

EXTRACTS FROM A DIARY

Kept by Mr. Arthur Mellish at the Front in South Africa—
His Vivid Description of the Fight at Paardeberg
And Many Thrilling Incidents.

The GUARDIAN is permitted to make the following extracts from diary letters received by the last mail from Mr. Arthur Mellish of the first Canadian Contingent. It will be remembered that Lieutenant Mellish although holding a Commission and being a Provincial A. D. C., on finding he could not get appointed as an officer in the Contingent pluckily enlisted as a private like many other brave Canadians. They have all abundantly proved their valor on the field of battle.

RAMSDAM, SOUTH AFRICA.
Tuesday, Feb. 13th, 1900.

Here I am in the Orange Free State with an army encamped around. Next to us are the Gordon Highlanders, who are brigaded with us, next the Cornwallis and Shropshires, and also many others—horse, foot and artillery. General McDonald is in command and is very popular. I told you in my last how we had driven the Boers into the hands of another column at Douglas. It is now said the Boers lost 600 killed and 1,000 are prisoners.

We remained on duty at Richmond after that—the cavalry and horse artillery moving away. On last Sunday night I was given in charge of a party for the western patrol during the night over the river. A Boer scout had been captured during the day and we kept a sharp look out for the enemy.

About 12 o'clock at night a body of men was seen approaching by the sentry. They came up and said they were a party of Munsters sent out to relieve us and that we were to march in to the camp at once. So we returned and found the camp fires going, the men drinking coffee and eating hard tack in preparation for going to Belmont. We hastily took some refreshment, and in a short time the main tent was loaded with our blankets, camp kettles, etc., and off we started by moonlight. When we reached Lovedale—halfway, we rested till daybreak, and then proceeded to Belmont, which we had left three weeks before. We found the camp changed and everything bustle and excitement, as the regiment was going right to the front with the Gordons and others. There was no rest for us. We kept from one fatigue duty to another preparing to start which we did at 6 o'clock last evening. I forgot to say that when we got in I went to Fred. McRae's tent and had an excellent breakfast with him—porridge with sugar, etc.—quite a treat.

Well, to continue. We expected to march to Gras Pan where the battle of Estin was fought, but finally we went up on flat cars. When we arrived, there appeared to be a regular city of tents. It was of course dark, the train going very slowly. We piled arms, and supplies were issued for an expedition of three days ordinary rations for each man, and one ration of concentrated food very small in compass, capable of keeping us fed for 10 hours.

At three this morning we were aroused and prepared for the day's march. Our Company and "H" Company were the rear guard, and we started in the rear of the column. We set out at any easy

BRAIN FOOD.

Is of Little Benefit Unless It is Digested.

Nearly everyone will admit that as a nation we eat too much meat and too little of vegetables and the grains.

For business men, office men and clerks, and in fact everyone engaged in sedentary or indoor occupations, grains milk and vegetables are much more healthful.

Only men engaged in a severe outdoor manual labor can live on a heavy meat diet and continue in health.

As a general rule, meat once a day is sufficient for all classes of men, women and children, and grains, fruit and vegetables should constitute the bulk of food eaten.

But many of the most nutritious foods are difficult of digestion and it is of no use to advise brain workers to eat largely of grains and vegetables where the digestion is too weak to assimilate them properly.

It is always best to get the best results from our food that some simple and harmless digestive should be taken after meals to assist the relaxed digestive organs, and several years experience have proven Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets to be a very safe, pleasant and effective digestive and a remedy which may be taken daily with the best results.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets can hardly be called a patent medicine, as they do not act on the bowels nor any particular organ but only on the food eaten. They supply what weak stomachs lack, pepsin, diastase and by stimulating the gastric glands increase the natural secretion of hydrochloric acid.

People who make a daily practice of taking one or two of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets after each meal are sure to have perfect digestion which means perfect health.

pace. Transport waggons were constantly getting stuck at first, and we had to get them clear. The day was very hot, burning—and after a while we had to pick up soldiers who had fallen out ahead with sun-stroke, etc. The further we went the more numerous the cases became. They were Canadians, Gordons and Shropshires mostly. We would put them on our waggons where the hospital corps looked after them.

