

INCONSEQUENTIAL ITEMS.

Our very good friends and fellow Colonials, the South African Scottish, provided a splendid programme of field sports on Easter Monday. Certainly they have some fine examples of manhood in their ranks, and the cheery good-fellowship with which the day's events were contested was most impressive. We are proud to be alongside our brother Scotties. Here's luck to 'em!

Has anyone been able to analyze and interpret that cheer of the Scottish Africans? It sounds like a storm at sea. Someone told us that it was an excellent imitation of the night-cry of the Springbok, but we regard that merely as a topping wheeze. Let's rehearse the midnight meow of our own dear cougar and scare ourselves to death.

Colonel Ross, who was indisposed last week, has quite recovered, and spent a few days in London on battalion business.

If anyone doubts that our officers are a church-going, charitable, temperate lot, he need but apply to the Padre, who will show him a small fortune in pennies collected from us for the purpose of providing cigarettes for sick Jocks. The Padre exacts a penny for every swear-word uttered in his presence!

Really, Padre, some of the words in your list should be rated at half-price. It hardly seems fair to charge the same for a puny, ailing little cuss-word like "——!" as for a good round Cavalier oath such as "——!!!!"

Early in the week the First Leave Lot began to straggle back to camp. Oh, what a difference just a few days made! You wouldn't have credited that a five days' trip could have pulled them down so. Some had actually lost pounds!

Did anyone else notice an "officah" at the field sports whose knees stood constantly at attention while his feet were at ease?

THE PIPE BAUN'.

Wullie was very much afraid that he would require an interpreter when he got home to his native Aberdeen, on account of the English accent he imagined he had acquired during his stay in Canada. His fears, however, proved groundless. In fact we are informed that a lady, while talking to Wullie in the market-place of the northern city, declined to believe that, with an accent such as he had, he came from Canada. She even went the length of suggesting that "he came aff the fairm the nicht afore to jine the sodgers!"

What kind of reputation have "thae pipers" given the battalion in Aberdeen? The men who went on second leave assure us that they heard a small girl shout to her mother: "Mither! Mither! bring in the hen's meat. Here's some Western Scots comin'!"

What a week for Aberdeen! Thae pipers, Sergeant Stronach and Pioneer Sergeant Smith, all in the city at one time!

PEEL HOUSE.

A large number of our men who had no friends in the country went to London during their leave. Peel House had been recommended to them as a most excellent place for overseas soldiers to go. One and all came back with glowing accounts of the excellent treatment they received from Mrs. Grahame-Murray and her patriotic band of workers. The men were conducted in parties all over the city, and the guides have since taken the trouble to arrange Sunday picnics. The men have requested us to acknowledge, through the columns of the "Scot," their gratitude for the trouble the ladies are taking on their behalf.

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