

JOURNAL OF W.J. JUDSON A.B.

H.M.S. REDBREAST

Commissioned at Bombay on Saturday March 28th. 1908
for service in the Persian Gulf.

Transcribed by Donald A. Tomkinson



William John Judson



Redbreast Class screw Gunboat.

WILLIAM JOHN JUDSON

William was born in Nantwich, Cheshire, on the 15th of January, 1884, the son of John Judson, a shoemaker, and his wife Mary Ann, and was the eldest of eight children.

He enlisted as a boy cadet in the Royal Navy on January 8th 1900, and became an Ordinary Seaman on the 15 January 1902, serving on H.M.S. HIGHFLIER, and became an Able Seaman on September 25th 1902. He served on a number of ships, including VIVID (RNB, Devonport), EXCELLENT (TE Portsmouth), TENEDOS (Depot ship caring accounts of Torpedo Boat Destroyer WAVENEY.), SAPPHIRE II (Depot ship, Portland, caring accounts of, Torpedo Boat Destroyers), CAMBRIDGE (Gunnery TS, Plymouth), and REDBREAST (Gunboat). His service record recorded that he was 5' 7" tall at 18, with brow eyes and hair, and with a fresh complexion.

William seems to have had a lively mind with many interests. He was a keen amateur photographer and left a number of photographs. He owned a violin and must have been able to entertain his shipmates during his time in the Royal Navy. On one of his photographs his cap-band shows him serving on H.M.S. WAVENEY, although this ship is not recorded on his service record. He last served on H.M.S. REDBREAST and has left a record of his service on this ship from February 1908 until April 1910, which took place mainly in the Persian Gulf. He died only five months after returning home. His service record notes that he died of heart failure, suffering from Pneumoniac Nephritis, possibly due to an infection caught during his service in the east.

HMS REDBREAST

HMS REDBREAST was one of the Redbreast Class of ships which comprised nine first-class screw driven gunboats built for the Royal Navy in 1889, mounting six guns.

They were designed by Sir William Henry White, the Royal Navy Director of Naval Construction, in 1888. The hulls were of composite construction, that is, iron keel, frames, stem and stern posts with wooden planking. These were the last class of composite-hulled gunboats built for the Royal Navy.

The class was fitted with triple-expansion reciprocating steam engines, developing 1200 indicated horsepower, sufficient to propel them at 13 knots (24 km/h, through as single screw. The class was given a barquentine rig (three masts; square rigged on the foremast and fore-and-aft rigged on the main and mizzen masts). [The journal only records the sails being hoisted on a few occasions, presumably relying on steam power.] The first four ships were armed with six BL 4-inch (101.6 mm) 25-pounder guns and four machine guns. The last five had a pair of 3-pounder quick firing guns in place of two machine guns. [Although REDBREAST was the second ship built, from the journal it appears she was to have had her armament upgraded during a refit to include the 3-pounders, with one or more Maxim machine guns and a 3-pounder Hotchkiss].

REDBREAST was launched 25 April 1889 in Pembroke Dockyard. She was commissioned at Devonport 27th February 1890 and was scrapped in 1910.

The last Captain of the REDBREAST (7th February 1908 to 11th March 1910) was Lieutenant Commander Joseph A. Shuter.

GUN RUNNING IN ARABIA

The rapid development in the design of small arms in the 19th century flooded the private arms market with surplus old weapons. The arms were destined for the dissident tribes of Arabia and the North West Frontier. The French were prominent in the trade in the Gulf, protected by their consul in Muscat. Britain attempted to slow the trade to protect their interests and the route to India by instigating anti-smuggling patrols in the Persian Gulf beginning in 1907. The trade continued until the outbreak of the Great War in 1914.

THE JOURNAL

1908

Monday Feb 17 [At H.M.S. VIVID I, R.N. Barracks, Devonport]
Told off for Draft for H.M.S. REDBREAST, Persian Gulf.

Tues Feb 18
Passed Medical Examination for Draft at 10 a.m. Joined Clothing Class.

Wed Feb 19
Passed out of clothing Class during forenoon. Proceeded on 10 days commissioning leave in afternoon.

Mon Mar 2
Returned from leave at 7 a.m. & joined working party.

Thurs Mar 5
REDBREAST draft left R.N. Barracks platform at 7.40 p.m. in special coach from Tilbury connected on the London train from Plymouth.

Fri Mar 6
Arrived at Paddington 3.40 a.m. & had breakfast, then proceeded to Tilbury. Arrived at Tilbury Dock at 9.30 a.m. & went on board the P & O liner EGYPT for Bombay. Sailed at 2 p.m.

Mon Mar 9
Passed Cape St Vincent 8.30 p.m.

Tues Mar 10
Arrived at Gibraltar and anchored outside breakwater at 9.30 a.m. Left at 1.30 p.m. for Marseilles.

Wed Mar 11
Passed N.W. coast of Majorca during afternoon.

Thurs Mar 12
Arrived at Marseilles and made fast alongside quay at 2p.m. Leave granted to draft till 6.30 p.m.

Fri Mar 13
Left Marseilles at 10.30 a.m. for Port Said. Passed through Strait of Bonifacio during night.

Sat Mar 14
Passed Stromboli Island at 10 p.m. close on port side. Passed through Straits of Messina during night.

Tues Mar 17
Arrived at Port Said and made fast head and stern to buoys at 2p.m.

Wed Mar 8
Entered Suez Canal at 6 a.m. Entered the Bitter Lakes at 3.45p.m. Arrived at Suez 9.45 p.m. Stopped to drop pilot, then proceeded to Aden.

Thurs Mar 19
Passed Shadwan Island Light House at entrance to Gulf of Suez at 9 a.m. & entered Red Sea.

Sun Mar 22

Passed Perim Island at 3 a.m., arrived at Aden and anchored at 1 p.m. Discharged Mails etc. and left at 3.30 p.m. for Bombay.

Fri Mar 27

Arrived at Bombay & anchored at 6 a.m. REDBREAST draft went aboard HYACINTH, flagship East Indies Station at 10.30 a.m. Went aboard REDBREAST in Indian Marine Dockyard during afternoon with medical stores.

Sat Mar 28

REDBREAST's draft left HYACINTH at 9 a.m., landed at Appollo Bunder and proceeded to Royal Alfred Sailors home to live there while ship is in dock. Went aboard REDBREAST during forenoon, returned to Home for dinner.

REDBREAST, LAPWING, SPHINX and PERSEUS in dockyard. Routine of Sailors' Home; Turn out 7 a.m. Breakfast 7.30 a.m. Go aboard ship 8.15 a.m. Finish work for the day at 1 p.m. and return to home for dinner. Sunday's Routine - Church parties proceed to their respective churches at 8 a.m. Returning to home at 8.45 a.m. Divisions in Sailors' Home at 10 a.m.

Fri Apl 3

REDBREAST's ship's company went for route march from 6.45 a.m. till 7.30 a.m.

Sun Apl 12

HMS HIGHFLIER arrived at noon from Persian Gulf with broken crank shaft.

Fri Apl 17

Good Friday - Sunday's routine, Church parties landed as usual.

Tues Apl 21

SPHINX's ship's company left the Sailor's home & went on board during forenoon. SPHINX went out in stream during afternoon.

Fri Apl 24

SPHINX left for Persian Gulf.

Thurs Apl 30

LAPWING's ship's company left the Sailors' Home during forenoon and went aboard. LAPWING went out of dockyard into stream at 10.30 a.m.

Mon May 4

LAPWING left during forenoon for Persian Gulf.

Tues May 5

Flagship HYACINTH arrived from Persian Gulf.

Fri May 8

REDBREAST's ship's company left Sailors' Home and went aboard at 8 a.m. Did basin steam trial during afternoon & went out of basin and made fast to buoy in harbour at 3.30 p.m.

Sat May 9

HYACINTH flagship left at 8 a.m. for Colombo.

Mon May 11

Commenced coaling 6 a.m. Finished 1 p.m. Took in 120 tons. Native labour.

Thurs May 14

Distance run up to noon 186.5 knots. Temperature air in shade 84°, sea water 81° F.
(Compass cruise Bombay to Muscat N 72° W, altering at Ras al Hadd to N 30° W)

Fri May 15

Distance run since noon yesterday up to noon today 211 knots. Total distance from Bombay 367.5 knots.
Temperature air 86° F. Sea water 81° F.

Sat May 16

Distance run since noon yesterday 184.4 knots. Total distance from Bombay 581.9 knots. Temperature shade
83° F, water 80° F.

Sun May 17

Distance run since noon yesterday 189.7 knots. Total distance from Bombay 742 knots. Temperature in
shade 81° F. Water 79° F. Sighted land at 5.40 p.m. Jebel Jaalana 3900ft. Jebel Khama 2700 ft.

Mon May 18

Arrived at Muscat and anchored at 7.30 a.m. Distance shown by log 899 knots. H.M.S. PROSERPINE at
anchor. PROSERPINE left at 7 p.m. for Bombay to pay off.
(Position of Muscat 23°37 N. Longt 58°35 E)



It was the custom for RN ships serving in the Gulf to paint the vessel's name on the rocks at Muscat. In the photograph the sailors from HMS Redbreast are caught in the act of leaving their mark for prosperity by painting the ship's name on the rocks. Date unknown.

Tues May 19

Commenced coaling 8 a.m. Finished 1 p.m. Took in 70 tons. Native labour..

Wed May 20

Painted ship. (Average temperature in shade at Muscat 89° F)

Thurs May 21

The Sultan of Muscat paid a visit to the ship at 9 a.m. Fire salute of 21 guns and dressed ship.

Fri May 22

Got under way at 2.30 p.m. en route for Jask (Persia). Compass course Muscat to Jask N 24°W.

Sat May 23

Arrived at Jask 7.30 a.m. & turned over stores to LAPWING which was at anchor, then proceeded eastward at 8 a.m. in search of dhow running arms. Manned and armed cutter for service at 9.30 a.m. Joined up with SPHINX S.O.'s ship at 2.30 p.m. REDBREAST steaming eastward along the coast. SPHINX proceeding to Muscat. REDBREAST anchored at 7.10 p.m. in 15 fms. About mile east of Jask.

Sun May 24

Got under way 5 a.m. & proceeded westward. Arrived at Jask & anchored at 7 p.m. SPHINX at anchor.

Mon May 25

General drill at 6 a.m. Cut kedge anchor & away all boats' crews. SPHINX left at 7 p.m. for Muscat and then for Makran coast in search of dhows.

Tues May 26

REDBREAST got under way at 5 a.m. & proceeded eastward along the Makran coast in search of a dhow. Overhauled dhow at 11 a.m. sent away gig manned and armed & boarded her, had a cargo of dried fish, no arms. Steamed on along coast & anchored at 7 p.m. in 160 fms.

Wed May 27

Got under way at 4 a.m. & steamed eastward along the Makran coast. Stopped dhow & boarded her with gig at 6.30 a.m. No arms. Sent armed cutter with Maxim ashore at 6.45 a.m., returned to ship at 7.50 a.m. with information from Persian customs official of dhow 12 miles further east along coast. Hoisted cutter & proceeded westward at 8 a.m. Altered course at 1.30 p.m. & steamed eastward back to Ras Tank. Arrived there at 4.30 p.m. & sent cutter with Maxim on shore to search large dhow. No arms, cutter returned 6 p.m. Ship anchored in 4½ fms. For night.

(Ras Tank Lat 25°20 N. Long 59°58 E. Distance from Jask to Ras Tank 57 miles)

Thurs May 28

Got under way at 4 a.m. & proceeded eastward. Overhauled dhow at 5.30 a.m. & sent cutter to search her. No arms, proceeded on course eastward. Arrived at Chakbar and anchored at noon.

(Chakbar Lat 25°16 N Long 60°37 E. Distance from Ras Tank to Chakbar 43 sea miles. Jask to Chakbar 170 miles.)

Sun May 31

Got under way at 1.30 p.m. for Jask.

(Jask Lat 25°38'19"N Long 60°37'7"E)

Mon Jun 1

Arrived at Jask and anchored at 6 p.m. Stopped and searched dhow at 11 a.m. No arms, cargo of goats.

Fri Jun 5

Got under way at noon & proceeded eastward. Arrived off mouth of Sadaich River at 6.45 p.m. & anchored about 10 miles off shore in 9 fms.

(Mouth of Sadaich River about 60 miles E of Jask.)

Sat June 6

Got under way at 4 a.m. and proceeded eastward. Altered course and arrived westward and anchored off Konorack at 9 a.m.

Sun Jun 7

Got under way at noon & proceeded to Muscat.

Mon Jun 8

Arrived at Muscat and anchored at 5.30 a.m. Coaled ship 50 tons

Tues Jun 9

Left Muscat at 2.30 p.m. & proceeded to Makran coast W of Jask.

Wed Jun 10

Arrived off Bunji at 8 a.m. Cutter manned and armed employed searching dhows. Ship anchored at 9.30 a.m. (About 40 miles W of Jask)

Thurs Jun 11

Got under way at 6 a.m. & proceeded to Jask. Searched 3 dhows on the way, no result. Arrived at Jask and anchored at 1.30 p.m.

Sun Jun 13

Got under way at Jask at 1.30 p.m. for Muscat.

Mon Jun 15

Arrived at Muscat and moored head and stern at 7 a.m. SPHINX in harbour with condensers broken down. Full rigged ship SHAH JEHAN OF BUSRAH in harbour. Coaled ship took on 70 tons.

Thurs Jun 18

Left Muscat at 6 a.m. for Henjam Island.

