



South Australians at war – transcript – D 4010/1 (L)

Letter to T.B. Wemyss

Letter written by Sgt W.F. Spencer, Fourth Imperial Bushmen's Contingent, 24 January 1901 on active service

Transcription of full text

Transcribed by Susie van der Sluys, August 2002

Balmoral

Jan 24 1901

Thos B. Wemyss Esq.

Dear Sir,

I received your kind and thoughtful letter and was very pleased to hear from you hoping y that you and your family are the best of health as this leaves me only among the middling I have been having rather a rough time of it myself having been in hospital for seven weeks with fever Malarial. I am with the Regiment again now and we have been a little work to do again with Joe the Boer. We We are to make a move against him again in about 3 days time. Jan 28 We have a had another tussell with the Boers again, and we are graduley driving him back No less then six cul columns are after them at present it is to be hoped that this trip will finish conclusions with the Boers in this part of the Transvaal and I think our time will just about end by the time we finish this trek and then we will be on our way home at least we hope so we are supposed to go to England when our time is up but that may be all altered now that our good old Queen is dead. we We were all very sorry to hear of o her death But let us hope that her son will have as equally prosperous reign. Although we have lost our Queen we must stick to our new King. We are having some very hard work this last few days and to day we are having a rest waiting for our General who is coming up with Infantry and then we are are going el to make a general advance Feb 1st Things are altered again we are going to have a peg at De Wet again first of all we are going to Norvols Pont get remounted and re-fitted then after De Wet Lord Kitchener means to have him this time all Colonials are going to be in the chace it is to be hard work We are to ride one horse and lead another we are not to have any convoy with us only Cape carts driven by Black boy. We are to capture every Boer that comes in our way. One hundred thousand men are to be in it men a just out of from the Conlonies and young blood from England who have never fired a shot. I thank you very much for your kind thought for indeed we do not get many papers they are mostly thrown on one side and left to rot we are always pleased to get news and letters nothing is so welcome as a few letters from South Australia I think I have told you all the news this time. Once more hoping y that you and your family are in the best of health as this leaves me still among the middling I will now conclude with best regards to Miss Ella and all your famill family

I remain yours respectively



Sergt Spencer

address
c/o Colonel Powell
South Australian (?)
at Bushmans Contingent
South Africa
to be forwarded