

comforts for the men, but now the Red Cross people are supplying all kinds of things that are really necessitous. We nurses certainly had a hard life there. Our only light at night was a candle, and owing to the difficulty of getting a good water supply our work was sometimes overwhelming. Every drop of water for drinking had to be boiled, and our means for boiling in quantities was inadequate. We had to wash our own linen. The flies were terrible. They covered everything, and eating was a misery to be got over quickly. The meat supply was another difficulty. Sometimes we were able to buy meat from a ship but otherwise we had bully beef. We only had sick cases sent to us; the surgical cases were sent to Alexandria or England. The difficulties of landing stood in the way of our receiving wounded men. We had Australians, New Zealanders, and British soldiers, and the way they bore the hardships they had suffered was admirable. Poor boys! They had had a terrible time, and were exceedingly grateful for everything that was done for them. Most of them were men of a good class, intelligent and well behaved. We never had any trouble with any patient. Those who were able did what they could to help us. When, for instance, the tents were blown down in a storm, these poor fellows were splendid. When I left, some huts were being put up to replace the tents. This will undoubtedly be an improvement. Lemnos is a desolate place with only a few little villages on it, and though we Canadians are supposed to be used to roughing it, I don't think any of us knew what roughing it really could mean until we went to Lemnos. A woman needs a very strong constitution to stand it. Enteric and dysentery are the two things we had to fight against, and conditions did not help us much. As I dare say you know, we lost two nurses there.'

Miss Dickinson, of Moulton, Northampton, who has just returned from Serbia, where she has been engaged in hospital work, writing of the trek over the mountains, in a contemporary, says of the arrival of her party at Brindisi:

"The authorities seemed to hesitate about permitting us to land, and I do not wonder at it. You never saw such a sight as our little party presented. Quite half of us had no skirts, we had not been in a bath for two months, and we had not a thing except what we stood up in. Our feet were peeping out of our boots, we were all as thin as herrings, and looked like scarecrows. The most vivid impression that remains with me is of the wonderful spirit and endurance shown by the party of British women. I would not have believed it possible that any women could endure such hardships and live. Some of them were frail, delicate women who had not been used to roughing it, but they accepted all the trials of our long tramp with a heroism and fortitude beyond all praise."

Miss Dickinson and her friend Miss Holland were present at the bombardment of Antwerp. They say that the horrors of war seen in Belgium

were as nothing to the miseries which they saw in the flight from Serbia.

Lady Grogan begs to say that a letter dated December 28th from Lady Paget has been received by her family in which she states that they are all being most kindly and courteously treated and have plenty of food, and that it was thought that they would all soon be on their way home.

While many eyes are turned on Salonika just now, it seems unlikely that it will prove suitable for the treatment of a large number of wounded, but it will be quite possible to remove them to Egypt or Malta. Amongst the hospitals at Salonika are two provided and staffed by the Dominion of Canada.

Of the 600 nurses supplied by the Australian Commonwealth, some have already been sent from Alexandria to Salonika, and New Zealand has also sent nurses to the Near East; so that our Dominions beyond the Seas have proved that they have a large reserve of fully-trained nurses upon which the Mother Country can draw in case of need.

The "Letters from a Field Hospital," by the late Mrs. Percy Dearmer, written to her literary executor and friend at home, Mr. Stephen Gwynn, are of much interest. It is very regrettable, however, that she should be able to write of the contingent with which she sailed as an orderly, "We are a strange crew—Sisters of Mercy—French doctors in every kind of strange uniform, from blue and red plush to khaki—one recognizes them by the twisted serpent on the collar. They are puzzled by us, because our nurses laugh and play and smoke cigarettes and carry on generally. One said, 'No woman can nurse unless she is a nun; you don't know what you are going to do; you will be back by the next boat!' The whole unit is, in consequence, furiously indignant."

Again of their arrival at Malta. "The harbour was a wonderful sight with all the huge ships showing out of the blue. . . The doctor in charge brought a whole string of difficulties to my cabin. All the nurses picked up escorts of stray 'Tommies' and went round Malta in large hilarious parties. I thought the best thing to do was for Percy (the chaplain, Dr. Percy Dearmer), to tell them that *this must not be* at other places; so he called a meeting and warned them of the possible dangers in Greece and Serbia. They retorted by saying that parties ought to be organized to show the place, and then they would not have to pick up 'Tommies.' Accordingly, Percy and Cook's man have taken an enormous party to the Acropolis this morning."

It will be remembered that the contingent with which Mrs. Dearmer went out to Serbia was speeded on its way under the auspices of the Church League for Women's Suffrage, after a dismissal service, when Dr. Dearmer preached at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.

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