Fri Jun 19

Arrived at Henjam and anchored off side of island at 3.15 p.m. Received telegram. (Henjam Island Lat 20°40'49" Long 55 °53'55" E.)

Sat Jun 20

Left Henjam at 6.30 a.m. for Bahrain. Compass course L 31 W.

Sun Jun 21

Anchored for the night in 5¾ fms off Ras Rakkim at 4.15 p.m.

Mon Jun 22

Got under way at 6 a.m., arrived ay Bahrain I. and anchored at 3.15 p.m. (Bahrain - Position of El Manama Lat 26°14'N Long 50°35'E.)

Sat July 4

Left Bahrain at 1.45 p.m. & proceeded eastward. Anchored for the night off Ras Rakkim at 6.55 p.m. in 7 fms.

Sun July 5

Got under way at 6 a.m. and proceeded east. Passed though fleet of pearling boats at 8 a.m. Arrived at Halul Island at 4 p.m. and anchored. Signalling [?] party went ashore.

Mon July 6

Left Halul Island at 5.45 a.m. & proceeded in a NW direction. Stopped off Arabi Id at 6.50 a.m. proceeded 7.50 a.m.

Tues July 7

Arrived at Bushire at 6.15 p.m. anchored. (Bushire or Abu Shahr Lat 28°59'72 N Long 50°50'53" E)

Wed July 8

Coaled ship 50 tons.

Thurs July 9

Left Bushire 12.15 p.m. for Bahrain to get relieved by LAPWING.

Fri July 10

Arrived at El Menama at 1 p.m. & anchored.

(Bahrain - Distance shown by Cherub log on arrival from Bahrain 164.8 knots.)

Sat July 14

Mail arrived by B.I. Boat at 5 p.m.

Sun July 12

Left El Menama at 1.50 p.m. for Henjam.

Tues July 14

Arrived at Henjam & anchored at 8.40 a.m.

(Distance shown by Cherub Log on arrival at Henjam from Bushire 303.7 knots)

Wed July 15

SPHINX arrived at 4.40 p.m. REDBREAST left at 7.15 p.m. for Muscat.

Thurs July 16

Temperatures during afternoon Air 97° Sea 91°.

Fri July 17

Arrived at Muscat and anchored at 6.45 a.m. Commenced coaling at 10.30 a.m. Finished 5.25 p.m. 105 tons.

Sat July 18

Arrived off Manora Point [Karachi] at 9 a.m. Took pilot on board 910 & proceeded up harbour. Moved to buoy at 9.30 a.m. Gave general leave to both watches. Stb. watch from 5 p.m. 21st. To 9 a.m. 30th. 2nd. Leave Stb. Watch 9.30 a.m. 30th to 9.30 a.m. .

Sun Aug 2nd

Port Watch 9.30 a.m. Aug 2nd to 9.30 a.m. Aug 5th.

Wed Aug 5

Got under way at Karachi at 3.15 p.m. for Muscat. Strong running sea.

Sat Aug 8

Arrived at Muscat at 10 a.m. & moored up head and stern. Commenced coaling at - p.m. Finished at 9.30 p.m. Took in - tons.

Sun Aug 9

Left Muscat at 6 a.m. for Henjam

Mon Aug 10

Arrived at Henjam and anchored at - to await orders by telegram.

Tues Aug 11

Left Henjam at 7.30 p.m. for Bahrain Id. Maxim field gun's crew landed and fired Maxim for exercise.

Thurs Aug 13

Arrived off El Menama & anchored at 11 a.m. Landed interpreter sick, ashore at hospital. LAPWING arrived at 5 p.m. from Pearl Fisheries [Bahrain] & El Khatif & reporting rising of natives there.

Sat Aug 15

REDBREAST left El Menama at 11.15 a.m. for El Khatif on E coast of Arabia, to prevent pearl fishing dhows being pillaged by natives in revolt. Arrived at El Khatif & anchored about 3 miles off shore in 5 fms. (Position of Khatif Lat 20°33'N Long 50°E ?)

Sun Aug 16

LAPWING arrived 11.30 a.m. from Bahrain. R.I.M. launch arrived at 11.45 from Bahrain for transport duties. Captains of REDBREAST and LAPWING went ashore at 1 p.m. in launch & interviewed Governor who reported that natives were quietening down.

Mon Aug 17

LAPWING left at 10 p.m. for Bushire to coal. Launch *Bahrein* left at noon for Bahrain. REDBREAST fired Maxim for practice during dog watch.

Tues Aug 18

REDBREAST left El Khatif at 9.15 a.m. & arrived at Bahrain and anchored at 5 p.m.

Thurs Aug 20

REDBREAST left El Menama at 9.30 a.m. for Al Khatif with launch *Bahrein* in tow. Arrived off Al Khatif & anchored at 6.30 p.m.

Fri Aug 21

Steam cutter with whaler in tow & Navigator in charge, left ship at 11.30 a.m. for Khatif to procure information. *Bahrein* left for El Menama with mails at 1.35 p.m. No signs of steam cutter or whaler returning. Manned and armed sailing cutter at 8.20 p.m., ready to go in search of other boats first thing in morning, if they did not return during the night.

Sat Aug 22

No sign of boats returning, sailing cutter, armed with Maxim, 5 seamen, 5 marines, 1 signalmen, 1 armourer, with rifles, left ship at 4.20 a.m. to search for missing boats. Arrived within 2000 yards of Khatif town fort at 7 a.m. not having sighted boats up to then. Had breakfast then moved up to about 1000 yards from fort, just afloat in 2½ fm of water. Desultory firing going on ashore in date plantation to left of S of town. Troop of Bedouins on camels came down to watch cutter, loaded Maxim and trained it to bear on them, but they did not attempt to fire on cutter, evidently having caught sight of the Maxim. One P.O. and 2 AB's waded ashore by order of captain, went up to fort and interviewed governor, but no one in fort could speak English. Curious spectacle inside fort, every native carrying a rifle & bandoliers, every make of rifle extant there but chiefly Martini-Henrys. Party returned to cutter bringing several men from fort to cutter, which then left for ship taking two men on board from fort to supply information to Captain through interpreter. When about a mile from the fort sighted steam cutter which had been aground all night with the whaler, returning to the ship at 7 a.m. & being sent in again with relief crew to tow sailing cutter back, but went aground again, eventually getting off & towing out sailing cutter. When clear of land sailing cutter hoisted sails & slipped from steam cutter, being picked up by *Bahrein* & towed back to ship, arriving on board at 3 p.m. Unarmed cutter at 6 p.m. All safe aboard.

Sun Aug 23

Transported 3 pr Hotchkiss from ship to stern of launch *Bahrein* at 7 a.m. *Bahrein* left at 9.15 a.m. with Captain, 1st. Lieut & Gunner & all the white seamen, tested 3 pr, all correct, then proceed to Khatif with the 2 men brought on board yesterday. Anchored about 2000 yards off fort & sent the two men ashore to fort in whaler, heard no firing. Then returned to ship, arrived on board at 3.30, LAPWING having arrived in the meantime from Bushire with mails.

Mon Aug 24

Went to evolutions at 6 a.m. Abandon ship & out fire engine. Got under way at 9.30 a.m. for El Menama with steam launch *Bahrein* in tow. Arrived at Bahrain & anchored at 6.25 p.m.

Wed Aug 26

Steam launch *Bahreïn* with one 3 pr and 2 Maxims, left at 1.15 p.m. for Khatif, mainly for the purpose of taking on board refugees & to look for pirate named Ahmed bin Selem to Northward of Ros Tanura. (Temperature in shade 98°)

Fri Aug 28

Bahreïn returned at noon, nothing sighted.

Sun Aug 30

Bahreïn arrived as before, left at 9 a.m. for Ras Tamura.

Mon Aug 31

General evolution at 4.30 a.m. Cut bower anchor. *Bahreïn* returned at 5 p.m. No news except of about 500 Turkish troops having landed at Al Khatif.



The starboard midships BL 4" 25 pdr gun about to fire. The gunner is about to pull the lanyard that will fire the gun. Note the gun crew on the platform are all barefoot. The ships entry port is immediately aft of the turret with its handrails in place [this picture is taken on READBREAST's siter ship MAGPIE]

Tues Sept 1

Left El Menama at 6.30 a.m. Carried out firing about 18 miles N of Bahrain at 9.30 a.m. Fired 45 aiming from 3 pr & 4 in, then fired 8 rounds service from each 3 pr. Results as follows: 1st Stb 3 hits, Pt 3 hits, 2nd stb 3 hits 1st ot 3 hits, 2nd stb 2 hits, 2nd port 2 hits, 3rd. Stb no hits, 3rd pt 1 hit. Finished firing & proceeded on to Bushire at 2.15 p.m.

Wed Sept 2

Arrived at Bushire & anchored at 10 p.m. Commenced coaling, took on 80 tons. Finished 6 p.m.

Thurs Sept 3

Left Bushire at 1.45 p.m. for Bahrain.

Fri Sept 4

Arrived at El Menama & anchored at 1.15 p.m.

Tues Sept 8

Evolution at 5.45 a.m. Clear ship for action.

Mon Sept 14

Evolution at 5.45 a.m. Cut bower anchor 7.0 a.m. Away all boats, crews pull round launch *Bahrain*. (Temperature in shade 94°.)

Tues Sept 15

Left Bahrain at 6.15 a.m. for Bushire. Stopped at 2 p.m. about 59 miles from Bahrain, lowered cutter, moored her & carried out turning trials. Finished at 5.30 p.m. & proceeded.

Wed Sept 16

Arrived at Bushire & anchored at 9.35 a.m. LAPWING & R.I.M.S. LAWRENCE in harbour. LAPWING left at 11.25 a.m. for Khargu Id. LAWRENCE sailed at 2.15 p.m. REDBREAST left at 2.40 p.m. for Khargu Id. Stopped at 7 p.m., no land in sight & anchored in 25 fms. Fired rocket at 7.30 p.m. to attract LAPWING's attention if in vicinity. LAPWING replied with rocket.

Thurs Sept 17

Sighted Khargu Id & LAPWING at anchor. Got underway at 6 a.m., steamed up to LAPWING & laid out buoys and targets for gunfire test. Carried out 3 pr test during forenoon and Anchored at 1.30 p.m. Results of test - 1st 3 pr stb 10 rounds no hits. 1st port 9 rnds 5 hits (including 1 ricochet), 2nd port 3 rounds & had 2 misfires, 2nd stb 9 rnds 2 hits, 3rd port 9 rounds 4 hits including 2 ricochets, 3rd stb 11 rounds 5 hits, 4in guns did not fire. LAPWING did quarters firing during afternoon then anchored.

Fri Sept 18

SPHINX arrived at 7 a.m. LAPWING carried out gun layer test & finished at 9.30 a.m. Court of Enquiry assembled on board REDBREAST to investigate case of shortage of rum. LAPWING left at 12.30 p.m. Court dispersed at 4.30 p.m. REDBREAST left at 7 p.m. for Muscat.

Sat Sept 19

Lascar seaman died of Beri-Beri at 10.15p.m.

Sun Sept 20

Stopped engines at 7.45 a.m. and buried Lascar. Marines fired 3 volleys, Anchored at Henjam at 10.30 p.m. Left again at 7 a.m. for Muscat.

Mon Sept 21

Passed through Pask al Asad at 12.15 p.m.

Tues Sept 22

Stopped at 9.25 a.m. put over target & carried out quarters practice with 4in BL guns. Each gun fired (?) rounds. No hits. Finished firing & proceeded to Muscat at 11 a.m. Arrived at Muscat & anchored 7.30 p.m.

Wed Sept 23

Commenced coaling 8.30 a.m. Finished 5 p.m. Took in 100 tons.

Sat Sept 26

Left Muscat at 5 a.m. for Bombay.

Wed Sept 29

Arrived at Bombay & anchored at 10 p.m.

Thurs Oct 1

Got under way 7.30 a.m. & made fast to no. 5 buoy off R.I.M. Dockyard. R.I.M.S. NORTHBROOK & DUFFERIN in harbour.

Fri Oct 2

Discharged ammunition during forenoon.

Mon Oct 5

Got under way 7.30 a.m. and proceeded into R.I.M. basin. Ship's company proceeded to Sailors' Home during afternoon. Had new ice machinery and cooling apparatus for magazines fitted & dynamo removed to upper deck.

Tues Oct 13

Went in dry dock at 1 p.m. to have bottom cleaned etc.

Thurs Oct 22

Came out of dry dock at 10 a.m. & proceeded into basin.

(Cool season in Bombay- Min temperature at night 73° Max temperature during day 84°)

Fri Nov 27

Did basin trials & tested ice machinery.

Sat Nov 28

Ship's company left Sailors' Home & re-joined ship at 8 a.m. Went out of basin & made fast to buoy in stream at noon.

Mon Nov 30

Coaled ship 115 tons.

Tues Dec 1

Dressed ship 8 a.m. in honour of Queen's birthday. Went out of harbour at 10.55 a.m. did satisfactory steam trial & returned to buoy at 1.10 p.m.

Fri Dec 4

Left Bombay at 1.20 p.m. for Muscat. Did 8 hrs steam trial. Distance by patent log up to 6 p.m. 52.1 knots. Average speed during trial 11.5 knots.

Sat Dec 5

Patent log showing at noon 237.5 knots.

Sun Dec 6

Distance shown by patent log at noon 451.3 knots.

Mon Dec 7

Distance shown by patent log at noon 666.5 knots.

