from the journey, the cost of the holiday is no very great one. Needless to say, boats of larger size, even to houseboats, similar to those with which lovers of Father Thames are familiar, can be obtained, but, of course, at considerably larger cost.

For the first few days we found ample time to occupy our attention in Srinagar itself. The river with its seven bridges of varying architecture, the old houses, the waterside life of the inhabitants, and the constant movement of boats bound on pleasure or business errands, were in themselves a source of unceasing interest. The subaltern, too, so mean judge I can assure you, was for ever on the alert for the human beauties to be seen on all sides. There was certainly every excuse to be made for him, for the ladies of Kashmir are famous the world over for the fairness and delicate colour of their complexions, but I had to remind him, two or three times, of a young damsel on the East Coast of Blighty from whom he receives a perfect wallet of correspondence every mail, and who would, I feel sure, have had something to say about the languishing glances which I caught him directing at some of the boatloads of fair Kashmiris which passed us so frequently.

One of the excursions to be made from Srinagar, and more particularly on a Friday or public holiday, is to the Dal Lake, a limpid shallow lake of considerable extent, set in a ring of snow-clad mountains, on whose shores are some of the wonderful gardens built by the Mogul Emperors for the pleasure grounds of their Empresses and favourites. Here all Srinagar comes in the afternoon to laugh and talk and take tea, and

finally to row home in the moonlight across the miles of still water, lit by the lanterns of numberless other boats.

The advantage of having a light craft, such as our matted "doonga," became apparent when we decided to venture further afield and see something of the valleys, of which the Lidar Valley and the Sind Valley are, perhaps, the best known. Our little fleet was easily towed, even against the swift stream of the Jhelum, by our crew with the help of a couple of additional hands. For the aged and decrepit, like myself, no more restful conditions can be obtained than an easy chair and a pipe on the prow of the boat while steadily towing along, each bend and turn in the river opening fresh views of charm and delight. The superabundant youth and energy of the subaltern, on the other hand, found vent in unnecessary spells at the tow rope and violent efforts to break records at single-handed paddling in the "shikara," an art only acquired by long practice, and in which he was easily beaten every time by our boatman's twelve year old son. I have neither the space nor the ability to adequately describe the voyagings of our good ship, or the trek up the valleys with tents and camp equipment on pack ponies. At one place, Bawan, I thought I should never get the subaltern away from the pond of sacred fish. These followed us round the edge in shoals, literally of thousands, and fed from our hands in a way that showed appetite, if not manners. Suffice it to say, that having returned to Srinagar and successfully hardened our hearts to the bargains in embroidery, furs, and wood carving pressed upon us by the insistent vendors (empty pockets helped a good deal to this end), we got the old bus going again on the road to Pindi, and bid farewell to the most beautiful country in India, if not in the world, with the feeling that no holiday could have been better spent, and that another experience had been added to the long list of those we shall have to recount to our friends in Blighty, when that long-deferred day comes for us to go back to them once more. And, as the subaltern aptly remarked, "I shan't mind if we have to do it again, old thing, before then."

"LAMB."

ATHLETICS.

RETURNING to Jullundur from the hills, the football and hockey leagues and tennis tournaments were soon in full swing. Cricket too has come into its own, and several interesting matches have been played.

FOOTBALL.

On 14th January the Battalion team met the 1/5th Hampshires at Agra in the second round of the Murray Cup. The ground looked splendid and the weather conditions were ideal. Losing the toss we had to commence play facing the sun. The first incident of note was a fine dash through by Phillips, who was unfortunate in not scoring; the ball hit the cross-bar, and was cleared by the home backs on the rebound. Shortly afterwards a clever bit of combination enabled Batstone to score, but he was given offside. A few minutes after change of ends the Hampshires forced a corner, which resulted in a goal. At this stage there seemed to be new life in the home team and within two minutes another corner brought them a goal. From this point the Londons never recovered, and although they played hard and fast to the finish, the heavier and faster home team won the day.

Result.—Londons, nil; Hampshires, 4.

