

**January 27, 1915.**

Left Zeitoun Camp at 9 A.M. as baggage guard. Entrained for Ismailia which we reached at 7 P.M. Country very fine and excellently irrigated. Bivouaked with orders to be ready for alarm.

**January 28.**

No alarm. Musketry drill, plenteous rumours but no news to write. Aeroplanes buzzing around. Another bivouac but no alarm.

**January 29.**

Tents arrived from Zeitoun. Entraining practice.

**January 30.**

Tent pitching in morning and bathing parade in afternoon. Town very clean and green. Gardens lovely. 25% leave granted. Went to town.

**January 31.**

Bathing parade and church parade - washing. Near our camp is a large camp of Indians, about 1½ divisions strong, also Egyptians.

**February 1.**

Left at 1.30 P.M. for Serapeum where 3rd Platoon did outpost work. Got nearly eaten by mosquitoes. Two or three shots were fired, and three prisoners were taken. Left for camp again at 8 A.M. Cold day. Made cocoa in name - condensed milk got burnt on bottom and spoilt biz. All these days heavy firing from guns has been heard. The Turks were shelling and gun boats and men-of-war answering.

**February 2.**

Standing by all day waiting for something to happen. 1st and 2nd Platoon still out. Rumours of wounded and heavy fighting.

**February 2.**

Supplying fatigues and standing by. Very heavy firing from guns. Turks shelling trenches. Shrapnel bursting 100 yds from 1 and 2 Platoons. Got first lot of shrapnel. Base kits arrived. Things looking very much like war - 3 batches of prisoners brought in and taken on to Cairo. Poor devils looked half starved and only half clothed. Many without boots, some wounded.

1st lot about 66

2nd " " 250

and a third batch around 9 P.M. Our fellows gave everyone a cigarette and oranges. Two battalions of Australians came down and bivouaked near us.

#### **February 4.**

Raining in night and very cold wind. Nothing much doing. Parade for musketry at 9 A.M. - left as guard over equipment. 2.30 P.M. Off to Serapeum (where the mosquitoes bit) for some time (uncertain). One of the 12th was shot here yesterday. English artillery blew up over a company of Turks here yesterday while in return they kept up a hot rifle and artillery fire putting one of our guns out of action and killing some of the crew. Estimated last night to be 30,000 Turks here. Great crowds of natives fleeing to Cairo. Scared of their lives for town is within range of Turkish guns. Supposed to have been 3,000 Turks killed.

#### **February 5.**

Have been standing to arms since shortly after 4 A.M. Nothing turned up. Was up at Hospital. Doctors still going after a whole night's work. 100 wounded. Limbs and fingers lying about operating theatres. 2000 Turks moving from South to North today, away from us who are enjoying a quiet morning in sun, and incidentally, being eaten by flies. Had a glorious wash in Suez Canal. Digging trenches all afternoon. Several ships passed through, some containing wounded Indians from the front. One ship grazed our Man-of War, which is stationed just in front of us. We slept last night in full equipment, rifles at our hands. That is to-night's order too. Writing by light of small bivouac fire.

#### **February 6.**

Nothing doing all night. Stand to at 4.45 A.M. Turks fired several shells at two aeroplanes which flew over their position about two miles out. On ammunition guard and have to mount again in short while (4 P.M.) but have had soft day. Our fellows still digging trenches. Attack expected in a day or so. Flies and mosquitoes absolutely awful - eaten alive - have to keep smoking to drive them off. Very many ships passing through canal today. Indians still out on opposite side burying Turkish dead and looking for wounded.

#### **February 7. Sunday**

Just woke up to fact that it was Sunday and got quite a shock. Up again this morning but no attack yet. Face double size with mosquito bites. Entrenching again. H.M.S "Swiftsure" moving along to the Lake to allow "Triumph" to go through. "Swiftsure" returning tomorrow. Had glorious swim in canal even though there are dead Turks in it.

Serg. Ruddy went back to camp and brought out some good things amongst them a letter from home (Mary and Mother. 21.12.14, glorious, good luck to Bob), am now eating butterscotch, a present from N.Z. and writing by means of an Ambulance light. English battery 200 yds. away. Can see Turks coming in large numbers and are standing to guns. Hence there will be something here soon. 1st man of Canterbury Battalion buried today, shot through neck, Nelson boy. Good luck if there is a scrap tonight for we are to be relieved tomorrow by an Australian crowd.