Tues Dec 8

Distance shown by patent log at noon 873.8 knots. Arrived at Muscat & anchored at 1.45 p.m. PERSEUS, LAPWING & French cruiser D'ABBEVILLE in harbour. Delivered range tools to LAPWING.

(Temperature during voyage Air Max 85° Min 69° Sea Max 76° Min 69°)

Wed Dec 9

Commenced coaling 8.30 a.m. Finished 3.30 p.m. took in 75 tons. Had orders from PERSEUS to leave on Wed for Bushire & Basra, but found defect in one of the cylinders, so sailing orders cancelled.

Thurs Dec 10

LAPWING left at 8.15 p.m. for Jask.

Fri Dec 11

French cruiser DIBEVILLE sailed at 11.0 p.m.

Sun Dec 13

SPHINX arrived at 6.30 a.m., took on 85 tons of coal & left at 1 p.m. for Bombay to pay off.

Mon Dec 14

REDBREAST went to general drill at 9a.m. General quarters, collision stations at quarters, 10.15 Abandoned ship. Packed up 11 a.m. PERSEUS sailed at 3 p.m. for Gulf.

Mon Dec 21

Left Muscat at 2 p.m. for Jask. Stopped at 5 p.m. & carried out practice with 4 in guns, firing common shell & 3 Lyddite (1 yellow, 2 grey) at Jezeriat Khalbara, one of the Is of the Daimanyat group, 33 miles N by W of Muscat. Completed practice & proceeded 5.25 a.m.

Tues Dec 22

Arrived at Jask and anchored in 3½ fms at 8.15 a.m. LAPWING at anchor. LAPWING left at 2.40 p.m. for Muscat taking our mails.

Wed Dec 23

Left Jask at 1.10 p.m. for Chabahar.

Thurs Dec 24

Arrd at Chabahar & anchored in 5½ fms at 9.20 a.m. Recreation party landed in afternoon & etched aboard greens for decorating & fowls for Xmas.

Xmas Day at Chabahar

Spent a most enjoyable Xmas, considering where we were at miles from anywhere. The mess deck was tastefully decorated with bunting & greenstuff from ashore, while the mess tables displayed a spread fit for a royal banquet. Captain & officers went round mess deck at seven bells, preceded by some impossible youths who were rigged up in Lascar uniforms & caused great amusement. The captain on this auspicious occasion presented 2 qts of beer to every three men, the 1st Lieut presenting each mess with a quantity of cigars, which gifts, needless to remark, were greatly appreciated by the men, especially the liquid portion of the presents.



Concert party – an example of how the crew would put on their own entertainments, complete with musicians and entertainers with fancy costumes.. Note these men are barefoot. Some of the Lascar crewmen can be seen in the rear; all of these ships on the East Indies station Lascar seamen in thiret ship's coompany. [this picture is taken on READBREAST's siter ship MAGPIE]

Sat Dec 26

Boxing Day, but alas miles away from England, which stirs up memories of the past.
[Judson has written 'Rot' across this entry, probably feeling he is overly sentimental]

Mon Dec 28

General drill during forenoon, exercise action, prepare to take in tow & out stream anchor. Left Chabahar at 4.30 p.m. for Muscat.

Tues Dec 29

Arrived at Muscat & anchored at 8.50 a.m. 5½ fms. Commenced coaling 11.20 a.m. completed coaling 3.15 p.m. 50 tons.

Thurs Dec 31

Painted ship.

1909

Fri Jan 1

Painting ship.

Sun Jan 3

Read out characters.

Mon Jan 4

Carried out practice with Maxim in cutter at target on rocks. Left Muscat at 2.30 p.m. 5 p.m. carried out practice with 4 in guns, 6 p.m. hands man & arm ship. Stb battery 3 p.m. Fired 8 rounds per gun. 6.45 in target & proceeded en route for Jask.

Tues Jan 5

Arrd at Jask & anchored 8.30 a.m. in 4½ fms. LAPWING at anchor. LAPWING sailed at 2.30 p.m. en route for Bombay to pay off.

Wed Jan 6

Landed 5 seamen & 2 marines in charge of gunner at 6.30 a.m. to work ashore building rifle range. Returned to ship 12.45 p.m. Recreation party landed at 3.30 p.m. to play hockey with telegraph staff.

Thurs Jan 7

Range working party landed 6.30 a.m. Returned to ship 12.45 p.m.

Fri Jan 8

Range party landed 6.30 a.m. as usual. Severe Shamal °NW sprang up about noon. Had to shift berth. Got under way 5.30 p.m., proceeded about 4 miles further out to sea & anchored at 6.15 p.m. in 5½ fms.

Sat Jan 9

Shifted berth. Got under way 9.35 & anchored in Jask East Bay at 10.30 in 6 fms.

Sun Jan 10

Shamal abated towards evening. Read out Arts of War.

Mon Jan 11

Mustered bags during forenoon. left Jask at 4.15 p.m. for Muscat. 6.10 hands man & arm ship, all 3 prs fired 9 rounds per gun at flag target. 6.45 proceeded on course.

Tues Jan 12

Arrd at Muscat & anchored at 8.20 a.m. in 6 fms. Commenced coaling 10.10 a.m. Completed with coal 2 p.m., 46 tons. Left at 6.30 p.m. for Jask.

Wed Jan 13

S. Easter Suhali sprang up during forenoon, rough sea. Arrd at Jask & anchored in West Bay in 4½ fms at 12.15 p.m. Blowing hard & rough sea.

Sun Jan 17

Weather cold. Hands wearing serge clothing. Left Jask at 4 p.m. for Muscat.

Mon Jan 18

Arrd at Muscat & anchored S of Muscat I to avoid shamal & heavy sea, 11 fms. Mail did not arrive on ac of P. & O. being overdue.

Tues Jan 19

Mail arrd 8 a.m.

Wed Jan 20

Left Muscat at 4 p.m. for Jask, carried out night firing with 3 prs, aiming tube & Maxim at drift targets, using searchlights.

Thurs Jan 21

Ardd at Jask at 11.55 a.m. in 4½ fms. Dress of day no. 4. Cold with heavy rain.

Mon Jan 25

Range working body landed at 9.15 a.m., returning at 1 p.m.

Tues Jan 26

Range party landed at 6.30 a.m. Discharged Vincent Chief ERA sick to BISS GOALPARA for conveyance to hospital Bombay. GOALPARA sailed 3.15 p.m.

Wed Jan 27

Left Jask 10.20 a.m. for Burji or Ros Al Kuh to about 16 miles W of Jask, to watch for dhow landing arms. Anchored at 1.30 p.m. in 12 fms, about 2 miles from shore. Did not sight any dhow. Anchor bgs. End R.A.K. N 43W, N at Pillar N 66½ E.

Thurs Jan 28

Left Ras Al Kuh 9.35 a.m. & anchored at Jask 12.57 p.m. Jask anchored Bgs. TEL Stn S24E Rd Trce N35SE

Fri Jan 29

Range party landed 8 a.m. General quarters at 9.30 a.m. Range party returning at 1 p.m.

Sat Jan 30

RWP landed 8a.m. Returned 1 p.m.

Sun Jan 31

Left Jask at 2 p.m. for Muscat. Carried out swinging for adjustment of compasses during afternoon, preceded 3.30.

Feb Mon 1

Ardd at Muscat & anchored at mth of harbour at 8 a.m. in 10 fm. Shamal sprang up so shifted berth at p.m. to S of Muscat.

Feb Tues 2

Discharged Brown ERA with SB's & 1 AB to look after him ashore to private house seriously ill. Prepared for coaling & got under way 9.10 a.m. proceeded towards harbour, but turned back and anchored in original position at 9.45 a.m., on account of sea being too heavy to admit of coaling. Shamal blowing.

Feb Wed 3

Got under way 7.30 a.m. & proceeded into harbour, anchoring at 8 a.m. in 7½ fms off West Castle. Commenced coaling 8.15 a.m. Finished 11.30. Took on 65 tons. SS HINDUSTAN arrd 5 p.m.

Feb Thurs 4

PERSEUS arrd at 8.40 a.m. & saluted country with 21 guns. Fort Merani returned salute. PERSEUS coaled.

Feb Sat 6

Diving party away at practice with PERSEUS diving gear. PERSEUS's steamboat & cutter brought body of French consul who died about 6 months previously, from Id of Muscat, round Muscat Island to consulate in Makat for conveyance to Bombay by B.I. boat & thence to France by M.M. boat.

Feb Sun 7

Read returns of Courts martial after divisions.

Feb Mon 8

Received on board 91 cases of provisions from SS WAROONGA. 6 month's stores.

Feb Tues 9

Boat race at 4 p.m. between REDBREAST and PERSEUS, 10 oared cutters. Seamens' crew REDBREAST won, 3 lengths. Supper & 110 Rs.

Feb Wed 10

Boat race at 4 p.m. between REDBREAST & PERSEUS skiffs. Hard race. REDBREAST won. £1. PERSEUS cutters & dinghy crew came over to supper at 6.30 p.m. Fine spread & enjoyable evening. PERSEUS cutter crews giving a hearty cheer for REDBREAST on leaving which were heartily returned. Coffin containing corpse of French consul was taken on board B.I. BULIMBA at 10.30 a.m. PERSEUS & REDBREAST parading guard as boat conveying coffin passed the ship. Colours being at half mast until BULIMBA left for Bombay at 1 p.m.

Feb Thurs 11

R.I.M.S. LAWRENCE arrd and anchored 9.30 with consul gen of Gulf. PERSEUS and fort saluted 21 guns. REDBREAST left at 4 p.m. for Jask. Carried out 4in BL & 3 p.m. aiming tube & Maxim firing at 5.10, about 8½ miles out from Jask. Finished firing & proceeded at 6.5 p.m.

Feb Fri 12

Arrd at Jask & anchored in E Bay in 6 fms. Anchored Bgs Makea Tomb N 84½ W Persian F.S. N 54½ W. Conspic Tree N 15½ W.

Feb Mon 15

Recd telegram to commence operations.

Feb Wed 17

Shifted berth to West Bay. Weighed 10.6 anchor W Bay 11.45 in 47 fms.

Feb Thurs 18

Left Jask 4.40 p.m. steamed W 6.0. Sighted PERSEUS steaming E. Stopped at 6.50 to communicate with her. Proceeded E at 7.50. PERSEUS proceeding to Bombay. Anchored at 8.45 p.m. in 13 fms about 8 miles W of Jask. Anchor Bgs Natural pillar N 23 E Muscat N 52 W Jebel Dangia N 39 E.

Feb Fri 19

Proceeded 9.30 a.m. Arrd Jask & anchored at 11.7 a.m. in 4½ fms.

Feb Mon 22

Left Jask at noon, proceeded E to find dhows running arms. Dropped anchor NW of Ras Al Kuk at 6 p.m. in 7½ fms. Anchored Bgs Saddle N86 E Muback at 61 E Quoin N2E.

Feb Tues 23

Weighed anchor at 6 a.m., not having sighted any dhows & proceeded to Jask & anchored at 11.25 a.m. in 4 fms. FOX arrd at 4 p.m. & anchored E Bay. REDBREAST got under way 4.40 p.m. & chased two bhagalds making way out to sea. Overhauled them & searched them at 5.30, usual result, empty. Proceeded to E Bay & anchored 2 cables from FOX at 6.50 p.m. FOX left during night.

Feb Wed 24

Got under way at 9.30 a.m. & anchored in West Bay at 10.40 a.m., to prepare for inspection by captain of FOX. Usual inspection routine, wet paint & holystones everywhere, everybody doing a weep.

Feb Thurs 25

Saturday's routine, preparing for inspection.

Feb Fri 26

Inspection at 9.30 a.m. by captain of FOX. Hands mustered by ledger. Exercised action fire stations & tested flooding arrangements for magazines. Exd. Small arms companies, collision stations, abandon ship. Mustered my hammock. Bill Puckey mustered bag. Inspection of Maxim during afternoon by sergeant of arms from FOX.

Feb Sat 27

Got under way 4.10 & proceeded to sea, but altered course at 4.50 p.m. & returned to harbour & anchored at 5.45 in 3½ fms.

Feb Sun 28

Got under way 7.10 a.m. & proceeded eastward. Sighted several dhows making for shore at 10 a.m. altered course to chase them. Stopped at 10.40, then preceded slowly, the sea being much discoloured as if shallow water. Sounding 10 fms. Lowered cutter 10.45 a.m. to sound ahead of ship, got 9 & 10 fms. Stopped at 11.50 a.m. in 9 fms. Sent cutter to search 3 dhows which had anchored. Usual result.

Mar Mon 1

Got under way at 11.5 a.m. & proceeded to Jask. Anchored in West Bay at 2.5 p.m. in 5 fms. Heavy SE gale. Got under way 5.15 & shifted berths further out. Temperature Air 75°F Sea 72°F.

Mar Tues 2

Blowing a westerly gale. Heavy sea.

Mar Wed 3

Got under way 12.30 p.m. , shifted berth further out to sea, anchoring at 1.55 p.m. in 10 fms. Strong westerly gale. Heavy seas.

Mar Fri 5

Got under way 11.20 a.m. & proceeded westward along the Biyban coast in search of dhows. Anchored at 9.40 p.m. off Kunan Pt. Kanya Peak bearing N86E.

