

- 13.1.80. to the Alliance Bank. Nugent off to the village to visit the Ruby  
Cont'd. mines. Butler and I prowl after chikor. 11 p.m. Woke up by servants  
to say wines and kits gone.
- 14.1.80. Up at 5. Rout out Nugent, and investigate. 7 gin, 2 brandy, 1 curacao  
Wednesday gone, and Kardier's kit. Placed in hands of Robertson, as a search  
produces nothing. 5 gin, 1 brandy, 1 curacao recovered. No kit.  
Robbery traced to Cooks 51st. Muster cool, gets  $\frac{1}{2}$  dozen, but wont  
confess. No more does anybody else. Doc. a little mad at breakfast;  
Rushes at Butler's kit; assaults his own. Cabul convoy, ammunition  
thro'. Ghoorkhas leave, so garrison of fort is reduced to 69 Martinis,  
and ourselves, 30 camels arrive, 2 duffadais, 2 surwans. Kahur lost  
my powder flask. I shot 2 pigeons, and missed a chikor. Milkman turns  
up. Smyth R.H.A. thro' en route to Kabul on leave.
- 15.1.80. Camp struck, and all kit outside ready to load, when Helis comes from  
Thursday C.O. "not to march till 19th" Repitch camp, and have drivers in a  
different place. Doc repitches in my old place. Letter from Major  
saying Khansamah coming up tomorrow for his account. Company 51st under  
Capt. Smyth turns up. Who's afraid? from Doc. Appetite recovered.  
Stratton signaller thro'. Have to shift drivers again, on account of  
Co. 51st arrived. Out shooting with Butler and the Kahar, to  
for my powder flask. I get it alright, thanks to Kahar. Butler lets  
off my gun unintentionally, and so misses an easy shot at Chikor.  
Stalk a pigeon within 4 yards. Crack off revolver. Misfire both  
times, exit pigeon. A 51st mess table at dinner, and 5 people. Doc's  
joke 60th Rifles, leg of mutton at Aden. Capped by ? Oughton  
too and Wat Tyler.
- 16.1.80. No fodder for mules, so had to go out grazing and grass cutting again.  
Friday. Ferguson and Co. of 51st going thro' with a large convoy from Cabul of  
Gaboos empty, and Hazara syces, under Major Wallowes and Lambert 3rd P.C.,  
both in mess for liquor, also Campbell, and Simond R.E. Find out  
from former that the Kotal is 6400 odd feet high. Evidently snow  
yesterday on Hindoo Koosh. Clouds cleared off today and a little  
more windy. Prowl off with gun towards mules' grazing ground. Find  
all have come in, so get back again. Find Smyth 51st with 40 men are to  
go back to the village. Khausawah turns up with h&s bills. Give him  
Rs. 15/-/- and pack him off by convoy. Kardier gets more warm clothes.

- 16.1.80. Wants to go and make complaint about theft. Smyth and his 40 men off  
Cont'd. after tiffin. Received warm suit for the boy. We take the Doc. out to inspect the cave. Lure him down the road, and then to amateur Chilbrai and ambush him.
- 17.1.80. Cold and Cloudy. Letter from Major about mess bills, leather, Khaka suit  
Saturday and Naick. Answer it. Doc's idiotic offer of Rs 20/-/- staved off for a bit. 51st Cook takes over messing, and releases my boy Kardier. Abdar. Abdul Asir relapses to nothing. Nugent walks down to the village in the afternoon. Snow falling slightly all afternoon. Ornament the pillars in the mess room. Kits assures us there is nothing to eat for dinner; so we have a store dinner, and a good one too. Nugent arrives just before dinner. Says tribes are rising round Cabul again. Snowing at bed time.
- 18.1.80. A white world again. Snow shuts up about 10, and a thaw sets in.  
Sunday Khalassie up from below alright with letter from Major. Send off canteen account 21.0.6. Sign proceedings of Committee of Adjustment on Wrights property. In the afternoon get the doc. out, and snowball him. Interview aborigine, and Doc. teaches us stone smashing. Snow-clearing off rapidly.
- 19.1.80. Bitterly cold. All the clouds gone, but a freezing wind, Out to visit  
Monday grazing and grass cutting. Try twice for a covey of chikor, but cant get within shot. Gormley turns up to relieve Oughton. A stroll round after afternoon stables, trying to stalk vultures. 5 at dinner. Doc., as last night gives us a cerebral 'Chip' 'The Day reverie'.
- 20.1.80. Such a cold night that all liquids freeze. Khalassie in with convoy,  
Tuesday but no dak. Sergt. Joyner, and Gr. Freeman off to F.H. at Safed Sang. Inspect the blankets and find 60 eaten, send off a letter to mum. Doc. gets a helio to go to the village from C.O. Starts with an escort of four 51st. Takes away a hospital and 1 mule, and Mir Ali. Let Bahadur go to the village. Prowl round with Butler, but see nothing.
- 21.1.80. Clouds kicking about. Nugent and Gormley to signal station. Khalassie arr-  
Wednesday ives with pay from village, and chit from Major. Awful rumour of 1 gun lost below. Send nags out to be exercised. Kardier to village for cheroots. Native doctor to take care of us. 4 Kahars for wood cutting purposes. Paid the men. Br. Elliott in from F.H. at Jellalabad. Boy Kardier in with some fruit, and polite note from the doctor, also some cheroots. Bahadur back with a watch from some native for sale. 53 Rs. too much. Major Burlton, Capt. Alves R.E. and Massy of Carabineers thro', tiffin, confirm rumour

21.1.80. about Dhakka. Out shooting with Butler in afternoon. He shoots 1  
Cont'd. chikor.

22.1.80. Beautiful fine day. Very cold in the wind. Gonuley, Butler, and self  
Thursday with gun off to the village at 11 a.m. Put up 1 covey of chikor, no  
shot. Meet Khalassie coming up just as we get/<sup>to</sup>the fort. Nothing for  
me. Williams and a party had gone to the Ruby mines, but we did not  
follow them. Interview Durree and Shroff about 27th N.I. mess bill.  
Tiffin at mess. Butler and Gormley with their own fellows. See poor  
Ikey's grave. Williams has cut out a headstone, and placed it up in the  
fort wall.

Lt. I.D. Wright

R.A.

Shot in action Decr. 29th

1879

After tiffin see blue rock down by stream. Major and Doc. and we 3  
after them. I get 1 shot, and 1 pigeon. Doc. and Major accompany us  
as far as the scene of battle, and then leave. We arrive at Kotal all  
safe, passing dak, chum of Gormley, and Koochi Canip. No shots.

23.1.80. Beautiful day. Windy as usual. Dig a jun pit facing North. On a  
Friday Committee on 3 mules of Gormley's stolen on night 19th. Then on our  
blankets 68 condemned. Khalassie arrives with some boots for Butler,  
range finder and mule. The fool has dropped the letters, so I send him  
back to look for them. Send Comtee. Reports to Major. Khalassie finds  
the letter. Nugent gets a batch of newspapers. Stafford up from the  
village after tiffin to see the defences. Butler out with the gun. Cave  
51st turns up for duty, bringing Flo's daughter. Butler turns up, has  
had 2 shots, got nothing. Nugent and Gormley prowl, Co. McGregor and  
Major Macnaghten thro' en route to Kabul. Former asks questions about  
defence and water supply. Does not see the use of the Fort. Nugent  
turns up with 1 pigeon in time to finish the cicerone work. Barber  
from village. Men naturally object to pay whole amount. Whist won  
8 points. XX