#### **February 8.**

No alarm but up at 4.30 A.M. Made cocoa and fried eggs to keep us going - jolly fine at 5.30 too. Australians came up at 10 in a barge and we came home in it. The Turks have retreated and the Indian Lancers and Westminster Yeomanry have gone out after them. They left pontoons and gear

behind them. Saw some of the pontoons in which they tried to cross the Canal and which our shells had settled. They were smashed to pieces. Had a bathing parade in the afternoon. All sorts of rumours about going to Europe very soon and being equipped with new rifles. Are supposed to be going back to Zeitoun in a day or so. Squad drill all morning in view of drill competition tomorrow. No Turks within 40 miles of canal but are camped just outside that distance. Their game I suppose is to wait now for the main body to come up. Had a washing day today. No bucket, dug hole in ground and stuck in an oil sheet which was filled with water.

#### **February 9.**

Drilling all day and leave from 3 to 5 P.M. Parade at 7 P.M. Night attack and advance. Waggon packers learning to pack on camels and mules. I wonder what's up. Evidently we have not finished with Turks yet. The Australians are leaving here tomorrow. They are a wild lot. All shopkeepers are forbidden to sell liquor of any sort to troops on account of their rowdyism. Received letter today from Wellington and N.Z. papers.

#### **February 10.**

Very hot day. Battalion drill till late after 10 A.M., then washing parade which was really fine. Got back at 12.25 and had to parade again in full marching order at 1.35. Attack practice in full rig over short sand at the double. There are a few times when a real good swear might do a man good and I think that such a time is when the battalion is doing attack practice over loose Egyptian sand on a day hotter probably than the hottest day in a N.Z. summer. The sand round here is really beautiful stuff to look at and it is beautifully clean and bright and golden but to walk on it is extremely yielding and when one is loaded to the extent of 60 odd pounds it begins to tell on a man. The days are always bally hot and the nights bitterly cold. The sand gets very cold at night. Have heard nothing today of Turks. I wish they would show a leg and let us get to them again.

#### **February 12.**

Had an easy day by a lot of luck. Got paid (2 weeks) and that stopped a great deal of growling about everything in general. Also a night march was cancelled and that added to the general good humour; further the wine shops were opened again and the contents of them further added to the good humour prevailing. Nothing of a very exciting nature happened all day except there was a species of enquiry into the reason for a shortage of food. Each had a tin of tobacco issued - the gift of N.Z. people.

#### **February 13 (Saturday)**

The usual day in camp today - kit inspection, tent inspections etc. Football match in afternoon and the band playing in town in front of Officer's Club. Pay was very acceptable yesterday as most of us were stumped. On the strength of it we have been feeding high again. Two Turkish prisoners were brought in today - taken by Indians in trenches previous night.

**February 14.**

Everything was quiet but plenty of rumours about supposed to be going into trenches again tomorrow as Turks are supposed to be advancing again. News of Turkish defeat in Sinai. Rumours that we go to Europe soon.

**February 15.**

Account of fighting in papers which say that Turks numbered 30,000 and that they are now outside a 60 mile radius and so I don't suppose anything more in the nature of fighting will take place here. Today we had an all day attack practice before the General and bathe afterwards. Nothing very startling happened. Have just been getting in, Tin of milk, 1/2 lb. butter etc. Going to bed early (7.30 P.M.)

**February 16.**

Day in camp. Usual sort of work but pretty easy. We have a bathing parade every day now and it's fine. Battalion went out all night on a parade. Had first game of cards since we came to Egypt.

**February 17.**

Marched to place we were at on Monday on way to Serapeum. Staying, doing first aid work in a lovely date palm grove on edge of canal. Had a decently soft time but nothing out of the way happened. All the fellows are taking to wearing short pants now with knees bare. They are very comfortable these hot days.

There are great numbers of chameleons here and it is great fun watching them change colours when placed on different objects. One of the things of Egypt that none of us can understand is the treatment of donkeys. It is quite common to see a little donkey about the size of a 3 weeks old calf yoked to a big lorry of chaff etc., also to see a big nigger riding a donkey which looks smaller than himself. They seem to be wonderfully strong. Goats here too are very common. They seem to the Egyptian what the pig is to the 'real' Irishman - a domestic pet which runs around the doors.

**February 18.**

Another day in camp - very soft time. Had tea in town. Went to town in evening and had tea of cakes and tea. Great talk today, supposed to be going back down to Zeitoun on Monday to England a fortnight later.

