

"We are glad to know this woman of feeling is in the right place. ||

A Polish gentleman has sent the *Morning Post* the following account of his visit to a local hospital at Dieppe, in which 160 German wounded were being nursed:

"As I was familiar with the German language, it occurred to me that I might, perhaps, be able to turn my spare time to account by acting as interpreter between the French nurses and their German patients, as they were badly handicapped by their ignorance of German. I was at once surrounded by a crowd of nurses, each one of whom wished to take me at once to her particular ward. One nurse said to me: 'I have a very bad case, and I am sure he wants to ask for something; do come to him at once, otherwise it will be too late.' I followed her, and she led me to a stretcher, on which a young man of twenty-two or twenty-three, terribly wounded, was lying. I spoke to him in German and his face brightened at once; but, unhappily, he had no strength left. He murmured a few inarticulate syllables. Then he was silent. The doctor bent over him and said that he was dead. All the nurses in the ward bowed their heads and the sisters of charity prayed over him softly.

"I passed on to other patients. Most of them asked for water to drink, or coffee, or chocolate. 'We will pay for it,' they said. Others who had been wounded in the body implored me to get them clean shirts at their own expense. I translated their requests to the nurses, and assured the patients that the French people were far too humane not to provide them with everything they needed.

"The majority of the wounded had only reached Dieppe after four days of travelling, and several of them died during the few hours I was in the hospital. I was glad to be able to assist the French authorities in identifying them, so that perhaps their families may some day have the small comfort of knowing when and where they died."

THE BRITISH FIELD HOSPITAL, ANTWERP.

We are indebted to Lady Helena Acland Hood for the following interesting news of the British Field Hospital after its arrival at Ostend:

"The most enthusiastic and cordial welcome greeted the party on landing, and a special train was waiting to convey them to Antwerp. A fine building was placed at their disposal on their arrival, and being informed that heavy fighting was going on in the near neighbourhood they lost no time in preparing and making ready for the reception of the wounded.

"The sixteen wards were soon in order, and a unit, consisting of three surgeons and three nurses, started off in a motor ambulance for the front. They noticed much damage and destruction as they passed through the streets, and the venerable cathedral has suffered cruelly at the hands of the enemy. On leaving the city, they

made for the front, and on the way left half their party at a small house which they arranged to utilize as a sort of base hospital.

"The scenes they encountered were heart-rending, and the surgeons from whom Lady Helena Acland Hood received the above news says that the sights were enough to unnerve the strongest!

"On their return, two hours later, they found a stream of wounded men pouring into the hospital—the majority of the patients suffering from the cruel effects of the German artillery shells. 'We, fortunately, were supplied with abundance of morphia and chloroform,' writes the surgeon, 'and were able to give relief.'

"Mrs. Dalton, the widow of Fleet-Surgeon Dalton, who is a nurse with wide experience, is Night Sister; and Nurse Parminter is the Sister in Charge on day duty in the hospital."

Extracts from a letter published in the *Times*, dated from Antwerp on the 14th inst., proves how urgently trained nurses were required there a fortnight ago—a need supplied since then to some extent. The writers—two sisters, who went to the Front as helpers in the Emergency and Messenger Corps attached to the Red Cross Nursing Corps—were each in charge of a ward in a hospital in that city.

"You cannot imagine what the life here is like; we are in a big school here at present, fitted up as a hospital. We were prepared to take in up to fifty wounded, but on Saturday morning there was a terrific battle just outside the town; 1,900 wounded were brought in in a steady stream. Nearly 200 were brought to us, and from 10 a.m. Saturday till 2.30 a.m. Sunday we never stopped preparing beds and lifting wounded on to them; it was terrible. Many were most frightfully wounded, and each day takes its toll of the wards.

"We have only twelve nurses, so you can imagine it is simply incessant work. We all of us get our share of nursing. We are all well, and have certainly made ourselves of use since we arrived.

"I don't think anything in the way of horrors will ever turn us after this experience. The pluck of some of these men is marvellous. . . . One poor officer boy who came in was shot in about twenty places, absolutely shattered, and died almost at once, luckily.

"It is cheery to go through the wards now and see the bright faces of most. We have, perhaps, six or eight who will probably die, but the rest have gone ahead wonderfully and begin to joke together and amuse themselves.

"We are not attempting a field hospital as well at present; it would be rather too risky work, and we have more than we can do here. When the Germans get definitely driven back, we shall follow up our army, sending the cases on as quickly as possible to our base hospital here, but that can't be expected yet; so we really are as safe as in England."

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