

TRANSCRIPTION

Diary Lucy May Pitman

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Inside front cover

Lucy M Pitman

June 8th 1917

AANS [Australian Army Nursing Service]

AIF [Australian Imperial Force]

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Diary 8.6.17

Trip from Hobart on Active Service

Friday 8th June

Left Fern Tree, Mount Wellington, Hobart per motor. Left by mail train 8pm.

Saturday 9th

Arrived Burnie midday. Stayed at Bay View Hotel. Had a look round town and beach.

Left Burnie 9pm per SS *Oonah* for Melbourne.

Sunday 10th

Arrived Melbourne 2pm after good trip, no sea sickness. Were met by Matron Hill and taken in motor cars to Grand Hotel and there entertained by Victoria League being most hospitable and kind. Went to Saint Paul's Cathedral in evening.

Monday 11th

Spent all morning at Victoria Barracks.

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Issued with Wellington boots, southwester hats and waterproofs. Had a look round city afterwards.

Tuesday 12th

Left Melbourne 5pm. Went on board SS *Mooltan* MD. Not allowed off Naval Pier. Nurses numbering 150 were arranged in four lines on pier and inspected by Governor General Sir B Munro-Ferguson. Afterwards he made a speech, in course of which he said – never before had he inspected a contingent of such noble women, going to a place where no Australian woman had worked. The Pioneer Nurses he called us, left Melbourne 5pm amid a great "Au Revoir" of people, having streamers of ribbon and bouquets of flowers from ship to pier.

Wednesday 13th

At sea. Life belt instruction given. Sea choppy. Not seasick.

Thursday 14th

Arrived Port Adelaide 7.30am. Waited in harbour untied for while and then landed at Outer Harbour 9am. Went by express train to Adelaide then met by Red Cross and conveyed in motor car through city to exhibition buildings and there arranged on steps, had cinematograph photo taken. Afterwards had lunch in exhibition buildings which was gaily decorated for occasion. Military band in attendance, Mayor and Mayoress, PMO, Attorney General present, Commandant etc. Speeches made by several. After lunch were taken by motor car round city and suburbs, round Hills and to Morialta Falls. City of Adelaide was decorated with flags in appreciation of army of nurses. All shop assistants were in streets cheering and bouquets of flowers thrown in motor cars as they moved slowly on. (On arrival at Adelaide

railway station a guard of honor was awaiting us. Nurses walked two by two through the fixed bayonets to motor cars waiting.) The people were most enthusiastic and kind. Left Port Adelaide 6pm.

Friday 15th

At sea. Feeling well.

Saturday 16th

At sea. Sea choppy. In Australian Bight. Not feeling too cheerful.

Sunday 17th

Still in Australian Bight. Sea choppy. Not making much headway with ship.

Monday 18th

Going round Cape Leeuwin, very rough and squally. Ship six hours overdue. Arrived Fremantle 6pm. Not allowed to land until 8pm by military authorities. Taken by motor car to Perth, Western Australia.

Had a look round town. Had supper. Left Perth again 10pm for Fremantle, a distance of 10 miles. Stayed at wharf loading all ship all night.

Tuesday 19th

Left Fremantle 6am. Spent quiet day. Roll call daily.

Wednesday 20th

In Indian Ocean. Getting very warm and sultry. Inoculated for paratyphoid by Major Richards.

Thursday 21st

Roll call am [morning]. Boat drill and each nurse has to appear at own lifeboat and then given instruction. Very warm. Order to sleep on deck which was much needed and appreciated. Lifebelts taken with us. Boards rather hard to sleep on.

Friday 22nd

Roll call. Lifebelt instruction. Very warm.

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Played deck quoits.

Want plenty iced drinks. Concert organised by passengers and sisters which was very enjoyable, afterwards running with our bedclothes for sleeping space on deck.

Saturday 23rd

Roll call. Ship 200 miles out of course on purpose to get a safer course. Also Cocos Island not sighted now by ships on account of being a shelter for submarines. Had a dance on Promenade Deck.

Sunday 24th

Very sultry. Church parade 11am and address given by Padre Nicholls. Taking few snapshot photos including Captain Valentine.

Monday 25th

Inoculated for paratyphoid. Very hot. Quiet day spent. Had book evening at night.

Tuesday 26th

Neptune Day

Crossed the Equator in morning.

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Sea very calm and smooth. Very hot and moist. The following notice was issued in am re Neptune Day:

Submarine Palace

Indian Ocean

26 June 1917

Where it has come to my august knowledge that you have passed through my dominions without having rendered your respects and homage to me and court in the usual manner hereby take notice that it is my intention to board the noble

ship *Mooltan* 4.30 this afternoon Tuesday
June 26th with my court in order to receive
your explanation of the same and should
it be deemed necessary to initiate you
with the mysteries of Ancient Neptunery.
Beware!!