**February 19.**

3rd Platoon (ours) played the fourth for a day's rations of jam (football). Fast and furious. Game won by 4th by a penalty goal to nil. 13th Platoon played 14th for same stake and 14th won.

**February 10. Sunday morning**

Bathing parade and church parade. No jam today on account of loss of football match but tonight plenty of butter (at 1/8 per lb.) and milk.

**February 21 - 25.**

Having very soft time - filling in time. Bathing and sun baths every day. Most of our chaps wearing short pants.

**February 26.**

Struck camp. Going back to Zeitoun tomorrow. Colonel sent for me to do up books - the first time almost that I have touched it since we came to Ismailia - said I would be forgetting how to write.

Second spasm.

**Friday, 9th April.**

After nearly a week's preparation we are off, away from Egypt. Thank the Lord. Lay down on sand in clothes without blankets till 12 P.M. - had tea - paraded 12.45 - left at 4 A.M., reached Alexandria on Saturday morning at 10 A.M. Embarked on "Lutzow", German prize, and sailed at 6 P.M. on Monday 12th. Our quarters are pretty rum. No bunks, bare deck and same place for meals. 50 or 60 men in space size of our kitchen.

**Thursday 15th.**

Reached Lemnos early in morning: 20 or 30 (27) battleships and submarines, transports. Smiling green hills. Entrance reminds me of Hobart. Many old-fashioned windmills - picture book things.

**Friday.**

All troops disembarking practice. Went ashore to Australian Hospital Camp which has been established for about two months.

**Saturday**

Ditto.

**Sunday.**

Hardly knew it was Sunday - at work in full war paint at 7 A.M. and going all day. Posted P.C.

A batch of Naval Brigade (Antwerp fame) came on board, to work trawlers when landing. The "royal George" picked up 98 men who had jumped overboard from "Minotaur", when fired on by Turkish torpedo boat (3 torpedoes) 44 men drowned or have died as a result. Turkish boat shelled and driven ashore. Captain Ritchie transferred to A 29. Armistice up at midnight 18/4/15. "Queen Elizabeth" had special shrapnel shells to cover our landing - 21,000 bullets per shell.

**April 21.**

A wet day - the first since crossing the line.

**April 25.**

Left Mudros (port of Lemnos) at 4 P.M. for outer harbour. There are over 100 troopships here. Stacks of troops.

### **Sunday 25th.**

Set out at 1.30 A.M. and at 3.30 A.M. heard warships bombarding.

Troops landed off our ship starting at 9 A.M. Australians landed at 2.30 A.M. and at 8.30 A.M. had captured 3 guns, (Krupp) shells bursting in wild array everywhere, our warships and Turks replying. When Auckland landed under fire - one boatful wiped out before they could get out of the boats - bayonet charge up hills, grand. We had to wade ashore from boats and came under fire almost immediately - many wounded - terribly hard work. Spent awful night without any cover or coats and was cut off from company by shrapnel but went forward and joined Australian firing line. Got back dead beat on Monday night and rejoined regiment on Tuesday morning after all thought I had been killed. Tuesday very strenuous day - very many casualties. Wednesday and Thursday two great days. Had very hard job getting chap from trenches on Thursday night.

### **Friday 30th.**

Brought Sergt. Hilson down first thing, wounded in head. Had fried bacon for tea and breakfast too, decent. Colonel thought so too. At 8 P.M. went outside left flank with 12th Coy. and dug trenches all night.

### **May 1st.**

Still in same place - more trenches to dig - very sleepy. Found an Australian's hat with 27 bullet holes in it. Had bacon issued again and we cooked it in trenches - fine. Had a good and glorious wash too, first for some time now.

### **Sunday 2nd.**

Firing all along line very quiet - we are just lying about with only snipers worrying us. In evening very heavy bombardment by our ships, then an attack by our line, which failed in one way. Very many killed and wounded.

### **Monday 3rd.**

Relieved from 12th Coy., brought in wounded. Saw 1st Coy., 1st Platoon, bad way.

From Monday till Wednesday on evening of which we were transported by destroyer to entrance of Dardanelles, Cape Helles, travelling all night, then 2 mile march and dig in - about 100 guns here, French and English. Heavy bombardment on Thursday while we stayed in digouts. On Friday afternoon we moved up in semicircle when we came under heavy shrapnel fire - Colonel Pearless wounded. I carted him back. Next morning we moved on under shell fire and came to our present position - destroyed Turkish house where we fixed dressing station about 3 P.M., when I and others went up and received men under fire from breaches. About 5 P.M. there was a big attack by whole line which was advanced 500 yards towards Krithia.