Mar Sat 6

Sighted a dhow at 6 a.m. close in shore running northward. Sent cutter with Maxim to board her but she ran away from cutter. Ship got under way at 7 a.m. having sighted two more dhows out to sea. Stopped at 7.45 to pick up cutter, then proceeded up the coast overhauling the first dhow. Sent away steamboat & cutter in tow to chase heart 9.0 a.m., as she had run close into shore while the ship proceeded to intercept the two out at sea. Overhauled one of them & boarded her at 10.0 a.m. bound for Chahba with a cargo of lime, arms nil. Stopped & boarded the other one at 10.30, who had passengers on board. Steamboat & cutter returned to ship at 10.50, having boarded dhow in shore & found her crew collecting firewood for Bander Abbas. Ship then proceeded southward anchoring at 1.10 p.m. in 8 fms off Khor Kunari. Got under way at 4.45 p.m. & proceeded southwards anchoring at 8.10 in 13 fms NW of Ras Al Kuh.

Mar Sun 7

Got under way 5.50 a.m. and proceeded towards Jask. Stopped at 7.55 & searched dhow, as usual empty, bound for Jask. Proceeded 8.15 a.m., arrd at Jask & anchored abreast of FOX at 12.15 p.m. FOX had a Badan [type of shallow water Dhow] made fast astern which she captured at 4.30 a.m. with 360 rifles, some Mauser pistols & 200,000 rounds of ammunition. Recd mails from FOX & left at 2.30 p.m. for Muscat, taking Sub Lieut. Prise R.I.M. for Bombay. Chief ERA Vincent who was discharged at Bombay hospital on Jan 26, rejoined the ship having arrd form Bombay on board FOX.

Mar Mon 8

Sighted Badan under sail about 10 miles out of Muscat. Lowered her sail when she saw ship making towards her & her crew commenced fishing. Steamed up to her & captain made her come alongside, searched her 8.20 a.m., no results. Proceeded 8.48 a.m. arrd at Muscat & anchored at 10.25 a.m. opp coaling depot.

Mar Tues 9

Coal ship commenced 6.30 a.m. Finished 10.10 a.m. Took in 95 tons.

Mar Wed 10

Discharged R.I.M. officer, one C.E.R.A., & one marine (Pendall) to B.I.S.S. KOLA for passage to Bombay at 7 a.m. Carried out ball firing from Maxim in cutter at rocks during forenoon.

Mar Thurs 11

Got under way at 10.30 p.m. for Jask.

Mar Fri 12

General quarters 9.15. Arrd at Jask & anchored in W Bay at 4.5 p.m. Got under way 6.10 p.m., steaming to the westward.

Mar Sat 13

Anchored at 8 a.m. off Kunari Pt. Karya Prak bearing $s 70^{\circ} E$. Captain & navigator proceeded in shore in gig, in tow of steam cutter at 10.30 a.m. to find mouth of Kunari river on Khor. Returned to ship at 2 p.m. having found river. Got under way at 8.30 a.m. & proceeded to the westward, steaming slowly during night without lights.

Mar Sun 14

9.25 a.m. arrd at Khor Fakan on E coast of Oman & anchored in 6 fms. Lowered cutter & sent her in shore to search boats on the beach in front of village. Cutter returned at 10.30 a.m., result as usual. Got under way at 10.40 a.m. & proceeded to the eastward. Arrd off Ras Al Kuk (Bunji) & anchored at 7.15 p.m. in 20 fms. Kuk I Mubarak bearing $N80\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}E$.

Mar Mon 15

Got under way 7.30 a.m. proceeding to the northward. Searched dhow at 9.50 a.m., usual result. Arrd off Khor Kunari at 12.55 p.m. & anchored in 13 fms. Capt, navigator, 1st Lieut & doctor, proceeded in cutter with white crew 3.45 p.m. up Khor to shoot birds. Enjoyable expedition, returned to ship at 7.30 p.m., shot about $\frac{1}{2}$ doz birds. Khor Kunari mud banks with mangrove trees cannot be seen from the sea. There is a bar across the mouth $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from shore with a foot of water over it, but there is an entrance to the westward about 3 ft deep, but deep water inside the bar up the Khor. Got under way 9 p.m. proceeded slowly for Jask.

Mar Tues 16

En route for Jask. Ras Al Kuk off the pt beam at 6 a.m. Arrd at Jask E bay & anchored at 11.17 a.m. in $5\frac{1}{2}$ fms. Got news from ashore that FOX had captured another dhow with 1200 arms on Sunday morning. No such luck for us. Got under way 1.45 p.m. & proceeded to the westward. Boarded & searched a large dhow at 3.15 p.m., bound for Karachi in ballast & 3000 Rs on board. Steamed towards Ras Al Kuk till 6.5 p.m. then altered course to the north westward and proceeded up the entrance to the Gulf.

Mar Wed 17

Great Quoin abeam at 3.7 a.m. Kishm town not abeam at 7.40 a.m. Horming Id on stb hand. Arrd at Bandar Abbas & anchored at 8.55 a.m. in 4 fms. Capt went in whaler at 9.30 a.m. to interview consul, at consulate, about 1 miles to the eastward of town. Insurrection in progress in town, insurgents having captured customs offices, but everything seemed quiet when our Capt returned at noon, having interviewed consul. Got under way & shifted berths further to westward, anchoring at 12.25 p.m. in $4\frac{1}{2}$ fms, closer to town. Bandar Abbas Lat $37^{\circ} 16' N$. Long $56^{\circ} 17' E$. Dis from Muscat 247 knots.

Mar Thurs 18

Exd. wheel ropes & found them stranded in bad condition. Rove new ones.

Mar Fri 19

FOX arrd at 7 a.m. General quarters 9.30 a.m. Sent dynamo armature aboard FOX for repairs. Boat race at 5 p.m. between FOX & REDBREAST cutters. REDBREAST won. REDBREAST weighed & proceeded at 6.35 p.m. for Linga.

Mar Sat 20

Arrived at Linga & anchored off town 11.12 a.m. in 4½ fms. Linga presented a pleasing and picturesque appearance from sea. Came to Linga on account of Persian revolution, but everything seemd quiet. Lat 26°33'N Long 54°54'E.

Mar Sun 21

Got under way 7.0 a.m. for Henjam to telegraph to FOX at Bandar Abbas, there being no telegraphic communication with Linga. Mustered 6 p.m. List 9.30 a.m. Arrd at Henjam & anchored at 4.10 p.m. 2 Persian launches & Persian cruiser PERSEPULUS at anchor. Steam launch arrd at 9.10 p.m. from direction of Linga & communicated with PERSEPULUS, which got under way & proceeded with launch in the direction of Linga. Other 2 launches left 1.30 a.m.

Mar Mon 22

Got under way 7 a.m. & proceeded to westward passed volcano Kishan forenoon. Arrd at Linga & anchored at 3.30 p.m. in 5 fms about ¾ miles off town. 3 Persian launches & PERSEPULUS at anchor. All quiet.

Mar Wed 24

FOX arrd from Bandar Abbas at 2.40 p.m. Discharged 93 boxes 3 pdr amm. to FOX, condemned for conveyance to Bombay. Got under way 6.40 p.m. for Bushire.

Mar Thurs 25

At sea en route for Bushire.

Mar Fri 26

Arrd off Bushire & anchored at inner anchorage at 3.26 p.m. in 4 fms. R.I.M.S. LAWRENCE & PERSEPULUS at anchor.

Mar Mon 29

Coaled ship commencing 7.25a.m. Completing at 2.20. 110 tons.

Mar Wed 31

LAWRENCE sailed 5.30 Muscat.

Apr Thurs 1

Got under way 11.30 a.m. & shifted berth from Inner anchor at Bushire to Rishak Pt. opposite British consulate, anchoring at 1.30 p.m. in 4½ fms.

Apr Fri 2

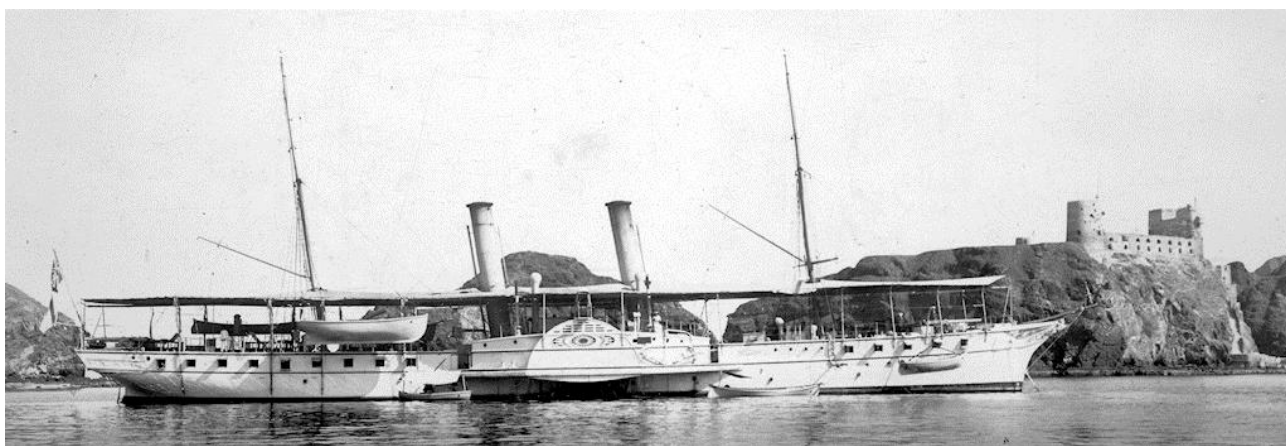
General quarters 9.30. Sighted long looked for FOX at 12.5 p.m. FOX anchored at 2.20 p.m. about 2 miles NW of REDBREAST. Received 2 weeks mails from FOX.

Apr Mon 5

Evolutions during forenoon. Collision, fire & abandon ship stations.

Apr Thurs 8

SPHINX arrd at 6.45 a.m. REDBREAST left at 10.15 a.m. for Linga Henjam & Muscat.



Composite paddle sloop HMS Sphinx at anchor off Muscat Fort.

Apr Fri 9

At sea en route for Linga.

Apr Sat 10

Arrived at Linga & anchored at 9.20 a.m. in 3 fms. British consul came on board & left again at 10.5 a.m. Got under way 10.10 a.m. & shaped course for Henja.m. Very heavy rain. Arrd at Henjam and anchored at 7.28 p.m. in 12 fms. Recd telegram from ashore & got under way at 7.55 p.m. for Muscat.

Apr Sun 11

Heavy seas 1st dog. Mustered open list. Put clock on 10 mins at 10.30, making 22 minutes since leaving Bushire.

Apr Mon 12

Arrd at Muscat and anchored in E bay at 7.0 a.m. in 13 fms. Heavy sea in harbour. Shifted berth and anchored inside harbour 7.30.

Apr Tues 13

Coaled ship, commenced 6.15 a.m. Finished 9.0 a.m. 60 tons.

Apr Wed 14

Saturday's routine. Got under way at 7.20 p.m., with British Consul on board to do business at Sur.

Apr Thurs 15

Arrd at Sur & anchored at 9.10 a.m. in 9 fms. Consul proceeded on shore to conduct business. Party of 12 Sur tribesmen armed to the teeth, with Arab knives & Martinis, came on board at 6.30 a.m. for conveyance to Muscat to interview Sultan on account of their dhow being looted by Italian Somalis. Got under way at 7.0 p.m. for Muscat.

Apr Fri 16

Arrd at Muscat & anchored at 7 a.m. Sur men went ashore. Experienced very severe Shamal from 9 p.m. Furled awnings and raised steam. Terrific wind.

Apr Sat 17

Got under way 12.20 a.m. & anchored just outside harbour. Tremendous seas. Ship rolling very heavily. Storm abated 2.30 a.m. Got under way 9.40 a.m. & proceeded inside harbour and anchored off ruined fort.

Apr Sun 18

Ship's company expected to go to Karachi to clean out boilers & give general leave but C in C did not approve and ordered ship to carry out boiler test at Muscat, an operation occupying about 16 days, but

telegram came at noon today ordering ship to proceed to Bandar Abbas on account of some disturbance there and Persian trouble.

Apr Mon 19

Got under way at 7.30 a.m. after receiving mail from Bandar Abass. Patent log showing at noon 27.5 knots.

Apr Tues 20

Dis shown by Patent Log 180.7 knots. Arrd off Hormuz Id & dropped anchor in 14 fms at 0.15 p.m. about 10 miles B Abbas.

Apr Wed 21

Got under way 7.40 a.m. & proceeded to Bandar Abbas, arrd & dropped anchor in 5 fms about 5 miles off shore at 9.10 a.m.

Apr Thurs 22

Heard a rumour that we would probably have to land to protect consulate against attck. So great activity on board filling Maxim belts & getting Maxim ready for action. Landed Sig (?) at 11.31 expecting town to be attacked.

Apr Fri 23

Recd signal from Consulate stating that the Danya Begi who was expected to attack the town was at Baghdad and Arab tribes on Euphrates were in revolt & passage closed. H.M.S. SPHINX at Bana.

Apr Sat 24

Blowing hard & heavy sea. Sighted a boat put out to sea pulling towards the ship at dusk, about 6.10 p.m. No notice was taken of it at first, as it was thought to be a fishing boat coming alongside to sell fish, as they usually do, but having arrived alongside it was considered to be a badan containing 15 fugitives, 12 men & 3 women, slaves who had escaped from Hamun near Sharja on the west coast of the Oman peninsula. They were making for the British Consulate at Bander Abbas, but having sighted the ship they made for her. They evidently knew they would be safe under the White Ensign, although perhaps some of them had never seen a man o war, before. We took them on board & gave them a good feed, their provisions having run out a day previous, and reported the matter to the consul.

Apr Mon 26

Down slow, Mail BULIMBA arrd at 8.5 a.m. Discharged the fifteen liberated slaves to the consulate during the afternoon.