I therefore order you to attend my
court on the Well Deck Forward 4.30pm

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punctually at that date. Should you
entertain any hopes of avoiding us or any
intention of dodging us, it will be well for
you to know that the machinery of my
invaluable police system will be set in motion
immediately and that not even the Captain's
Cabin will be a harbour of refuge.

Should you have any surgical bandages
or crutches, it will be advisable to bring them
on the off chance of you surviving the ordeal.
A Justice of the Peace will attend in the
Music Saloon from 2 to 2.30pm to witness
any Will that you may care to execute.

Given under my hand and heel this
26th day of June 1917.

Neptune



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Neptune party comprised his secretary,
doctor, barber, police and two bears.
Neptune arrived first, held court then
appeared on platform where a well had
been arranged below. Persons were called up
by his police and each face lathered with
thick paste in a bucket and scraped off with
a bayonet and then pushed into the water
as fast as were ready. Until the well was

full of struggling men in all antics mid roars of laughter from everyone. During evening we ran into monsoonal weather. Very heavy warm rain broke over suddenly and last for hours with strong roaring wind.

Wednesday 27th

Sea very choppy and monsoons at intervals during day. Sighted land (Ceylon) at 11pm.

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Thursday 28th

Arrived at Colombo 10.30am anchored in harbour about ½ mile from fort. Water too shallow for large vessels to go farther. Passengers are conveyed to fort by small boats especially for that purpose holding 60 or 70 people. We left *Mooltan* 3pm arriving fort 10 minutes later, changed our money into Rupees and then proceeded by rickshaw to Galle Face Hotel taking about 20 minutes. Had lovely lunch overlooking ocean. Lunch served in dining hall. Afterwards taken to city by rickshaw, looked round native shops. Every shop had a crowd of natives gazing at us. Into rickshaws we jumped and took another ride until we were tired of black faces and begging of money and so rickshawed to hotel for dinner.

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After dinner watched ball in ball room for while and thence to bed tired of dashing round.

Friday 29th

Still in Colombo. Had a look about hotel early am. Breakfast 7.30am. Taken by motor car to railway station for Kandy, the European and mountain capital of Ceylon. Situation in the hills 75 miles distance. Scenery beautiful, colouring of all tints. Palm groves, banana and cocoa-nut plantations, breadfruit, cinnamon, tea and numerous rice fields, rubber estates. When 13 miles from Colombo crawling round the mountain sides we see a narrow pass which once was solid rock. Here the

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Kandayans held this capital for centuries against attempts of Europeans to take

it. An ancient prophecy was spread amongst them that whoever pierced the rock and made a road into Kandy would receive the kingdom as his reward. The prophecy was fulfilled by the British who made the road and got the prize. Arrived Kandy 1.30pm and conveyed by rickshaw to Queens Hotel, 1,700 feet above sea level. This hotel is situated on the NW corner of Kandy Lake and accommodates 350 visitors. Had lunch and then taken by rickshaw [to] the world famous Peradeniya Gardens. Here is a marvellous collection of living specimens of the whole tropical world, magnificent colouring of flora. On journey home visited the Temple of the Tooth (of Buddha)

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where we saw beautiful carving in parts. Most of the natives here are Mohammedans and very few Christians. Had a look round town and shopping etc.

Saturday 30th

Still in Kandy, Colombo.
Had a walk round village early am.
Left Queens Hotel 11am for Colombo reaching Galle Face Hotel 3.30pm.

Sunday 1st July

At Galle Face Hotel.
Went to Christian Church of England at 9.30am to 11.30am with communion service. There we sat side by side with native women in all their regalia. After dinner went for motor car drive 22 miles to Negombo, a fishing village and copper factory. Beautiful scenery, palms in places

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meeting overhead. Had afternoon tea at Negombo rest-house. We passed villages of natives with their shops.

This point of Colombo is mostly Roman Catholic religion and churches are numerous - numerous crosses are seen by the roadside indicating a church is very near.

Arrived at Galle Face Hotel 5.30pm from thence to fort and embarked to *Mooltan*.

Monday 2nd

Left Ceylon 10am weather very

hot and steamy. Ran into monsoonal weather, sea choppy. Lifeboats lowered in case of emergency. Sea breaking over bow of ship. In Arabian Sea.

Tuesday 3rd
Quiet day spent.

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Sea choppy. Very hot and sultry. Had sports on deck.

Wednesday 4th
Sighting land in far distance. Still in the Arabian Sea. Very yellow, muddy looking and shallow. Spent day on deck.