- 24.1.80. Windy as usual, but fine. Go on with the gun pit digging. Nugent  
Saturday off ~~the~~ to Perwan Kotal for the day. Saw Gr. Rooney for striking a  
native, the cook, no evidence, so simply warn him. Send cheque and  
chit to Mallins about mess bill Rs. 124/-/-. Write to Clockety about  
working pay for the men. Khalassie arrives at 12 with 10 camel loads  
of grass, a letter (with bill from R.A. mess Peshawar) from C.O., 1  
from Clockety. Muster Rolls, and memo to return 4 boxes of 5th fuses.  
Write to Major to ask for Shroff to be sent up. Calm afternoon, so  
take all the ranges round. Then the war cry of the Ghasis. Fire  
lighted at night on the hill side. Get a lot of papers, and see all  
the rumours are rot, not a success at Kam Dhakka. Yielding 1st Sikhs  
thro' to join Ghoorkhas. A stranger also thro'. No one knows who he  
is. Supposed 5th P.C. Whist lost 20.
- 25.1.80. Slight wind, clouding up. Divine Service at 10 under Nugent. Khalassie  
Sunday turns up with papers. Major Burlton and Palmer thro' worry about  
tinman. Send Canteen Account 17.9.6. to Major. Get 3 novels out of  
Cave a 'Jewel of a girl', 'Her Mother's darling' and 'Kilverdale'.  
Smith, Mein and Holdich all R.E. in to dinner, bringing lots to eat.  
Get some cheroots out of Smith. Sit up rather late with Butler.
- 26.1.80. Gun pit digging. Give Keenan 3 days C.B. Take a list of Kardier's  
Monday property. No atta, so have to send Corp. Ingram, 3 men, and 2 mules  
to the village for it. Read 'A Jewel of a girl' Khalassie up with  
1 chit about Wright's mess bill. Corp. Ingram brings up grain and  
pay book. Pay the men. Capt. Abadie 9th Lancers thro' Cabulwards.  
Moonlight night. Turned out at 11 p.m. by a shot from a soor. Turn  
in again. Finished 'Her Mother's Darling'. Whist won 7 points.
- 27.1.80. No grazing Murray 72nd McGUINNESS 9th Lancers and another thro'  
Tuesday Indiwards, while I am at breakfast. Gun pit drill. Stables. S.B.D.  
Rs. 430/-/- 3 oks also Gr. Devine Fam. Rem. Send (Kaha)Kahur~~s~~ down  
to have Range finders ready tomorrow. Send Khalassie down - under  
charge of Cave and Butler - to the village, with the money. Read  
'Kilverdale' and commenced 'Queenie'. Cave and Butler back from the  
village at 5 with a cake. Nugent out shooting to meet them. Gets 1  
pigeon - Moonlight and cloudy. Lost 12 points at whist.

28.1.80.  
Wednesday

Cloudy - Gun drill in the pits. 2 guns thro' about 10.30 from Jugdulluk. Major in to see the Fort, does not like position; advises ravelin removal of mules to ~~the pits~~ and elsewhere. Arrange to take up the position of the horses and ravelin. Just in time for the ravelin. Walk down the road. Interview the Shroff about Merwanjee. Coffee shop for cheroots, candles, jam and potted meat; Br. Hardy about pay for works, tells me to get order authorising pay - from O.C.R.E. Write accordingly. 2 camels left behind. Write to Palmer and send them back, with convoy. Hear Duthy is in Jellalabad, Nugent out shooting, gets nothing. Cave, Butler, and I ditto, with the same result. Whist lost 11 points. Snowed at little from 12 to 4. Clouds thinned a bit about 5. Hazy, moonlight. Trouble threatening from all directions.

29.1.80.  
Thursday

Still a little cloudy, but much warmer. Holiday for gunners. Natives shift the mule lines. Ordnance mules to where our horses used to be. Baggage mules to the ravelin. Horses are shifted outside. A convoy of sorts going Indiawards. Kirkpatrick in to see Gormley, on his way to Cabul with Hassard. Brings Gormley a note from Tippetts to say he is to go to Safed Sang. 'Chips' to come back. Agree to go out shooting after tiffin. Gormley refuses to go, does not like long walks. Nugent and I guns and revolvers. Butler and Cave Rifles and revolvers, a kahar to carry the ammunition, sally out for a shoot. 1st thing Nugent gets a hare. On farther I miss one, and one gets away from Nugent without his seeing it, then to half way. Give my gun to Butler. He and Nugent discover coveys of chikor. Nugent bangs away. Cave and I think he is attacked. Off after him. Find he is having a field day with the chikor. Has got 3. Butler misses his covey cant get up to them. I shoot 1 chikor Nugent shoots another. Then homeward bound. Butler slates a seesa. "Don't tell any one". Gormley bet we would not get a brace of anything. Triumphant entry, with 1 hare, 5 chikor, and a seesa. Whist, won 7 points. Butler revoked.

30.1.80.  
Friday

A white world again, for the 3rd time. Corp. Ingram and 19 mules to village for rations. A very rapid thaw, scarcely a sign of snow by 12. Doc. on his way up to <sup>?Surgas?</sup> unearths a covey of chikor. Cave and I and Maux - Cave's fox terrier bitch - go after them, and I get one shot, but the barrel hangs fire. Come down to the road on a convoy 3 officers going to Kabul. 1 - Triscott - to Swinley's battery. 1 - a

- 30.1.80. Cont'd. vet - to R.H.A. and 1 more - Sim R.E. Triscott gives me a note to Nugent. After tiffin Nugent and Cave go out for a prowl. Padre Pearson turns up. Stables. Out with Butler for a prowl. Look for rubies. Useless. C & U Back. Latter completely done up. Padre dines. Presents us with a bottle of whiskey. Tells us lots of news.
- 31.1.80. Saturday Padre at breakfast. Have 3 chikor. Master in Khaki at 9.45. Come back and finish breakfast. Find Major Philips 12th, in the Mess in charge of empty animals, returning from Sehbabab. Medley and with him. Send off muster rolls, weekly state and memo about Elliott's belts. Capt. Smyth. Lt. and Co. 51st up again from the village. Show Medley round the Fort. Philips, Medley and Padre off with the convoy. Col Blair and Stafford R.E.s up to inspect works. Inspect ammunition and tents. S.links for head chains and oil for carbines wanted. Shone R.E. up to with Col. Blair. Williams with him. Tiffin. Shone on the buck about Blair and Judge, says he is coming up here. Exeunt Shangers. Out for a shoot towards pudding hill. Beautiful shot. 1 barrel hangs fire, next misses fire. Lazy Gormley, Butler and Cave wont come up, so I tramp round alone. Pick up tinder case. Ruby hunting. Find ever so many under Jukkoo's kind patronage. Cave too finds some. Take them all. Merry dinner. Cave's bottle of whiskey sold by auction Rs 4 to Butler and self. Whist lose 20 points. Guards. Cakes, cheroots and ca. from coffee shop, 1 cake, 50 cheroots, 2 potted meats, 6 Jams 4 candles.
- 1.2.80. Sunday Divine Service with 51st Corpl. Ingram 6 gunners, 19 drivers, 45 mules for rations. Send off to C.O. Rs. 20/9/- Statement Canteen acct. Keep money deficiencies rations. Memo for G. Gormley, Cave, Butler and self, down to the village. Meet Smyth R.H.A. and Palmer, going to ruby mines. We all go there. Get rubies. Snows towards evening.
- 2.2.80. Monday Snows all day. Nothing done. Double tot of rum to men.
- 3.2.80. Tuesday Snow stopped  $1\frac{1}{2}$  foot deep. Drifts all day. Mad enough to start off convoys. Smyth R.H.A. can get no further than this. Chips turns up amidst cheers. also here. 4 strangers sleep in the mess hut, weatherbound. Get 2 Brandy from Butler. Frozen Bheestie and Mule driver Robertson restored to life with 2 tots of rum.

- 4.2.80. Hard work getting breakfast. Strangers off. Gormley too to Safed  
Wednesday Sang. Nugent and Cave stroll after tiffin, Cave with my gun. Corpl. Ingram and mules for rations. Only 8 mds. of grass, and no rum, at village. Out for a stroll with Thurlow. Toboggin. Whist, win 11 points. Very windy night. 1 sarwan and 2 camels bring up Kabar's tent. Sarwan drops just outside the Fort.
- 5.2.80. First thing I hear is that Sarwan is dead. Escort going to Perwan.  
Thursday 2 camels bolt and overtake them. Kahar sent too. No grass. Sunshine, but bitterly cold. Whist in the afternoon, lose 34 points; evening win 3. On duty. Guards. Butler and I sleep in the mess hut, great improvement on one's cold tent.
- 6.2.80. Sunshine and bitterly cold. 10.30. Nugent, Butler, I, volunteers of 51st,  
Friday 109 mules, with Mess boxes, 3 syces, and 3 ponies and my gun, start for Perwan. Slippery work down to half way, where I get 2 pigeons. Worry on out of the snow. Get warm for the first time. A little past half way, meet Gen. and Staff's baggage. Butler has a spell at the gun, misses 3 seesees. Meet Gen. *Arbutnot? Nutt?* and Wilcox, with transport. Gen. affably converses. I take gun, and just beyond Kotal, drop 1 pigeon. Arrived at Perwan a little after 12. Business. Tiffin at mess. Get stores out of them. 51st fill up the boxes and start homewards. Nugent gets a shot at a lot of pigeons, and misses. I get a shot at same flock. T.A. skirmishes after the flock, and total bag for 1 shot 6 pigeons. Butler gets 1 chikor. I miss 2 barrels at seesees. Nugent misses fire at a chikor. Bitterly cold and cloudy coming in. Whist won 4 points.
- 7.2.80. Hand over stores to Abdar. Gen. Nutt and Stafford turn up. Nutt seedy,  
Saturday to my tent. After tiffin - partaken of affably by all but Nutt - to water supplies, thence back to Jagdulluk by Pudding Hill. Wilson and Pollock from the Peswan side for a shoot. Bring in 1 chikor. Pay the men. Write out complaints of Emam Buksh, and Hassan Khan. Send off a lot of things, and chit to Major. Dinner. Enter Doc. in a rage at Butler. Pathan *interloper* drops into the Q.M.S. hut, interviewed taken care of. Whist till 3.30. 1st Sapper, 2nd Sapper, won 10 pts.