1st Coy. made bayonet charge and lost 50 men. Walter Harte killed and buried. Also a McGillum wounded. Dead and dying men all over the place - N.Z. Brigade very badly cut up. Working all night till after daylight and all next morning. Some poor chaps awfully cut about. Maurice dead, E. Smith killed, C. Pierce killed. Five men whom we carried down in the night died afterwards.

**9th.**

Had good sleep at night and very quiet day next, with only a few stray bullets and sniper's bullets after us.

**10th and 11th.**

Days very similar and quiet with only snipers' bullets and stray bullets.

On the 12th we were relieved by the Manchesters at about 8 P.M. I showed a battalion the easiest way up. The Stretcher Bearers went on ahead of Battalion and waited for them on the road where we had an hour or two of sleep. Later it began to rain, and we with battalion got bushed and lay down for another sleep in pouring rain, setting out again for our bivouac around 3 A.M. The place was up to bootheads in mud but the rain cleared about midday and we made another dugout in drier ground.

**13th.**

A mail arrived and we had a lovely spell without any bullets, only a few big shells.

**14th.**

Turkish shells came over very frequently all day. K's army (20,000) reinforcements said to have arrived and in action. Turks have given us 24 hours to get. Warships away recharging with ammunition. King sent congratulations - New Zealanders and Australians had upheld finest traditions of our race. About to blow up hill which we have been attempting to force a way over. Lovely weather now and having a good spell. R.H.S. took ill and was sent to Hospital today. W. Burnett badly wounded day before yesterday in about three or four places. Shrapnel has been flying over our heads all day, no one hit except horses. A French gun exploded here today and killed about 3 men.

**15th to 19th.**

Same thing. Stretcher Bearers have good spell while Battalion roadmaking and on fatigue. Several men being killed or wounded by shell fire under which we live continually. At 6 P.M. 19th, left for Helles Point and embarked for Gabe Tepe or (word left out) Bay where we arrived and made Bivouac on 20th. On evening of which Turks asked for 2 hours to bury dead killed by our Mounted in a big attack previous night (about 3,000 dead); when truce refused very heavy fire. N.Z. Brigade had to stand by as reserves and supports. Marched half way to scene and then lay down and slept. Not being required returned at daylight to old bivouac and Stretcher Bearers are now at leisure while Battalion works disembarkation from trawlers and march to bivouac by snipers and shellfire. There is a mail here somewhere - hope to hand soon.

More than 50% of our Battalion are now Reinforcements and Battalion is only 750 strong instead of 1150. One Battalion of N.Z. Infantry acts as inlying picket every night.

On 24th an armistice from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. for burying dead. Major Grant killed. Had look around trenches.

**25th.**

The "Triumph" sunk. Had several letters by mail, fine.

Stockie's 21st. A happy night. Same old job till Friday night when were again pickets.

**28th.**

Another mail arrived, 4 letters and diary from Stuart - jolly good of the little beggar, what a time I'll give him if I get back safe. Very hard fire on Friday. Mounteds made attack on left flank - success. Came out in A.C. order. Stocky, Fin, Capt. Salmon, Col Pearless, Col. Stewart recommended for D. and G. Service; Bravo! Stocky 1st Coy. man so honoured.

**Sat., 29th May.**

Stood by at 3 A.M. Breakfast at 6 A.M. and at 8 A.M. off for trenches on Quinn's Point. Here Turks blew up trenches in early morning, very many dead. 1st Coy. went into trenches while rest of battalion returned to bivouac. A great heap of Turkish dead here. An awful job dragging them out by feet or wrists.

**Sunday, 30th May.**

As usual Sunday comes to us hard. 1st Coy. went into firing line at Quinn's Post. Turks sapped up and had to be driven out by charge by Light Horse and Canty. Very hard work bringing down wounded up to 12. On Monday we brought down 27 N.Z. wounded (6 dead) and many Australians. No sleep at night. Bombs and rifle fire with artillery fire making terrible row, almost deaf at night but still whole. An Australian 'counted out' a Turkish bomb, cool eh?

**Monday 31st.**

Still the bombs are thrown and still the wounded come down. Rotten experience this morning pulling wounded and dead out of sap through a tunnel. Bomb burst almost beside me hitting 3 and 2 others, besides Lt. Stewart hitting 4. 1st Coy. are now waiting to be relieved - sleep badly wanted. 1st Coy. relieved at 1.30 P.M. by 2nd Coy. and we went down to have a spell.