Apr Tues 27

S.S WARONGA arrd with mails from Muscat at 3.30 p.m.

Apr Wed 28

Signalman who was discharged to consulate returned on board 11 a.m.

Apr Thurs 29

Painting ship.

May Sat 1

Left Bandar Abbas at 5.5 p.m. for Muscat.

May Sun 2

At sea en route for Muscat. Put clock on 5 mins at 10 a.m. Reduced to slow speed, 65 revs at 8.26 p.m.

May Mon 3

Arrd at Muscat & anchored in 8 fms off ruined fort at 5.10 a.m. Sighted H.M.S. HYACINTH at sea 5.45 a.m. HYACINTH anchored 8.20 a.m. Recd Admiral Slade. Capt Dicks. Race for the Viceroy's Cup held by

HYACINTH at 5 p.m. between REDBREAST & HYACINTH cutters, 3 miles. HYACINTH won by 3 mins 4 secs. Having to allow REDBREAST 1 min 36 secs. Time occupied by race HYACINTH - REDBREAST -. HYACINTH sailed for Bombay at 6.35 p.m.

May Tues 4

Commenced coaling 6.10 a.m. Finished 11.10, 98 tons. REDBREAST to clean out boilers, an operation taking about 16 days.

May Wed 5

Just thinking of settling down at Muscat when telegram arrd from FOX at Bushire ordering us to proceed with all possible despatch to Linga. Capt wired back that we had commenced the boilers and had all the internal fittings out of one boiler, but FOX replied proceed at once with one boiler, so we had anticipations of a pleasurable voyage steaming about 3 knots.

May Thurs 6

Left Muscat at 7.30 a.m. for Linga. Distance run shown by patent log at noon 19.2 knots, which averaged 4.8 knots per hr, rather more than we had expected.

May Fri 7

Clocks back 9 a.m. 3 mins. Dis run from noon yesterday 139.2 knots. Moderate gale sprang up about 10.30 p.m. Result, ship attaining the phenomenal speed of 2.6 knots between 11 p.m. & midnight. Great Quoin abeam 11.50 p.m.

May Sat 8

Arrd at Henjam & anchored at 8.20 a.m. in 8 fms. Patent log showing 226.6 knots. Recd telegram & left at 9.30 a.m. for Linga. Stopped engines at 9.0 and anchored in 6 fms, about 6 miles off Linga.

May Sun 9

Got under way at 7.40 a.m. and anchored off Linga in - fms at 8.40 a.m. Of course, everything quiet, all hands wondering what we came for. Mail left fortnightly.

May Fri 14

B.I. GOALPARA arrd at 7 a.m. with mails. During our stay at Linga continued the cleaning of no.1 boiler. Persian steam launch arrd at 6 p.m. from Henjam bringing telegram. REDBREAST left at 7 p.m. for Henjam.

May Sat 15

Arrd at Henjam & anchored at 8 a.m. to send and receive telegrams. Left at 5.15 p.m. for Linga, steaming with both boilers averaging 7.5 knots. Anchored for the night off Kishham Id about [?] miles W off Henjam at 9.10 p.m.

May Sun 16

Got under way at 5 a.m. Jeyl Lanb [?] abeam at 7 a.m. Arrd at Linga & anchored at 10.30 a.m.

May Mon 17

Left Linga at 9.10 a.m. with British agent on board for Charak. Arrd at Charak & anchored in 4 fms at 5 p.m. Agent went on shore to visit sheik. Distance from Linga to Charak 37 miles. Steaming with one boiler, other being cleaned out.

May Tues 18

Left Charak at 9.10 a.m. for Tawana a village 4 miles west of Charak. Arrd at Tawana & anchored in 8 fms at 9.5 a.m. Left Tawana at 11.55 a.m. for Mashi, Kais [Kish] Id. Arrived at Kais & anchored off town on N of Id at 2.30 p.m. in 7 fms. Agent went ashore to stay till Fri morning. Landed bathing party at 5.45 p.m.

May Wed 19

Left Kais at 5.10 a.m. for Linga to get mails on Thurs. Arrd at Linga & anchored at 2.15 p.m. Dis 45 miles.

May Thurs 20

B.I. BULIMBA arrd at 7 am with mails and stores, also brought up canteen stores, but landed them at Bander Abbas. Left Linga at 8.20 p.m. for Kaid Id. Arrd at Kais & anchored in 6 fms at 5.5 p.m. Landed bathing party at 5.45 p.m. Lieut J.F. Tisdale joined ship from BALIMBA to relieve Lieut Boyle.

My Fri 21

Left Mashi at 9.0 a.m. Put clocks back 10 mins at 9.25 a.m. Arrd at Kabat al Abeid & anchored on 8 fms at 11.25 a.m. Agent went on shore to visit headman of village. Got under way again at 4.10 p.m. for Chiru, anchored at Chiru at 6.0 p.m. Landed bathing party on Chinu Pt.

May Sat 22

Arrd at Linga & anchored in 6½ fms at 8.13 p.m. Patent log showed 130.4 knots as arrived at Linga. Remaining at Linga 4 days to complete cleaning of boiler. Agent left ship.

May Fri 28

Remained at Linga 4 days to complete boiler cleaning, left at 6.25 a.m. for Henja.m. Got steam in other boiler at 3 p.m. Arrd at Henjam & anchored in 9 fms at 6.10 p.m. To await instructions by telegra.m.

May Sat 29

Rcd orders to proceed to Muscat first calling at Bander Abbas for canteen stores which arrd by B.I. boat and were deposited in the customs. Got under way 5.30 p.m., anchored off Bander Abbas at 12.20 a.m.

May Sun 30

Rcd canteen stores on board & proceeded to Muscat at 8.50 a.m. Distance 247 miles.

May Mon 31

Dis run up to noon 184.8 knots. Arrd at Muscat to await orders, coal at 6.0 p.m. Laid out kedge anchor.

June Tues 1

Commenced coaling 6.35 a.m. Finished 2.15 p.m., 120 tons.

June Wed 2

Lieut Boyle left in B.I. DUMEA for Bombay. Paid monthly money at 12.45 p.m. Rcd order to proceed to Karachi to give general leave.

June Fri 4

Weighed kedge anchor 5.30. Left at 9.5 a.m. for Karachi. Dis run up up to noon 20.1 knots. Dis to Karachi 468 knots.

June Sat 5

Dis from Karachi at noon 273 miles.

June Sun 6

Dis run up to noon 252.4 miles. A/c at midnight to SW, just steaming slowly against head sea.

June Mon 7

Ge NE at 4 a.m. Arrd off Manora Pt 9.15 a.m. Took pilot on board. Made fast to buoy at 11.10 a.m. Shifted berth at 2.45 p.m. making fast to buoy further up harbour. Port watch proceeded on leave at 4 p.m. till 9 a.m. Sat. Spent leave at 30th battery RTAs.

June Sat 12

Pt Watch returned on board 9 a.m. & Stb Watch proceeded on leave.

June Wed 16

Stb Watch returned from leave at 9 a.m. Port Watch proceeded on leave.

June Sat 19

Post watch returned. Stb watch proceeded 9.0 a.m.

June Mon 21

Commenced coaling 8 a.m. Finished 9.45 a.m. 40 tons. Average temperature at Karachi 85° day 83 wet. Sea 86.

June Tues 22

Stb watch returned on board 9 a.m. Slipped buoy 1.5 p.m. & left for Muscat. Heavy SW monsoon swell outside harbour. Put clocks back ½hr at 9 p.m.

June Wed 23

Put clocks back 15 mins at 1.20 a.m. Dis run up to noon 140.3 knots. Heavy swell still running.

June Thurs 24

Put clocks back 10 mins at 11 a.m. Dis run up to noon 300 knots. Swell going down.

June Fri 25

Hauled in log at 9.15 showing 451.2 knots. 9.20 spread awnings. Stopped off Fahal Id. At 10.55 got out target & carried out 3pr 4" 27 practice. 10 rounds per gun 1st stb 3 hits 1st port 1 hit, 2nd stb [?] hit, 2nd port [?] hits, 4in no hits 8 rounds per gun. Put clocks back 40 mins. After gun practice proceeded to Muscat where we arrived & anchored at 2.25 p.m. Mooring up astern.

June Sat 26

Commenced coaling 6.40 a.m. Finished 9.15 a.m. 40 tons. Temperature at noon 99°.

June Sun 27

Got under way 12.5 p.m., our usual routine & proceeding en route for Jask.

June Mon 28

Arrd at Jask and anchored at 9.3 a.m. Captain & gunner inspected new rifle range just completed. Landed recreation party 4 a.m.

June Tues 29

Recd on board from ashore range working tools which we had brought from Bombay & landed in January. Having recd order to proceed to Linga in quest of a pirate we got under way at 1 p.m. for Arblat place. Temperature at Jask 87° Sea 86°/ Kih i Mabarab abeam at 5.7 p.m.

June Wed 30

Great Quoin abeam 1.10 a.m. Arrd at Henjam & anchored at 6.35 a.m. 112 miles from Jask for telegram. Got under way at 8.55 a.m. for Linga where we arrived at 5.15 p.m. British Agent & Commissioner of Police came on board to interview captain about pirate. Temperature of sea at Linga 90°.

July Thurs 1

Left Linga at 10.30 a.m. for Kais Id with British Agent, Commissioner of Police & a merchant for Lina who knew the pirate, on board. And at Kais anchored at 5.10 p.m. Landed rec. party at 5.40 p.m. BA & party going ashore to interview Sheik.

July Fri 2

While there, a bit of a row happened. Some other Sheik landed on the W side of the island to take it & a small engagement took place between the respected sides. The Sheik of the island capturing the usurper & making him prisoner, while his troops hearing that a British man o war was there, thought discretion the better part

of valour & decamped. There were two killed & 3 wounded belonging to the island & the doctor of the REDBREAST landed to attend them in the fort during the afternoon, returning to the ship at 5.30 p.m. Paid monthly money, also tropical pay at 2.15 p.m. British Agent & his party came off at 6.30 p.m. with the information that this pirate was at Das Id. as a diver on one of the pearl dhows, so up anchor at 7.0 p.m. and off to Das in search of blood. Das is a barren island 1¼ miles long by 7 cables wide, 145 ft high, situated on the Arabian side, about 105 miles SW by S from Kais Id.

July Sat 3

Sighted Girhuh Id. At 11 a.m. & anchored off it at 1.0 p.m. Agent & merchant boarded a dhow to obtain information & learned that the Kais Id. Boats were at Das Id. Got under way at 2.30 p.m. taking the dhow in tow. Arrd at Das Id. & anchored off S side at 7.0 p.m. Large fleet of pearling dhows there. Merchant & Agent boarded one of the dhows owned by the merchant & learnt that the dhow on which the wanted man was serving had left that day & gone around to the N side of the island.

July Sun 4

Got under way at 5.15 a.m. and proceeded to the northward where the other dhows were engaged in pearl fishing, about 12 miles. Steamed amongst the dhows, the merchant pointing out to the captain the particular dhow which contained the wanted man. He was described as a ferocious character & a good marksman with a rifle. He was charged with committing four murders & piracy, having been captured once by the Persian Authorities for piracy, but having paid a large ransom he was set free. Since then he committed the murders. Having found the dhow, the cutter was sent to board her with 4 white men & the 1st Lieut in charge. As the cutter went alongside the dhow, the man dived and as he came up again & got in the dhow, he was seized by the white men before he could get his rifle. He resisted fiercely however, fighting & biting like demon & the Lieut told the men not to shoot him, so there was struggle during which he managed to get hold of an axe & one of the men's revolvers, but before he could do any damage he went to sleep with 3 or 4 taps on the head with the butt ends of the men's revolvers & he was brought on board a sorry spectacle, being literally bathed in blood from the wounds in his head. Under the doctor's care he came round & was immediately handcuffed & placed in irons, chained to the deck. He said afterwards that he did not know that the ship had come expressly for him, he thought she was merely going the round of the pearl fisheries, otherwise when he saw the boat cutter coming towards the dhow he would have got his rifle & some of the boat's crew would have gone under. Having obtained our quarry we left for Kais at 11 a.m.

July Mon 5

Arrd at Kais & anchored off Mashih at 6.30 a.m. British agent going ashore to inform the Sheik what had taken place. Left Kais for Linga at 10.0 a.m. Arriving at Linga at 6 p.m. Agent & brother and merchant going ashore, the pirate remaining a prisoner on board to be taken to Bushire & tried by the Consul General of the PG, Major Cox. REDBREAST remained at Linga till arrival of mail on Friday. Temperature at Linga, Air 96° Sea 96°.

July Fri 9

B.I. WAROONGA arrived with mails & provisions at 6 a.m. Provisioned ship during forenoon. Left Linga at 4 p.m., with British agent, brother & merchant as witness on board for Bushire.

July Sat 10

Put clocks back 10 mins at 9.20 a.m. Dis run up to noon 119.4 miles.

July Sun 11

Arrd off Rashire & anchored at 8.25 a.m. SPHINX at anchor. Reported captain of pirate to SPHINX & got under way at 10.40 a.m. for Bushire. Put clocks back 10 mins. Arrd at Bushire & anchored at inner anchorage at 12.27 in 4 fms.

July Mon 12

Commenced coaling 5.45 a.m. Finished 1.15 p.m. 120 tons. B.I. WAROONGA arrd 5 a.m.

July Tues 13

Saturday's routine. Got under way 6.28 p.m. & anchored at outer harbourage at 7.20 p.m. in 4½ fms to wait arrival of mail on Wed morning.

