

men. Facilities for transportation and treatment of sick were therefore limited. This was the most unpleasant period, but luckily we escaped any deaths. We saw De Wet's army, and could have taken his transport, but orders were to chase him towards a strongly guarded line; we chased him there and he galloped through.

There were so many columns operating in this vicinity that it was difficult to tell British from Boers. The Irish Yeomanry had twice been fired on by mistake for Boers, and gave warning that the next time they would return the fire. The next day they were again fired into by a body of regular cavalry. They retaliated and were not molested afterwards.

On going to attend the wounded of another column that had suffered severely, I saw several examples of wounds made by the soft-nosed, steel-mantled bullets. They cause a small entrance wound. Then the bullet mushrooms and shatters everything in front of it. A wound, other than in arms or legs by one of these bullets is nearly always fatal. They were sporting ammunition used by Boers when the Mauser ammunition ran short.

After a few more skirmishes, back to railroad, entrained for Cape Town, and embarked for home voyage. We had six cases of enteric on home voyage, and two cases of pneumonia; no deaths.

Now turning to a subject that many of you will be interested in, the future of South Africa as a site for medical practice. There will certainly be a large increase in the English speaking population of the Transvaal in the near future. The Transvaal and eastern portion of Orange River Colony possess a fertile soil. The climate in spite of sand storms is very fine. It is dry and clear, much resembling that of Texas. In spite of dust storms it is a suitable climate for cases of chronic pharyngitis or consumptives. In the Transvaal there are vast quantities of gold fields, many of which have never been worked. There is coal in plenty. Johannesburg will undoubtedly be the principal town, but Barbeton, Lydenburg, Klerksdorp and Pilgrim's Rest will be thriving mining centres. Under Dutch rule, the degree of a recognized medical school permitted one to practice, and the same holds good at present. In a short time a British License will be necessary.