- 8.2.80. Dont get up till 11.30. Doc. Thurlow and I to a late breakfast. Exeunt Sunday.  
Pollock and Milton taking Johnny to be shod at Perwan. Snows but warm. Khalassie turns up and brings letters, owing to eccentricities of the .P.O. always returning them to the Major. Orders for mules, drives, and 2 Europeans to go to the village immediately. Write a protest to Major after dinner, and answer his letter. Doc. indulges us with Sunday stories. Snowing at bedtime.
- 9.2.80. 6" of snow. Cold and cloudy. Decide not to send off the mules today. Get Monday  
up at 7.30 to stop all arrangements, then set to work at the mess to get the roof cleaned by Kahars. Down to Jagdulluk in the evening with Cave and Butler. Cave of 12th on convoy duty, with large convoy going to Cabul. Gen. and Staff thro' today to Perwan.
- 10.2.80. Hastings going through from Kabul to Perwan. Tuesday
- 11.2.80. Mules to the village. Go down on Puck. Take a gun. See pigeons. Give Wednesday  
my gun to Sergt. McLeod. Lunch at Sappers with Stafford and Stanton. Ride back. Meet Hastings and Holmes. Newspapers from 51st. See chikor and pigeons en route back, fired my gun, would not go off in Sergt. McLeod's hands. Get a chit from Alliance Bank to say Stewart has paid up balance of Pro. Note, and that they now hold 97.10 of mine at my disposal. Whist. 7 the longs twice 22. Guards. Very cold and windy.
- 12.2.80. Sunshine and cold. Send down 1 pakal mule for the deck at village. A Thursday  
regimental board at 10 on valises, to be followed at 12 by station one of which I am a member. Wrote to the Alliance Bank and Stewart. Thackeray R.A. thro' to join Morgan's battery No. 1 Milton, Spragge and Corbett 51st up to lunch. Col. Tucker and Capt. Tucker going thro'. Hear 51st are to go on. Carriage already at Saudi Kotal. Syce and nag turn up. Fever prevented them coming yesterday. Dr. Davie 3rd thro' from sick leave, bringing letter and official about remittance Khansamah's account. Write to the Major. Thaw today, very dirty and sloppy. Whist lose 8 points. A quiet night, no wind. Telegraph to know from what distance they can fire into the fort. Answer 400 yards.
- 13.2.80. Dull morning. Quiet and cloudy. Snow fatigues. Pushta man for supplies Friday  
sent up by Hastings. Cant interview him as I am having a TUB. Nugent and Thurlow to the village. Butler pays me 6.12.9. Snows a little towards evening. Whist lose 17 points. Old Chips got a bad cold, and a parcel from his Missis. Dit not get up till dinner.



- 14.2.80. Sun struggling thro' clouds. Not an inch of snow on the ground. Nugent and Thurlow off to Perwan. Thurlow takes an official with Weekly state Pay statement, and memo of remittances and of Rs. 300. Inspection of kits. Pay the men Rs. 152/-/-. Gr. Green to claim a brother. 11.30. Cave and I on Puck and Johnny to the village. Harness Inspection and pay the men down there. Find deficiencies in harness. Get some rum out of Palmer. Pigeons and Chikor coming back. Meet Pat Butler half way. Tiffin on arrival. Whist get to 100 points to the bad, so close. Valentine's day, celebrated by Punch. Khalassie thro' with warm coats and *poshteens*.
- 15.2.80. Dont get up too early. After breakfast Butler and I on Puck and Johnny Sunday pay a visit to the village. I to take rum to the men. Thawing fast. See 14th B.L. under Eardley Wilmot at the village. Complaints about pay from Driver and Muleteer. Back to dinner. Stray leaves from a military man's notebook. Moux enlivens us during dinner by pupping over the fire place. 2 pups. Moonlight night. Guards as I am on duty. Thermometer 26° outside. Tucker thro' Perwanwards.
- 16.2.80. Fatigues clearing away snow. Cloudy, sun trying to struggle thro'. Monday Freezing. Pay Cooks. Get nags brought inside. Wrote to Mum; and Merwanjee for caps. Nags counterordered. 2nd Vol. of 'Stray leaves' read. Khalassie from Perwan with 18 mule blankets, send him on to the village to Corpl. Williams, Sergt. McLeod and Corp. Ingram to the village. Gen. Gough thro' wants road cleared for heavy battery.
- 17.2.80. Sunshiny, very windy, and cold. Cave on working party. Thurlow commences Tuesday a sketch of the Fort, and its surroundings. Our men clear snow from gun pits. Wrote to lawyer with undesipherable signature about Major Dyce deceased. After tiffin Butler on working party. Cave and self on Puck and Johnny to the village. Get some rum out of Palmer, go round stables, find things wanted, get a memo. of same, and some Kahars out of Stafford to carry grain and grass.
- 18.2.80. A warm day for a wonder. 17th B.C. thro' Cabulwards. Dr. Ala Bux thro' Wednesday from leave, bringing 2 chits from the Major. Cullum and Sharpus bill, and one from R.A. mess. 2 guns ordered out to Safed Sang. 3 miles out, recalled no one knows what for. Pay for dr. and mr. and sweeper. Go down to the village to dole it out after tiffin with Pat, and Stafford, who turns up for tiffin. Stafford and Stanton looted by thieves last night.

- 18.2.80. Letter from Arthur Penton at Fort Battye. Play whist at night lose 29  
Cont'd. points attribute it to the cap dursee had sent up.
- 19.2.80. No convoy, again, so turn back mules, Khalassie, and Nanvo 2nd. Helio  
Thursday from C.O. about sports, no one wants to go. Nugent down to the village  
for mules and his 2 ponies. intending to go in for polo, 12 v. 51. Both  
ponies have sore backs, so he decides not to go. Cave and Thurlow going,  
cloudy and windy. Out for a prowl with Butler towards water, very cold.  
Firing heard this morning towards Jugdulluk; during the day towards  
Hissarak. Manx tried with somebody else's pup. Objects at first; carries  
it off to her box at second; objects again, so experiment ceases. A box  
of cheroots from 51st.
- 20.2.80. Cave and Thurlow, and 51st men off to Safed Sang for sports; windy, but  
Friday sun out, very cold a slight fall of snow last night. Sick and wounded  
convoy from Cabul. Luke and 67th Poole (?) in to see us. Hear his name  
is Connellan.  
They tell us all over in 3 weeks. 100 lakhs of rupees going up to settle  
matters. On duty. Moonlight. Guards. Chip's revoke and protests.  
Battery Dhobie in bringing me Rs 150 and enigmatical memo. Take charge of  
Manx and pups, who rout me out at 4 a.m., 2 bottles of whiskey from 51st box
- 21.2.80. Sunny but windy, inspect ammunition. Tents and new guthrie coats, then  
Saturday pay the men Rs. 146. After this start for Jugdulluk. An Afghan swell  
with armed retainers and ladies going Indiwards. Meet Stanton about half  
way *haranguing* also *rigue* about roads, tells me A.S. is  
the Prince of Bokhara with chit from Roberts. Get to Jugdulluk. Pay men.  
Tell Reay about working pay. Inspect mules, sell off 3 drivers about  
blankets, then tiffin with Stafford & Stanton. 2 eggs boiled a great  
treat. Back to the Kotal, see 2 coveys of chikor, meet Nugent prowling  
down. Battery tailor in with Khake and walnuts. I get 1 pair of knicks  
8 as. walnuts 160; 2 chits from the Major, meet Nanoo and mule, and 2  
iron mistrees on the way to Jugdulluk. Coffee shop man departed, beautiful  
moon and wind gone down. Manx in charge again. Lord W. Beresford went  
thro' yesterday, riding from Cabul to Peshawar in 2 days. Gone to Calcutta  
in suit v. Maitland. Major wants to send 25 camels to me.
- 22.2.80. A warm day, no wind. Gunners to church under Nugent. After breakfasting  
Sunday. amply, took to business, and sat down to official journal. Enter old  
Chips, Rabid and restless, propounding the theory of smashing the universe