Thursday 5th
Still sighting land and perused two or three floating light house boats. Sea very shallow, taking soundings all day here. Still dirty yellow. Arrived in Bombay India 8pm. Anchored in harbour. Two hospital ships near and British man-of-war. (We cooed to hospital ships but no reply). Had to rest contented to land next am.

Friday 6th
Up on deck 6am as usual seeing

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the city of Bombay very near. Had orders to land at 9am by tender which conveys all passengers from cargo ships to wharves. After landing walked up street a short way, nearly overpowered by odours. So engaged a gharri (carriage) with native wallah for Malabar Hills, taking about $\frac{3}{4}$ hour through several native streets. Passed Government House, Malabar Hills. Had a look at view of city of Bombay below and walk in gardens, also waterworks reservoir. Went in Tower of Silence. An ancient custom dating back centuries and still in use by the present day Parsees. The idea is for the bodies to be eaten by sacred bird vultures and in short space of time the bones are then left turning in dust.

A Parsee: An adherent of the Persian religion
worshippers of sun and fire.

Several towers are built of stone
about 50 feet high open at top having
an inner door on one side.
Inside there are parallel spaces
running towards centre opening into tank
like receptacle which has under
drains. The bodies are passed
through the inner door and received on
platform inside by Parsee and placed
into space allotted respectively to
man, woman and child. The space
nearing the centre being for child.
Mourners are then allowed to come
and pray for short time. During this
period the vultures are sitting on
top of wall waiting and when the body
is uncovered they dash down on
victim and devour in two hours.

When monsoon comes bones are
washed in centre receptacle to under
(Also saw holy fire burning which the Parsee
worships. Kindled with sandalwood.)

drains and there come in contact with
lime and phosphorous and become dust.
Dust to dust, earth to earth.
Had a drive about Bombay after
thence to Queens Hotel for lunch (tiffin).
The houses in Bombay are high
and jumbled together, while the roads
have no pavements for reason there is
no room left for road then.

There are plenty of gay colours to offend
the eye and innumerable odours to offend
the nose. One sees a native "nut"
swagger past clad in quiet holiday
costume, the idea being vivid green
waist coat, rainbow coat and pink turban.
The shops are like caverns scooped
out of some solid piece with collections
of goods thrown higgledy-piggledy into
them.

In one part is a lot of tin toys and tin
goods, and then with profusion of cheap
silk and muslin while apposite is a grain
merchants emporium filled with
mounds of rice, leaves and dried peas. In
each shop the proprietor sits cross legged
enthroned on pile of his goods, while little
native children, innocent of clothing,

and unkempt heads of black hair, play hide and seek in the dim and musty interior of the shops. Hens stroll about the streets and hop up on the piles of food and feed unchecked. Black and white goats wearing an air of proprietorship nose about amongst the goods and hump backed cows meander along the streets wherever their fancy takes them. Crowds of Hindus or Mohammedans squat in groups in the shadows of the bazaars.

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It is all very picturesque and oriental and whew! here comes that odour again.

The native policemen have blue suit, yellow trimming with yellow caps and umbrella.

Dhobe: Washer man who carries the bundles on his head. In any shady street you may see the shoemaker (moochi) at work, with odds and ends of leather, needle and thread, few primitive tools, holding post or shoe between feet.

Women work on coal hulks and help to coal ships. Natives scrub with cocoanuts cut in halves.

Bombay has become labelled the city of a thousand smells and the visitor endorses this description while the old resident becomes hardened.

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Saturday 7th

Left Bombay 10am. Mine sweepers ahead sweeping course. Warship *Doris* cruising round for four hours under military orders. Orders were issued for everybody to carry lifebelts everywhere they went. Two of P&O company ships passed 12 midday. Sea very shallow here and muddy. Near the vicinity where *Mongolia* was mined. Have several of crew on board. They were washed to Maldive Islands, Arabian Sea and here lived for three days on biscuits and water.

They were only four hours from Bombay. For 14 hours after leaving Bombay ships are in danger of mines, after that water is too deep.

Mines are not laid above 16 or 17 fathoms of water (fathom : six feet) and we are then 10,000 miles Cape route from land too far for submarines.

We all took our heavy coats and south-wester hats, boots, stockings up on deck by side to sleep. Had monsoon at night.

Sunday 8th

Sea very rough.

Went to communion celebration by Bishop Elect of Borneo.

At 11am church service in Music

Saloon by Bishop also. Monsoon at night.

Monday 9th

Still in Arabian Sea.

Sea very rough. Ship tossing and rolling. Waves breaking over decks. Was sitting on deck (main) when great wave washed over, drenching about 20 of us through everything.

Had monsoon at night.

Tuesday 10th

Still in Arabian Sea. Waves dashing over bow of boat and decks. Spent day quietly.

