

## **Lieut. Arthur Edward Dendy** **War Memoir**

**Unit:** 2<sup>nd</sup> (South Canterbury) Infantry Regiment, 1NZEF.

**Physical Description:** Two-volume memoir containing 23 chapters divided into 24 individual folders.

**Time Period:** 1898-1917

**Locations:** Trentham and Featherston Military Camps, New Zealand; Hornchurch, Essex, England; Bulford Camp, Salisbury, Wiltshire, England; Messines, Étaples, Paris, Romarin, Ploegsteert Wood, St. Romain, Rouen.

**Points of Interest:** Working conditions ca. 1900, volunteer forces in England, military training, entertainment, sport, lice, rats, route marches, drill, life and conditions for officer class versus rank-and-file, use of identification discs, concealment and camouflage, trench warfare, equipment, alcohol, food, bedding, footrot, Messines Offensive, weapons of warfare, bombardments, high explosives, 'Big Bertha' guns, shrapnel, trench raids, illness, medical treatment, aerial dogfights, Paris in wartime.

### **Volume I**

#### **Chapter I:**

**Life at Hornchurch, Essex** – Arthur Dendy and his brother 'Dick' [Richard George Dendy] leave school in 1898 and make their way to Hornchurch, Essex, to learn the engineering and iron founding business at the Union Foundry of "T.W. Wedlake, W. Dendy & Co.", which, at that time, was operated by their uncle Walter Dendy, assisted by Percy Malcolm Gunn, his bookkeeper (pp. 11-12); life at the Foundry hard and dangerous; hours long - 56½ hour weeks (pp. 13-14); hands so badly chapped, Dendy and his brother coat them with Vaseline and don gloves before going to bed "... to prevent the vaseline and blood from getting on the sheets." (p. 15); Dendy lists a number of local men with whom both he and his brother worked – Willows the Foreman; Joe Bull and his son William (Bill); Ern Tyler, the furnace man; Tommy Gower, the core maker; George, Jack, Fred and Harry Chester; George and Harry Rush; Jack Burrell; Jimmy Dear; Tom Tarling; Jack Lawrie; Fred Pearce; Ted Shadwell; Robert Dodds, Foreman in Engineering Shop; Bill Whiteman, engineering apprentice; Charlie Haggie and Ike Dear, both of the Patternmaker's Shop; George Howes and Alf Aldridge, both of the Blacksmith's Shop; Malcolm Nimmo, head trimmer (pp. 16-23); Mr Gilbert McIntosh engaged as manager; lived at Foundry House with wife and son Bertie; Dendy unimpressed with food they provided (pp. 24-6); Dendy makes a toboggan in his spare time; it is lost in transit whilst being sent back to the family home in Somerset (pp. 27-8); trip to London with uncle Walter to purchase bicycles (pp. 28-9); not getting along with the McIntosh family, Dendy and his brother take up new lodgings with Mrs [Caroline] Bourne and her daughter Maud (pp. 29-30); Dendy and his brother befriend the Wedlake family (p. 30-1); Dendy brothers remain at Foundry for about two years (p. 31); quoting from Charles Thomas Perfect's book on the village of Hornchurch, written in 1917, the origins of the Foundry are explained along with the Wedlake/Dendy connection; included are photographs of Dendy's aunt Sarah and uncle Walter (pp. 33-4); further quotes from Perfect's book regarding the village of Hornchurch (pp. 33a-33c).

## **Chapter II:**

**“H” Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Volunteer Battalion, Essex Regiment** – “... the Village of Hornchurch boasted a good band and a Company of Infantry.” (p. 34); local Foundry employees strongly represented in the band and Infantry Company – Joe Bull, carried Colours; Harry Chester, played Kettle drum; Fred Pierce, played cymbals; Percy Gunn, Colour Sergeant of Romford Company (pp. 34-5); Dendy comments on South African War (pp. 35-8); on the death of Queen Victoria in 1901, Dendy goes to London to see the funeral procession; is on his feet for 14 hours; crowds so tightly packed that Dendy is able to rest his feet by simply lifting both legs (pp. 38-9); Dendy and brother ‘Dick’ go to Warley Barracks, near Brentwood, to see off a contingent to South Africa; local boys Tom Tarling and Harry Chester are spied in the ranks (pp. 40-1); caught up in all the militaristic fervour of the time, the Dendy brothers enlist in the local volunteer Company; volunteer life agreeable; Colonel Lyons is battalion Commander; Dendy wins a marksman’s badge (pp. 41-6); Dendy’s father dies in April, 1900; uncle Walter helps the family out; brother Charles embarks on a naval career in the Mercantile Marine (pp. 46-7).

