

## Trip No. 7

Party: G G Hopkins and J E Waller

1875

Tuesday 23rd November

Started from Jessfield at 10pm Hopkins was unable to come with me at the last minute having to transfer some Lorcha's so was obliged to remain behind. He intends catching me up at Quinsan in a dispatch boat.

Wednesday 24th November

Reached Wingdu @ 6:45am tracking all the way pulled up at noon to wait for Hopkins his boy informing me this was the place he was instructed to stop at, it must be between Paou kong and Li-ko-pan, there is a large grave on the N.W. bank

Hopkins turned up at 8:45pm having left Shanghai at half past 12 noon with strong wind and tide against him.

Thursday 25th November

Reached Quinsan @ 7:30 Soochow @ 2:30pm.

Gave the boy \$6 to exchange for cash. Mr George Smith of course forgot to send a tap for the beer, so had to improvise one out of bamboo which I did successfully. Hopkins saw a pheasant go down as we were rounding Soochow, and went on shore to shoot him with "Sailor" as attendant; no find however, but, to try if Mr Sailor was gun shy; I threw up a brick for Hopkins to fire at, and my new tyke immediately began to seek: so far so good.

Friday 26th November

At 8.45 Hopkins began his Fraukatillé business again he is a perfect chef. Mast up for the first time about 20 li beyond Woosie. Went on shore between Hong ling jou and Chitzar-an, and had two hours shooting; Hopkins 2 brace and a 1/2, Waller 3 brace. "Sailor" turns out to be A1. Moved on about 3 li and after tiffin, about a quarter to three, shot on the left bank, saw three deer; Hopkins bagged one. There is a fair sprinkling of birds about here, and a decent bag could be made with two days at it. Started at 5pm for "Lai sun".

Saturday 27th November

Half way between Pou yeo and "Lai sun": shot on the S. side, and had fair sport; Hopkins brought back in the morning 10 brace of pheasants and a deer; I only managed to bag 3 pheasants and a deer: shot under nearly all my birds, lost three; "Lill" had hold of one in some thick cover, but would not bring it out. Came back to tiffin at 1 o'clock; I got back at noon; went on about 6 li and shot on the same side; on my return to the boat I found Hopkins in a beastly state of intoxication. I thought at first the gentleman was ill; finding him on the floor of the boat; so put a pillow under his head. The boy was out but when he came back, I asked him if his master was usually taken this way, and if he thought him unwell: unwell no! - said the Boy - too muchee drink-when Hopkins came to I asked him what he bagged? Bagged be damned, only had three shot, so came back, had a bottle of beer which got the upper hand of me entirely-I brought back 4 pheasants and two mallard. "Sailor" who was with me this afternoon worked as well as any one could wish, he will retrieve any where; overruns his birds a little, but finds eventually; practice will make him all right: he has evidently been well broken.

Sunday 28th November

Passed Lai sun at 7:30am and stopped to shoot on the S, W. bank; the sport was very poor as far as I was concerned, only getting 5 cocks and a hen. A country man ran off with one of my birds and as he got some 300 yards start of me I did not think it worth the trouble to run after him. "Dash" was out with me this morning, he is very feeble; one runner, a cock, got clean away from him. Shooting began at 9, I came back at 11:30. Hopkins sent his coolie back with 10 Cocks, 5 Hens, 3 Duck and 6 Teal @ 2.15. I had no idea he meant stopping out so long, or should have had my tiffin at noon, and gone out for the afternoon; as it was I waited till 2 o'clock for him. Forgot to mention that in firing a couple of deer I very nearly bagged two children who were cutting grass in a ditch. Hopkins returned at 3pm with 3 hens and 2 cocks.

Bag for the day

	Pheasants	Duck	Teal
Hopkins	28	3	8
Waller	7	0	0
Total	35	3	8

Total 46 birds

Moved on about 3 li and went out again about 4pm, the birds were few and far between. I only 1 hen losing 3 cocks runners; I can't shoot so well with Croft's gun as my own. Hopkins was again successful he came back with 3 cocks, 3 hens and 2 Teal. Up anchor at 6pm for "Touse jou". Rain set in @ 8pm.

Monday 29th November

Still raining weather hot and muggy. Arrived at Touse jou at 8:30pm; went on about 12 li towards Kintang beastly weather; went on at half past 2. Hopkins got 1 cock and 6 mallard. I 3 cocks and 2 mallard. This a very difficult place to find your boat, the creek winds about in all directions. I was nearly having to make a night of it. We had great fun just at starting; both of us having marked 3 duck go down, and stalking them without knowing the other was after the same lot; as soon as I bobbed up, up got Hopkins, he got two right and left, I knocked over the third.