Wednesday 11th

Still in Arabian Sea. Sea rough.

Thursday 12th

In Gulf of Aden. Sea calmer.

Printing photographs during day.

Friday 13th

Still in Gulf of Aden. Having monsoons during morning. Sea rather rough. Expect to be in Aden today. Sighting Arabia 1.15pm rugged mountainous country. Arrived Aden 3.30pm anchored in harbour.

Aden from harbour high mountainous peaks running down to seashore, barren rocky country, no vegetation

on mountains. Very little cultivated. Foliage and trees about houses which are flat and low lying, not very numerous. Several mine sweepers in harbour, also British warship and hospital ship. Can see clock tower not far from shore and hear it striking.

Desert in view. Turks fighting 15 miles in desert and can hear a gun occasionally, more late in afternoon and night.

Saturday 14th

At Aden and landed in rowing boats from *Mooltan* 10am for visit on shore. Taken by motor cars to King Solomon's Wells, a distance of five miles through native villages and along side of mountains, through tunnels of solid rock and arriving at wells. There are several wells of different sizes, some about 50 feet across and holds 4,675,000 odd gallons. A stone

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can be dropped from top of well and 30 can be counted slowly before stone reaches bottom of well there being very little water in bottom, apparently some of them are dry. The water was grass green and stagnant to look at. The natives were hauling it up in skins, bucket shaped, and putting into carts drawn by camels and carrying to small fountain wells about city, from here the natives came with their pitchers and skin bottles for their supplies. The Europeans are allowed two buckets a day, have no baths. The soldier on desert is allowed three pints daily. The average rainfall for a year is three inches, sometimes no rain for three years. Aden's chief industry is water distillery, all water for domestic use is distilled. There are also several salt mines and works. Saw camels and British soldiers marching for desert laden with stores. The hills are strongly fortified, only one or two

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desert forts being visible. The Turks allow British soldiers to cross here with their food stuffs in return for medicine given them by British. Getting back to King Solomon's Mines, each well is hewn out of solid rock and wall round and wonderfully arranged between hills with archways here and there connecting the paths to wells and few banyan trees scattered about. The view here is beautiful looking on desert, native shipyards supposed to be the oldest in world. Also see Temple of Silence. Natives may be seen here and there two or three together washing face and hands and feet before praying. This is their religion. The shops are cleaner than other native shops and on a better scale. Few veiled women seen about. Had tiffin at Army & Navy Club. Returned to ship 12.30am [pm].

Left Aden at 4pm accompanied by two other ships. Entered Red Sea 11pm.

(All funerals are at midnight or during night in Aden.)

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Sunday 15th

In Red Sea. Sea as smooth as glass. Passed islands (12 Apostles 7.30am), land visible for some time. Had service in Music Saloon 7.30am. Service on Promenade Deck 8.30pm, address by Padre Nicholls.

Monday 16th

Still in Red Sea. Very smooth. Could see quantities reddish brown substance in sea almost like very fine seaweed, a marine flower it is. Sometimes it is quite red, from this the name is given. No land in sight. Entered Gulf of Suez during night. Sea choppy since. Red Sea 1,100 miles long, 88 to 221 miles wide. Perim Island last island visible in Red Sea. There is a lighthouse here with 80 men stationed.

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Tuesday 17th

In Gulf of Suez. Sea little choppy and warmer than previous. Spent a quiet day. Had concert on Promenade Deck and was very enjoyable.

Wednesday 18th

Still in Gulf of Suez. African coast in sight all am on left hand up gulf. Passed an island 9am, saw two lighthouses. Arabian coast sighted now and again. Saw Sinai range of mountains.

Thursday 19th

Arrived Suez early am. Left ship 7am and embarked on train for Cairo (hospital train), followed the canal for good distance on one side and desert on other side. Could see ships going through canal. Reached Cairo 2pm met with motor and taken to

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Grand Continental Hotel.

Friday 20th

Still in Cairo. Went shopping in morning. Left Continental Hotel for pyramids after lunch. Got on

camel and rode to pyramids, visited Temple of Sphinx and sphinx. Had a ride back on camel and got in gharri for hotel. Went for drive in evening by motor to Ghezirch Gardens with English officers who left for Palestine in am.

Saturday 21st

Went to citadel and saw all old prisons, hospital. Saw where Napoleon fired at a mosque and damaged with cannon balls. Visited interior of mosque which is Mohammedan and hundreds of years old. Originally was lit

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with 5,000 candles. When Kitchener visited the mosque he installed 5,000 electric lights. The carpet on floor was made by Turkish prisoners. This mosque took 45 years to build. The walls being inlaid with gold.

