

Farewell To Mesopotamia

Farewell to 'Shatt-ef-Arab',
Euphrates, Tigris, too,
And I hope, O Mesopotamia,
That I've seen the last of you.

Farewell, O Mesopotamia!
Farewell, ye home of sin,
Farewell, ye land of horrors,
And all who dwell therein.

Farewell, abode of Satan,
Whose devils lurk around,
To torture British Tommies,
In every place where found.

In the guise of huge mosquitoes,
They crawl out from their lair,
Satanically torture Tommy,
And delight to hear him swear.

Farewell, ye winged insects,
Farewell, ye hopping fleas,
Farewell, ye land of mud-huts,
Farewell, ye tall date trees.

Farewell, O Adam's Homeland,
Whose virtue you did smash,
Farewell, ye land of heat-stroke,
Farewell, O Barrah Bash.

Farewell, ye front of falsehood,
Disgrace to Mother Earth,
Likewise your children Arabs,
Bred lions from their birth.

Farewell, O barren desert,
Farewell, ye treacherous clime,
Farewell, ye land of pestilence,
Farewell, ye home of crime.

Gunner/Sapper William Ernest Clemmans
Published in the Bexhill Observer 8th February 1919