I am now first rate after the journey having had a swim in a pond near by. We are about 12 miles within the Orange State boundary. There was a fight here or about 3 miles away yesterday when a number of Boers were killed; some were captured, and there are prisoners here now. To-morrow we expect to be in a scrap. It is getting dark and I must close.

JACOBSDALE, Friday, Feb. 16, 1900.

So we are here. Our column captured this place the day before yesterday and we marched in today. Early on Wednesday morning at 2.30 we arose, had some breakfast and started off. The country was fairly level where we marched, but it had been burnt off by the Boers to prevent our getting forage for our horses.

As the day advanced it became intensely hot without any wind.

A great many dropped from sun-stroke, chiefly from the Cornwallis. A little after mid-day we reached Waterfall Drift on the Riet River. Here we halted and piled our arms a short distance from the south side of the river, and our section took the water bottles of the Company to bring some water. It was a peculiar looking river—more like a succession of pools, the water of a creamery color and down at the bottom of a deep cut which is doubtless full to the top of the banks in a rainy season, the stream flowing in a raging torrent. I found a good spot and fastening the lanyard of my knife to the handle of my canteen I drew up the water in that way. After we got back we marched across the drift by a ford which was quite dry, and advanced a short distance down the river bank where we camped. In the evening a thunder storm came up and I felt somewhat better, but all the boys were pretty well used up. In the afternoon they got the big naval 4.7 guns down the steep river-bank, across the ford and up the other side. In getting them up ropes were attached to each and about a thousand men took hold and pulled it up. There had been fighting all along of an important character.

Early next morning we were again astir and marched down the right bank of the river. A breeze was blowing in our faces, but it was very hot notwithstanding. In due time we arrived at Wegdal, our next camping place. After dinner I had a good bath in the river which refreshed me much, Fred. McRae coming down with me. When we came back we found a battle going on and went to a hill about two miles distant and watched it for some time. It was part of an attempt of the Boers to re-take Jacobsdale, but our horsemen were quite successful. In our march from the last camp we lost part of our convoy which was captured by the Boers. Our Company were marched out for picket duty during the night. This morning we were off again, this time as guard to the two 4.7 naval guns. Although the week was rather trying I was feeling better and got through the march to the town first rate. The guns are long and heavy, are hauled by 34 oxen and are on two broad tired iron wheels with another pair of wheels attached behind on a pivot from which a shaft comes back. The sailors get on each side of this, and by turning it from side to side steer the gun like a bicycle going backwards. We passed over the battlefield of the day before and I picked up a mauler bullet as a souvenir. We found Jacobsdale full of troops. We were encamped on a hill and got water from a drain near by. Mint is growing here in abundance and I have been drinking mint-water all day since coming down. The men got some loot of not much account in the town, also captured any pigs, calves, goats and sheep they could find and killed them and had lots of fresh meat. Just now some cavalry have come in with a big drove of captured Boer horses. They say they are selling for a shilling a piece. We were to march at six this evening but the order has been changed and we are to get up at 1.20 to-morrow morning and start shortly after. We expect to cut Cronje off who is said to have vacated Magersfontein and to be in full retreat. I have so little time of my own that it is hard to get a moment to jot down a few notes to you, but I will have much to tell you when I get home. We are just falling in and I am writing this as I am standing up. I expect we are on the home stretch as far as the war on this side is concerned. I must close but hope to write more before I have a chance to mail a letter.

PAARDEBERG, MODDER RIVER, South Africa, Feb. 23, 1900.

Events have happened so rapidly that I am confused as I try to recollect their sequence. I had just lain down, and was about to go to sleep, when a new order came to fall in, ready to march at once. After some confusion our company emerged from a mass of artillery, cavalry and infantry, and took up its position as the advance guard of the column. We marched on slowly all the night of Friday, the 16th. Early in the morning we came to a house with a windmill. We threw ourselves down on the ground exhausted, hoping to get a little sleep, but the order came for

G company to guard approach of sunrise Sunday morning, with nothing to eat on the way. We again tried to get some rest, notwithstanding the booming of guns some distance off, but it was not to be. We had a small ration of coffee and a little biscuit which we were not given.