Saturday afternoon went to zoo. Met Captain Gardiner and he showed us over zoo, saw zebras, giraffes, elephants, rhinoceros, birds of all kinds, cobra snakes. Had afternoon tea and Egyptian band playing all time.

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Also saw pontoons captured from Turks on canal, first engagement by British and Australians. in grotto saw animals carved in rocks. Captain Gardiner knew

every corner and every animal. He having served in the Sudan in General Gordon and also with Kitchener.

Sunday 22nd

Taken from Continental by Scotch Lieutenant to Mooski bazaars. Taken to Heliopolis in afternoon, saw Palace Hotel which was Australian General Hospital until last year, also visited church. Saw Luna Park.

Monday 23rd

In am went shopping in Cairo. Afternoon Captain Gardiner called and was taken to mosques in Mooski. Saw beautiful Helouan Mosque, very ancient mosque

(We were taken to top of minaret in this mosque, some 300 steps to climb and saw Cairo below.)

Walls inlaid with mother of pearl and gold inlaid, beautiful carved screens and stained windows.

Moulayed (sic) mosque another beautiful mosque, had mostly turquoise inset in pillars and mosaic work. Had dinner. In evening met Welch Fusiliers and sat and talked.

Tuesday 24th

Still in Cairo. Went to old Cairo, two villages and saw Bedouin huts. Visited Mooski again, all this time accompanied by NZ soldiers. Had lunch at Continental afterwards, went in feluccas (boats) up Nile as far as where Moses was found in bullrushes.

Wednesday 25th

Had a quiet day. Had afternoon tea at Groppi's, ice cream etc. Sat on terrace in evening.

Thursday 26th Cairo

Captain Gardiner called up in afternoon and arranged to take us out on Friday. Met Captain Tackenbury in evening and talked. Had lemon squash and talked of home. Saw aeroplane this am from my window.

Friday 27th

Went to pyramids with Captain Tackenbury, rode camels, had photos taken, home to hotel for lunch. Afternoon spent with Captain Gardiner. Saw tropical house in zoo and all snakes there. Went to Groppi for afternoon tea.

and ice cream, strawberries and cream. Talked for long time with Captain and sorry to say had to say goodbye. He sent photo along in am.

Friday night

Sat on terrace at Continental [when] presently up came two officers, Captain and First Lieutenant; after a while looked and looked and at last came to us. Had lemon squash, arranged for morrow. Names Captain McKinlay and Lieutenant Bull.

Saturday 28th

Lieutenant Bull and Captain McKinley called up to Continental and took us to Matarich by gharri for day. Saw holy tree where Joseph and Mary rested during their flight from Jerusalem to Egypt to shelter from Herod the King. Also holy well which was

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then a natural opening only since turned into well. Had a drink of water which seemed fresh. Had a photo taken. Then visited obelisk (Cleopatra's Needle), ostrich farm and saw all young ones and also lovely feathers. Had lunch at Heliopolis hotel, visited antique shop after and with two boys dressed me up as a harem lady and took photo. Had dinner at Shepherd's Hotel. Taken for drive in gharri to pyramids, on way native hopped on seat and told fortunes. Returned home 11pm.

Sunday 29th

Lieutenant Bull called for me and we talked on terrace all am. Lunch at Shepherd's, sat in lounge and garden all afternoon,

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talked of Cairo and its wild doings. Also had dinner at Shepherd's, we walked for while and then back to Continental 11pm.

Monday 30th Cairo

(SS *Mooltan* submarined about this date.) Billy called for me at Continental 10am. Had lemon squash, took gharri for pyramids. Had lunch Mena House, engaged donkeys and went for ride round pyramids through a native village for 1½ hours which was most enjoyable, my donkey being helped from behind with a stick. Visited Temple of Sphinx and tombs. Came back, had refreshments each and then hopped on camel for short time. Had photo taken and came home by train, boots cleaned on way by Arab boy.

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Dined at Shepherd's again, had rest. Evening went out to Gezeriah for run and talk. Home again 11.30pm. Had drinks as usual.

Tuesday 31st Cairo

Lieutenant Bull called 9.30am to go out for day as usual. He engaged dragonman for old Cairo. Left hotel 10.30am by gharri reaching old Cairo one hour later. Visited old Coptic church where Joseph and Mary and holy babe rested for night during their flight from Jerusalem. Had to go down old narrow stone steps in the dark crypt and here saw two recesses facing the east carved in stone and dome shaped. Here they slept or rested. Afterwards a cross

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was carved in stone to mark the spot. We then crossed the Nile in a felucca (boat) for spot where Moses was found in bullrushes. We walked through old old buildings. This spot is also marked by a sak (watering place) also visited Mohammed place of worship for Ramadan Bairam (Lent and Christmas fast and feast). Here they worship only once a year sitting under this huge stone building with a tower where priest stands and calls out for people to come and worship, everybody sitting on floor. Dined again at Shepherd's and rested in lounge after.