**Tuesday , 1st June.**

Not so many getting hit today. Tom S.B. got it badly, R. A. R. L. too. Capt. Richie arrived back to take Capt. Aitken's place. Had best sleep since came to Gallipoli last night for the first time undressed. Snipers still busy round here at foot of Pope's, Quinn's and Cordner's Hills. Blew up part of Turk's shelter again.

**Wed. 2nd.**

Still lovely weather and going to trenches again at 10.30 A.M. Things pretty quiet this morning. Sent P.C. During our 24 hours there this time there were practically no casualties there thank Goodness and we were relieved next day by Auckland.



**Thursday, June 3.**

Came out of trenches today and went to beach for a swim, being sniped at a good deal on the way down. Came back via Reserve Gully and Shrapnel Gully quite safely.

**Friday 4th.**

Off to trenches again today - whole battalion make big Dressing Station. At 11 P.M. about 100 men, volunteers from Canty. and Auckland, charged Turkish trenches in front and captured them with 30 prisoners. They immediately began to reverse barricades and strengthen trenches. Mr H. Stewart was in charge. Many Canty. men killed and wounded.

**Sat 5th.**

Had terrible job bringing down wounded through sap. 87 wounded in all, exclusive of killed who were many. Chas. Bain and Jack Petre unaccounted for. H. Stewart and Dobson wounded, and played right out. Myself hit about 6 times by pieces of bomb but not hurt, although was covered in blood of wounded.

**Sunday, June 6.**

The weather very hot and flies awful. Our battalion came down for 48 hours' rest, much needed. We did nothing all day. Your parcel, Mother, arrived, and I got on the nice clean shirt after washing away all the blood from my arms and legs and throwing away my bloodstained garments. Many thanks for parcel.

**Monday 7th.**

Still resting. Stood to at 3.15 A.M. Fearfully hot. A lot of shrapnel came over this morning. Tonight Auckland and Otago to charge again, and Canty. S.Bs. to help in with wounded. Jack Petre's body brought in today riddled - more anon. Canty Battalion came up as supports and Auckland charged, failure, very mixed show, terribly disheartening.

**Tuesday 8th.**

Nothing much doing today. Auckland lost heavily last night. Was again working in trenches and had rotten time. Couldn't get at some fellows for bombs and machine guns with heavy rifle fire. In evening one of our own bombs burst short hitting 8 or 9 fellows. The rest of the night very quiet.

**Wednesday 9th June.**

Up at 12 but got very little more sleep after shifting up hill and then up at 2 A.M. and got no more rest. This morning 12th and 2nd Coys. went down to Suicide Gully, leaving 1st and 13th up here. Colonel Malone reckons he is about to do great things with his battalion which is pretty strong in main body. We have to be up to 2 tonight.

**Thursday, 10th June.**

1st and 13th came down to Canterbury Gully at 8 A.M. to make fresh bivouac. From here it is only a short distance from the beach and we can go down for a swim every day. There are only about 250

Reinforcements for our Battalion here, Jack Joynt among them, also Ned. Flynn and several others from Timaru.

**Friday, 8th June.**

Last night pretty quiet though heavy fire about 2 A.M. Had a glorious sleep without disturbance, quite a luxury now indeed. It is wonderful where a fellow can sleep if he is tired. There are rumours that good news is coming soon - what is it? The old Colonel is coming back soon - good.

**Saturday, 12th June.**

Quiet again. Turks shelling battery near us but doing no damage. Greek elections today. What comes of them I wonder? Another to enter this fray? Dobbin went to Hospital - more anon. Sent P.C. home yesterday. Supposed to be good news in a day or so still, What is it?

**Sunday 13th.**

Had a very quiet day indeed? Heavy bombardment towards Cape Helles. Aeroplane dropped 3 heavy bombs on Turkish lines and supposed to have got Turkish Headquarters. Had church service.

**Monday 14th.**

Big bombardment early this morning, from what is not known, but several shells and fragments landing near here. Two or three killed and wounded by snipers. Firing line very quiet indeed. Going back to Quinn's Post soon.

**Tuesday, June 15.**

The bombardment at Cape Helles continues with great violence. Broad sides after broad sides thunder forth and at night we can plainly see the flashes like lightning. Had a glorious swim today in rough sea. Shells have been flying around here - Canty. Gully - pretty thick today.