(Continued on the Eighth Page.)

Prowse's

Hats are best for wear, best for style, best for fit, best for comfort, best in quality, cheapest in price. Get one and you'll be happy. 50c to \$3.00. 5600 to choose from.

Prowse's

Boys' Clothing is best for wear, best for fit, best for style, best for comfort, best for quality, cheapest in price. Bring the boys here for their Spring Suit. \$1.00 to \$7.50. 1400 to choose from.

Prowse's

Caps are best for wear, best for style, best for fit, best for comfort, best in quality, cheapest in price. Get yours here and have the latest. 10c to \$1.00. 4800 to choose from.

PROWSE BROS.,

THE STYLISH FURNISHERS.

PUBLIC NOTICE!

Bridge Across the Hillsborough

Owing to objections to the proposed location, delay has been caused in the work on the new Bridge.

TENDERS

Will be asked sometime for constructing this bridge. We do not propose making tender, our line of BRIDGE WORK is confined to Teeth. Modern Dental Science has devised means by which decayed teeth or roots may be utilized and new sound teeth placed on them; it isn't necessary to wear cumbersome plates that too often are unserviceable or ill fitting. Dental Science overcomes this by BRIDGES, by which the gap between two or more teeth or roots is bridged over by Artificial Teeth, making them just as good in every way as your own natural teeth would be.

We would like to show you specimens of our Bridge Work, and illustrate to you the many advantages of it. We manufacture it ourselves and you don't have to lose any time in having it put in, and by making it ourselves, we are in a position to fully guarantee it in every way.

All work done in a painlessly pleasant way, and we are the acknowledged first class Dental Establishment in Charlottetown, and equal to the best anywhere.

Call and see us. It is a pleasure to us to illustrate our Work and Method.

BERLIN DENTAL PARLORS,

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I.