- 22.2.80. Sits down to breakfast, the absence of a spout to his teapot annoys  
Cont'd. him, and the next minute, self and official diary are drowned in hot tea; and his old man is placed hors de combat by the remains of the tea, and the pot itself, which fetches him over the right eye, and out of the room, breakfast with occasional interludes of soliloquising strolls, and then, to our relief, exit Chips. Butler and self pay the village a visit to see what the mule brought yesterday. 12 dunders. 50 ties. Get permission for mistrees to work at Stafford's forge. Cake and rum at Sappers. Take out the old gun with 4 caps, all bad; try matches 7 misfires then loot a chokidar of 2 caps, when of course nothing is seen. Walk into the Pasidurn, back to Kotal meeting 3 mules, and old *lungor* durree. Find blankets and serge suits have been brought. Chip turns up at dinner. Pat very nearly tells all about his exploits under his nose; very sulky till he has had some dinner, expands under good cheer and drinks, finally goes to bed cheerful. Tele. to Nugent to say 12 beat 51 by 1 goal. 51 won all sports. Helio in morning was the cause of Doc's ruction. Hastings thro' Peshawarwards had nailed a *chikor*.
- 23.2.80. Snowing. Corpl. Ingram, gun and 2 looted caps have gone to village to  
Monday hunt lungoor and serge suits. 3 mules back to Peswan. with 3 of mine for Regl. Nec. Give Nk Eman Bux memo. with Pay and Canteen statements, and cash account recd. for Rs. 150. Gr. Shannou's claim. Rect. for dunders, ties, hemp and 4 Rs. Bala sweeper. Cave and Thurlow back, bringing Hastings and 7 sheep. Hut built for sheep and grain handed over at once. Snow fight with men of 51st. Whist and ecarte lose.
- 24.2.80. About 6" of snow on the ground. Old *lungor* in to fit serge suits,  
Tuesday fitted and O.L. and 4 mules sent off with sick convoy. Commences to snow at noon. 3 mules in with necessaries, get a Jersey for Butler and 6 socks for self, also 2 striped shirts. Mess hut leaking, so play whist in the afternoon under difficulties. About 4 Major McDonald 27th P.I. turns up with a convoy. On in the snow, and back about 5 p.m. 10 mules. Rig up tarpaulins for dinner, Whist and ecarte lose. Snowing badly.

- 25.2.80. Awake and find tent and snow on the top of me; only ridge pole broken  
Wednesday  
clamber out; have a fatigue party to dig me out; a tot of rum, and turn  
in again. Palmer turns up in the afternoon to laugh at the situation,  
having escorted Badcock half way to Perwan. Helio comes in for me to  
march tomorrow to Jugdulluk. Last dinner and whist reduce me to 132 points.  
Sunshiny day. Freezing hard at night.
- 26.2.80. Fine day; borrow 23 mules from 51st, send down men's kits on them, battery  
Thursday  
mules take the rest. Cave and Chip in bed. Escort of 12, and start about  
11 a.m. Pass 5th P.C. in vermilion helmets just below the Kotal. Reach  
Jugdulluk at noon without mishap; marching in state to Col. Armstrong 45th  
Sikhs. McRae. Take up a position in the citadel. Pitch small tent, get  
some wood from Stafford, and Mistree builds me another ridge pole, so  
pitch big tent in the afternoon by a fatigue party of gunners. Stables at  
4, tiffin with 45th Br. Wright looking very seedy. Dine with Sapper and  
Palmer. Major Bushman 9th Lancers thro', dines, anecdotes of Zululand.  
Ambidexterous. Whiskey and water with Palmer in his tent. Bed.
- 27.2.80. Exercising order from 9 to 10 stables at 11, then breakfast. Moondiga and  
Friday.  
self out shooting, to to the Kotal; meet Nugent and 1 cartridge out after  
chikor, waste of 1 cartridge unsuccessful at pigeons. Shoot two and 1  
peewit. Cave gone to Peswan. Chips tent get my tobacco; back to dinner  
bed early, Guards.
- 28.2.80. Inspect kits, blankets, ammunition, stables and then to Sappers. Stafford,  
Saturday  
self, and 4 Sowars thro' Pariduvia to Dovel Pass; see aborigine; hear of  
'fouj', no enemy to be seen. Back by new scratch, 1 sowar on white off.  
27th coming back. Tiffin and out with syce to shoot pigeons, done see one.  
Nugent Thurlow and Reid down from Kotal. Chips stuffed up Reid a doctor,  
writes to me for his nag. Kirke 27th N.I. dines, was at Delhi in mutiny.  
A policeman also looked like it.
- 29.2.80. Could not get a prayer book, so no divine service. Gen. Arbuthnot in en  
Sunday  
route to Cabul, and all staff. Also Col. Blair, Col. Tucker and Pulford.  
Make an arrangement with Wilcox to go to shoot; he engaged with his chief  
Col. Tucker, so I go out with gun, and 4 caps, with Stanton, bowl over a  
pigeon, and 1 chikor, dont get it. Home and change. Major Walker and  
Coutha. Former dines, as does Col. Blair. Chit from Lottie. Chit from  
Major Douglas and Nugent, about coffee shop tea. Butler and Thurlow up with  
Woolly, give Joseph 12 Rs. Joseph gives 1½ doz. eggs. Hear about

- 29.2.80. Fitzgerald Comt. Officer Peswan, and pathan young lady. Mysterious.  
Sunday
- 1.3.80. Get up about 9 a.m. Over to mess tent for a cup of tea. Back to muster.  
Monday  
Europeans, Khaki, natives warm coats. Moonah wishes to know why 1 Rupee has been cut. Back to mess for breakfast. Gen. Carthew, Blair, Stafford, survey<sup>on</sup> sepoys and suffering ones out, Offrs. on horse, sepoys and suffering men on mule back by Dobei Kotal to Ruby mines, and home at 5. Sheroff and battery pay in with Kalassi at 3. Drawing Stanton's and my attention from where men will work tomorrow, and rifle practice of 45th. Pay Europeans and natives, pay Mir Ali. Working pay Europeans 6.6.0. Sheroff too 'thick' to go back tomorrow, so reserve band settlement of private affairs. 45th ~~band~~ plays near mall. Novel music stands of sepoys. Deposit Rs 300 with Sappers. Nugent in to see Palmer, and Stafford and try for tools. Out. Survey party in; Holmes on putting, dinner, Col Blair's reminiscences, bed and diary. Kardier on leave to dine with Smyth's man of 51st at Kotal.
- 2.3.80. Working party at 9 a.m. Tub and breakfast at 10. Stables at 11. Gen.  
Tuesday  
Carthew and Stafford Kotal way. Kotal to be made for 100 men. Col. Blair and Stanton the other way. Hear that Wilcox started at 6 a.m. with the maund bag on his back for Set Baba. Write a memo. to Major acknowledging receipt of 994.14.5. explaining 6 Rs. excess, and enclosing statements of Pay, memo about canteen, and send statement, 2 receipts for Q.M.S. Private note to the Major. Squad of drivers to shift my tent next to mess; done by noon. Deaf left ear. Stafford back about 2. Major Ramsay 25th K.O.B. Ross Thompson Sappers, and another unknown in from Sughman for a visit; coolly bone my hat band, who lames Ross Thompson's horse, and gets sworn at by Ramsay. Exeunt strangers to Sughman. After tiffin, assault a poor aborigine with my Pushta poor man, it was a trial to him, we got a little mixed. Pay servants in the afternoon all but Kardier, who has absented himself without leave today. Khansamah turns up with a Misaf as long as my arm. Putting and athletics with Holmes, who gives me 3 feet, and 10-lbs and locks. Reid of 51st down to get his pony shod; takes back my whist losings Rs. 66. Wilcox in from Sei Baba, won his bet, but does not mind owning it was not worth it. Bed early.

3.3.80.  
Wednesday

Up at 9. Inspect watering order, and working party. Send off Sheroff with letters, 2 mules. 1 Returned by Khalassie, other for charcoal. Curse the Khansamah and send him back. Afternoon athletics, same old games. Coffee shop man turns up. Col. Armstrong and Wilcox out shooting; get 3 brace of chikor. Dr. Mohun and 15 camels turn up. He says Major wants <sup>M</sup>Mistrees. Col. A. tells me about men loafing unarmed below.