## **Chapter III:**

**“C” Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Volunteer Battalion, Essex Regiment** – Dendy family move to Ilford about 1903; Dendy transfers from Hornchurch to local Ilford Company, commanded by Capt. Slade (p. 49); Dendy joins the Morris Tube Rifle Club; wins silver spoon for shooting in 1905 (with a little help) (p. 50); Dendy’s interest in the volunteers begins to wane as he becomes more involved in motor-cycle racing; founding member of the West Essex Automobile Club; elected General Secretary and Treasurer (p. 51); Dendy, having achieved the rank of Corporal, resigns from the volunteers in 1907; goes to New Zealand in 1910 [Date of Departure: 22 July 1910; Ship: *Athenic*; Shipping Line: Shaw Savill & Albion Company Ltd.; Destination Port: Wellington, New Zealand] (pp. 51-2).

## **Chapter IV:**

**Trentham Military Camp (Elementary training)** – On the outbreak of war, Dendy is working in Timaru, South Island, representing a firm of importers of motor-vehicle and motor-bike parts; Dendy’s brother ‘Dick’ [5/764 Richard George Dendy] was associated with the Nonpareil Motor Company in the North Island (pp. 54-5); Dendy enlists in the 2<sup>nd</sup> (South Canterbury) Infantry Regiment in November, 1915; is called up for service in March, 1916, with the 14<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements, and proceeds to Trentham Military Camp, near Wellington (p. 56); Dendy ‘plays up’ his previous military service back in England with ‘H’ & ‘C’ Companies of the 1<sup>st</sup> Vol. Rgt., Essex Battalion, to gain probationary status for entry into NCO training classes (p. 57); after arrival at Trentham Camp, the men are issued uniforms and “denims” (pp. 59-60); assigned large accommodation huts “... each with accommodation for about 30 men. It looked good to us and everything scrupulously clean and in perfect order.” (p. 60); men fill their mattresses with straw; issued two blankets each (pp. 60-1); Dendy suffers from the cold (pp. 62-3); “mess orderlies” assigned each day, “It was their duty to get the meals from the cookhouse, always first class food and well cooked.” (p. 63); men learn to march (pp. 63-6); frequent leave granted but wearing of uniform mandatory (p. 67).

### **Chapter V:**

**Trentham Military Camp (Platoon & Company Drill)** – Four platoons of about 50 NCOs and men to a Company; four Companies to a Battalion, equalling a total strength of about a thousand NCOs and men; each platoon is under a junior officer (Platoon Commander), platoon sergeant, section sergeant, corporals and so on; each Company is under a Captain as Company Commander; a Battalion is under a ‘field’ officer, usually with the rank of Colonel (pp. 69-70); parade drills and formation marching (pp. 70-3); 2-3 weeks of intensive training undertaken (p. 73).

### **Chapter VI:**

**Trentham Military Camp (Musketry)** – The men are taught all the parts and functions of the Lee Enfield rifle; includes illustration (pp. 75-6); the art of shooting (pp. 77-83); bayonet exercises (p. 83); Dendy recalls a visit to the Enfield Small Arms factory in north London 50 years previous with his brother Dick and uncle Walter, whose cousin, a Mr Sheppard, was believed to be the General Manager there at the time; Dendy relates this back to his present employment as an engineer and draughtsman for an aeroplane parts manufacturer (pp. 83-6); in his quest for further advancement in rank, Dendy notes that some of the men are acquainted with and on speaking terms with the camp Commander, Colonel McDonald (pp. 86-7).

