

Telephone: VICTORIA 4066.

Mesopotamia Commission,
28, Abingdon Street,
Westminster.

CORRESPONDENCE

with

SURGEON-GENERAL H. G. HATHAWAY.

L/36

July 12th., 1917.

Sir,

The Secretary of the War Office has forwarded to us your letter of July 9th, asking for a copy of the evidence given before the Mesopotamia Commission.

I am instructed to say that the only available copies of the evidence are in the hands of the Government.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Yours faithfully,

Surgeon-General H. Hathaway. A.M.S.
Overleigh.
Hough Green.
Chester.

Act. 14. 11. 16 .

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HEADQUARTERS,

WESTERN COMMAND,

CHESTER,

NOVEMBER 9th, 1916.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your minute of the 7th Nov. 1916

I beg to return you herewith the corrected proof on the Mesopotamia
Commission as requested by you, signed by me.

Yours faithfully,

H. Hathaway
Sy.

To:-

R.G.Duff Esq,
Secretary,

Mesopotamia Commission,
28 Abingdon Street,
Westminster,
London.

E/6

October 26th 1916

The Secretary presents his
Compliments to Surgeon-General
Hathaway and herewith returns with
thanks the two letters forwarded
for the information of the Commission

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Kindly return the lett

A. 26.10.16

6

Headquarters

Western Command,

Chester.

24th. October 1916.

Dear Sir,

My name does not appear in the Kut despatches for the period up to 30th. April 1916, but I have reason to believe that I retained the confidence of the Army Commander up to the date of my being invalided on 23rd. April 1916, and in support of this statement I forward two private letters for the information of the Mesopotamia Commission.

One is from Sir Percy Lake the Army Commander dated 28th. March 1916, after I had passed an Invaliding Board.

The other is from Major General Cowper D.A.A.Q.M.G. dated 2nd. January 1916 when I was promoted to Director Medical Service of the Army.

Kindly return the letters .

Yours faithfully

V. Hathaway
Sg.

To
The Secretary,
Mesopotamia Committee.

28 Abingdon Street.

Westminster. S.W.

(Copy)

Copy

7
BASRAH March 22ND 1916
Indian Expeditionary Force "D"
Indian Expeditionary
Force "D".

My dear Hathaway.

2.2.16

I have heard of your loss and your anxieties,
My dear Hathaway,
and you have my sincere sympathy.

Heartiest congratulations on your advancement
to Director of M.S. Force D. I am real pleased. I hope it
means some extra pay at present, and in the future suitable
recognition for the thoroughly troublesome job you have had, are
having, and will have to cope with.

I asked the A.C. about the removal of alternate
huts, and what he says is - the huts can't be removed until
Corresponding accommodation is provided in the new huts & there-
fore your present huts accommodation will not be interfered with:
therefore I presume you will not now require the Kaso care of to
proceed to Karachi.

I am addressing you officially in regard to A. so
that you will have it on record.

Yours sincerely,

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) Percy Lake.

(Signed) M. Cowper

(Major-General D.A.A.Q.M.G

(Copy)

8 9
BASRAH March 28th 1916

Indian Expeditionary Force "D"

AT

HEADQUARTERS.

MESOPOTAMIA COMMAND.

My dear Hathaway,

I have heard of your loss and your anxieties,
and you have my sincere sympathy.

15th March 1916.
What I want is that you should not leave here
without my knowing officially that it is proposed that you should
go, or without my sanction, because there are many arrangements
which should be settled first - and also because there many ques-
tions affecting the Medical Commission upon which I am likely to
require your assistance. Although you have no doubt given them
such evidence as they have asked for, they may quite possibly
want to see you again.
Commission on Tuesday October 10th and Thursday October 12th, 1916.

I know quite well that you are as anxious as
I am that all these arrangements for the evacuation and care of
the wounded should work properly, and you ought to have the credit
for their success.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Percy Lake.

P. Hathaway
SL

W. G. Duff Esq.,

Secretary,

Mesopotamia Commission,

28 Abingdon Street,

Westminster.