**Wednesday 16th.**

A shower this morning but nothing much. Feeling pretty rotten today, stomach but nothing much. Colonel Pearless expected back very soon now. Going to Quinn's tomorrow morning. Still the shells do fly in great style. Great rumours that we go to England in about a fortnight.

**Thursday 17th.**

Came back to Quinn's this morning and I went around all the fire trenches doing a bit of sniping with a Periscope rifle. The Turks pretty quiet. Had real good view of country and trenches and formations through Periscope. Our artillery shaking things up and so was theirs. Rumours that Bulgaria now at it. That means a sudden finish to this.

**Friday 18th June.**

1st and 2nd Coy's went back to gully at foot of ridge, being relieved by 12th and 13th. however we three S.B.s have a good bivouac up here and are staying for the week.

Everything very quiet except for bombs which are pretty frequent visitors from both contending parties.

**Saturday 18th.**

1st and 2nd came up again for 24 hours during which term about 5 chaps were hit, 2 seriously. A mail arrived in the evening, one from the married girl. It is really fine to get mail so regularly. Sorry to hear about the dear old mater's worry but that is inseparable in a soldier's mother's life. God bless her.

**Sunday 20th.**

Off duty again and enjoying a good perusal of papers which came to hand and also reading and rereading letters. Sent cable and letters. Went to beach for a swim, glorious, although at the end of it shells started landing in water. It is really wonderful how gloriously cheerful we all are, joking and acting the goat as if there were no bullets overhead. we had a photo of us three taken in water.

**Monday June 21.**

Same old thing. Fatigue parties are all day working away at this post with sand bags and picks, shovels etc., all day and all night, making the place impregnable. We are only holding on waiting for those at the southern end to get through and link up.

**Tuesday 22.**

Off duty again. When this is the case we sleep and read all morning and go off for a swim in the afternoon. The beach gets an excellent supply of shrapnel from the Turks always since they know the range exactly and our guns don't seem to be able to get on to their batteries. Having a harvest reading N.Z.L. Weeklies etc.

**Wedn. 23.**

A good number of men still continue to be wounded on this post each day. Hardly one passes but some one has to be carried down. The Turk got on to one of our iron loopholes with machine gun and ploughed it up with thousands of bullets until at last they got through it. The weather continues glorious and the flies thrive apace.

**Thursday 24 June.**

The old colonel came back this morning looking fit and well again. Still more men get hit. Just after our swim today a Turkish shell came over and hit 17 men on beach, killing 2 instantly. We had just left when this happened. Since coming here a week ago our battalion had had about 37 men killed or wounded.

**Friday June 25.**

Were relieved at Quinn's Post by Wellington and 1st and 2nd stayed by as reserves. On Friday night there was a little demonstration but nothing much happened. Feeling pretty rotten these days with lower region complaints.

**Saturday June 26.**

Came from Monaseh to Rest Gully and fixed up bivouac for the week we are to be here. Our fellows here are all busy making a road suitable for bringing heavy artillery over the hills. A good number of them are getting rather weak and run down on it.

**Sunday June 27.**

Early this morning the Turks shelled our trenches on Walker's Ridge, using a captured French 75. Things were very lively for a while and somewhat more than fifty were either hit or killed. The Turks still do some damage at the beach too.

Got 5/- back from W. Camp.

**Monday June 28.**

A huge bombardment at Cape Helles. Big guns booming all day without cessation. Could see the cliffs almost raising under the awful storm. Our troops advanced about 1100 yards and gained a good position. On our right 2 battalions of Australians plus 2 squadrons of Light Horse advanced so as to engage the Turkish Reinforcements who would otherwise have gone to Cape. They succeeded in their attempt, but lost a good many men.

**June 29 - Tuesday.**

The bombardment at Cape Helles goes on again. Another advance probably - later news says two more lines of trenches were taken with but little resistance on Walker's Ridge. The Turks made an advance under cover of dust storm. They came right to parapet of our trenches and were then mown down. The ground is strewn with dead and wounded.

**Wednesday June 30.**

A fair idea of what happened last night is got today. Estimated that at least 500 dead Turks strew the ground and they are making no effort to get their wounded. Our fellows are fishing them in with boathooks etc. Some Stretcher Bearers are going out with flag for wounded. The Turks were apparently driven on to charge. At night a glorious thunderstorm came on. The lightning was most vivid, lighting up the whole country.

**Thursday July 1.**

This morning everything is glorious. An aeroplane was up this morning first thing and a bit of shrapnel was sent after her. Nothing exciting happened in our quarters but at the Cape things were very lively. Ship's guns and shore guns were busy down there.