### **Chapter VII:**

**Featherstone [*sic*] Military Camp** – After two months at Trentham Camp, the men are transported to Featherston Camp via the Rimutaka railway; parts of the journey are so steep the men get out and walk beside the struggling train (pp. 89-90); training in field exercises, battle tactics, combat tactics and so on (p. 90); bad weather keeps the men confined to their tents for over a week (p. 93); the men make the return journey back to Trentham Camp on foot; Dendy expresses pride at his endurance (p. 94).

### **Chapter VIII:**

**Promotion to NCO rank** – Men placed under two regimental Sergeant Majors sent out from England (pp. 96-7); Dendy finds himself left out when groups of probationary NCOs form to practise drills (pp. 99-100); Dendy looks forward to competing against other probationary NCOs, especially those who treated him differently because he was an “Englishman” (pp. 100-01); Dendy disgruntled at his promotion only to Corporal; accusations of favouritism (pp. 101-02); Dendy witnesses a disgraced man being ‘drummed-out’ of the army (pp. 102-03); assigned to 18<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements (p. 103).

### **Chapter IX:**

**Eighteenth Reinforcement** – NCO candidates constantly scrutinised for their ability to handle the men (pp. 105-06); NCOs and their styles of discipline; Dendy recalls an incident involving Sergeant Perrin (pp. 106-08); Dendy’s admiration at the soldiering skills of Company Sergeant Major Moore (pp. 109-10); Dendy complains to Company Commander, Captain Fraser, about his lack of promotion to Sergeant; Fraser promises to rectify but doesn’t (pp. 110-11); with examinations for commissions looming, Dendy begins attending lectures given by senior officers (pp. 111-12); description and photograph of his brother Charles Stephen Dendy, Royal Naval Reserve; Commander of HMS ‘Lynn’ till war’s end (pp. 112-14).

### **Chapter X:**

**Examination for Commission** – Dendy learns that only a dozen men would earn commissions from over 100 candidates (p. 116); candidates undergo field drills and tests (pp. 116-20); tests on military vocabulary (p. 121); how to tether horses under different conditions (pp. 121-2); Dendy gains his commission (officially from 7 January 1917); photograph of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. A.E. Dendy, 2<sup>nd</sup> (South Canterbury) Infantry Regiment (pp. 123-4); mentions names of several who failed to gain commissions: Sergeant Perrin, Sergeant Bascand, Sergeant De La Mare [22522 Frederick Archibald de la Mare] (pp. 125-6); Dendy is assigned his service number 22628 (p. 127).

### **Chapter XI:**

**The Anzacs** – “This campaign seems to have been generally regarded as a failure but I don’t agree with that opinion.” Dendy is of the belief that engaging greater numbers of the enemy in one place keeps them away from other more strategic theatres (pp. 130-1).

### **Chapter XII:**

**Twenty-second Reinforcements** – Dendy is assigned the command of a platoon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> (South Canterbury) Infantry Regiment; commanders of the three other platoons were Lieutenants Jones [19213 William Henry Jones], Lee [30114 Clarence Eli Lee] and Highet [22438 Henry Ashton Highet] (p. 132); describes attitude of volunteers toward the conscripted men; camp bulletin issued saying no difference to be shown to the two classes of enlistments (pp. 133-4); Dendy finds New Zealand rank-and-file troops intelligent; they like to understand reasons behind military decisions (p. 134); Dendy relates a story of a young (and somewhat reluctant) World War Two draftee at the recruiting office “You can’t make me fight”, he says; recruiting officer replies, “May be so young man, but we can take you where the fighting is and you can use your own judgement” (pp. 134-5); commissioned officers assigned a man (commonly referred to as a ‘Battman’) to do routine tasks (e.g. keeping equipment clean and polished, running errands and so on); Dendy is uneasy with this army tradition; he remembers watching the family coachman, Charles White, caring for the livery and the special adaptations he used (pp. 135-6); Dendy falls for a ‘put up job’ from his Irish ‘Battman’ (pp. 136-7); description and illustration of the officers’ Colt revolver (pp. 138-9); Mills bomb practice (p. 140); ‘Barbour’ the outlaw, but not a criminal (pp. 140-1); officers take turns being assigned as “officer-of-the-day”; responsible for the good order of his Company (p. 141); “The food was always excellent in quality, ample in quantity and well cooked.” (p. 141); Dendy remarks on the quality of his relationship with his men (pp. 141-2); gas mask exercises, including illustration (pp. 142-3); night exercises (pp. 143-5); move from Trentham to Featherston Camp; Dendy now been in camps for 10 months; feeling bored and ready for action (pp. 145-6); Dendy disciplined for missing a roll call of commissioned officers (pp. 147-9); men issued with identification discs to be worn on left wrist; illustration of Dendy’s disc; duplicates, to be worn around the neck, are issued again at the Front (this is to ensure identification of men with either heads or arms missing); religious affiliation also noted on disc (pp. 149-50); march out of camp in March, 1917 [**Note:** Official embarkation lists record that Dendy embarked with the 21<sup>st</sup> Reinforcements on 19 January 1917 aboard the *Ulimaroa*.] (pp. 150-1).