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Wednesday 1st August Cairo

Saw children of 9 and 10 making carpets in Mooski. These were refugees from Palestine.

Lieutenant Bull called up, we started off as usual 10am for day. Visited Mooski (bazaars) saw brass being beaten and made into shape, cotton spun and woven into garments, also spices and coffee ground. Scent distillery and Billy would buy 20 grams for me = £1. Afterwards had lunch at Shepherd's, in afternoon went up Nile in felucca (boat), Billy, I and a dragonman, we spent four hours sailing. Had ginger pop to drink. Saw beautiful scenery. Date palms, reeds and sandbanks in distance reached Helouan 7pm had afternoon tea at rest house. Came home in train to Cairo. Dined at Shepherd's again and sat in

garden after _? reaching home
11.15pm. Late as usual. But
too late to be caught.

Thursday 2nd

Feeling rather sad
Billy going to firing line today.
Billy came up as usual in am
engaged by gharri for Qasr al-Nil
bridge. A beautiful bridge with
figures of huge lions at each end.
We took snaps and walked for a while,
took gharri back to Shepherd's for
lunch afterwards. Billy engaged
guide and motor car for Egyptian
home near pyramids, we walked
through village, met chief of village
(a Mohammedan) at the home
and afterwards in came the wives.
Tea was brought in, buffalo milk,
loaf sugar. The women or

children's ages were (married of
course) one 12 years, 15 years, 18 years.
Two of them had children. These wives
dressed gaily in pink silk, heaps
of jewellery, yasmak (veil) over
head and face, could not speak
English, we took their photos.
Then saw _? bread made
and cooked, also cotton spun.
Came out of village with Billy
and crowds of children running
behind. Returned by motor to
lunch at Shepherd's. There
Captain McKinley was waiting for us.
After lunch sat in lounge,
visited antique shop later, short
time on invitation of red
dragonman Faraj. Had
afternoon tea, went to station with
Billy.

and saw train off (worse luck).
Left for hotel again, a grass
widow since.

Friday 3rd

Spent quiet day (no Billy).
Wrote letters and shipped.

Saturday 4th Cairo

Spent quiet day.
Met Australian Lieutenant
in evening and taken for drive to
pyramids by moonlight. Sight very pretty.

garden after _? reaching home
Back at hotel 11pm. Had ginger beer, supper.

Sunday 5th Cairo
Went to All Saints Church, Cairo
9.30 to 11am. Had Holy Communion,
many soldiers present. Met
Lieutenant Evans in evening and he took
us to Luna Park. Had a great time

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on scenic railway, watershoot,
cakework, the maze, zigzag
in canal, mirrors. Left again by
motor car for pyramids by moonlight.
Back home 11pm.

Monday 6th Cairo
Spent morning shopping and at pay
office. Afternoon at home [of] Nurses
Club, very enjoyable and beautiful house
and grounds. Had ice cream, cordials etc.
Evening met Captain Edwards and talked
on terrace. Had supper.

Tuesday 7th
Spent quiet day.
Getting ready to leave Cairo. Went to bed 10pm.

Wednesday 8th
Got up 5am.
Left Continental Hotel 7.30am per
motor ambulance for railway

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evacuated for Alexandria by hospital train.
Scenery prettier than Suez route.
Arrived Alexandria 12.15am at
railway station, embarked straight
on boat transport *Huntsgreen* bound
for Salonika. Left Alexandria 6pm.
Convoyed by two destroyers. Lifebelts by side all day.
All lights out 9pm. Going to bed in dark.

Thursday 9th
In Mediterranean Sea. Calm,
feeling well. Met Captain Nichol RAMC,
spent day talking and walking.
Evening concert in saloon. Still carrying lifebelts.
Saw masts of torpedoed steamer,
lying on top of another one.

Friday 10th
Still in Mediterranean. Passed
several islands. Arrived Crete Island (or Candia)
Suda Bay 3.30pm. Stayed in harbour
until 5am Saturday. Very mountainous
garden after _? reaching home

garden after _? reaching home
barren country. Forts at points.
Saw wreck of *Bream Castle* on rocks
also _? torpedoed near by.
Lifebelts by side, sitting on them on deck.

Saturday 11th

In Aegean Sea. Passing islands.
Ship tossing in and out all day.
In very dangerous zone. Still sitting
on lifebelts. Orders came out for
officers in charge of lifeboats to carry
revolvers loaded. Spent day with
Lieutenant Nichol, taking snaps and
did some printing. Concert at night.
Have Earl Kitchener aboard.