**Friday July 2.**

Tonight the Turks launched a big attack against our newly gained positions at the Point but their efforts came to nought. Things all very quiet. Having a few showers of rain lately.

**Saturday July 3.**

Today Col. Hughes inspected us on parade giving us a little talk about slackness when out of trenches. Went over to Mounted's line to see Jim Kane but he was still on outpost. Maoris are here now and some of them gave us some coffee - good. Mail today, one from Mary and one from H.S.

**Sunday July 4.**

Started back for trenches again today and found things altered again and generally everything pretty quiet. Reports that an enemy submarine is out here and doing some damage amongst warships, but no information is at hand now.

**Monday July 5.**

The usual artillery fire today - quite a lot of it - bombs also pretty lively. Rifle fire pretty hot at times too. No casualties at all at Quinn's today and consequently we are having a pretty good time, sleeping and reading most of our time.

**Tuesday July 6.**

The Turks sent over plenty of shells to Quinn's this morning but did no great damage. We put a new roof on our dressing station today. Very little doing but a good deal of artillery fire all day.

**Wednesday July 7.**

The usual bomb duals today. We set fire to Turkish bombproof and they sent over some 11.2 inch shells to Steel's Post killing a good number and wounding many badly. Also they landed some small shells into our trenches at Quinn's killing James S. and wounding F. Hunt and Corp. Murray all of 1st Coy.

**Thursday July 8.**

Turks sending shells into Quinn's today and wounding and killing a good number over at Courtney's. They were using a big 11.2 inch shell and it does a lot of damage. The post here now seems altogether different from what it was at first. The hill has been cut into terraces and millions of sandbags have been used in making fortifications etc. A new terrace has been made for our bivouac and can be used as a Dressing Station if necessity arises. Down at Achi Baba the shells fly regularly and almost continually - something must be doing here.

**Saturday July 10.**

This post is very quiet now but Jacky Turk is very touchy and frightened and will waste any amount of ammunition on a scare.

**Sunday July 11.**

Very quiet and very hot - lying almost asleep all day. A mail came in afternoon and I got one letter and plenty of papers which helped put in time fine.

**Monday July 12.**

Came from Quinn's Post and dug out new bivouac in Rest Gully. Having the same old sort of time, swimming and resting.

**Tuesday July 13.**

Still in Rest Gully. Turks pretty active with shells and are laying them into the beach. Another mail to hand today. 2 letters from Mater, 1 Mary, 1 Bessica, 1 Ella.

**Wednesday July 14.**

Tonight our battalion is going to Imbros for a rest. I drew £1 and so hope to pick up again with judicious feeding. Bivouaked all night till 3 A.M. on beach and then went aboard a trawler at daylight next morning and went for Imbros.

**Thursday July 15.**

We arrived at Imbros early and marvel, had tents. Immediately made bolt for canteens and bought fruit, choc., sweets, milk, eggs, etc. What a feed - we could hardly stagger and yet we did not feel ashamed for after living on bully beef and biscuit for 3 months one can't eat a big meal of one's bat. The water for swimming was great - very warm.

**Friday July 16.**

More feeding today and plenty of swimming. Goat's milk, mulberries, watermelons, pears, raisins, chocs., eggs, milk - simply great. Doing no work, only eating and enjoying ourselves and eating again. The weather very hot and glorious. Already feeling a different chap. The Greeks here are just as cunning as at Lemnos.

**Saturday July 17.**

Reveille 5.30 and breakfast of fried eggs, tomatoes, fried bread etc. - great indeed. At Achi Baba all day. We could hear big guns booming and at night could see flashes. We had a practice night surprise on a hill in anticipation of the real attack to come. Still feeding highly and everyone begins to feel a lot better.

**Sunday July 18.**

A lovely morning. Stock and Bob had little scrap. Turkish aeroplane dropped a bomb or two here this morning. Tent inspection by Colonel H. at 10 A.M. Had an excellent day, eating, swimming, resting, etc. If this keeps on for a while we shall all be fit again.

**Monday July 19.**

Had to go out to Outpost to bring in a man and got back at 4.30 P.M. ~~Extra-much language~~ to find orders to be ready to move out at 5 P.M. Fortunately had washed everything I possessed earlier in day and everything was clean and dry. Had a glorious trip over in a mine sweeper reaching Anzac at about 10 P.M.