**Chapter XIII:**

**Troopship “Anchises”** – The 22<sup>nd</sup> Reinforcements sail on 23 March 1917 (p. 152); Dendy notes difficulties faced keeping moral high among the men, “Some were being entirely separated from home and friends for the first time and were very dejected and low spirited. It was difficult too to maintain discipline.” (p. 153); mention of two fellow officers, Highet [22438 Henry Ashton Highet] and one other [not named, possibly 30114 Clarence Eli Lee] “...who was of the Roman Catholic persuasion”, who could not get along (pp. 154-5); first stop at Albany, Western Australia. Dendy claims destination and route taken was unknown to them until arrival (p. 155); mention of spoilage of some of the ship’s provisions, “There are 2 things that are sacred to a soldier – his food and his pay book. That’s about all he has to live for anyway.” (pp. 155-6); second stop Freetown, Sierra Leone (p. 156); arrival at destination port of Southampton, England, after voyage of 9 weeks (p. 159); Dendy proceeds to Bulford Camp, Salisbury Plain, Wiltshire (p. 160).

**Chapter XIV:**

**Bulford Camp, Salisbury Plain** – Sharing hut with Highet [22438 Henry Ashton Highet] and ‘Buck’ Buchanan (pp. 161-4); mention of freezing showers (p. 165); Dendy and men under command and instruction of Colonel Alderman [possibly 15/5 Walter William Alderman] “...who was I thought something of a military genius; the trouble was however that he used to partake of a little liquid refreshment far too often for a soldier on active service and it was understood that for this reason he had been transferred from the front.” (pp. 165-6); Colonel Alderman instructs the men on latest field tactics (p. 166-9); mention of Regimental Sergeant-Major Marshall, now a Corporal (pp. 169-70); Dendy spends a day at Tank School (pp. 170-70c); briefly mentions his brother-in-law, Lieutenant Hugh Baxter. Includes small photograph of Baxter in uniform [British Army, unit unknown] (p. 171); Dendy embarks for France, proceeds to Étaples, arriving about 26 May 1917.

**Chapter XV:**

**Étaples** – “Before the war Étaples was just a typical old-fashioned fishing village...”, during the war New Zealand Infantry Base Dépôt (p. 173); Dendy makes the following observations regarding the calibre of officers arriving at the Dépôt: “It was quite obvious that a fair sprinkling of them had no claim whatever to being soldiers except their ability to pass an examination for a commission... Their Parents’ Social position had probably enabled them to enter an Officers’ Training Corps... Their youth and inexperience rendered them quite incapable of commanding a platoon in action.” (p. 175); “At Étaples the principal training field was the ‘bull-ring’ (p. 178); Dendy attends Lewis gun school (pp. 178-9); Dendy and Highet hire bicycles and ride to Boulogne (pp. 179-80); Dendy called to the Front and reports to Captain Ferguson (p. 182) – Approx. 26 June 1917.