Team.—Bartlett, L/Cpl. Whisstock, Sergt. Duthoit, L/Cpl. Hall, Phillips, C. J., Greenaway, Pappin, Batstone, Phillips, Clayton, Little.

Other results of the Murray Cup:—

1st round.—Kents v. 1/9th Hants. Kents won 4 goals to nil. *2nd round.*—Kents v. 2/6th Sussex. Kents won 1 goal to nil.

The North Staffords, last year's cup holders, were beaten by the 10th Middlesex.

Londons v. 1st Bedfords at Delhi, 16th Jany. Losing the toss we began facing the sun. The Bedfords played gamely in the first half, and until the first goal it looked as though the contest would be a close one. During the second half the home team did not seem to get into their stride, and almost all the play was in the neighbourhood of the Bedfords' goal. There were several alterations in the side that played at Agra. Sergt. Duthoit went outside left *vice* Pappin with great success, and Jock Shelton partnered Whisstock at back whilst Little went right half *vice* Phillips, C. J.

Result.—Londons, 4, Bedfords, 2.

Londons v. 1/9th Hants.

January 27th at Jullundur.

As usual the Londons lost the toss. From the outset a ding-dong struggle ensued, and half time was reached with no score. In the second half a shot from Derby Hall was saved just in time by the Hants' custodian. Ten minutes from time a mistake by the home defence enabled the Hants to score.

Result.—Londons, nil. Hants, 1.

The Football and Hockey league tables are given below:—

Ptn.	Football.				Hockey.						
	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Points.	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Points.			
No. 12	11	10	1	20	Signals.	9	7	1	15		
"	7	12	10	2	20	Ptn.	5	7	7	0	14
"	5	10	8	1	17	"	2	7	6	1	12
"	9	13	7	3	17	"	15	8	6	2	12
"	15	6	5	1	10	"	14	8	5	1	12
"	3	7	3	3	7	"	9	11	4	4	11
"	14	7	3	3	7	"	8	9	3	3	9
"	6	12	2	7	7	"	13	4	3	1	6
"	8	6	3	3	6	"	16	3	2	0	5
"	16	7	2	3	6	"	3	2	2	0	4
"	13	8	2	4	6	"	10	9	2	7	4
"	10	8	2	5	5	"	1	3	1	2	2
"	1	6	1	3	4	"	4	2	0	2	0
"	11	10	0	7	3	"	7	3	0	3	0
"	2	8	0	6	2	"	16	5	0	5	0
"	4	6	0	5	1	"	12	7	0	7	0
"						"	11	7	0	7	0

CRICKET.

The Battalion Cricket Team made a journey to Lahore to play the Lahore Club in the first round of the Harikisan Das Cricket Shield. Lahore batted first, and made a bad start, 2 wickets being down for one run, and six down for 36, but the tail wagged and the score at the finish was 109. The Londons then opened their first innings—Chapman and Hall giving them a good start; unfortunately this was not maintained and the innings closed with a score of 65 runs. Wickens and Carmichael with 12 and 10 runs respectively were top

scorers. Lahore Club started their second venture with a lead of 44 and soon put themselves in a strong position, the innings eventually closing with a score of 190, leaving the Londons with 235 to win. Good bowling by the Club soon settled the issue—the Londons being dismissed for 26 runs. Wickens and Vaughan both bowled well for the Battalion, and had they been well supported in the field the result might have been different.

Bowling analysis.—Vaughan, 7 for 98.

Wickens, 6 for 99.

Londons v. Jullundur Club.

A very enjoyable day's cricket was witnessed on the Club's ground at Jullundur. The Club batted first on a wicket that was drying fast—Wickens evidently found it to his liking for he bowled exceedingly well, taking 8 wickets for 20 runs. The Club were dismissed for 50 runs. The Londons did not open their innings too well, four wickets being down for 32, but Captain Paget put on a good 17, and a lively partnership between Wickens and Carmichael soon altered the complexion of the game, the Londons closing their innings with a score of 185. Captain Paget 17, Wickens 49 and Carmichael 65.