Sunday 12th

In Gulf of Salonika. Land on
both sides. Passed Mount Olympia
in am. Saw another torpedoed vessel
on coast. Arrived Salonika

3pm. Saw three hospital ships in
harbour. Took few snaps. All
medical officers and soldiers left ship
7pm for rest camp Salonika. Sisters
lying in harbour until am.
Saw aeroplane going out and one come
in and land at airdrome on shore.
Also water plane last night.

Monday 13th Salonika

Arrived Salonika 8am and taken by
motor transport to Macedonia. Village of
Hortiach 12 miles from Salonika
to hospital (field) situated in hills being
only 30 miles from firing line. This hospital
has only been opened two weeks and has 1,050
patients to date. The whole camp is entirely
canvas. Each tent holds 29 patients all
British Tommys. Every nurse [must] wear her
hat in hospital. Had first lunch

in dining tent 12 midday. We sat on tent
stools, have all enamel ware, plates and
basins to drink out of. Meal comprised
of bully beef, rice and water to finish with
dry bread. Food not bad if we could get
enough of it. Went to bed 10pm hungry and
fired under mosquito nets and lantern
light (candle). Water very bad, all treated
with lime. Could hear artillery fire
in afternoon and evening from firing line.
Everywhere very dusty and hot. Flies troublesome.

Tuesday 14th Hortiach Plateau
Up 6am, down to breakfast dining tent 6.30, duty 7.20am. Had porridge, one slice bacon, bread and marmalade, tea. Opened Red Cross bundle in afternoon and found some extract meat which was most acceptable. Had bully beef and dry bread for lunch, and fresh air.

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not very appetizing (but thankful to get it). Saw air fighter over camp Bulgarian and British aeroplanes. Saw shell burst in air 9am. Trenches dug for nurses to run to if a raid. Each nurse has to leave wards, doctors and orderlies left in attending patients, have to get under beds and nurses bury heads in trenches which are about five feet deep.

Wednesday 15th
Routine same as yesterday in wards. All nurses on iron rations today. Bully beef and biscuits, cold water in basins. Each person has canvas bucket given to carry water to tent at night. Hot water in washhand basin and mixed some meat extract with hairpin (most enjoyable). Aeroplanes buzzing during evening time. Searchlight going at sky. Went to canteen bought condensed milk, tin meat, biscuits.

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Thursday 16th Village of Hortiach
Routine same. Still hungry. Very hot during day and cold at night. Sent cablegram home. Received first letter from EB.

Friday 17th Still in village Hortiach
Up 6am as usual. Very hot and dusty. Cold at night and early am. Had supper in "Kangaroo Hut," bread and home made jam and water. Received first letters from home amidst much joy got five for start, sat by candle lantern light reading them, after having more bread and jam, enamel basin to drink out. Bread very dry and hard. Suddenly we burst out laughing and looking round saw the funny side of this life. Tent with about a cart load [of] luggage each, mirror tied to centre poles. Ropes extended from poles and here plenty of washing hanging, dust rushing in a treat.

nevertheless we were happy. Had to take all things off my bed as was covered with dirt. Few spiders running on floor.

Saturday 18th

Up 6am. Went to breakfast, took canvas bucket with me and washed coming back. Convoy arrived in afternoon with 73 patients. Great glare in sky this evening big fire in Salonika. Wagons of refugees coming through camp at night.

Sunday 19th

Fire still smouldering in Salonika, 2/3 of city destroyed. Air fight in evening German versus Bulgarian. Saw 16 bombs fired and some on Salonika. Air raid on Monastir. Refugees being taken to hills and crowded in city buildings starving. Supposed incendiarism pickets stationed

everywhere. Out of bounds for sisters. Food supplies short and no newspaper.

Monday 20th

Saw aeroplane and also heard them nearby. French machine gun firing 6am close by on hill. Took few snaps of our trench and dugout, developed and printed. Had first half day.

Tuesday 21st

Still at Hortiach Plateau
Routine same during day. In evening walked to convalescent camp (No. 5) village of Hortiach to concert given by patients. A stage was made and audience sat on ground being 1,000 patients present, all convalescent, and about 20 nurses and officers. Met Captain Morrow from *Huntsgreen* and he brought us home. Concert party were dressed as pierots and two as girls which were very good. Singing, dancing and humour, one of boys being pianist to Madam Melba for time. Walked home again with Captain Morrow, very enjoyable and laughed all time.

Wednesday 22nd

Hortiach Plateau

Iron ration day – bully beef biscuits. French mortar battery practicing early am also machine guns. Salonika still smouldering.

