

sort of extended order and by this time it was daylight. I told them to hide behind stones and every thing they could. I then went off in search of the "Black Watch" which I lost. I made my way to the right, but soon had to take to my heels as they drove our right flank right back. By this time things were getting a bit warm so I took cover for the first time behind an "Ant hill" which did glorious service. I waited then for about a quarter of an hour and nearly went to sleep, *truth!* but to keep awake I had my breakfast off a biscuit which was none the worse of a wetting that it had the night before when it was under my head for a pillow.

Well from this onward till about 12 or 1 o'clock I wandered here, there, and everywhere doing what I could. The Gordons came up as a support about nine o'clock in grand style, and doubtless you will know perhaps before you receive this, that it is to them (I mean the Officers) that I will owe what distinction, if any, I may get out of the battle of Magersfontein.

About one o'clock I heard a man asking for a doctor, I said here's one. He then told me that a doctor and a stretcher were wanted in the advanced firing line. I asked who for, he said one of the Gordon Officers who was badly hurt. This was about 1,600 yards from the Boer trenches. I got up, marched in the direction pointed out to me till I got within 1,200 yards, when I found a stretcher and put it on my shoulder and went on. At this time both sides were waiting for a sign from one another, and not a shot was being fired. I made a rush and got within 1,000 yards. I then saw I was the object of their fire, so I took it into my head very soon to lie down and pull the stretcher after me, which was hard work I tell you. I soon gave it up and here our guns opened out, so I made another rush of 50 yards and so on, and so on, under cover of our guns. However, I took both the *doctor* and the *stretcher* up to within 20 yards of the Adjutant, Captain Gordon of the "Gordons." I lay down for a while as I was somewhat blown, but very soon heard "Pass the word back to the rear for a doctor." I could just say, here he is, and asked where the officer was, and found he was about 20 yards ahead of me and on my right. I said I am coming and was about to make another rush when they shouted to me to crawl along on my stomach. I did so over a lot of stones and small bush, and while