Bowling.—Wickens, 8 for 20. Vaughan, 2 for 25.

Londons v. 1/9th Hants.

These teams met at Jullundur on January 26 and 27. The Londons batted first and made a very good start. Lieut. Lysaght and Hall put on 51, when Hall was bowled by Harold. After this the wickets fell very rapidly, until Batstone joined Chapman when they put on 38, Batstone was then beaten by a good ball from Bowman. Milliken then joined Chapman and made a very useful last wicket stand, putting on 87. Chapman came out at 224 from a ball by Harold, his innings of 91 was a very fine one, only giving one chance.

The Hants then opened their innings, but Wickens and Vaughan soon got to work on a perfect pitch, and seven wickets were soon down for 43; a good stand for the eighth wicket produced 37 runs, their venture closing with a score of 94. Lieut. Ford and Pte. Starks being their top scorers with 24 runs each. The Hants then followed on being 130 runs in arrears. Some very good batting produced 163 runs.

Cpl. Bowman with 46, Pte. Harold 38, Lieut. Lorden 37, being their chief scorers.

Bowling analysis.—1st innings.—Vaughan, 5 for 49; Wickens, 3 for 30. 2nd innings.—Vaughan, 5 for 66, Wickens, 3 for 40, Chapman, 2 for 26.

Lieut. Lysaght and Pte. Hall obtained the necessary 33 runs without being separated, the Londons thus winning by 10 wickets.

BILLIARDS.

On Saturday evening after the play a team of 8 Londons met a team of the Hants in a billiard tourney. Each pair played for half an hour the scores being carried forward.

The Londons finished 168 points ahead of their opponents.

AT BOMBAY.

ON November 25th the following party left Ghazial for Bombay to represent the Battalion at the Y. M. C. A. All-India Championship held there on December 1st. Cpl. Treble, C., L/Cpl. Hall, C., Pte. Thompson, C., Pte. Warren, C., and Pte. Parkinson, B.

It is to be regretted that Sergt. Basing, Sergt. Jones and L/Cpl. Mesley were away, for they would have strengthened the team considerably. The party arrived at Bombay on November 28th and were able to put in only one training run before the meeting. Indeed the notice was so short that the entries had to be wired.

Dealing with the Sprints first, Hall failed to qualify in his heat of the 100 yards and the 120 yards hurdles, but he was up against a very big proposition in Hildreth of the Y. M. C. A., who won both these events in 10½ seconds and 16 seconds respectively—very good times for this country. In the High Jump, Thompson jumped better than he has ever done before in clearing 5 feet 3 inches, but here again the opposition was very strong—the jump being won at 5 feet 8 inches, the winner only just failing to clear 5 feet 11 inches at an exhibition jump—another fine performance. In the half mile Treble kept his place with the lead till the home straight, but had not the pace necessary for the last 50 yards. This event was won by L/Cpl. Smith of the North Staffs. In the two-mile

cycle race both Warren and Parkinson got up in their heats, and it was obvious the race would rest between these two and Evans of the Y. M. C. A. In the final Evans got away with Warren close up, and this was the state of the race till the last lap when Warren made a strong effort to pass Evans, but luck of training told and he just failed. Parkinson would have had something to say in the matter, but unfortunately was brought down in the first lap, a fact not to be wondered at when many of the Indian riders were using free-wheel machines and brakes! In the long jumps Hall who seemed to have stiffened with his running, did not jump up to his best, for it was won at 18 feet 3 inches—a jump not at all beyond Hall's powers. The last event on the programme was the mile which appeared to be a gift for Reid and Smith of the North Staffs., who had been in Bombay for a fortnight training hard, and who, it will be remembered, beat Treble at Pindi last April. This time however the tables were turned for Treble, who was always close to the leaders, proved too strong for the field over the last lap and won comfortably in 5 minutes 2 seconds. Considering the absence of training, the long journey, and the change in climate from Ghazal to Bombay, I think the team did quite well in bringing away a first and second, from a meeting open to All-India, at which fields were good and times (with the exception of the mile) excellent.

