

31 — Monday June 5th 1916 —
up 26 am, and upon coming on
deck found the ship was finished
coaling, and the Kaffirs were
just finishing cleaning up the
mess, this convinced us that the
ship would go up and away,
I was told, for I was looking
forward to water lay at Kaffirs,
some were of size like across
to sea as yet, and upon drawing
out from the wharf about 8.30
the Tiggers gave us three times three
when we got outside we ran
into a very stiff South Easterly
the night we had on the
5th, we were out at a five
1.30 am, and the ship
straight towards the South, keeping
well out from the coast but
always in sight of land,
at 11.15 am we went under

32 many of the lads who have been
free from sea sickness for the past
three weeks went down to it
hardly, our lad was told by the
Doctor his stomach was weak,
he said, "weak he langes I am
throwing it further than any man
on the ship", however the next
day was just the same, the
sea was quite calm, and they
all smiled again, we hugged
the Coast of South Africa right
from Durban, we were some
distance out, but only lost sight
of land for short periods, as
for instance when the land
shaded in, on the 10th we
went to the north of the
the Cape where the Bird's Head
struck a reef in 1852. It
stands out prominently in
people's minds by the way

32
solved to go about in batches of
about a dozen, under the charge
of a Non Com officer, but this
did not suit us at all, and
we soon split up, and arranged
to all visit in - some of the wharves
are situated about a mile from
the town, and although we could
have gone by train, we decided
to walk, when we arrived at
the town proper, we made for
a good place to have a meal,
and after putting away 6 coins
we felt at peace with ourselves
and with the world ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ general,
we then went for a run around
the town, but it was made rather
unpleasant, by rain falling
(some times very heavily) there are
some fine buildings, and one
remark was often heard, "isnt
this like parts of Sydney", it is

33
in which some 150 persons
were acted when the ship
was sinking, although it was
impossible to get down the
ladder, there were a number
of the ladders, and the people
on a sufficiently large to get
down thereabout, all the women &
children were first placed in the
boats, then the other passengers,
there was no confusion, and when
the boats were full, there was
~~no~~ practically only the soldiers
left, there was no help for them
and while the ship was sinking
the bugles played, the men stood
at attention & cheered, and so
went to a watery grave, there
was I believe only one or two
of them saved, when we were
opposite the part, we were ordered
to stand at attention, and the