

and probably an entirely new idea to these men who mostly come from the centre of Asia Minor. Feeding the very sick patients was a little difficult, as they refuse Bovril or any soup that is made from animals not killed on the spot. Sugar disappears like magic, half a mugful, if permitted, being quite a usual request at breakfast time. Turkish coffee is given as a treat several times a week.

From day to day fresh cases arrived, and in a short while those slightly wounded were able to return to barracks. In many cases the uniforms they had come in were unfit for wear, but the Government provided us with a few extra suits, and from these and our own stores we were able to make up all deficiencies.

We had one case of malignant cholera, of which, in spite of all treatment, the man died in twenty-four hours. Most of the cases from the barracks at S. Stefano that were afterwards transferred from our branch hospital there to us at Scutari had cholera in a mild form. Our death rate has been very low. Besides the case mentioned above, we have lost three other men from various diseases, no surgical case having proved fatal. This is good, as compared with the death rate in the hospitals at Stamboul, where it has been exceedingly high.

Some of the recoveries have been nothing short of miraculous, the excellent constitutions of the men, owing to the simplicity of their national life, going a long way to promote this. As, for instance, the complete recovery of a "fractured base," where the bullet entered at the back of the skull to the left of the third cervical vertebra and made its exit above the left malar bone, causing severe hæmorrhage from the ears and nose; a wound causing fracture of both jaws, which came in in a very septic condition; a head case where the bullet entered behind the ear and came out through the eye, which it burst, and which had severe secondary hæmorrhage; a bullet through the apex of the lung, involving the clavical and upper part of the arm, and a man with the elbow joint completely exposed, as well as two double mastoids, one of whom was a very interesting and remarkable case, inasmuch as he had double facial paralysis, and many others too numerous to mention, all coming in with their wounds in a highly septic condition.

The general treatment prescribed was the use of iodoform covered in carbolic and salines in the place of 1-40 carbolic or any other lotion.

The wet weather setting in made our field hospital at S. Stefano undesirable for the nursing of gangrene cases, twenty-eight of whom were transferred to this our base hospital being conveyed in stretchers by steamer to Haider Pasha, and thence in carriages.

These men were very ill, many had to have double amputation of legs, and all passed through a very critical period. One man, after having amputation of both feet, with an injection of stovaine was carried back to his ward smoking his cigarette and announcing triumphantly,

"chok güzel, chok güzel," which means "very good." The other patients were very surprised to see a man return conscious from the theatre, and one remarked, "You are a brave man," to which he replied with much dignity, "I am indeed a brave man!"

Of the native personnel of our staff, I think the head cooks stand out as being most interesting, the patients' cook in particular. Imagine a man from the Arabian Nights! He is short and stout, wears a red spotted shirt with a scarlet cumerbund, and blue baggy trousers; a scarlet fez, and a large silver watch chain, on which is suspended a veritable clock, complete his costume. He is a man of humour, and not to be hurried by any, but I suspect him of being a slave-driver amongst his subordinates.

Our staff cook has been to Paris, and is proud of the fact. His visit there resulted in his acquirement of two words, "mademoiselle" and "café." He produces the most wonderful Turkish dishes, with plenty of oil and sugar, and some extraordinary vegetables. At the Turkish feast of Bairam he produced as the native custom is, a sheep roasted whole, stuffed with rice, chestnuts and raisins, and which he tore to pieces with his fingers on the dinner table.

In our own Bairam, *i.e.*, Christmas, he took much interest, and procured a leg of beef, which he roasted whole and conveyed to the table in great triumph, determined we should have a real, "English dish" for once. His boy does the shopping with a basket, which he lets down over the wall to a shop below. It is not at all unusual for our second course to be bought in this fashion while we are eating the first.

The scrubbers, or ward men, are very good-tempered. They refuse to kneel in spite of many practical lessons on the part of the Sisters and orderlies. They prefer to squat and dabble the water about with a cloth, the actual scrubbing part being accomplished by means of a rag on an old broom, which they push gingerly up and down the floor. They only smile when we expostulate.

The interpreter claims to be English, his father coming (so he says) from a Lancashire family; but the truth of his statement, as also that of other of his remarks, is open to question. His social position is not definable. According to himself, he is a teacher of gymnastics to the Government. He hunts in the winter and has a yacht on the Bosphorus in the summer, besides shooting on some of the islands, but, be it noticed, it is not beneath his dignity to take service under the Director and to become the general factotum of the hospital. His manner is servile, he is never at a loss for an excuse; if he does not know a thing he invents. Should you ask him the time of starting of a boat or a train he immediately tells you the first hour that comes into his head. If you can convict him of falsehood he says, "Of course, but it was so, I asked, yes, of course." To everything he replies, "Of course," and yes and no stand for the same thing. Questioned as to his

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