

was often unfit for duty. There was a belief on Gallipoli that he was an alcoholic,¹⁹ and it seems that Temperley was at times almost the de facto commander of the Brigade.²⁰ Malone's assessment was probably justified. Temperley thought that Malone was a stubborn colonial with a few rigidly held ideas. After Malone was killed Temperley wrote a report in which Malone was blamed for the failure of the August offensive because of errors of judgment on Chunuk Bair.²¹ This view was repeated by John North,²² but has been amply demolished by James and Pugsley.²³

Malone's difficulties with Johnstone and Temperley caused him to come to the conclusion that in future all senior positions in the New Zealand forces, at least up to the rank of Brigadier should be held by New Zealanders. He reveals what New Zealand soldiers commonly recorded in their letters and diaries; a low opinion of the Imperial officers and troops and a corresponding belief in the superiority of the New Zealander over practically every other nationality. In this and other ways, their growing sense of a distinctive New Zealand nationality was revealed. Malone's letters and diaries are a fruitful source of observations and comparisons with other nationalities.

Before he left Wellington he was interested to observe Japanese officers from the cruiser *Ibuki*, part of the escort of the New Zealand troopships, in Whitcombe and Tombs.

Maps! were their quest. Always out for intelligence. I suppose we shall be at war with them under ten years. I like the look of the officers and have always admired the Japanese people. They appear to me to be patriotic, abstemious, industrious, brave and clean. They worship their ancestors and their children. They would I believe make A1 Christians.²⁴

He confesses to a prejudice against Australians, which he cannot explain. He noted that he must try to be fair, but criticisms of the Australians are encountered regularly in his writings. In Egypt his comments were typical of many New Zealanders:

They look a loose beery lot . . . our New Zealand men are very different and do look like soldiers. The shirt blouse worn by the Australians gives them a Garibaldean, boy scout, scally wag look and I am afraid helps demoralise them. They knock about Cairo, officers and men, at all hours and seem to be at the bottom of all the rows and disturbances that happen. I am a great believer in the moral effect of clothes and uniform, though I know I am not very keen on smart clothes for myself.²⁵

His comments on junior British officers were rather uncomplimentary:

The officers seem a sort of their own. Show not well done and not somehow or another altogether soldierly. I couldn't help thinking of the Punch Volunteer Officer . . . I suppose it is that they are fish out of water. Our Colonial officers in most cases are practical men and more or less take readily to soldiering. The English chaps don't appear to do so.

As for the British other ranks, he made what was a common observation