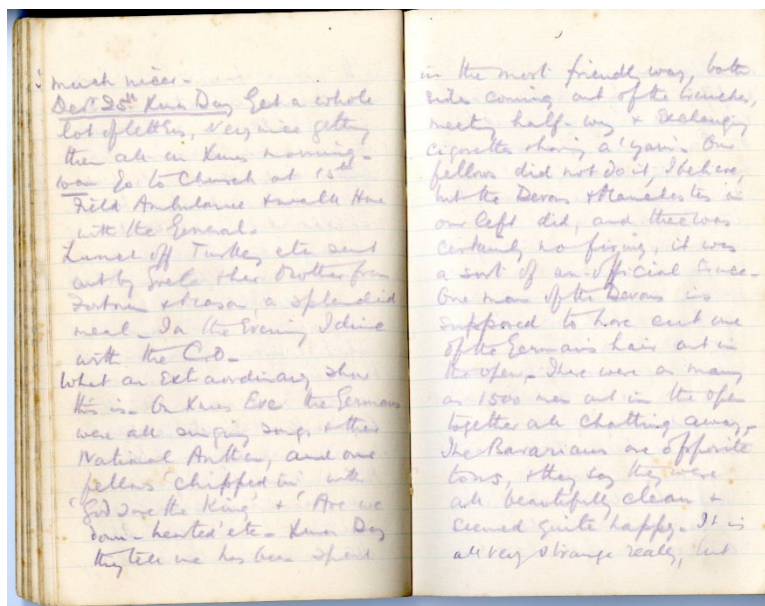


Guide to MS-300:

Captain Edward Kemble Twiss WWI diary



Gettysburg College, Musselman Library  
Special Collections and College Archives

Leah Alexandre, 2023, Special Collections and Archives assistant

February 2023

## MS-300: Captain Edward Kemble Twiss WW1 diary

*Processed by Leah Alexandre, 2023, Archives and Special Collections assistant*

February 2023

### Size:

1 box, .18 cu ft

### Location:

Special Collections

### Dates:

Inclusive: October – December 1914

### Provenance:

This collection was purchased by Gettysburg College Archives and Special Collection from Between the Covers Rare Books, Inc.

### Biographical notes:

Edward Kemble Twiss was born November 9<sup>th</sup>, 1882, in Surrey, England, to Arthur Edward and Agnes Jarber Twiss. Captain Edward Kemble Twiss was a British first-class cricketer before enlisting in the British and the British Indian army in the summer of 1901. His first campaign was in the Second Boer War; in 1904 he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant. In 1905, he was transferred to the British Indian army where he joined the 10<sup>th</sup> Jats. While stationed in Bombay, India Twiss got married, at the Age of 22, to Margaret Edmonson Tate on September 28, 1905. They had two children together, Frank Roddam Twiss and Nancy Kemble Twiss; both were born in India. His Son Frank was a part of the Navy during World War 2 and was captured by the Japanese. In 1910, Twiss earned the rank of captain and made brief appearances in the first-class cricket for the European team against the Hindus. During the First World War Twiss was “cited for the Distinguished Service Order of June 1916” and shortly after was given the rank of Major. Twiss continued to serve with the British India army after World War I as a Lieutenant Colonel, and finally retired in March 1920. Twiss died at the age of 60, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1943 in Brighton England.

### Historical notes:

This collection concerns first-hand accounts of life in the trenches on the western front during World War I from British Captain Edward Kemble Twiss’ perspective. Twiss describes the Christmas Truce of

1914, experiences shelling, mud, enemy fire, receiving mail and packages from home, moving in and out of the trenches other First World War experience.

#### Scope and content note:

The Twiss collection contains a simple diary kept by Captain Edward Kemble Twiss while in the Flanders trenches during the beginning of World War I with the 1<sup>st</sup> Dorsetshires line. The diary describes his life in the trenches.

#### Series Description:

The Collection is the war diary contained in a specially made box for the diary.

#### Subject:

World War 1

#### Box List

##### Box 1

1-0 Finding Aid

1-1 Transcription

Boxed Diary 3" x 6", 140 pp

#### Related Collections

MS-250 The First World War Letters of H.J.C. Peirs

#### Contact Information

Special Collections and College Archives  
Musselman Library, Gettysburg College  
717-337-7014

[special\\_collections@gettysburg.edu](mailto:special_collections@gettysburg.edu)

[www.gettysburg.edu/special-collections](http://www.gettysburg.edu/special-collections)