Bag for the day

	Pheasant	Duck
Hopkins	1	6
Waller	3	2

Total 12 head

Tuesday 30th November

Milk all went sour. Went out this morning on the E bank and came back at 3.30, had fair sport but nothing to boast of. We were both very hungry, and could not get any thing to eat, the Lowdah informing us that the Boy had gone on shore to buy fish. While we were anxiously waiting the boy's return; having despatched two coolies after him: who should we espy, coming up the creek, but Dr Johnston and Lethbridge; we were delighted to see them. Lethbridge said he knew it was Joe Waller, but did not think he would come up country in a boat like that. They came on board however, and found the interior of the boat more comfortable than the exterior would lead one to expect. They had Champ with us, and we returned the compliment by having some with them. They are on their way home; so we asked them to tell all our friends that we were well and happy

### Bag for the day

Hopkins. 13 Pheasants 6 Duck 2 Teal  
Waller 9 Pheasants 2 Duck 1 Deer Total 33 head

#### Wednesday 1st December

This morning we moved a few lí towards Kintang and intend shooting on the S.S.E side. Started at 9 o'clock and went far inland: the birds were wild. We each took a country man to guide us; my man got saddled with a deer, and did not much like the job so I started him back to the boat with it. 10 minutes after this, as luck would have it, I shot another one, so my coolie had to carry it, and from the look of his mug, I thought it advisable to make the best of my way back to the boat. Made out what I thought to be our flag and went straight for it; but on coming closer, found it to be a red and white one; not our Imperial yellow, with Dave Carson rampant. I thought masqueí, I will go and get a drink and ask the way to our own craft. - found it was the Dr and Lethbridge again, and as they were just sitting down to tiffin, I was only too glad to join. This was about 1/2 past two in the afternoon, the rain just beginning to fall. I stayed with them for an hour or so, and again took a fond fare well. Hopkins put in an appearance about an hour after I got to the boat, having been some 10 lí on the far side of Tousejou. He took a native boat, and was some two hours and a half before reaching our craft. So our two guides proved useless after all.

Butter went sour. Rain falling fast.

### Bag for the day

	Pheasants	Duck	Teal	Man.d'k	Deer
Hopkins	7	5	1	3	0
Waller	4	2	1	0	2

Total head 25

#### Thursday 2nd December

Rain cleared off, and a strong wind from the W.N.W blowing, anticipate the birds being very wild. Arrived at Ta yin jou at noon on our way to Ne Tsung. All at once I found the Lowdah going towards Kintang, so stopped him, found he was about three lí from "Ta yin jou". Shot on the S. side in the afternoon, and returned at 4.30 with 3 brace and a half. Should have had more only it was blowing a gale from the N.W.. Hopkins had bad luck.

### Bag for the day

	Pheasant
Hopkins	5
Waller	7

Total head. 12

#### Friday 3rd December

Supposed to be half way between Ta yin jou and Ne Tsung. After some talk with the Lowdah last night we told him he must go up this creek as far as he can, Masqueí water or no water, and here we are in a nice quiet creek with lots of quality. Had some good sport; the birds are mostly on the W. side. We shot on the E. side in the morning and made good work of it. The day was bright, with little or no wind. Must come up here next trip.

### Bag for the day

	Pheasant	Teal	Woodcock	Duck
Hopkins	22	2	1	0
Waller	16	0	0	1

Total head 42

#### Saturday 4th December

Moved a little further up the creek, about four li - good shooting all over this country. Deer, pheasant, duck. Had very good sport, and are going to have our last day here, to try and make our bag up to 300 head. I came across a cock pheasant that Hopkins shot, laying in a pond, some 500 yards from where he fired at him - "Sailor" fetched him out, so we put this down to the Boat.

### Bag for the day

	Pheasants	Deer	Duck	Teal
Hopkins	22	4	2	1
Waller	14	0	1	0
Boat	1			

Total head 45

#### Sunday 5th December

Began to move towards home at 8am. Stopped at Wong-nei-jou. This is about the same spot we were at on Friday. I went a long way in land to the W. this morning and found that there is a way around the lagoon. There are plenty of birds left. Hopkins as usual made a good bag. Ta yin jou at 3:15pm. Left our cards on Arbutnot and Moore. Bound home at 6pm under Yieloh - calm - Touse jou 7pm. Pui ta hu barrier at 12:15 am.

### Bag for the day

	Pheasants	Deer	Duck
Hopkins	16	1	1
Waller	7	0	3

Total head 28

#### Monday 6th December

Through Chang Chow @ 6:30am - met Herbert Morris and three house boats, but did not enquire who the party were - as usual the wind is round S.E. as we are going home. We have not had the sail up for more than half an hour during the whole trip.

Met Fitz and another bloated aristocrat at Woossee this afternoon about 1/2 past 2. Asked them for news but they had none to tell us - the same old tale everything dull as ditch water.

#### Tuesday 7th December

Soochow at 2am. Clear of the City At 4:30am. Just a slight breath of air aft, so up with the sail just to say that we have had it up. E-ding 8.30. Wind began to freshen nicely at 10 o'clock "Quinsan" at 11. Wind still fair: getting on splendidly.

Took a cut off creek 12 li on the far side of Lo-co-pan to avoid head wind came out 7 li beyond Lo-co-pan. Went in at 1:15 and came out at 2pm. The bridges to get through; rather a tight fit, but we managed it. Jessfield at 10pm - Wang du at 5pm wind died out.

## Total Game Bagged

	Deer	Pheasants	Duck	Teal	Woodcock	Man.D'k	Total
Hopkins	7	143	23	15	1	3	192
Waller	5	85	12	2	0	0	104
Total	12	228	35	17	1	3	296