## **Chapter XVI:**

**Working Parties** – Dendy accompanies Capt. Ferguson to the front line trenches. "...the whole scene had gradually changed from peaceful and quiet Towns and villages and pastoral scenes to one of complete desolation. Not a house or a tree standing, houses just piles of brick and trees in some cases with not even the trunks standing. The ground was like a ploughed field, with shell holes added for good measure and overall the smell of powder, gas and everything else associated with warfare. The noise of the guns was incessant and seemed to come from everywhere." (p. 185); Dendy explains the different actions of contact versus delayed-action shells (p. 187-8); "...it requires 4 or 5 men to support 1 at the front." (p. 189); Dendy comments on the New Zealand native contingent. "It says a lot for England's system of colonization that these troops, in order to preserve the race, were not used for combat service but for working parties and duties behind the lines." (p. 189); Dendy attached to a company commanded by Captain Free [7/332 Cuthbert William Free (1893-1944)] and assigned to night-time working-party duties forward of the line (p. 190); Dendy describes (with illustration) the replacement of a shattered tree trunk with a steel replica complete with sniper inside (pp. 192-3); shrapnel shells cause havoc (pp. 194-5); describes (with illustration) high velocity versus shrapnel shells (pp. 195-6); "I became so familiar with the sight of the dead & wounded that I thought nothing of it." Description of dead Maori man and mortally wounded horse. "Generally speaking the animals were no concern of ours." (pp. 196-7); Dendy fails to meet an objective (pp. 197-8).

## **Volume II**

### **Chapter XVI (Contd.):**

**Working Parties** – Walking up to a concealed howitzer battery almost has fatal consequences for Dendy (p. 206); description of air warfare (pp. 207-11); use of observation balloons (pp. 211-12); describes "the look" on the faces of men who have seen action (p. 212a); Dendy describes the circumstances surrounding the death of his friend, Lieutenant Beechey [22695 Frederick James Beechey] (p. 212a); rat killing for recreation (p. 213); old trenches named after London streets, New Zealand trenches given Maori names (p. 214); Dendy tries unsuccessfully to contact his brother Dick (p. 215-6); whilst trench digging one night, Dendy's unit is caught in the open by a star shell and comes under attack (pp. 217-19); Dendy praises the work of the Salvation Army, YMCA and Red Cross (pp. 219-22); fraternizing with the enemy on special occasions; practise is stopped by senior officers (p. 222-23); troops greatly amused by the trench humour of cartoonists Raemaker and Bairnsfather (p. 223); arrival at village of Romarin (p. 224) – Approx. end of November 1917.

## **Chapter XVII:**

**Romarin** – Dendy experiences trouble sleeping in the absence of gunfire (pp. 226-7); Regimental Band hit by shrapnel-fire; instruments totally destroyed (p. 227); Dendy at last meets up with his brother Dick (pp. 227-8); Dendy caught in shrapnel barrage coming home one night in open country; takes cover behind tree; possibly caused by use of his flash lamp, which may have been observed by enemy (pp. 229-30); general inspection of men by Sir Alexander Godley, Commander in Chief of the NZ Military Forces, reveals one of Dendy's men had packed his haversack with straw to give it the appearance of having been equipped correctly "There was hell to pay from the top to the bottom." (pp. 230-32); men complain of bitter cold; only issued with one blanket each; Dendy not much better off himself (p. 232); Dendy has a press-up competition with one of his men during exercise drills – and wins (pp. 233-35); sports meetings held regularly; wrestling contest over pond (pp. 235-6); Dendy disciplines a man for insubordination to a superior (pp. 237-8); all worn clothing replaced before the Messines offensive (pp. 238-9); songs and their roll in bringing back memories (p. 239-40) – Approx. end of December 1917.

## **Chapter XVIII:**

**Trench Warfare** – Discussion (with illustration) of typical trench systems (pp. 242-44); description (with illustration) of a 'Box Barrage' (pp. 244-5); description (with illustration) of a 'Creeping Barrage' (pp. 245-47); description (with illustration) of 'Wave Formation' attacking (p. 247-49); description (with illustrations) of use of Mills Bombs or hand grenades, rifle grenades and trench mortars (pp. 249-52); description of Very (pronounced 'veery') pistols. Used for sending up flares (pp. 252-3); description of 'Star shells' (p. 253); description (with illustration) of use of aerial photography (pp. 253-60); description (with illustration) of use of trench periscopes (pp. 260-61); description (with illustration) of use of barbed wire entanglements (pp. 261-63); description (with illustration) of Lewis Automatic Gun (pp. 264-5); description of Chemical Warfare and the different types of gas and their effects (pp. 265-7); Dendy briefly comments on two victims of a German flame throwing attack 'Flammenwerper' [Flammenwerfer] (p. 267).