**Tuesday July 20.**

At 7 A.M. went off to trenches - Quinn's which is now almost an old man's home, although within an hour we had two men wounded out of 1st Coy. We find it terribly hot here with no breeze after coming from Imbros. Everyone of us carries about a respirator as a protection against noxious gases which we are expecting.

**Wednesday July 21.**

All those who were left at Imbros are coming over tonight. The Turks are expected to attack either tonight or tomorrow night with 100,000 men, reinforcement supposed to be their last hope Wrote home today.

**July 22-27.**

During this time we were at Quinn's Post always on duty. A good number of chaps were hit and some killed.

Mellburn 1st Coy., killed; Adcock Tazlor etc. wounded. A bombproof collapsed and wounded 6 men. A 6 inch shell landed in a commissariat trench and buried Bill Rodgers but did not injure him very seriously. The General B. came up and congratulated Stocky and Findlay who has now a D.C.M. too. Also Serg. Rodgers and Barlow.

The expected Turkish attack did not come off.

**Wednesday July 28.**

Came down from Quinn's today to Rest Gully. Found snug bivouac quite clean and good. Nothing much exciting happening except the usual rifle, gun, and bomb fire which are becoming very monotonous. The hot weather is also very trying. Have allowed diary to slip for a bit but nothing very terrible happened during the break except a few casualties and deaths. The remainder of the 4th Reinforcements came yesterday with a few of the 5th. Stocky still feeling pretty run down. Had a dry hash for tea. By Jove it was good.

**Friday July 30.**

Stocky went to hospital today leaving pistol and glasses for me. He was getting no better here. Just lying about in the heat these days. Tommies are landing here and so are stacks of big guns 4.7 and 6 inch. An attack is coming off soon evidently.

**Saturday July 31.**

Heavy bombardment at Cape all day. Stores and ammunition are being landed in plenty. S.B.s made up to strength today. Lockwood and C. Patton making up 1st Coy. A Taube came over today dropping 3 bombs and many steel darts. No one hit. Boland killed in bivouac today.

### **Sunday August 1.**

Quiet and very hot. Figs, rice, currants, milk, fish, meat today - surely a birthday. Two aeroplanes up tonight; expecting a dual but did not come off. Practically only topic is forthcoming attack. Great rumours of fresh troops arriving.

### **Monday August 2.**

Same sort of food today. Surely something is up. It's glorious to get a change.

### **Tuesday Aug. 3.**

A division of English Tommies arriving today and taking over our bivouac while we shifted around Shrapnel Gully. A huge paper mail arrived but no letters. Papers in plenty and very welcome.

### **Wednesday Aug. 4.**

An aeroplane over here first thing today, dropping bombs. Stayed in new bivouac all day. Great many English troops arriving, Stafford, Warwick, Worcester, Welsh etc., besides about 2 thousand Australians.

### **Thursday Aug. 5.**

Left bivouac for Happy Valley at dark. All day preparations for movement and talk of nothing but the attack. We are in ignorance as to what we have to do yet but evidently it's going to be pretty hot.

### **Friday Aug. 6.**

Woke up cold - no blankets or coat but a good rum soon fixed things. Keeping dark all day hiding from aeroplanes. No fires. At 5 P.M. Australians on right made a good advance. Turkish gun went out on our left shelling all day and Destroyer has gone round to settle her. More anon.

### **Saturday August 7.**

At 10 A.M. last night we started. In early morning got bushed and Battalion had to retire and then go on again right up narrow defile and up the cliffs which they took and started to dig in. While digging a good number of chaps were hit, Cap. Salmond and several others. Later Turks started shelling and killed and wounded men in dozens. We could not get out the wounded for shells and machine guns. Meanwhile thousands of Tommies and Australians right up as far as the Salt Lake were pushing on in a mighty sweep miles long. Casualties were terrible and all day and night long long streams of wounded were brought in. Our men are absolutely used up with the hard work on the hills. Our Battalion must have lost 300 men and some others are nearly wiped out altogether. We had heaps of wounded whom we collected from firing line and took down next morning. Working all night without any rest and started again carrying down the hill at 4.30. Having cleared one side we started on the other and cleared it finishing about 1 P.M., while all the line great strings of N.Zers. and English were being brought down from the next hill. 1st and 2nd Coy, went down the next gully to ours to act as reserves for the big hill but were not called on and in evening came back to Rhododendron Ridge with one company of 5th Reinforcements who have suffered very heavily; and our remnant and this Coy. of 5th are now holding trenches on the Rhododendron.