A. 19. 10. 16⁹

AT

HEADQUARTERS,
WESTERN COMMAND,
CHESTER.

18th October 1916.

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith
corrected proof of the evidence taken before the Mesopotamia
Commission on Tuesday October 10th and Thursday October 12th, 1916.

Yours faithfully,

H. Hathaway
Sy.

To:-

R.G.Duff Esq,
Secretary,
Mesopotamia Commission,
28 Abingdon Street,
Westminster.

URGENT

D/81

HEADQUARTERS,

WESTERN COMMAND.

October 18th 1916

15th October, 1916.

Dear Surgeon-General Hathaway,

In reply to your letter of the 15th inst. the Commission are prepared to allow you, under the circumstances, to add as notes to your evidence, the corrections and additions suggested in your letter.

The Commission are communicating with Surgeon-General Macneese in the matter, but they do not at present think it necessary to recall you before them.

On October 10th the dates were not clearly fixed in my mind but now I remember that I told this fact to Surgeon General Macneese on his arrival on 16th January, 1916.

Afterwards when he had seen the Army Commander he told me that Sir John Nixon had informed him that he took all the responsibility for the two divisions advancing without medical units.

Surgeon-General Hathaway would like to add the above statement to

answer Headquarters

Western Command like too, to explain with reference to question 5848 that Chester expected Surgeon General Macneese to go to river and in fact I asked him when he was going. His reply was that he was not going but considered that I should, and I went up on the day he returned to India.

If it should be considered necessary, I should be glad to be recalled in order that I may add these statements to my evidence.

Yours faithfully,

H. Hathaway
S.G.

To:-
The Secretary,
Mesopotamia Commission,
38 Abingdon Street,
Westminster,
London.

URGENT.

HEADQUARTERS,
WESTERN COMMAND,
CHESTER,

15th October, 1916.

Dear Sir,

On going through my evidence taken before the Mesopotamia Commission on the 10th October, 1916, I find that no mention is made by me of my having told Surgeon General Macueece during his visit to Busrah that there had been further disaster owing to two divisions having been put into the firing line before their medical units had arrived.

On October 10th the dates were not clearly fixed in my mind but now I remember that I told this fact to Surgeon General Macueece on his arrival on 16th January, 1916.

Afterwards when he had seen the Army Commander, he told me that Sir John Nixon had informed him that he took all the responsibility for the two divisions advancing without medical units.

I should like to add the above statement to answer 5872.

I should like too, to explain with reference to question 5848 that I quite expected Surgeon General Macueece to go up river and in fact I asked him when he was going. His reply was that he was not going but considered that I should, and I went up on the day he returned to India.

If it should be considered necessary, I should be glad to be recalled in order that I may add these statements to my evidence.

Yours faithfully,

To:-
The Secretary,
Mesopotamia Commission,
38 Abingdon Street,
Westminster,
London.

H. Hathaway
S.G.

File

Headquarters
Western Command
Cherter

5 Oct 1916.

Dear Sir.

I am in receipt of your telegram
and letter of 4th Oct intimating
that The Mesopotamia Commission
desires my attendance on Tuesday
next Oct 10th

I beg to remain

Your obedient servant

H. Hathaway
S. G.

Reg. Duff Esq
Secretary

Mesopotamia Commission

28. Abingdon Street
Westminster.

Telephone: VICTORIA: 4066.

13

Mesopotamia Commission,
28, Abingdon Street,
Westminster.

Sept. 28th 1916

The Secretary of the Mesopotamia
Commission presents his compliments
to *Hathaway, ~~Mr. H. H. Babtie~~*
and wishes to inform him that the
Commission will not be ready to hear
his evidence before October 10th.

The Secretary will send a further
communication, giving particulars.

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14

Headquarters.

Western Command.

Chester.

16th. Sept. 1916.