## **Chapter XIX:**

### **Messines Offensive**

**First Advance** – Capt. Free [7/332 Cuthbert William Free (1893-1944)]; Ferguson, Dendy plus two other senior officers and 184 NCOs; mentions waterproof trench boots (p. 271); smell of decomposing bodies nauseating (p. 272); mention of identification discs (pp. 272-3); lice infestation in the men and illustration of louse trap (p. 273); Dendy goes on sortie with another to locate an enemy machine gun crew; companion shot (pp. 275-6); Dendy's low opinion of Capt. Free's attitude toward those under his command (p. 281).

**Second Advance** – Explanation of reversing a defensive position, including illustration (pp. 284-5); diagram of the four advances (total of 1,100 yards) made by Dendy's company from Ploegsteert Woods to Cabbage Field (p. 287); mentions a soldier being blown apart by direct shell hit (p. 289); capture of a heavily reinforced concrete fortress, including illustration (pp. 289-91); "Some had ghastly and mortal wounds and passed out before they could receive help. In fact, I could long ago tell approximately how long a man had to live by the look on his face." (p. 289); "One man's body was in one place with his head blown off which I found in a helmet some yards away." (p. 290); evidence of presence of chickens and wives of German officers at fortress (p. 291); issuing of 2-3 days of rations prior to every advance, including "iron rations" (p. 292); ration carriers get through and provide hot food (p. 294); Barbour's sacrifice to take an enemy pill box (pp. 296-7).

**Third Advance** – “...we encountered considerable resistance ‘in person’ and these were soon eliminated. It was the only time I experienced any actual hand to hand encounters and bayonet work. Our men ‘saw red’ and gave absolutely no quarter nor did they ask any.” (pp. 298-9); Company down to half strength but still a capable fighting unit (p. 301); Dendy takes souvenirs from dead German soldiers (p. 301); praise of the work of the army ‘Padres’, in particular the chaplain attached to Dendy’s own company (p. 303).

**Fourth Advance** – Illustration of fourth (and last) objective (p. 306); Corporal Corcoran mentioned (p. 306); Dendy challenged by a ‘friendly’ patrol (p. 308); ration carriers continue to get through regularly, so men eat well (p. 310); Dendy describes shaving using a little tea to wet the brush. “No one had had a wash of any kind for about 2 weeks.” (p. 311); Dendy’s gun crew wiped out and buried by German shellfire. “I vowed that I was the only man in the world who could locate and recover the bodies but subsequent events prevented me from doing so.” (p. 311); Dendy discovers ingeniously-concealed ‘friendly’ outposts in the Cabbage Field. “Don’t try and locate the outposts, leave them alone, they were not entertaining any visitors or extending any hospitality.” “In other words ‘mind my own business and leave them to do the same,’” (p. 314); men suffering from trench foot; use of whale oil to reduce swelling (p. 315); Dendy’s men in poor condition. A number are given leave to attend a dressing station. Some are evacuated out by Surgeon Captain. Dendy argues to have them reinstated and wins thanks to support from a nearby Colonel (pp. 315-16); Dendy’s unit now down to 2 NCOs and 9 regulars from an original full strength of 48. Remaining men in weak condition (p. 317); Dendy the only platoon Commander left alive/uninjured from the fourth advance (p. 318); Company down to about 48 from an original strength of 184 (p. 320); in a later report, Dendy praises the actions of his men, especially his Sergeant (p. 321); Dendy describes his role in censoring his men’s letters. He engages his Sergeant, despite it being contrary to army custom (p. 322); Dendy granted a week’s personal leave in Paris (p. 323) – End of January, 1918.

