

rest. Tobacco and underclothes were issued, which, however, we were obliged to sell in order to get something to eat. Col. Otter and the Adjutant, Capt. McDonnell, refused to give us any pay. To get something decent to eat, I sold my tobacco, a pair of suspenders and a pair of socks to a Kaffir for thirty-six cents. All through the campaign the officers acted in this contemptible manner.

On November 7th., we reached Capetown, and immediately embarked on the "Hawarden Castle," in company with the Household Cavalry. We sailed in the afternoon. The meals which were furnished by the Company owning the steamer, of which Sir William Currie is the head, were vile except the bread and jam. We stopped at St. Vincent, Cape Verde Islands, for twenty-four hours, and on the 29th. landed at Southampton, and in two hours were in London. We lived at Kensington Barracks, and were well looked after, the meals being splendid. Of course we had beds; but the first night was one of extreme discomfort, for we twisted and turned and, indeed, some men slept on the floor. I never knew how uncomfortable a bed could be, which was owing to the hard things we had been accustomed to.

We remained ten days in London during which we had side trips to Windsor, where Queen Victoria reviewed us, and to Portsmouth, Brighton, and Woolwich. The Duke and Duchess of Argyll entertained us at luncheon in Kensington Palace, and King Edward and the members of his family reviewed us. Everybody treated us as though we were the eighth wonder of the world, and gave us as good a time as possible. But the Liverpool reception surpassed them all. While marching to the boat one old dame, from the wharf district, spat on her hand and brought it with a bang into mine, shouting: "Ye licked the Boers." We remained two days before sailing, and on the 13th. of December left on the Elder Dempster S.S. "Lake Champlain." Though glad to get home, it was, nevertheless, like parting with relatives, so kind had all been.

Our quarters and food were all that could be desired. After an uneventful voyage we landed at Halifax, December 23rd.—Christmas Eve. I was home and quite satisfied to be there, even though I could not get into my clothes, having gained ten pounds.

A. S. McCORMICK.