O. H. B.

AT CALCUTTA.

THE following Non-Commissioned Officers and men of the Battalion competed in the sixth Annual Amateur Athletic Championship Meeting held at Calcutta on the 25th and 26th of January last:—

Sgt. Basing	"A" Coy.
Cpl. Webb	"B" Coy.
Pte. Parkinson	...	...
" Porter	...	...
" Green	"C" Coy.
Cpl. Treble	...	...
Pte. Warren	"D" Coy.
Sgt. Jones	...	...
Lee.-Cpl. Mesley	...	...

Pte. Goodwin, "D" Coy., accompanied the party as Masseur.

The heats of the various events were run off on the 25th, and the following members of the team qualified as shewn below for the finals:—

100 yards.—

Lee.-Cpl. Mesley	...	1st heat.
Sgt. Basing	...	3rd "

440 yards.—

Cpl. Treble	...	...	1st heat.
Sgt. Basing	...	...
Sgt. Jones	...	...	2nd "

880 yards.—

Pte. Green	...	...	1st "
Sgt. Basing	...	...
Cpl. Treble	...	...	2nd "
Sgt. Jones	...	...

2 miles cycle.—

Pte. Parkinson	...	1st "
Pte. Warren	...	2nd "

Lee.-Cpl. Mesley was jostled in his heat of the 440 yards, and did not get placed, which was unfortunate as he was running a good quarter in training.

The Finals took place on the 26th and the programme opened with the 100 yards. In this race two men who had not competed in the heats were allowed to run, but neither were placed. Also it was the most glaring case of "beating the pistol," I have ever seen, and unfortunately neither Lee.-Cpl. Mesley nor Sgt. Basing were placed.

The next event of interest to the Londons was the 440 yards. After some controversy with the Native finalists, who wanted the inside positions, a draw for same took place. Owing to the sharp bends in the track, position (especially in the quarter mile) was a great advantage. Sgt. Basing who drew number two got away well and made the pace until the "home straight," when A. J. Duffy of the E. B. Railway, coming along with a fine burst just pipped him for first place in 54 seconds.

The One Mile Walk was the next race of interest to us, which Pte. Porter won easily in 7 minutes 30 seconds. Quoting from the *Statesman*:—"The One Mile Walking Amateur Championship was won by Pte. W. Porter of the 1/25 London Regiment who covered the track in 7½ minutes. This is believed to be an extraordinary record. Pte. Porter won by a whole lap (352 yards) from the second man."

The Half Mile was a decidedly "cushy" race for the Londons who filled the first four places

with Sgt. Jones, Cpl. Treble, Sgt. Basing and Pte. Green, respectively. Basing took the lead for a lap (352 yards) and then Treble made the pace for the second one, with Jones just behind. On the back straight Jones took the lead followed by Treble, Basing and Green, and these positions were maintained to the tape. The time was 2 minutes 10 seconds.

The Cycle race immediately followed and at the first bend, Warren unfortunately was pitched off. He mounted again but could not catch the field. Parkinson had the lead and cut out a warm pace which he maintained to the finish, winning easily in 6 minutes 30 seconds.

The next item was the Relay race. Although the programme stated the distance was "one mile," the race was shortened to four laps. Six teams started and again this race was the "London's" from start to finish. Basing went off first and gave Mesley a lead of about eight yards, which was increased to about twenty when Treble started off in the third lap, and Sgt. Jones finished the race winning easily by about thirty yards from the second team. Unfortunately the time was not taken in this race.

The Lord Carmichael Team Cup for the Club obtaining the greatest number of points in championship events was won by the Londons, although the Cycle event did not count towards same.

The points scored were as follows:—

Sgt. Jones	15
" Basing	14
Pte. Porter	12
Cpl. Treble	10
Lieut.-Cpl. Mesley	3
Total	54

The E. B. Railway were second with 40 points. Other trophies won by the Londons were:—

The Lord Carmichael Challenge Shield (Cycle Race).