4.3.80.  
Thursday

Holiday, so dont turn up too early. Gen. Massy, young Massy, Oxley 92nd and Carr in from Cabul; no one knows any thing about the Massy ~~Ye~~ -ye reasons. Oxley going to be adjutant of volunteers at Aberdeen. Carr, inspector of P.O. returning from a tour of duty. Wallerstein and Ramsay 24th thro' to join their regiments from India. Putting, jumping etc., after tiffin. Darling, Ross Thompson R.E., and some others of Sughman force in. Former tiffins, returns after tiffin. Hear of 8 Lindley with M.L. gun and caps, send to ask for some. Fitzgerald of Comst. in to see Palmer from Perwan. He, Oxley and Carr dine with us. Sergt. Joyner turns up, having paid Rs. 9 to Capt. Nugent at Kotal en route, for tea and stuff.

5.3.80.  
Friday

Up at 8. Battery exercise to N. picquet hill at 9 a.m. Try 118 lame, so use 1st gun mule coming back as well. 5 drs. deposit Rs. 195 for Fam. Rem. Mahomed Khan 60, Thorals 40, Hassar Khan 25, Kali Churn Singh 50, Nanoo 2nd 20. Memo. and particulars sent to Major. Copy of both filed. See that the Ranges and fuses are pasted in the wheel boxes. After stables, Stafford and I to the Kotal; he on business to lay out a road. Tiffin there. Old Chips rises and makes his first appearance at 3 p.m. says I look better. Holmes went to Seh Baba today, both being ~~stiff~~ stiff, we give the games a holiday. Start a coffee shop, under Gr. Wetherall, value of 1st indent Rs. 6/8/- 3 lbs. of tea @ 1/-/- 14 of sugar @ /4/-. The Corps idea of Gr. Rooney the roque to get it. Palmer's last night, tricks. Hear Sughman portion expected in tomorrow 45th sweepstakes with Holmes' rifle, 3 chickens down the Khud slaughtered.

- 6.3.80. Up at 10. Working party at 9. Stables at 11. Inspect Tents and  
Saturday  
baggage harness. find straps short, and connecting to 3 gone. See  
Sughman portion in, under Major Ramsay of 25 K.D.B., who decides on  
going up to the Kotal to camp in spite of dissuasion of Col. Armstrong.  
They had 2 rifles Martini stolen last night. Tub. Lindley R.E. turns  
up and gives me 23 caps. Gun stuffed up. Raining. Stanton, Stafford  
and I out. I miss a hare and chikor. General bad luck. Only 1 pigeon,  
a pot. Get wet through. Find a Cabul convoy under Major McDonald in,  
with him McRae. 22nd - 67th and a draft. Friend of 5th on transport,  
and some others. Write to Williams sending Puck by convoy to be shod,  
and to have rum for 6 month and subscriptions to Pioneer and C & M  
Gasette sent thro' Paymaster, write for both to respective managers.  
Palmer left today, so only we 3 at dinner. Rains like the devil.
- 7.3.80. Divine Service at 10 a.m. Pay the men 134, get Rs. 16/8 for 22 lbs.  
Sunday  
of tobacco. 18/8/ <sup>canteen</sup> ~~cante~~, 125 Br. Agnew, and 40 Sergt. Hawkins *Jam*  
*Ram*. Rs. 66 handed over to Pay Hasildar of 5 and M. 670 Rs. now in  
his hands, write 3 memos. to C.O. 1 about tobacco, 1 about Rem. ~~xxxxxx~~  
tother about cash canteen and pay, telling him balance in treasure  
chest. After tiffin Stanton, Stafford and self to burnt village for  
Chikor, saw 2 women positively, 2nd one crouching under a wall,  
thought she was in for it. Missed 3 chikor, shot 1 fine old cock.  
Home by the road. One 92nd Officer in, convoy of sick and wounded  
from Cabul. Puck and Shurdan back with the ledger no letter however.  
Whilst out shooting heard the 1st flock of Koolen going Centralassiwawar-  
ds.
- 8.3.80. Working party at 9 a.m. Stanton out with the gun before breakfast,  
Monday  
but sees nothing. Stables at 10. Determine to send in a mule to-  
morrow for necessaries and pegs. Munnoo wants 3 days leave so send  
him. Depot 3rd Sikhs in under a European officer, pitch opposite  
my tent, spits slightly. 1.30 sign the ledger S.B.D. 342 Gr. McGinn  
20 Fam. Rem. Stafford and Stanton up to Kotal about road making.  
Athletics with Holmes disgracefully beaten at everything.  
Sweepstake at cock, down the Khud, amounts to 3/4 apiece, cock un-  
killed to odd man out for sweep results in a benefit for Col. Armstrong.

9.3.80. 8 a.m. Convoy starts escorting Dr. Munnoo on 3 days leave, he takes 1 mule  
 Tuesday  
 1 memo, ledger and Sergt. Joyner's small book for signature of C.O. to  
 deposit of Rs. 50/-/- made whilst passing thro' Perwan. 20 of the 45th  
 Sikhs leave for the Kotal to relieve 80 of the 51st, under Smyth to come  
 down to the guns. At 9 a.m. have a battery exercise to the Kotal over-  
 looking Dobeli, take my gun but see nothing but 2 seesees out of range;  
 back by the road. Battery Tailor in with serge clothing for refit.  
 Out after tiffin with Stafford to look at new sites for camps take the  
 gun and see nothing. Meet Fitzgerald Comt. going back to Perwan.  
 Holditch R.E. and Badcock Comst. in en route to Kabul. Putting stone  
 &ca. with Holmes. In the middle my name yelled, and J.W. Hawkins appears  
 anticipating his note by a day. Get a dhoolie for him in my tent.  
 Holditch, Badcock, and Hawkins dine. At dinner, Kit comes to me to say  
 some of G. 3 want some dinner, go to the tent, hospital rest camp, and  
 find Cowan and Allsopp. Bring them over to dinner, they are going to  
 see Jellalabad.

10.3.80. Hawkins away towards Cabul, Cowan and Allsopp the other way. Working  
 Wednesday  
 party for men. Camp relapses into its usual peace and quietness. At 3  
 p.m. a telegram comes from Seh Baba, from Col. Woodruffe 45th Sikhs saying  
 "Akram Khan of Serobi reports the Safis of Tagas collecting in large  
 numbers for the purpose of attacking Seh. Baba." Col. Armstrong sends this  
 off to Gen. Arbuthnot, and despatches McRae and 30 men on mules to  
 bring in Capt. Young and his men of 30th N.I. who are coming from  
 Sughman. Large convoy of empty animals in from Cabul under Major  
 McDonald. Purdy G.3 R.A. in and Gunner. Ask both to dine 4.30. Go and  
 see Grs. clothing tired on, very few more alterations wanted now. 5 p.m.  
 a telegram arrives from Gen. Arbuthnot. 2 guns and 200 men to start at  
 once for Seh Baba. Get 40 mules and 2 camels from Wilcox to take my  
 baggage, strike camp, and get ready. Leave 1 native tent, 1 European  
 Br. Elliott, Gr. Yorke, Flynn and Keenan behind with Tailor and mistrees  
 and all blue clothing, and superfluous kits. Dine before starting. Get  
 off about 7.30 in the middle of the baggage. 8 p.m. tolls as we get to  
 the top of the 1st Kotal.