## **Chapter XX:**

**The Paris Gun** – Preamble to a description by Dendy of the design and use of the ‘Big Bertha’ German guns (p. 325); designs drawn up by gun manufacturers Krupp in 1916 for a gun that would have a range of 70 miles (p. 326); after much testing, seven guns were manufactured by March, 1918 (p. 328); describes in detail the specifics of the eventual working gun (pp. 328-32); **First Bombardment** – site chosen was St. Gobain at Crepy, near Laon; first shell fired at 7:17 am, on 23 March 1918; landed in Paris at 7:20 am (pp. 332-42); French disbelief that any gun could fire such a distance (p. 342); French military experts quickly determine where the giant German guns are located (pp. 343-44); German gunners discover accelerated rates of wear and tear on big guns due to high pressures generated from explosive charges (p. 345-6); French howitzer batteries strike back within 30 hours of the first German bombardment (p. 346); **Second Bombardment** – Germans choose a second site at the Bois de Corbie, near Beaumont en Beine; gun carefully camouflaged (p. 349); first shell fired at 7:27 am, on 27 May 1918 (p. 351); re-bored gun fires 102 shells before wearing out and removal; claimed to have a power equal to a 9 million horsepower internal combustion engine (p. 351); **Third Bombardment** – Germans choose a third site in the Bois de Brugères, 50 miles from Paris; first shell fired at 1.54 pm, on 15 July 1918 (p. 352); only 14 rounds fired before allied advance forces a return to Bois de Corbie (p. 353); **Fourth Bombardment** – First shell fired on 5 August; only 78 shells fired before allied advance forces removal (p. 353); a total of 367 shells had fallen on Paris during the four bombardments; Americans later built an experimental gun that had a range of 121 miles (p. 354).



### **Chapter XXI:**

**Paris** – Leave in Paris highly sought after (p. 356); Dendy accosted by Cook’s Travel Agent who turns out to be working for a Paris brothel (pp. 357-61); Dendy pretends to have no money and so makes good his escape (p. 361); expresses pleasant surprise at the cleanliness and efficiency of the Paris Métro considering the war had been in progress for 3½ years (p. 361); Dendy goes sightseeing; not as impressed with the Arc de Triomphe as the Admiralty Arches in London or the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin “It looks more like a glorified Marble Arch in Hyde Park.” (pp. 364-5); visits Théâtre de l’Opéra and gets backstage (pp. 368-9); Dendy feels offended by the many gargoyles atop Notre Dame Cathedral “The large number of ugly gargoyles around the top of the exterior offended me and I could see no reason for them being there.” (p. 371); Dendy confined to bed with high temperature; later removed to British Hospital in Paris, where he remains for a further two weeks [Spanish Flu?] (p. 373); Dendy puts his recent illness down to mental and physical exhaustion (pp. 373-4); his wife arrives from London to find him ill in bed just before he is taken to the British Hospital; despite his illness, he enjoys his time in the hospital (pp. 375-6); spends convalescence at the St. Romain Hospital (p. 377).

### **Chapter XXII:**

**Rouen** – Lying in a hospital bed at St. Romain, Dendy realises how fortunate he has been compared to those around him (pp. 379-80); man next to Dendy has his leg amputated and feels he now has to call off his engagement (pp. 380-81); description of city of Rouen and its local history complete with sketches and tourist-type ephemera (pp. 381-91); Dendy evacuated to Officers’ convalescent home belonging to Lord Manners in the south of England [Dendy later notes that it was located at Avon Tyrell in Hampshire]; he does not know it at the time but his general condition is so bad that he will be stood down from active service (p. 391); further comments regarding the state of the war, particularly the arrival of the American forces “Some American troops were already in the line and covering themselves with honour and glory.” (p. 392); allied forces in a desperate state “Our reserves were all used up and all units exhausted after about 3½ years of warfare against a powerful and relentless enemy.” (p. 392) – Beginning of March, 1918.

### **Chapter XXIII:**

**Manners Convalescent Home** – Brief description of Dendy’s convalescence (pp. 395-99).

[**Note:** It appears that the conclusion of Dendy’s war service is continued in Volume III, page 406. Currently in the possession of the donor.]