July Wed 14

B.I.S.S DWARKA arrd with mails and stores for REDBREAST, LAPWING & SPHINX, at 8.30 a.m. Recd all stores on board then got under way at 2.30 p.m. for Reshire, arriving there & anchored at 3.50 p.m.

July Thurs 15

Recd order from SPHINX to remain at Rashire to await return of Consul General, to receive orders respecting pirate. LAPWING arrived at 8.30 a.m. from Kuwait & anchored. Recd stores from REDBREAST & proceeded to inner anchorage at 4.20 p.m. to coal preparatory to leaving for Karachi to give leave. REDBREAST received an indication that she would proceed to Bombay about September.

July Fri 16

Optional drill 6 a.m. REDBREAST. Fire, collision stns & away all boats' crews. LAPWING arrd from Bushire & anchored at 10.20 a.m.

July Thurs 22

English mail arrd per R.I. steamer KOLA at 9 a.m., being 24 hrs late. Average temperature at Rashire Air 95° Sea 92 ° F.

July Fri 23

LAPWING left for Kuwait at 4.45 p.m. REDBREAST left at 6 p.m. with Linga agent & staff on board for Kais.

July Sat 24

Somewhat cooler. Air 91° Sea 89°. Distance run up to noon 113 miles. Dis to Kais 127 miles.

July Sun 25

Arrd at Kais Id & anchored off Mashī at 10.25 a.m. Agent went ashore to visit Sheik, returning to ship at 4 p.m. Left at 4.20 p.m. for Charak. Arrd at Charak & anchored 6.40 p.m. in 3½ fms.

July Mon 26

Remained at anchor all day. Sheik of Charak came on board to visit at 7 p.m.

July Tues 27

Left Charak at 6.0 a.m. shaping course towards Farur Id. Laid out target off Farur & carried out 4" & 3 pr practice firing 8 rounds 4" per gun & 10 rounds 3 prs. Result 4" one hit each, 1st stb 3 pr 3 hits 1st port nil 2nd stb 3 hits 2nd port 1 hit 3rd stb 2 hits 3rd port 1 hit. Sighted B.I. DUMEA on her way to Bushire at 11.10 a.m. she stopping at 11.35 to give us our mails. Got target in & proceeded on to Linga at 12.30 a.m. Anchored at Linga at 5.20 a.m. discharged agent and party & weighed anchor at 5.36 p.m. & proceeded to Alra Thabi to negotiate with sheik for reception of pirate as prisoner.

July Wed 28

Sir Abu Nu'ain Id abeam at 7.0 a.m. & then our usual luck started, one boiler breaking down. Dis run up to noon 88.8 knots. Reshire to Abu Thali approx dis 360 miles. Arrd at Abu Thali & anchored at 6.22 qm in 4½ fms. Very clear water, could see bottom quite plainly. Dis from Linga to Abu Thali 108 miles. Navigator & 1st Lieut went ashore on arrival to interview the Sheik about reception of the prisoner, but the Sheik would not take the prisoner under the circumstances imposed by Major Cox, the Consul General of the Gulf, as if he did take him he could not guarantee him to live very long.

July Thurs 29

So left Abu Thali at 4 p.m. for Linga with prisoner aboard. The captain on the sick list.

July Fri 30

Arrd at Linga & anchored at 6.30 p.m., not having enough coal left to take us to Bushire . On enquiries being made, the contractor of Bushire who was on board, stated that coal could be obtained at Basidu, a British possession on the NW coast of Kishni Id , about 29 miles away, but it had probably lain there for about 25 years.

Aug Sun 1

Captain left for Bushire aboard GOALPARA, being discharged to hospital.

Aug Mon 2

Having no coal to spare for distilling & being short of water, the contractor was applied to for a supply, which duly arrived in a dhow containing 1 ton at 5 p.m. It was towing 2 dhows & coolies for coaling, supplied by contractor. After receiving the water got under way at 5.15 p.m. for Basidu, but owing to the phenomenal speed which we attained, had to anchor at dark about 10 miles from our destination.

Aug Tues 3

Got under way 5.25 a.m. & anchored off Basidu at 7.30 a.m., about 3 cables off shore, the closest we have ever been anywhere up the Gulf. Coolies went ashore & commenced to coal, the first dhow coming alongside at 10.15 a.m., containing about 4 tons, rather good for nearly 3 hours work This spontaneous coaling went on all day until 5 p.m. when 5 European seaman, 1 marine, and both watches of Lascars were sent ashore to facilitate matters. Working ashore till 8 p.m. & considerably augmenting the supply of coal.

Aug Wed 4

The last boat load came aboard at [?] a.m., thus completing this record coal ship. Got under way at [?] p.m., having to use salt water in the boilers. Slipped the dhows of Linga at [?] p.m. & proceeded to Bushire at reduced speed owing to the bad nature of the coal which had to be mixed with wood to enable it to burn.

Aug Thurs 5

Dis run up to noon [?] . Hugging the coast all the way in case of a breakdown so we could anchor.

Aug Fri 5

Dis run up to noon [?]. Arrived off Bushire and anchored at 7.15 p.m. in thick haze & heavy swell. SPHINX still at anchor there & we learned that the LAPWING had been out to look for us, before going to Bahrain.

Aug Sat 7

Got under way at 7.20 a.m. & proceeded to inner anchorage to coal, the SPHINX having ordered 130 tons for us. Anchored at inner harbour at 9.5 a.m. Commenced coaling 11 a.m. Finished 6.30 p.m., took in 130 tons. Cooler at Bushire over 95°F.

Aug Sun 8

Very joyful Sunday cleaning ship which lasted till 1 p.m.

Aug Mon 9

Court of enquiry by captain of SPHINX assembled on board to investigate shortage of coal & captain leaving ship.

Aug Tues 10

Got under way at 11.30 a.m. for Shatt el Arab & Basra. Sighted Kharag Id 3.15 p.m. Passed it on stb beam 6 p.m.

Aug Wed 11

Crossed bar at mouth of Shalt el Arab at 6.30 a.m. Arrived off Fao & hove to off telegraph station at 8.15 a.m. Proceeded up river at 9.10 a.m. Crossed Muhammera at 3.45 p.m., to await arrival of mail boat in morning & no ship being allowed to go to Basra unless she stops at Muhammera, at least 4 hours.

Aug Thurs 12

B.I. mail boat DWARKA ardd and anchored at 10.30 p.m. REDBREAST got under way at 12.30 p.m. after swinging with the tide, bows upstre.am. Arrived at Basra & moored ship just above Ashar Creek at 4.30 p.m. Turkish gunboat & R.I.M.S. Laurence at anchor. During afternoon experienced gale of hot wind heavily laden with fine sand from the Mesopotamian deserts, which sent the thermometer up to 120° in the shade on the bridge. Ordinary temperature 109° in box. Entirely fresh wind at Basra fit for washing. Stay at Basra very enjoyable, though hot in afternoon. Average temperature in shade 100°, highest 110° during REDBREAST's stay. Mail arrives per B.I. steamer on Thursday or Friday morning according to state of tide on bar. Nothing important happened during our stay, except a fire evolution & such as collision stations, abandon ship, man & arm boats etc. One thing noticeable was the river steamers which run to Baghdad, arrived armed with a light 2.7 gun & 2 of them had bullet proof wheelhouses to protect them from attack by Bedouins where the Tigris flows through the desert.

Sept Sat 11

Received orders to leave Basra on this day & proceed to Kharga for gun layers' test. Commenced unmooring at 8.30 & completed the evolution by 10.20 a.m. owing to a few round turns in the cables. Passed Muhammura 1.15 a.m., Ardd at Fao & anchored off Telegraph Station at 6 p.m.

Sept Sun 12

Got under way at 7.45 a.m. & just about to proceed when another telegraph ardd, so came to anchor again at 8.5 a.m. This telegram cancelled a previous order & ordered us to proceed directly to Bushire, coal, take in provisions for SPHINX & join her at Jask. Got under way at 10.30 a.m. for Bushire.

Sept Mon 13

Ardd at Bushire & anchored at inner harbourage at 7.45 a.m. Coaled ship 85 tons & took in provisions for SPHINX.

Sept Tues 14

Still taking in provisions for SPHINX. Rumour started that we were going to have our funnel painted black with two white bands.

Sept Wed 15

Capt Rae, consul at Bander Abbas came on board previous to sailing. Got under way at 2.50 p.m. & proceeded to outer harbourage to B.I. boat for mails & ratings. On arrival found she had no mails & only one rating for SPHINX, so proceeded at 4 p.m. en route to Bander Abbas. Shamal blowing and choppy sea.

Sept Sun 19

Passed Ras al Kuh at 2.30 a.m. & eased down. Ardd at Jask & anchored off SPHINX at 8.30 a.m. SPHINX did not take her stores, but we got under way again at 10 a.m. to cruise to the westward in search of dhows, so once more we were on our old tack of gun running. SPHINX remained at Jask having broken down. Ship anchored at 7 p.m. Manned & armed cutter with Maxim, 4 seamen, 2 marines & 1st Lieut & left ship at 11 p.m. to cruise to eastward, ship having anchored S.E. of Kuh i Mubarak at 7 p.m. Cutter sailed down coast anchoring at 4.30 a.m. Got under way at 5.30 a.m.

Sept Mon 20

Arriving at Jask & going alongside SPHINX at 8.0 a.m. Sighted no dhows, pitch black night. Ship got under way at 6 a.m. & after searching 3 dhows, ardd at Jask & anchored at 9.30 a.m. LAPWING ardd from eastward at 10 a.m. & left at noon for Basra. Discharged SPHINX's stores during day. Cutter left at 10 p.m., this time sailing to eastward, but very little wind, anchored a few miles E of Jask at 1 a.m. on Tuesday.

Sept Tues 21

Cutter got under way at 4.30 a.m. just having got a breeze, & proceeded further to the eastward searching several dhows, but all fishing boats. Turned round at 5.45 a.m. & made for Jask, ardd alongside ship at 7.45 a.m. Ship got under way at 10.15 a.m. & laid out buoys & targets off Cape Jask for gun layers' test. Cutter's crew standing off all day.

Sept Wed 22

REDBREAST went out at 6.30 a.m. & carried out aiming tube practice at targets. Returning to harbour & anchoring at 2 p.m.

Sept Thurs 23

REDBREAST went out at 6 a.m. followed by SPHINX & carried out gun layers' test. Result of test, 1st stb 3 pr 10 rounds 2 hits 2nd stb 3 pr 12 rds 2 hits. Remainder of guns no hits, 4 guns did not fire. Cutter M & A went away cruising at 10 p.m. to West Jask Bay. SPHINX steam & sailing cutter further west at Gagan returned to ship 7.30 a.m., searched one dhow.

Sept Fri 24

SPHINX went out at 6.30 a.m. for gun layers' test, had 12 rounds, 3 hits. Returning to harbour at noon. Cutter crewed as above.

Sept Sun 26

REDBREAST got under way 1.15 p.m. for Muscat, for mails, stores etc.

Sept Mon 27

Arrd at Muscat & anchored 6.30 a.m. Commenced coaling 8 a.m. Finished 4.30 p.m., 100 tons. Rec mails, stores, including number of fowls & sheep, etc, an order being received to issue fowl once a week to messes, in lieu of meat, owing to the poor quality of it.

Sept Tues 28

Left Muscat at 3 p.m. for Jask.

Sept Wed 29

Arrd Jask at 7.30 a.m. SPHINX at anchor. Thought we would have a few days in harbour, but at 8 p.m. recd a message from SPHINX to raise steam by 8 a.m. Thursday, gun running again.

Sept Thurs 30

SPHINX left at 6.30 a.m. steaming to the westward, followed at 8 a.m. by REDBREAST. SPHINX patrolled N of Ras al Kuh & REDBREAST to the S & E in search of dhows. REDBREAST anchored at 6 p.m. to the S.E. of Kuh i Mubarak about 5 miles from point of Ras al Kuh. Cutter went away, armed with Maxim to patrol coast from Ras al Kuh to eastward. Had a bit of excitement, saw a light ashore about 6 miles to eastward of Ras al Kuh, and about 15 mins later sighted a dhow apparently making for the coast. Altered course to intercept her when ship fired a blank charge for her to heave to, ship having sighted her & got under way. Dhow lowered her sail when cutter came up & was boarded by gig from ship, no arms, cargo of sand. Cutter carried on until 6 a.m. in the morning, when she returned to the ship, hoisted, & ship carried on cruising along coast.

Oct Sat 2

Cruising along coast until 6 p.m., anchored as usual. Cutter went away armed at 10 p.m. but had a rough night of it, sighted no dhows & came back to ship at 6 a.m. on Saturday, wet through. Ship carried on cruising, searched a big dhow at 9 a.m. had a cargo of dates. Carried on to Jask, arrd at 1 p.m. to get news & send telegram. Left Jask at 2.15 p.m. & met SPHINX off Ras al Kuh at 4.30 p.m. SPHINX carried on to northward. REDBREAST anchored at 6 p.m. Armed & lowered cutter, but did not send her away unless dhow was sighted.

Oct Sun 3

Carried on cruising as usual till 6 p.m. Armed & lowered cutter. Observed a dhow to seaward making past the ship. Fired a round of blank, dhow hove to and lowered her sail, at 9 a.m. . Cutter boarded her, had a cargo of firewood, date mats & grass, bound for Makran to Bander Abbas.