Sir E. H. Bray's Challenge Shield (Walking Race).

Sir Lancelot Sanderson's Challenge Shield (880 Yards Race).

The Maharaja Cooch Behar's Challenge Cup (Relay Race).

Previously to Lady Sanderson presenting the prizes, Sir Lancelot Sanderson made a short

speech in which he said:—"It has given me much pleasure to attend this Sports Meeting and to witness such keenly contested races, and also to see a team of the 25th London Regiment (who have made the long journey from Jullundur) competing so successfully in them."

Cpl. Treble, two days previously and during the races had a recurrence of his old complaint "Waziristan Colitis" (or was it through dining with Calcutta's Garrison Quarter Master?) but pluckily turned out to represent the Battalion.

On Sunday, the 27th, Pte. Porter entered and won by fully half a mile in 1 hour 32 minutes, a Nine-and-a-half Miles Road Walk, thereby winning the Dipten Mukerji's Cup, and breaking the previous record of 1 hour 46 minutes. The second man's time was 1 hour 36 minutes.

The above results which speak for themselves do not require any comment, except to say that the team's success was due chiefly to the following—firstly, the opportunity to train; secondly, the required dieting; and thirdly but not least the effective and necessary massaging of our cheerful "rubber jarner," Pte. Goodwin, who worked hard and willingly.

The party thank Brig.-General Peebles, the Commanding Officer and Captain Stafford for their kind assistance, in enabling them to journey to Calcutta and compete in the above sports.

AS—BIN

SPORTS MEETING 1st JANUARY ON BATTALION GROUND.

The largest and most successful athletic meeting held by the Battalion took place during the afternoon of the 1st January on the Parade Ground behind the Guard Room. The weather was perfect. The course was clearly marked, and all arrangements connected with the events as well as the seating accommodation supplied, reflected great credit on Cpl. Barber and his willing assistants. The large number of spectators, including many visitors, afforded ample evidence of the keen interest taken in the proceedings. The Band of the 54th Sikhs was in attendance the whole of the afternoon.

During the ten days previous to the 1st, the various heats had been run off. Also the three mile flat had been disposed of. Green created quite a surprize in putting up a fine sprint for

one and a half laps at the finish.

Result.—1st Pte. Green, 2nd Sergt. Jones, 3rd Cpl. Treble, 4th Pte. Emanuel, 5th L.-Cpl. Howgego.

In the two mile walking race Porter came ahead finishing a lap and a half ahead of the field. Other results:—

Long Jump—

1. Pte. Pyett, "D," 17 ft. 7 ins.
2. L.-Cpl. Hall, "C."
3. Pte. Hare, "A."

High Jump—

1. Pte. Thompson, "C," 5 ft. 2 ins.
2. L.-Cpl. Hall, "C."
3. Sergt. Bate, "A."

Putting the Weight—

1. Sergt. Bate, "A," 29 ft. 6 ins.
2. Sergt. Howard, "A."
3. Pte. Bills, "B."

Bomb Throwing—

1. Pte. Chapman, "C," 56 yds. 2 ft. 2 ins.
2. Pte. Beswick, "C."
3. Pte. Holford, "B."

Cycle Race, 2 miles—

1. Parkinson, "B."
2. Warren, "C."

On Govt. Cycle (Steam-rollers)—

1. Sergt. Eayres, "B."

100 Yards—

1. L.-Cpl. Mesley, "D," 11½ secs.
2. L.-Cpl. Hall, "C."
3. Pte. Diamond, "B."

300 Yards—

1. Sergt. Jones, "D," 34¼ secs.
2. L.-Cpl. Mesley, "D."
3. Sergt. Basing, "A."

440 Yards—

1. Sergt. Jones, "D," 59½ secs.
2. Cpl. Treble, "C."
3. Pte. Nash, "C."

880 Yards Handicap—

1. Pte. C. J. Phillips, "C."
2. Sergt. Jones, "D."
3. Pte. Nash, "C."

100 Yards, Veteran's Race—

1. L.-Cpl. Price, "C."
2. Pte. Gleadow, "A."

1 Mile Flat—

1. Cpl. Treble, "C."
2. Pte. Green, "B."
3. Sergt. Jones, "D."

Inter-Company Tug-of-War—

Won by "C" who beat "B" in final.