Dear *R. G. Duff.*

I forward herewith additions to my statement of evidence. I have received your notification of the 15th. inst. that my evidence will probably be taken during the first week in October.

Yours faithfully,

H. Hathaway
Hg.

To

R. G. Duff Esq.

Secretary.

Mesopotamis Commission.

28 Abingdon Street.

Westminster.

London.

September 15th 1916

15th Sept. 1916.

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to return the Report of the Vincent Committee with thanks.

Dear Surgeon-General *Hatchaway* Further statement later.

I think you will like an early intimation that the Commission have provisionally decided to take your evidence in the first week of October. I will communicate with you at a later date as to the exact day, time and place. *V. C. Hatchaway*

It is important, therefore, that you should send in to me any additions to your "Statement", which you wish to make in connection with the Vincent-Bingley Report, or otherwise. Secretary, Mesopotamia Commission.

28 Abingdon Street.
Westminster.

R. 11. 9. 1916 ^{R.T.}
Ack. 11. 9. 16.

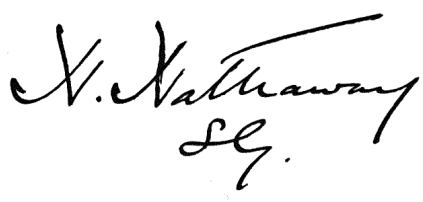
Headquarters
Western Command.
Chester.
9th. Sept. 1916.

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to return the Report of the
Vincent Committee with thanks.

I will forward a further statement later.

Yours faithfully,



To

R.G.Duff Esq.

Secretary,

Mesopotamia Commission.

28 Abingdon Street.

Westminster.

C 35

September 6th 1916

Dear Surgeon-General Hathaway,

I am desired by my Commission to inform you that they deem it right that you should have an opportunity of perusing the enclosed Report before you give your evidence before the Commission.

You will, of course, understand that the Report is entirely confidential, and it is only forwarded to you in case you like to make any additions to the Statement of evidence, which you have already forwarded to us.

As the number of copies is limited, I am to ask ~~you~~ that you will be good enough to let me have this copy back within three days from your receipt of this letter.

Surgeon-General Hathaway.

Head Quarters

Western Command

Chester.

August 21 1916.

Mr. Duff, Secretary to the above Blackpool
Commission, presents his compliments
to Surgeon-General Hathaway, and
begs to confirm his telegram of this
morning, asking for an interview on
Wednesday the 23rd, inst. in these
offices at 12.30 noon.

Surgeon-General Hathaway

Headquarters

Western Command

Chester.

same evening.



From:-

Officer Commanding,
King's Lancashire Military Convalescent Hospital,
Clifton Park,

To:-

Suregeon General Hathaway,
A. M. S.,
D. D. M. S.,
Western Command,
C H E S T E R .

Blackpool. 19th. August, 1916.

Sir,

In confirmation of my telegram L.M. 2009.,
I have the honor to forward herewith copies of the telegrams
etc., which have passed.

From these ^{you} will note that your telegram L.M.
1989. was sent from this office at 7-30. p.m. on the 17th.
instant., and should have been delivered in London the
same evening.

In the event of your desiring me to institute
enquires as to the delay, at the Telegraph Office at this end
I shall be pleased to do so.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

Secretary
Mesopotamia Commission

A. Levoche

Captain & Adjutant.

for Officer Commanding,
King's Lancashire Military Convalescent Hospital.

Forwarded for your
information.

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aug
16
HH

MESOPOTAMIA COMMISSION.

28. Abingdon Street.

August, 15th 1916.

Sir,

I am desired by the above Commission to inform you that the Commission will probably desire to take evidence from you in connection with their enquiry.

I shall be glad to hear from you when it would be possible for you to come and see me, and perhaps you would be good enough to suggest one or two alternative dates for the interview.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

Secretary.

Surgeon-General Hathaway,

Headquarters.

Western Command.

Chester.

also to Surgeon-General Baplie
War Office
Whitehall

also to Sur-General Macneca
St. James Hotel

S.H.