11.3.80. After a great many stoppages, and a weary march, we arrived at Seh Baba  
 Thursday  
 at 3.30 a.m. Routed out Col. Woodruffe, did not know where we were to go,  
 so selected my own position, and bivouacked men and mules. Pat and I, as



- 11.3.80. Gordon had written me a polite invitation, went to the R.E. mess for rum  
Cont'd. and water; knocked about over to Sikhs, till last of convoy came in, and  
then to his tent for a snooze. Woke up at 9. Shewn camping ground, climb  
to the top of the hill to see about gun's position. Col. allows me to  
park them for the present in Nie camp. Get into camp, and feed with the  
Sappers. Gordon and Clockety; they and their men get to Lataband Kotal  
to meet Col. Blair, so I breakfast and tiffin alone. Hastings policeman  
going thro' Perwanwards - Campbell has lost a saddle in the night, and  
Hastings a coat and his watch. Mysterious, whenever Hastings - policeman  
- turns up, things are lost. Stables in the afternoon shew no mules bad.  
Dine over in R.E. mess with Gordon and Campbell. Pat turns up after dinner  
for a chat as his Smyth had gone to bed.
- 12.3.80. Seh Baba. Determine on a holiday. Holmes and Wilcox gone back to  
Friday Jagdallak, latter leaving me as transport 30 mules and ponies, and 2  
camels. McRae turns up in Holmes' place. 45th Sikhs have got orders to  
go on to Kabul. Select a spot for a gun singa. Sappers shift their camp,  
and come over by us. We join messes, nothing of importance occurs. Prowl  
with Campbell to the top of picquet hill. Pat shaved.
- 13.3.80. Set the men to work at gun *Sungá* <sup>a type of bridge</sup>. Col. Armstrong 45th Sikhs asks me  
Saturday to go out and see Tagao and the river. Send off Corp. Williams and all  
the good transport to Jagdallak to fetch what was left behind. At 11 a.m.  
Col. Armstrong, McRae, Campbell and self on Campbell's black pony (as  
Pat has taken the warhorse to look at Kabul from Sataband Kotal, off  
with a guide to survey the position; meet plentiful supplies coming from  
Serobi also young Khan's son, with a follower, who falls in and  
accompanies us. Turn off to the left before reaching Seroki, up to Tig  
Kotal, the last part on foot. At our feet Kabul river, and 3 villages  
of Doaba. To the right the Tagao valley. Find out from Azim Khan there  
are 3 fords. One by Seroki impassable on foot. 2 at our feet, by Doaba  
fordable. Return after viewing everything, to tiffin, resisting young  
Khan's invitation to Seroki, Col. decides that the only thing to do is  
to wait at Seh Baba for them. Find, on returning, Spratt R.E. Col.  
Blair, and Scott surveyor in, all asked to dinner. A glass of Sherry  
after with Spratt. Bucking till late, and then to bed. Sappers decide  
to go on to Satabund tomorrow. Hear Mahomed Jan is coming in to Kabul.

- 14.3.80. Sehbaba did not know it was Sunday, so set the men to work at the Sunday  
*Sunga*. Smyth 51st on convoy Kabulwards. Sappers leave for Sataband. Exeunt all strangers except Col. Blair. *Sunga* with 3 embrasures finished. Hawkins thro after tiffin. Feeds for half an hour, and then on to Jagdallak. He had ridden from Kabul this morning, says Mahomed Jan is going to fight. My kit comes in. Of course chairs have been forgotten. Iamsetjee in with Koochi camels get 4 dozen of beer at 3 Rs. a bottle, and 500 cheroots Rs. 60. Heavy dak from C.O. which with arrears will give me a heavy day tomorrow. Corp. Williams brings over pay Rs. 1032, and working pay Rs. 122, deposit it in 45th treasure chest. Orders for Gr. Grosvenor to go and be Asst. Pay Sergt. Borrow from Pat Rs. 15. Rs. 7 for Gr. Grosvenor, share of working pay. 8 Rs. for Br. Baker at Kotal. Beer at dinner. Pitch my big tent over little one, as it is getting hot.
- 15.3.80. Seh baba. Gr. Grosvenor away early 7 a.m. watering order exercise, Monday  
 stables at 9 a.m. 10.30 pay the men Rs. 141, working pay Rs. 112/-. 2 Infantry strangers in, going Kabulwards. 45th arrive en route to Kabul. Co. Cleland 9th L. is wounded from Kabul. Holmes, Waller, Pat and self indulge in sports and pastimes.
- 16.3.80. Seh baba. Watering order exercise and stables, fitting drivers' blue Tuesday  
 clothing, very badly made. Receive petitions of tailor for 6 annas; and of comst. mule drivers to recover missing property from Jemadar Sall Mahomed. 22nd N.I. in. Also 27th N.I. in. Newton, Cowan, Allsopp, and McDonald in en route to Kabul; also Colton and Wodehouse 9th N.I. transport. Enormous convoy of camels with mule *otago* saddles. Dak in. Letter from Stewart. Reply and write to All. Bank. Over with Holmes to see 27th N.I. Col. Hughes, Major McDonald, Byrne, Thruston not there. Whiskey and water and back. Hear Colton has been asking for me. Go and find it is to have shoe put on nag. Newton dines, the other 3 in afterwards for a chat. Newton gets a telegram from Major Cargill to stay till he arrives. 300 of 22nd N.I. in to relieve 45th Sikhs.

17.3.80.  
Wednesday

Sehbaba. Up and round stables, ask if any men want to go to Sataband to see Kabul, none want to go. 45th Sikhs off at 7. 27th N.I. at 9. Shaved by 22nd N.I. barber. Pat and Smyth 51st swear they dont know me. Pat and I on Puck and Johnny to Sataband Kotal, taking the battery telescope; thro baggage, past 27th and 45th to the Kotal. View Kabul; start back; and meet Cowaa, Allsopp, McDonald and Newton, who take us back. Cowan does showman; another start back, accompanied by Newton. Pass 27th N.I. and get down all safe this time. Find Sepel Griffin and his staff have arrived. See Cunningham, Burton, Hastings, and Le Breton - Inspector of P.O. - a lot of native swells and some of Central India Horse as escort. At stables get a telegram from Allsopp about having lost a gold pencil case. It is found by my bearer, to whom the reward of Rs. 5/-/- will be given by Allsopp. Change of C.O. to Major Bridges 22nd N.I. Smyth 51st and I report ourselves in the morning. Newton gets a telegram from Perwan to go back to Jellalabad, rather congratulates himself on having seen Kabul. Promised to dak McDonald to Jaddallak on 25th. Pat and I to look out in the evening, watch extraordinary manoeuvres of 22nd N.I. at guard mounting parade, and stone passers by. No papers seen for a long while.

18.3.80.  
Thursday

Sehbaba. Holiday, exeunt strangers. Newton leaves for Jellalabad. A stranger - 68 L.I. I think - in from Kabul. <sup>?</sup> ~~1st~~ M. Gazette of 12th arrives - the 1st one, a <sup>treat?</sup> trent to get hold of a paper; also a letter from Major giving and asking information; answer written. After tiffin, putting and ca, with Pat. Arrange for whist with Anderson, prowl about the hills with Pat; and select another gun sunga position. Tackle Comst. Baboo for 2 sheep. Whist 4 rubbers cutting for partners every time, with one changing either seats or partners  $\pm$  3.

19.3.80.  
Friday

Sehbaba. Battery exercise; out with the first 3 lines, to the hills east of camp. Major Cargill and Newton come in. No C & M Gazett. Khalassie and 2 mules in with store, and range finder, and 18 new pattern Corps. No. 2 turned out so well that I let them off shewing ordnance harness tomorrow. Putting &ca. after tiffin, with Anderson and Pat. Jawan of 22nd N.I. joins in and licks us. Whist after dinner.

- 20.3.80. Sehbaba. When I appear at Mess, Pat's first words are "You didnt turn out Saturday  
last night". Thought he was pulling my leg, but hear there was an alarm at 2.30 a.m. Major Cargill and Newton off. Dak in, Pioneer - 1st Arrival, and C & M Gazette both in. Smyth 51st on convoy, Sataband way. Goats brought in for sale. After tiffin all go out putting &ca. McRae and Hinde as well. Br. Agnew, seeing the native throwing between his legs, joins in and beats him. Then Conolly and he, and Corp. Williams show us how to put till dinner time. Whist afterwards, I quits.
- 21.3.80. Sehbaba. No prayer book, so no church. The men dig a filter instead. Sunday  
17th B.C. come in. A Cabuli caravan, with ladies, thro'. Dak brings Pioneer & C & M Gazette. Stroll with Pat after tiffin up Sataband way, look at the Bara Singh's horn, only a single one, and the gentleman wants Rs. 2. The oldest inhabitant of Sehbaba, Dr. Anderson, to be relieved by Dr. E.A. Cones, and proceeds to Kabul with 17th B.C. Signs of the times; Hasara Coolies on road - being threatened by ~~ab~~ aborigines - decline to work without a guard. Ali Baba's identify is disclosed in the Pioneer of <sup>Spice in diary</sup> . Mr. Aberigh Machay, principal of the Indore College.
- 22.3.80. Sehbaba. Up at 7 a.m. Gun drill in new sunga. After chotha hazari up Monday  
to the top of the hill range finding. The sheep going in flocks up to high ground. Thought all 17th B.C. had gone thro', but more came in today, under an Officer; also drafts for the guides under Battye. Our flag over the tomb of Sehbaba blown down, so put up another with white background. Pioneer and C & M Gazette regular, thank goodness. Wrote to Force, and Alliance Bank to pay up Sholl with Pat Sataband way, meeting sick convoy, mostly Ghoorkhas coming in. Beautiful moonlight.
- 23.3.80. Sehbaba. Hear rain on my tent when I awake, so counter order the Battery Tuesday  
exercise. As it turns out fine, after all. I have a watering order. What we thought a convoy of Cabul merchants turns out to be baggage of Col. Heathcote, and Mr. Syall C.S. Later on Major Pretyman K.A. and Rose A.D.C. to the Viceroy ~~from~~ turn up, tell us particulars of what we had heard in the morning of murder of a 51st Officer. It seems about 4 p.m. last evening, Thurlow and Reed 51st were going back to Jagdallak Kotal from Jagdallak village, when 30 or 40 men rushed out about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from the Kotal. Both ponies shied round. A volley was fired, and Thurlow was shot dead. Reed killed one man, and then fled. He had to go back to the