Oct Mon 4

Got under way at 6 a.m. & chased a dhow to westward of Ras al Kuh, came up with her at 9.30 a.m. & found

she was a large trading dhow, under the Turkish ensign. SPHINX chasing two dhows to seaward. SPHINX left at 12.30 p.m. for Jask with mails etc. REDBREAST carried on cruising from 3 miles E of R A Kuh to Bunji. Anchored about 3 miles to NW of Ras al Kuh at 5.30 p.m. Armed & lowered cutter as usual. 1st Lieut & P.O. went ashore & found footprints in the sand, returning to the ship at 6.45 p.m. So there are some people knocking about somewhere in the vicinity of this unhallowed spot.

Oct Tues 5

Got under way at 6.30 a.m. & carried out usual patrol. About noon sighted a dhow coming from NW apparently making for Bunji. Came up with her just off Bunji, fired a blank round & hove her to, searched her but she was empty save for 2 fishing nets & they said they were just going out fishing. Met SPHINX off Mubarak at 4.30 p.m. REDBREAST anchored at 5.40 p.m. to SE of Mubarak at 4.30 p.m. Lowered & armed cutter as usual.

Oct Wed 6

Sighted a dhow at 4 a.m. Fired a gun. Dhow hove to, cutter searched her, large trading dhow in ballast. Cont to the E. Ship got under way at 6.30 a.m. continued cruising. Searched a dhow at 10.30 a.m. same one close in Benji. 2 dhows 1 p.m. fired Maxim at them. Met SPHINX at noon off Mubarak & received orders from her to proceed to Jask on Thursday morning for news & provisions. Anchored at 5.30 p.m. off Gangan. Sighted a dhow at 5.45 p.m., heading E between ship & land. Fired a blank, lowered sail, cutter searched her, cargo of rock salt & rice.

Oct Thurs 7

Left for Jask 6 a.m. Arrd Jask at 8.15 a.m. Took on board provisions & received the news that the dhow we searched yesterday forenoon & before at Bunji, threw overboard 500 rifles & 50,000 rounds ammunition. Left Jask at 1 p.m. Met SPHINX off Mubarak 4.30 p.m. REDBREAST proceeded N & anchored at 8.30 p.m. off Kunari Pt. Strong sea running, lowered cutter & armed her. Got under way at 6.30 a.m.

Oct Fri 8

Met SPHINX off Mubarak at 8 a.m. & carried on cruising from Kunan to Bunji. Anchored at 6 p.m. between Bunji & Gatan. SPHINX anchoring off Mubarak.

Oct Sat 9

Got under way 6.30 a.m. Carried on cruising from Kunan to Mubarak. Anchored at 6 p.m. between Benji & Gatan.

Oct Sun 10

Got under way 6.30 a.m. & came up with SPHINX to E of Mubarak at 10 a.m. Recd mails from SPHINX & left at 10.25 a.m. for Muscat.

Oct Mon 11

Arrived at Muscat at 7 a.m. anchored at mouth of harbour. Coaled ship, 104 tons, finishing 4 p.m. European seamen ashore on Muscat I during forenoon at Webley pistol firing.

Oct Tues 12

Left Muscat at 4 p.m., steaming up the Arabian coast en route for Ras al Kuh.

Oct Wed 13

Met SPHINX at Mubarak at 7 a.m. & recd orders to cruise between Jask & Bunji. SPHINX left for Muscat. REDBREAST anchored off Mubarak at 6 p.m.

Oct Thurs 14

Cruised from 6.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., anchoring off Gangan.

Oct Fri 15

Left Gangan 6.30 a.m. proceeded to Jask, arrd at 8.15 a.m. & anchored. Recd orders by telegram & shifted

berth to outer anchorage at 12.50, anchoring in 6 fms. Let fires die out & expect to remain here until we receive orders for Bombay. Sent armed cutter away under sail at 6.10 p.m. to stop a dhow making past Jask Point, but did not find her owing to it coming on dark. Cutter with gunner in charge, owing to 1st Lieut being on sick list, returned to ship at 8 p.m.

Oct Sat 16

Armed steam cutter left ship at 9 a.m. to search badan in Jask bay, making for the Khor. On coming up with her search proved her to be a fishing boat. Went away in chase of another dhow at noon, same place, & had to fire 3 rounds of rifle ball at her before she lowered her sail. Searched her, had cargo of dates, wheat, goats & passengers, men & women, from Bandar Abbas, NO ARMS. Recd news from ashore signal station at 9 p.m. that Muscat coaling depot was on fire.

Oct Sun 17

SPHINX arrd at 1.30 p.m., going round to Jask E Bay and anchored at 5 p.m. REDBREAST receiving orders to proceed to Bombay for annual refit on arrival of FOX.

Oct Tues 19

FOX arrd from Bombay and anchored in E bay at 6.30 a.m. REDBREAST got under way at 12.30 p.m., closed on FOX & anchored in E bay at 1.30 p.m. Left for Bombay at 3.15 p.m. & commenced 4 hours full power trial at 3.30 p.m. Completed FP trial at 8.0 p.m., averaged 9.5 knots. Commenced 3/5 power trial. Temperature at Jask Air 84° Sea 83°.

Oct Wed 20

Completed 3/5 power trial, averaged 8 knots. Eased down to 5 knots. Distance made good up to noon 179 miles.

Oct Thurs 21

Dis made good noon 144 miles.

Oct Fri 22

Eased down to slow speed at 9 a.m. Stopped at 10 a.m. to clean out tubes which were choked owing to steam trial. Proceeded at 3 p.m. under 1 boiler. Got steam in the other boiler at 8 p.m. Dis run up to noon 145 miles.

Oct Sat 23

Dis made good noon 147 miles.

Oct Sun 24

Sounded with machine at 3.35 a.m. 62 fms by tube, 106 fms wire out. Dis run up to noon 177 miles.

Oct Mon 25

Coal nearly exhausted by the morning watch, so commenced burning wood, using nearly all the carpenter's stock. Heavy mist about 7 a.m. on clearing off at 8 a.m. found us just off Bombay. Arrd in harbour & made fast to buoy off yacht club at 10.30 a.m. Discharged ammunition during afternoon, preparing to proceed into the R.I.M. basin on the following day.

Oct Tues 26

Slipped buoy 8 a.m. & proceeded into R.I.M. basin, making fast alongside H.M.S. PERSEUS, PROSERPINE & R.I.M.S. LAURENCE, also in basin.

Oct Sat 30

Shifted berth to West Wall.

Nov Wed 3

Flagship H.M.S. HYACINTH arrd at 6.30 a.m. from Aden, making fast to buoy in harbour.

Nov Mon 8

SPHINX arrd at 7 a.m. from Muscat.

Nov Tues 9

King's birthday. Dressed ship at 8 a.m.

Nov Sat 13

Pocceeded into dry dock at 11 p.m.

Nov Mon 15

SPHINX came into basin at 10 a.m. her ship's company taking up their quarters in the Sailors' Home, in the same room as the REDBREAST's, top floor.

Nov Wed 17

The Viceroy arrd at Bombay at 8.30 a.m. from Baroda on his tour through India.

Nov Fri 19

Viceroy dined with the Admiral at 8 p.m. Guard of honour formed by Marines from HYACINTH. REDBREAST & SPHINX marched to Admiral's house from Sailors' Home at 7.30 p.m., headed by flagship band.

Nov Sat 20

Viceroy left Bombay by train at 9 p.m.

Nov Tues 23

Gave a farewell concert in Sailors' home to PERSEUS ship's company, who are to leave for England on the 25th.

Nov Thurs 25

PERSEUS's old crew left Sailors' Home at 3.30 p.m., embarking at Princes Dock, on board Anchor liner ELYSIA for Liverpool. At 4 p.m. the new crew took up their quarters in the home, having arrd by the P. & O. ARCADIA.

Dec Wed 1

Queen's birthday. HYACINTH dressed overall, ships in dockyard masthead flags.

Dec Tues 7

Received news from Gulf of big capture. FOX 2 dhows & LAPWING 1 large dhow with 1500 arms.

Dec Wed 8

PERSEUS's new company embarked at 6 a.m., PERSEUS leaving at 8 a.m. & making fast to buoy in harbour.

Dec Sat 11

PROSERPINE's crew having returned from camp at Doclali took up their quarters in Sailors' Home.

Dec Sun 12

PERSEUS left Bombay for the Persian Gulf.

Dec Fri 24

All seamen from HYACINTH, PROSERPINE, SPHINX & REDBREAST landed at 6.30 a.m. and rehearsed review for Proclamation Day on Oval returning at 8 a.m. Gave a concert in reading room Sailors' Home. Very good.

Dec Sat 25

Xmas day. Very enjoyable day. Splendid dinner. Roast pork, chicken, ham, Xmas cake, pudding & fruits. Each

man presented with 1 large bot Bass, while Sousa [?] distributed cigars. Dining hall tastefully decorated with greenstuff & bunting.

Dec Wed 29

Landing party proceeded to cooerage at 6.15 a.m. to rehearse Proclamation review, returned at 8 a.m.

Dec Thurs 30

Naval brigade landed for rehearsal at 6.15 a.m. 4 tugs for gun running being equipped.

Dec Fri 31

Naval brigade landed as usual for rehearsal on Maidan.

1910

Jan Sat 1

Proclamation Day in India, the anniversary of the day King Edward was proclaimed Emperor. Major General C.S. Swan commanding Bombay Brigade held a review of troops on the Maidan. The troops consisting of the Naval Brigade, under Flag Captain Dicks, consisting of 3 companies of seamen & 1 of marines. The R.G.A. The Gloucester L.I. & the Gloucesters, 112th Mahrattis, with bands of the Mahrattis & H.M.S. HYACINTH. The Admiral was at the saluting base & the march past was headed by the Brigadier General in front of the Naval Brigade.

Jan Thurs 13

The Hindoo festival of Mohurram commenced & all naval men on liberty were confined to the fort, no one being allowed to enter the native quarter.

Jan Mon 17

REDBREAST & PROSERPINE's crews left the Sailors' Home & embarked on board their respective ships at 8 a.m. REDBREAST left basin at 2.25 p.m. & made fast to buoy off Appollo Bunder. PROSERPINE came out at 2.30 p.m. Received order to proceed with flagship on the 21st for the Gulf.

Jan Tues 18

Coaled ship. Commenced 7 a.m. Finished 1.30 p.m. 198 tons.

Jan Wed 19

Went out for steam trial at 8 a.m., returned at 11 a.m., did 145 revs, trial satisfactory.

Jan Fri 21

Flagship left at 4 p.m. for Gulf. REDBREAST delayed for a few days with defective dynamo engine. PROSERPINE with defective engines.

Jan Tues 25

Completed dynamo repairs, but on trial armature gave out, so sent it to dockyard for repairs.

Jan Wed 26

Armature received back from dockyard. Tested dynamo at 7 p.m., found correct.

Jan Thurs 27

Shipped buoy 9.35 a.m. & proceeded en route for Muscat. Commenced full power trial at 9.40 a.m. Dis M G noon 27 m. Averaged 9 knots.

Jan Fri 28

Reduced to 100 revs at 9.40. Dis M G noon 244 m. Heavy sea started to work up during night. Wind NNE. NE monsoon.

Jan Sat 29

Set fore staysail flying foresail & fore trisail at 11.10 a.m. Dis M G by noon 196 m. Heavy sea & ship rolling badly.

Jan Sun 30

Monsoon abated somewhat. Dis M G noon 207 m. Sails having added to speed. Sighted land off port bow at 5.50 p.m. Distant 72 m. Took in sails at 6 p.m.

Jan Mon 31

Arrived at Muscat & anchored close to town at 8.45 p.m. FOX and PHILOMEL in harbour. FOX left at 2.30 p.m., leaving orders for REDBREAST after coaling to proceed to Sirik near G.... [?] & relieve LAPWING who will proceed to Bombay. PHILOMEL finished coaling & left at 5.30 p.m.

Feb Tues 1

Coaled ship 7 p.m. European seamen landed on Muscat I during forenoon for pistol firing . Left Muscat for Sirik at 4 p.m.

Fri Wed 2

Shamal came on at 12.30 a.m. abating at day light. Dis made good up to noon 165 m. Anchored in 7½ fms at 6.10 p.m. off Sirik. Did not see LAPWING.

Feb Thurs 3

Sighted steamer off Musandam at 8.30 a.m. got under way 9 a.m. & proceeded to sea to meet steamer coming towards land, which proved to be LAPWING. Stopped engines & hove to abreast of LAPWING at 10 a.m. & turned over gig to her in exchange for her steam cutter. LAPWING sent aboard one rifle each European & remained abreast of REDBREAST till 1.10 p.m. when she proceeded en route for Bombay. REDBREAST proceeded north at 1.50 p.m. & anchored off Khagun Id at 5.50 p.m. HYACINTH's pinnace cruising between Khagun & Sirik, came alongside at 8 p.m., leaving again at [?]

Feb Fri 4

Got under way 8 a.m. & proceeded towards Hormuz steaming slowly, turned at 10.30 a.m. & anchored about 4 miles off Khagur at noon. Sent away cutter with Maxim at 9 p.m. to cruise all night. Cutter had private rig from LAPWING.

Feb Sat 5

Got under way 5.30 a.m., having sighted cutter, picked up cable at 7.30 a.m. & steamed S along coast, anchoring at noon off Sirik. Sighted PHILOMEL cruising at 1 p.m. Captain and officers went ashore in cutter during afternoon, shooting, returned at 6.30 p.m.