CANADIAN PATRIOTIC FUND

Collected by Katie Ross:		
R K McKenzie, Flat River,	\$1 00	
Mrs R K McKenzie	1 00	
Mrs D McKenzie	2 00	
Barbara McKenzie	2 00	
Rodie Beaton	1 00	
Mrs John McSwain	1 00	
Mrs Angus Nicholson	5 00	
Finlay McKenzie	1 00	
Alexander Beaton	5 00	
Malcolm R Beaton	2 00	
Wm Ross	7 00	
Sarah Catherine Ross	1 00	
Donald J McDonald	1 00	
Mrs John McDonald	1 00	
Mrs Donald J Ross	5 00	
Eben Beaton	4 00	
Annie F Matheson	4 00	
Angus Beaton	1 00	
John A Ross	1 00	
John Riley	5 00	
Hector McKenzie	1 00	
Laura McRae	2 00	
Duncan McRae	5 00	
Mrs John McRae	2 00	
Katie McRae	2 00	
Total,	\$12 65	
Thomas Mallard, Gowan Brae,	\$1 00	
Lazarus White	5 00	
James Howlett	5 00	
Arthur McQuaid	5 00	
Total,	\$2 50	
Collected by Alex Corbett, teacher, Montrose:		
Rev A D McDonald	2 00	
John R Dinnis	1 00	
Henry Gordon	1 00	
Bertram Ramsay	1 00	
David Marchbank	1 00	
Paulinus Gillis	1 00	
James Gillis	1 00	
Benjamin Bowness	1 00	
Archibald McMurdo	1 00	
John Bowness	1 00	
John R Donald	5 00	
Reuben Bowness	5 00	
Robert Bowness	1 00	
George Hardy	1 00	
George Gordon	5 00	
Atlee Hockin	5 00	
John Hockin	5 00	
William Pridham	5 00	
Charles Pridham	1 00	
Philip Pridham	1 00	
Mrs James McIntyre	1 00	
William Hardy	1 00	
James Hardy	1 00	
Daniel Gillis	5 00	
Robert Hardy	5 00	
Alex Gillis	5 00	
Herman Gillis	5 00	
Arthur Ramsay	5 00	
Alex Corbett	5 00	
Total	\$28 50	
Collected by Elliot Fraser, Teacher Springfield, Kings Co.		
John Fitzgerald, Commercial Cross,	5 00	
Mrs. John Fitzgerald	2 00	
Angus McEachern	2 00	
Charles McKenzie	6 00	
Eli R Thompson	5 00	
Murdock McLeod	2 00	
Benjamin Sickles	5 00	
Daniel D Rourke	5 00	
Alexander McDonald	2 00	
Jessie McDonald	4 00	
Norman McDonald	4 00	
Roderick Fraser	5 00	
Mary Nicholson	2 00	
Mrs. Beaton	1 00	
Jonathan Beaton	2 00	
Malcolm Nicholson,	2 00	
William Munro	1 00	
John N McDonald	1 00	
Niel Nicholson	5 00	
Benjamin Davy	5 00	
Mrs. Hugh Campbell	1 00	
Elliot Fraser	1 00	
Total	\$10 00	
Collected by Leonard Boundy, teacher, Brackley School:		
Hedley V Bryenton	1 00	
John F Macmillan	1 00	
Eli Clements	1 00	
John T Mellett	1 00	
Jeremiah Jackson	5 00	
William Pierce	5 00	
Ella Prowse	2 00	
George Younker	5 00	
Samuel Prowse	5 00	
John Barr	5 00	
Artemas Bryenton	2 00	
Mrs Keziah Jackson	2 00	
Alexander Macmillan	1 00	
George Bryenton	5 00	
Elizabeth Thompson	5 00	
Mrs J Clements	1 00	
Mrs Sarah Bryenton	2 00	
Bruce Macmillan	5 00	
Leonard Boundy	5 00	
Total	\$11 50	
Jerome Chapman, East Baltic	5 00	
Da vid Bruce	5 00	
Eugene Fay	5 00	
Daniel McEachern	2 00	
Sylvanus McAulay	3 00	
Jas Leet	3 00	
David McAulay	3 00	
Andrew Grady	2 00	
Austin Grady	1 00	
Fred Carew	2 00	
Mrs Jas Ellsworth	2 00	
Geo Robertson	2 00	
John McGregor	2 00	
Joseph Fay	2 00	
Mary McAulay	2 00	
James Keough	1 00	
Edward Mossie	1 00	
Patrick Grady	1 00	
A Friend	1 00	
Joseph McNeill	1 00	
Joseph Moran	1 00	
David Campbell	2 00	
N E Lanman	2 00	
Total	\$6 00	
Collected by Nellie Bain, teacher Meadow Bank School District,		
William Boyle West River	1 00	
George McEachern	5 00	
Frederick Hyde	5 00	
Mrs Robert McMillan	5 00	
Samuel Drake	1 00	
Pope Crosby	1 00	
Wm W Crosby	1 00	
Russel Hyde	1 00	
Hammond Crosby	5 00	
James McLean	5 00	
Allen McLean	5 00	
Daniel McLean	1 00	
John McLean	5 00	
Harry McLean	2 00	
James McPhail	1 00	
James McMillan	1 00	
Henry Hyde	1 00	
Willie Bain	1 00	
Total	\$13 65	

B.B.B. Cures Ringworm.

"I had ringworm on my head for nearly a year. "I consulted three doctors but derived little or no benefit from their treatment. "I then commenced to use Burdock Blood Bitters. "Besides taking it internally I washed the affected parts with it and when the bottle was finished I was completely cured." Elsie Slaght, Teeter-ville, Ont.

Burdock Blood Bitters cures sores, ulcers, boils, pimples, eczema and all skin eruptions of the most chronic type. It makes the blood rich and pure, drives all foul material from the system and builds up the tissues of the body.



Lobster Packer Supplies

Lowest market prices.

Dodd Rogers