- 23.3.80. village. Thurlow's body was found stripped ~~naked~~, and cut in 3 places;  
Cont'd. favorite mutilation not performed. Lyall and Heathcote do not turn up. Putting with men after stables. 4 ft. 7 lbs. from Gr. Freeman, who licks me by 3 feet. Heard from Allsopp. Mussa Jan and important sirdars coming in. No dak from below Jellalabad.
- 24.3.80. Sehbaba. Gun drill and Range finding at 7 a.m. Go up the hill after  
Wednesday breakfast to take ranges; hear what I thought were 2 shots; turned out to be Hazard road coolies blasting Jagdallak way. Hinde up to get some grass for his pony. Le Breton in from Kabul, says, Mahomed Jan has been ~~licked~~ licked by Hasaras, who boned 2 guns, and all his women. Pat out with 100 men to crown heights for Mr. Syall, me and Col. Heathcote in. Up to the top of the hill with Major Bridges and McRae. Take latter's gun to try for a pigeon, see nothing. Koochi sheep across river, ~~lacked~~ <sup>looted</sup> by thieves, in spite of moon. Hinde and some 22nd out, thirsting for blood, but without success. 2 days papers arrived. Angles too.
- 25.3.80. Ruby hunting with Hinde and Pat. Slaughter of the blind tyke, get some  
Thursday rubies. McDonald R.H.A. thro' Perwanwards; mount him on Johnny, give him some tiffin, and send him on. Servants hunt for rubies after tiffin. Wilcox in from Kabul; tackle him about Late Mahomed. Sick convoy in, one sick officer, Hunter, Dr. of the 9th. Get  $\frac{1}{2}$  sheep from 22nd N.I. Putting with Pat till papers come. Dak in about 4 p.m. Rains in the evening, and most of the night. Range finder sent off and a syce with horse clothing.
- 26.3.80. Sehbaba. Battery exercise, 1st 3 lines 7 a.m. up the hills opposite camp,  
Friday beautifully turned out. Bahadar picks up a live Jack snipe, which I appropriate and eat for breakfast. See Hunter and have a chat, also a Comst. Officer Acklavy - or some such name, who is going Cabulwards; and came in yesterday. Self and McRae to the picquet above our tents telescoping, see forts in Tagao. Syce in with Johnny; tells me headquarters are in Jagdallak. Driver, who took range finder, also back, left his mule with headquarters. Up the hill with Major Bridges, McRae, Pat and the telescope; dinner by daylight. Col. Watson 17th B.C. in.
- 27.3.80. Sehbaba. Inspections and stables. Waller 45th and a young fellow of 14th  
Saturday Queens thro', former on short leave to Peshawar to see a sick wife. Latter to England, lucky young dog went thro' on convoy duty only 4 or 5 days ago. Reports of Jagdallak having been attacked; enquire of signallers; find no attack there, only ~~in~~ <sup>a</sup> small affair at Perwan; 4 or 5 shots fired last night.

- 27.3.80. Out prospecting for rubies with McRae, find absolutely none. No letters, Cont'd. no papers today, 2 native swells with 2 armed retainers pass thro'. Dull afternoon, nothing to do, so Major McRae, ~~xxx~~ Pat and I amuse ourselves putting. Visit guards at night.
- 28.3.80. Sehbaba. A beautiful morning, but as I cannot raise a prayer book, I Sunday cannot have divine service. On a station committee at 11 a.m. with Hinde and Butler on vegetables and *alta* unfit for issue; have to see it all buried; as it is close to the dead camel mortuary, it is a very pleasant task. A lot of Koochis encamped across the river; wondered why on such a fine day, they should pitch tents evidently weatherwise, as it rained at tiffin. Hear from McRae that Gen. Arbuthnot is coming in. He turns up with Carthew and Nutt about 1 p.m. Burton, political and Fitzgerald Comst. in from Kabul. Post in with letter from Mother, Alliance Bank, and two papers. Send All. Bank to Stewart. Write to them, and also to Mother. Official from C.O. about pay; men paid and official answered. Then telegram about Sergt. McLeod reengaging, take him over to Cones for pass, and then answer in the affirmative. Pay *Melt* a visit and hear of the battle of Fort Battye. Poor little Freddy Angelo and 5 sepoy 31st N.I. killed, 19 sepoy wounded. Arthur Parton was there as Transport Officer. Servants amuse themselves putting. Dinner and bed.
- 29.3.80. Sehbaba. Up at 6.30 a.m. 7 a.m. Gun drill in sunga looking west. Burton Monday political is to stay here. Gen. Arbuthnot is recalled by telegram to Safed Sang. Burton to Seroki, no one wants to go with him. No papers for me with the dak. English mail and papers. Major McRae and I round the hill after tiffin. Former with rifle, I with gun. McRae get a shot at a seesee unsuccessful. Get wet going back. Wharton, Wilson Xth R.H. in from Cabul, on transport duty to fetch a convoy from Safed Sang. Hazara Coolies dig up 2 18-lb shot, whilst making the road, real curios. We promptly put with them. Gr. Freeman 37 ft. with a follow, 32½ feet without. Wilson went dine, but comes for a chat *&ca*, after. Rains at night.
- 30.3.80. Sehbaba. Up at 6 a.m. Battery exercise with 1st 5 lines at 7 a.m. to the Tuesday hills South of camp. Burton shifts his camp to 22nd terrace. Koochis, with their families and sheep going up in numbers Kabulwards. Newton in from Kabul. Hyat Khan great native swell also down with a great fuss and escort. Hinde 22nd out towards Jagdallak to crown the heights for 6/8/-

- 30.3.80. and ammunition convoy. Baggage of ~~box~~ 6/8/- begins to arrive at 2 p.m.  
Cont'd. Newton and I off to meet them. ~~Dakin~~ only one paper Pioneer of Tuesday, which ought to have come yesterday, no C & M Gasette. Meet 6 about 1 mile from camp. Produce a letter for Major Graham, which I had from dak. Introduced by Newton, and walk back. Find Battery consists of Major Graham, Capt. & Lt. Major Robinson, brevet for Zululand; subs Liddell, Dewar and Inglis. Dr. du old chum Fern. Travelling with the battery Curling, Capt. of G/3 of Zulu Isaudula fame, also 72 and 92 drafts under Murray and Drummond. Also a B.C. named Roberts. Ask all gunners over and tiffin them, Newton supplying brandy. Over to see them in the afternoon, have some whiskey and water, when the major comes up, and gives me a whiskey and soda. SODA ? ? . Newton dines with the battery and Pat and I finish his brandy for him.
- 31.3.80. Sehbabab. Muster in blue clothing, new serge of both Grs. and ? .  
Wednesday See the Battery off. About 10 a.m. in my tent, Corp. Ingram round to tell me some officer wants me; sally out, and find Gen. Ross and Staff arrived. Col. Evans wants me, chats, and produces whisky, *Sanning* asks me to dine. Putting. Gen. one of the shot out of McRae, dine at Junior Mess. Junior mess dinner. *S?* *Sanning* Adj/R.A., who had to bolt poor man, before the joint, Kirkpatrick Dr. Maxwell R.E., Boyes B.M., Major Bridges, Baker R.H.A., Dutton, staff. Burton political, Whistler Smith R.E.; McNalty doctor and self.
- 1.4.80. Sehbabab. Holiday. Gen. Ross and all his staff except Sappers away to  
Thursday Kabul. Col. Blair and Maxwell off towards Jagdallak, purposing to bring heavy battery in. About 1 p.m. Callwell of heavy battery in to see about tents and fodder. In the afternoon, the garrison turns out en masse and we all sally up the road about six, thinking to see heavy battery come in. Cart loads of ladies and 40 elephants are passed. Mahouts tell us the heavy battery is far behind, so we retire on camp. 1st gun gets in at 9 p.m. a lot of them have to bivouac out all night. Dene ~~Watin~~ Mahomed Kitmatgar turns up for a salaam.