Feb Sun 6

Got under way at 7 a.m. & steamed slowly northward. Stopped at 7.30. HYACINTH's pinnace came alongside for coal, water & provisions. Slipped pinnace at 8.10 a.m. & proceeded NW by W till 10 a.m. when stopped engines & hove to. Proceeded at 4 p.m. & anchored between Kuhistak & Khagur at 6.15 p.m. Cutter went away cruising at 9 p.m.

Feb Mon 7

Cutter sighted dhow at 4.40 a.m. off Kuhistak & had to fire Maxim across her bows before she lowered her sail. On search proved to be collecting firewood for Bandar Abbas. Cutter was returning to ship about 6.30 a.m., when FOX sighted to the southward. Cutter anchored about 2 miles off Kuhistak while ship proceeded to meet FOX. Ship parted from FOX and picked up cutter at 8.45 a.m., then proceeded to Hormuz, arrived at Hormuz & anchored off ruined Portuguese city at 1 p.m. Bombay & Persian steamer left during afternoon, rumoured with armed Afghans on board engaged in gun running. PHILOMEL at Andar Abbas signalled to ship at 7.30 p.m.

Feb Tues 8

Left Hornuz at 7.45 a.m. & proceeded to Bijaban coast. Boarded dhow with cutter at 8.30 a.m., no arms, in ballast. Proceeded slowly south down coast & anchored off Kubistak at noon. Cutter went away at 3.30 p.m. with 7 days provisions & stove etc. for long stay.

Feb Wed 9

Boarded dhow at 5 a.m. with cutter off Kubistak, fishing boat. HYACINTH arrd at 9.30 a.m. from S & proceeded to Bandar Abbas at noon, having turned over to REDBREAST a special messenger from the Sheik of Kubistak for REDBREAST to land. This messenger was sent by the Sheik of Kubistak to Jask with a letter for the Admiral, the Sheik wishing to be friends with the Admiral & offering him information regarding the Afghans & arms. Cutter returned to ship at 11.15 a.m., leaving again at noon. Searched dhow off Kubistak at 2 p.m. Fishing boat. Fired at Pelican on beach N of Kubistak.

Feb Thurs 10

Cutter returned to ship at 10 a.m. Ship received orders from HYACINTH to proceed on Friday to Sirik & survey the coast there & report if possible to land troops there. Cutter left ship at 8.30 p.m. & proceeded about 3 miles S of Kubistak & anchored close on to shore, opposite a light which was thought to be Afghan camp. Had rifles & Maxim trained on light expecting a shot which would promptly be returned with a volley & a stream of lead from the Maxim, but nothing happened all night.

Feb Fri 11

Cutter returned to ship at 9 a.m. Ship proceeded to Sirik as ordered, arrived at 11.30 a.m. and Captain & Navigator proceeded in whaler to investigate coast. From information the Admiral received, it was reported that there was a strong body of Afghans, about 12 miles inland at this point, guarding a large store of arms & it was the Admiral's intention, if our Captain's survey was favourable, to land a detachment, together with native troops which the HARDINGE had brought & seize the arms. REDBREAST left at 3 p.m., the Captain having found a Khan, reported by wireless that it was possible to land troops there. Dropped cutter at 4 p.m., about 6 miles S of Kubistak & proceeded to her approved station for the landing of troops. Shamal sprang up at 9.30 p.m. Admiral signalled that landing was abandoned & all ships who had boats missing were to pick them up. All were picked up except HYACINTH's pinnace which had run to Khagun & was sheltered by the island, & the REDBREAST's cutter, which was anchored close inshore about 6 m N of Sirik during the Shamal, nearly foundered. The crew were at the oars from 9.45 p.m. until 9.30 a.m., the next morning. Sighted several ships burning searchlights, but they could not get near enough as the cutter was in 3½ fms. Fired 2 signal rockets & Verrey lights as distress signals, but got no answer, kept shipping heavy seas each one almost filling the boat. Cutter encumbered by guns & stores.

Feb Sat 12

At daybreak the cutter did not sight any ship, so the Lieut in charge decided to beach her, having during the night thrown overboard the mainsail & stores & canvas gear, but as she got near to the beach the surf was so heavy that she was sure to capsize as she went ashore & just at that moment the HYACINTH was sighted out to sea, so the crew although pulling all through the night decided to make a fight for it & pull out to sea in the hope of getting picked up. On the way out sighted the REDBREAST so kept on pulling until picked up by her at 9.30. HYACINTH then proceeded N, REDBREAST following & picked up HYACINTH's pinnace off Kohagan & towed her out to HYACINTH. HYACINTH then proceeded N. REDBREAST anchored at 4 p.m. off Kohagan.

Feb Sun 13

REDBREAST go under way at 6.30 a.m., having sighted PHILOMEL to the southward & steamed slowly towards her, passing her at anchor off Kahistak. REDBREAST anchored off Sirik at 11.30 a.m. Captain and officers went in steam cutter to mouth of Khor to shoot, found several dhows at anchor there, returning to ship at 7.30 p.m. Got under way at 8.30 m & steamed slowly to the SW, altering course to the NW at 10.30 p.m.

Feb Mon 14

Anchored off Kishm in 7½ fms about ½ m off town. Sent ashore for fresh provisions. Evolution forenoon, clear for action, & away all boats' crews. Came on to blow hard from SW at 2 p.m., being the Suhali. Got under way at 4.45 p.m., but experienced heavy weather out to sea, so anchored under the lee of Sarak Id at 6.20 p.m.



Main armament securing from action sttons – the Port midships BL 4" is secured and, the barrel facing ft. The Port side entry port is visible British and Lascar seamen are going about their suties. [this picture is taken on READBREAST's siter ship MAGPIE]

Feb Tues 15

Got under way 6.15 a.m. & steamed slowly southwards, Position noon 5m from Gt Quoin. A/C [?] Gulf, steaming slowly towards Sirik. Anchored just N of Gurn at 7 p.m.

Feb Wed 16

Got under way 6.15 a.m. & cruised slowly up coast. Stopped engines at 9.30 a.m., until 4 p.m. Anchored off Kalla in 7 fms. At 9 p.m. Recd news by wireless of foundering of 3 steamers & 207 passengers between Bushire & Bandar Kig, in furious storm, probably the one of Friday night.

Feb Thurs 17

Got under way 6.15 a.m. Searched dhow of Sirik at 6.45. No arms. Cruised till 4 p.m., when anchored off Sirik. Got under way at 8.30 p.m. & proceeded at 85 revs to Muscat for coal, Averaging 6 knots.

Feb Fri 18

Eased down to 3 knots at midnight.

Feb Sat 19

Arrd at Muscat & anchored at 6.15 a.m. Took in 110 tons of coal. Heard that 3 tugs were with Flagship at Ras Lima on Oman E coast. Left Muscat at 5.30 P.M. for SW coast of Persia. 100 revs.

Feb Sun 20

Arrd off Gurn & anchored in 5 fms at 6.10 p.m. HYACINTH and HARDINGE at anchor with 3 tugs. KATANJA, MUZBEE & MINER LL. HYACINTH's native troops with mounted battery had landed early Saturday morning, but Afghans and arms had vanished. HYACINTH left at 10 p.m. for Jask & HARDINGE for Bandar Abbas. MAYBEE and MINER II to patrol coast between Khagun & Gaz R. & KARANJA to patrol entrance to Persian Gulf.

Feb Mon 21

Got under way at 4.10 a.m. for Bandar Abbas. Kans blowing with rough sea. Arrd at Bandar Abbas and anchored at 1.10 a.m. HARDINGE at anchor. Left during night.

Feb Tues 21

Got under way 10.10 a.m. with Consul from Bandar Abbas on board. Arrd at Kishm at 11.40. Strong Suhali blowing during afternoon.

Feb Wed 23

Got under way at 5.30 a.m. & steamed towards Bandar Abbas to get mail. Recd mail from [B.I.S.S.] GOALPARA at 9 a.m. & then proceeded to Clarence Straits. Steamed slowly through Straits, anchored 1 p.m. between Kuwal & Zamubi & sent whaler ahead to find bank, whaler returned at 3 p.m. not having found bank. Got under way 3.10 p.m. & proceeded anchoring at 6.45 in 11 fms off Laft Point.

Feb Thurs 24

Sent away armed cutter at 8.45 a.m. to proceed to Khamir about 7 miles from ship to search dhows, searching about 7 dhows, mostly laden with lime, bound for Linga. 1st Lieut with interpreter landed 4 men with arms & interviewed the Sheik of Khamir for information about the arms traffic. Cutter then returned to ship arriving at 4.30 p.m.

Feb Fri 25

Got under way at 6.40 a.m. for Bandar Abbas. Steaming about 4½ knots. Arrd at Bandar Abbas & anchored at 4.10 p.m. Consul went on shore. Recd 6 cases Mountain Battery ammunition over carried by GOALPARA.

Feb Sat 26

Got under way 7 a.m. & proceeded to the southward. Passing between Hormez & mainland close to Hormez Fort. Steaming slowly, anchored off Guru at 6.10 p.m. Armed tugs Miner & Muzbee cruising along coast, anchored at 7 p.m. off ship.

Feb Sun 27

MINER LL came alongside 7 a.m. for water, receiving 66 gals. REDBREAST got under way at 8 a.m. for Bandar Abbas. Sighted 2 enormous fish at 9.30 a.m., probably blackfish, about 20 ft long. Nashi [N'aschi] commenced to blow during afternoon. Arrived at Hormuz & anchored off Fort at 5 p.m. Few drops of rain during afternoon.

Feb Mon 28

Nashi still continued to blow furiously Remained at anchor.

Mar Tues 1

Nashi abating. Got under way at 9 a.m. and anchored at Bandar Abbas at 11.15 a.m. PHILOMEL arrived at 7 p.m.

Mar Wed 2

Recd orders to proceed to Karachi and coal (no coal at Muscat), then proceed to Bombay to pay off. Left Bandar Abbas for Karachi at 2.30 p.m. with paying off pennant flying.

Mar Thurs 3

Arrd at Jask and anchored in east bay off PERSEUS at 8.10 a.m. Discharged mountain battery ammunition ashore to military station & left at 9.45 a.m. for Karachi.

Mar Fri 4

Dis run up to noon [?].

Mar Sat 5

Dis run up to noon [?]. Sighted Manora light 7.30 p.m. Arrived off Karachi & anchored for the night at 11 p.m.

Mar Sun 6

Got under way at 6.30 a.m. & proceeded into harbour making fast to buoy at 8 a.m. Coaled ship 70 tons first time doing commission on Sunday. HARDINGE left during forenoon for Jask.

Mar Mon 7

Left Karachi at 5 p.m. for Bombay to pay off.

Mar Wed 9

Recd WT message saying we leave in [P & O] EGYPT & wait at Aden for ANDROMEDA.

Mar Thurs 10

Arrd at Bombay & made fast to buoy at 8.30 a.m. FOX and ODIN in harbour.

Mar Fri 11

P & O INDIA arrived with REDBREAST's relief crew. Paid off REDBREAST's crew at 9.30 a.m. Packed baggage during day, sleeping on board at night. Relief crew proceeded to Sailors' Home.

Mar Sat 12

The paid off crew left the ship at 6.45 a.m. in *Pearl*/RIM launch & proceeded to Ballard Pier. After being medically inspected proceeded on board P & O EGYPT. EGYPT sailed at 2.45 p.m. for Aden.

Mar Wed 16

Arrived at Aden at 5.30 p.m. Disembarked & proceeded to Soldiers' Institute to await the arrival of ANDROMEDA.

Mar Tues 22

ANDROMEDA arrd 6 a.m. REDBREAST's ships company embarked 7.30 a.m. ANDROMEDA left at 10.15 a.m. for Suez. Passed Persian Id at 5.15 p.m.

Mar Sat 26

Arrived at Suez and anchored at 6.30 p.m. P & O MOLDAVIA arrived 8 p.m. Weighed 10.30 p.m. & proceeded, entering Canal astern of Moldavia.

Mar Sun 27

Passed Ismalia 5.30 a.m. Arrd at Port Said & moored head & stern at 2 p.m.

Mar Mon 28

Coaled ship, native labour commenced 7.30 a.m. Finished at 1.30 p.m., 300 tons.

Mar Tues 29

Left Port Said 10.30 a.m. for Malta.

Apr Fri 1

Arrd at Malta. Made fast to buoys in Bighi Bay at 2 p.m. Various rations came on board for passage home.

Apr Sat 2

Left Malta at 9.30 a.m. for Gibraltar. NW gale sprang up during evening.

Apr Tues 5

Arrived at Gibraltar. Made fast to buoy inside mole at 7 p.m. SWIFFIRE & D of E anchored.

Apr Wed 6

Ship's company coaled ship. Commencing 7 a.m., finishing 7 p.m. 1050 tons.

Apr Thurs 7

KING ALFRED arrived at 10.30 a.m. on her way home from China.

Apr Fri 8

Left Gibraltar 11 a.m. for Plymouth. K. As band playing Rolling Home to Merry England & now we shan't be long as ANDROMEDA steamed out of harbour.

Apr Sat 9

Passed ape St Vincent 3.30a.m. KING ALFRED steaming 16 knots passed ANDROMEDA at 8 a.m.

Apr Tues 12

Arrd at Plymouth & made fast to buoy in Hamoaze at 8 a.m. REDBREASTs discharged to depot at 11.30 a.m.

Apr Wed 13

REDBREAST's crew proceeded at 5 a.m. on 5 weeks leave, being granted an extra week by Admiralty for service in P Gulf.

End of Journal

R.I.M.S. = Royall Indian Marine Ship

B.I.S.S. = British India Steam Ship

Edited by, and additional images added by, [the Royal Naval Research Archie](#) May 2017