Sack Race—

1. Pte. Fern, "A."
2. Sergt. Cox, "C."

Obstacle Race—

1. Sergt. Jones, "D."
2. Pte. Garton, "C."
3. " Smith, T, "A."
4. " Fern, "A."

Inter-Company Relay Race—

1. "D" Company.
2. "C" Company.

Indian Army Relay Race.—Six teams from the Native Regiments stationed in Jullundur entered for this event. It was evident that they were quite unaccustomed to flat racing. The last man of the Guides Cavalry had a good start and got well away, but mistaking the course, cut off some 120 yards, losing what had otherwise been a certain win.

The Inter-Platoon Boat Race was novel and caused a good deal of fun, and was won by No. 10 Platoon. As usual "A" Company were easy winners of the Inter-Company mule wrestling.

The Championship Medal, presented by Lt.-Col. B. M. Hynes was won by Sgt. Jones, "D," with 22 points; second place Cpl. Treble with 13 points.

"C" COMPANY SPORTS MEETING.

The most successful and best patronized sports meeting this Battalion has seen since its arrival in India was held by "C" Company at Gharial Flats, on Sunday, November 18th.

The events, 14 in number, were remarkably well entered for, in numbers that would not have disgraced a Battalion meeting, and competition was very keen throughout.

The finest race of the day was undoubtedly the 8 miles (scratch) open to the Battalion. It is indeed seldom that a race of this distance produces such a close finish as that provided by Pte. Emmanuel ("D" Coy.) and Pte. Green, E

("B" Coy.) who are both deserving of congratulation on their fine running.

Much amusement was caused by the "Tat" Races and many riders must have wished they could obtain the same speed from their mounts as when the owners were up. The meeting was only marred by one accident—that to Clayton who, in the high jump strained his ankle rather badly. This event was won by Thompson, who looked "good enough" for at least another 4 inches when all competitions had failed at the height. Parr, who cleared 4' 8" did remarkably well for a "straight jumper."

The meeting concluded with the prize distribution by Lt.-Col. Hynes, who congratulated the officers and men of "C" Company on the success of the day's sport.

RESULTS.

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 1. High Jump ... | {1. Pte. Thompson 4' 10" | 12. Six a side—Football final—12 B beat 12 A |
| | {2. " Hall 4' 9" | |
| 2. 1 Mile Scratch ... | {1. " Sproston | 13. Tat Race ... |
| | {2. " Arnold. | {1. Pte. Williams. |
| 3. Tat Race ... | {1. " Carver. | {2. " Sandeman |
| | {2. " Williams. | |
| | | 14. N. C.O's. v. Privates. |
| | | (Relay Race)—N. C. O's. won. |

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 4. 100 Yards Veterans. | {1. L.-Cpl. Price. |
| | {2. C. S. M. Nicol. |
| 5. 440 Yards Scratch | {1. Pte. Nash, E. R. |
| | {2. L.-Cpl. Nichols. |
| 6. Long Jump ... | {1. Pte. Hall, F. G. 16' 6" |
| | {2. " Green, B. F. 15' 8" |
| 7. 880 Yards Hdep. | {1. " Nash (45 yards). |
| | {2. " Phillips, C.J. (49 yds.) |
| 8. 220 Yards Scratch | {1. " Hall, F. G. |
| | {2. " Garton. |
| 9. 3 Miles (Scratch) (Open to Battalion) | {1. " Emmanuel. |
| | {2. " Green, E. |
| 10. 100 Yards Scratch. | {1. " Hall, F. G. |
| | {2. " Garton. |
| 11. Band Race ... | {1. Hitchcock and Jessup. |
| | {2. Skinner. |
| | {3. Frowd. |

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