- 2.4.80. Seh Baba to Jagdallak. Start from Seh Baba at 7.30 with all 22nd N.I. baggage  
Friday 22  
animals and a guard of 19, 51st and 31 sepoy's 22nd N.I. About the top of the  
1st Kotal pass the wagons of the Heavy Battery just coming in under Callwell  
and Williams. About  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile beyond Kata Sung met by Anderson's 3 guns which  
take over my escort. We taking over his escort of K.O.S.B's under Claughton.  
Halt twice at water. 2nd time passed by Mr. Syall, Col. Heathcote and Col.  
Tweedie. Into Jagdallak about 12 noon. Find C.O. Major Ramsay of 25th and get  
particulars of encamping from him and Crawley 22nd staff officer. Hear that  
convoy Perwanwards has been attacked. Grs. into citadel, Drs. & Mules outside.  
I encamp in old spot by the Sappers. Putting in the afternoon with Stafford  
and Pollock. Dine with Sappers. Stafford, Stanton, Seppings and Pollock also  
mess here. Tag Khana found by Sappers, digging and levelling in the fort.
- 3.4.80. Jagdallak. Stables at 9 a.m. After tiffin the worst hailstorm I have seen  
Saturday comes on; lasts for 2 hours; and floods the whole place. Sappers dug out mess  
tent transformed into a swimming bath. Wharton Wilson of Xth Hussars thro with  
a convoy. Extra tot of rum to men, as all bedding got damp. Stroll with  
Stafford to see Paridurea torrent; can understand now what all the nullahs are  
for, and how they are made. Each man dines in his own tent. Give Dene  
Mahomed chuthi and a chit. Joseph requests permission to go to Perwan and get  
a dinner out of him, granted.
- 4.4.80. Jagdallak. Dry my tents and bedding, instead of Divine Service in the morning  
Sunday for Church of England. R.C. Chaplain, a missionary holds service in his tent at  
10 a.m. Ride with Stafford to see damage done to road. Brig. Gen. Roberts &  
staff in en route to Kabul; Also 3rd P.C. Stroll with Stafford after tiffin  
to see garden and mulberry trees below camp. Guards at night. Wodehouse  
9th N.I. in from Kabul, where he has been on transport duty.
- 5.4.80. Jagdallak. Exercising order for the mules at 7 a.m. Gen. Staff and 3rd P.C.  
Monday hell  
leave for Kabul. Major Ramsay fussing about, in a ~~hock~~ of a stew at loss of  
2 mules 51st and 1 Rifle 22nd last night. | Have to shift drivers lines to the  
other side of the mules. Write to Major privately about Ingram's boots, my  
gaiters, hemp and heelropes; officially about S.B.W. Br. Elliott Rs. 30/-/-  
Ingram Rs. 20/-/-. Rains again. Thought we were in for another severe storm,  
which however lets us off. Make myself known to Wodehouse 9th. On a station  
court of enquiry at 2.30 on 2 mules 51st lost last night. Have to draw a  
sketch of the position. Duckstone, started by Pollock, for the Officers of  
the garrison, and carried on vigorously for some time, followed by putting.  
Post Office and ecarte and bed. Lost 11 Rupees in 2 nights at Ecarte.



- 6.4.80. Jagdallak. Out for a prowl with 3 lines up towards the Kotal, and then on Tuesday. to the plateau, which would make such a camp. Khalassie and 3 mules in from Perwan, with ammunition and ledger. Sign books at 4 p.m. Lost Rs. 2/-/- at Ecarte with Pollock.
- 7.4.80. Jagdallak. Exercising order 7 a.m. Dak in about 10. Only 1 paper came. Wednesday Things returned to headquarters. 4 Guns No. 1 M.B. in from Kabul under Morgan, Shirres, and Thackeray. News brought in that Barain Khan and a force is just the other side of the Paridurra. Major Barton Comst. in from below. Visit crag picquet with Stafford. Shirres to see us go down to his camp. Shift my tent into the citadel. 2 shots at night from below. Presumed the *Russians or cutcha* battery 2 Rs. lost. Pollock early to bed, so I visit the other mess.
- 8.4.80. Jagdallak. Exeunt M.B. and Pollock on convoy on Johnny at 5.30. Holiday. Thursday About 10 a.m. Invasion of aborigines to tell C.O. that Masula Khan and 5 or 600 men have boned the dak at 5 a.m. this morning at one of the chowkies. At 11 a.m. 2 ponies and the dak turn up. Papers alright and chit from C.O. to say he is coming over on Saturday; hear from dak wallah that Asmoodeen Khan of Jagdallak, and Masula Khan of Hissarak are fighting, the former assisted by Perwan garrison. Pollock on return from convoy confirms the news, says Nugent also doured out. Ramsay gets orders for the 51st to leave tomorrow. Station board on 51st returned warm things. Excitement in the *neering* caused by the return of Nasara coolies, less 1 of their number, killed by *Pathans* by the bridge Sehbakawards; no one else hurt. 2 shots at night fired by sentry of 25th outlying picquet, who shoots a bullock.
- 9.4.80. Jagdallak. 51st under Seppings and Pollock leave for Perwan. Out for a Friday short exercise with baggage mules and ammunition on them towards Sehbaba. Hazaras go to bury their dead comrade, not mutilated. Fleming and 25 men K.O.S.B. go to Kotal, followed later by 50 more men, as relief had not arrived from Perwan. I have to find 2 European, and 1 native sentry.
- 10.4.80. Jagdallak. Gun drill 7 a.m. Get a place made for my horses in the mule Saturday lines. Telegram to Ramsay "Hold 2 guns in readiness to march at a short notice to join the moveable column at Perwan". Difficulties about dak. Fleming and his men come back from Kotal. Cabul officers in from rear. Vonsden 5th P.C. V.C. young fellow in 9th L. to join. Yesey 9th Foot. Thruston 27th N.I. Lake to do ordnance officer. Lake and Thrussy

- 10.4.80. dine. Rains at night and whist is put on end to. 25th move into the Fort. Cont'd. Dak in in the evening, 2 papers, a letter from Jamasgee and one ~~from~~ from Alliance Bank of Simla. 2 officials about committee on blankets and Remittance. Telegram received "Guns not wanted, Sappers R.E. and aerial line wanted.
- 11.4.80. Jagdallak. Stafford and 60 men and aerial line off to Perwan. Exeunt Sunday Cabul heroes, except Vousden, who is on the roads. Rains in the afternoon a lot of 30th N.I. in en route to Seh Baba. Whist morning and afternoon. 9th Lancer Austin swaggers off about 9 a.m. without a guard, much to Ramsay's disgust. Join 25th mess. Station Committee on my blankets to be returned to the Comst. Claughton and Fleming 25th to the Kotal to see their fellows up there. Prowl with Wilcox in the evening. Rains in showers all day and night.
- 12.4.80. Jagdallak Vousden leaves for down country. Exercising order for the men Monday and mules. Deck 30th N.I. in from Seh Baba. Also half of 12/9 under Major Gwynn. Hope 25th in to relieve Claughton going home to 2nd Battalion. Dixon and Mayne down from the Kotal. Thro Paridurra, and back to tiffin after us. Hope tells us Hissarak expedition has started. Claughton dines with *Nuriant* Dr. of 22nd N.I., at 22nd mess. Latter headquarters under Major Bridges with Hinde and Gordon Cumming in from Sehbaba. Hair cut, and shaved by small boy from Kotal. Hinde tells me of Pat's misfortune. Ricked my back today.
- 13.4.80. Jagdallak. Battery exercise 3 lines up mountain path towards one Tree hill Tuesday 12/9 leave for Kabul. Large ammunition convoy in from Perwan, under Major Travers 17th and another. Interview an aborigine, who tells me news, and offers to bring me milk tomorrow. Hear 51st Sergt. has been stuck in Hisawrak. Dun from C & M Gasett althro' paid.
- 14.4.80. Jagdallak. Convoy off and Claughton for home. Aborigine turns up with Wednesday milk "baia na wakkli"!!! Stables; pay the men at 10 a.m. Corpl. Ingram tells me he has heard from the Comst. Sergt. that 5 of our men are wounded in Hissarak. Write to C & M Gasette about dun. Telegraph too have news of our 5 men. Firing heard Hissarak way. A band of mixed men on 25th Nausport down Paridurra. Stewart Mackenzie of 9th Lancers in, en route to Kabul, dines with Ramsay. Whist in Wilcox tent. Guards, moonlight Bucket incident. S & M shift into Tykhana enclosure.