

Title:

World War I veteran, Spofforth, Yorkshire

Shelfmark:

C908/8

Description:

The unidentified speaker describes life as a pageboy in a private house and talks about his tour of duty in World War I, where he served in France, Turkey and pre-Revolution Russia.

The speaker has a mild stammer. He mentions several First World War battlefields: Ypres and Menin in France; Salonika (Thessalonika) on the river Vardar in Greece; Dudelar also in Greece. The Dardanelles is a long narrow strait in northwestern Turkey linking the Aegean Sea to the Sea of Marmora and was the scene of the Gallipoli campaign. The Bosphorus, the dividing line between Asia and Europe, is a strait linking the Black Sea to the Sea of Marmora. Tiflis (Tbilisi) is the capital of Georgia and Senaki is in western Georgia, as is Bat'umi, a port on The Black Sea. Baku is the capital of Azerbaijan and is situated on The Caspian Sea, the world's largest inland body of water, with Azerbaijan to the west and Turkmenistan to the east.

Lexis:

court = to go out with, date; *morn* = morning; *cause* = because

Phonology:

/r/ → [4 > r/]; H-dropping; hypercorrect [h] (*all the glasses* [hO:l D@ dlasIz]); <-Vt#> + V → [4]

FACE [E:]; GOAT [O:]; PRICE [a:¹]; START [a:]

<gl-> → [dl]; <cl-> → [tl]

note also *none* [nQn], *one* [wQn ~ wUn], *door* [dU@], *far away* [f@4 @wE:], *halfpast* [haf past], *year* [jI@], (be) *cause* [kQs], *about* [@ba:t], *going* [gUIIn] *husband* [Uzb@nt], and *perhaps* [pr/aps]

Grammar:

second person *was* (*you was the runabout; you was at the beck and call of everybody; you was on all day long; you was a pauper the next*); third person plural *was* (*if none of the footmen was engaged; the people was on the streets*); first person plural *was* (*we was in France; we was at Ypres; we was free with them*)

zero plural marker on nouns (*about two-and-a-half mile; five year; three month*)

zero for + time phrase (*_ five year; stopped _ two or three days; perhaps _ three month*)

zero indefinite article (*we had _ interpreter with us*)

past participle *took* (*he's come and took over*)

note construction *If I'd cared for it, I should have stopped there = I would have stopped there*