Thursday 23rd

Still same position. Very hot. Lieutenant Nichol called to see me in afternoon from 49th General Hospital Hortiach and talked and went for walk on hills. Did washing early in afternoon.

Friday 24th

Lieutenant Nichol came up in afternoon and waited until I was off in evening and we went for walk over hills. Had to be in by 7pm.

Saturday 25th

Off duty in afternoon. Did some printing and washing. Heard enemy aeroplane ascending in am. Bitten by wasp, well I know it. Had letter from Jimmy. British aeroplanes scouting and searchlights.

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Sunday 26th

Heard enemy aeroplane ascending. Took Quinine and have to every other day. Saw German taube ascending also heard bombardment from Italian lines 25 miles away.

Monday 27th

Saw aeroplanes as usual. Convoy arrived 73 patients. Saw fire at 49 General. Wrote letters on time off and rested.

Tuesday 28th

Very busy in wards. Getting tired of this place.

Wednesday 29th

Saw aeroplane ascending this am. Expecting another convoy today. 1,000 odd patients arrived.

Thursday 30th

Routine same. Another convoy 800 patients. Worked 15 hours without rest.

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Thursday 30th [contd]

Dr Nichol called to see me but I was on duty. He has gone up firing line to work today.

Friday 31st

Still another convoy of 200. All these convoys mostly malaria and sandfly fever. Talk about work, well I could only do best.

Saturday 1st September

Yet another convoy 175 patients. Talk about work, I worked 15 hours and then didn't finish.

Sunday 2nd

Quieter day. Aeroplanes buzzing about. Still plenty work.

Monday 3rd Letter from Dr Nichol
Another convoy expected 73 patients.
We were alarmed by wild dog
running round tent during night.

Tuesday 4th
Work not so strenuous. Another convoy
arrived 7.30am. My ward full
thank goodness.

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Wednesday 5th
Still working for life. Another convoy 70 patients.
Aeroplanes buzzing about. Had letter from
Dr Nichol moved to Field Ambulance.

Thursday 6th
No change in situation.
Had 87 patients to look after.

Friday 7th
The same. Had plenty of
artillery fire and front field mortar.

Saturday 8th
Whole day off duty. What pleasure and
spent morning reading and writing. Breakfast
brought up, porridge, bacon and bread.
Afternoon – Left mess tent 2.30pm by
motor ambulance for Salonika. Sisters
Machlin, Hardcastle, Linklater and self.
We went down road through hills and nearby
ravines. Could see Mediterranean
and harbour most of way winding
round the hills until we reached

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the ruined city of Salonika. First
place of call canteen, ordnance to see if
we could buy any staples. Afterwards
went drive round ruins of fire
streets, streets of ruins twisted. Then we
went to White Tower for afternoon tea.
Had bread, jam, cake, butter and tea.
Called at ordnance barracks and French shop
to purchase. Paid 2/1/00 cake of soap.
Came home different road, passed
20, 21, 29, 30, 48, 49, 66, 60 hospitals, also six convalescent
camps. Passed the tents of Serbian
refugees 200 or 300. Also Greek
refugees from fire. Saw Turkish prisoners
and Bulgars in wire netting. Came through
village and roads that narrow that
only one car could pass at once. Saw
meat hanging from trees by shops.
Arrived home 7pm. Cheered up.

Sunday 9th

Worked all day. Very tired.
Heard artillery fire at night
banging away.

Monday 10th Letter from Jimmy
No time off duty. Worked 15 hours
very tired. Rained at night
for first time in three months. Less dust in all
but sticky. Artillery fire at night.

Tuesday 11th

Had 60 patients to look after.
Raining again all night. Another
convoy 73 patients. Tired of this
business and weary.

Wednesday 12th

Feeling more cheerful, not so busy.
Sister Bailey taken to Salonika ill,
also Sister Steel with malaria out of my tent leaving
me alone and not too cheerful with the spiders.

Thursday 13th

Still alone in Kangaroo Hut. Another
Sister Atherton ill with malaria. I hope
every day to move on. Raining some
tonight and artillery firing also hear shells
from aeroplanes.

Friday 14th Sent parcel to Dr Nichol
Second letter from Billy.
Rained very hard during am. Girls
wearing southwester and macks. Thundering
and lightning a treat afternoon and evening
as black as ink too. Running for
stones to put under trunks and boxes.
Rotten hole it is. At 10pm it poured hard
and fast water running through tents like
creeks. Had to get out gum boots, southwester
and mack, tuck dress up to knees and go down
for hot water to wash face with after hard
day's work.

Saturday 15th

Rain ceased but

such mud although wind blowing
a treat now. Very cold and wintery. Had
to get out woollen jersey and cap to wear on
duty. Hospital tents in dreadful state, water
had come in everywhere during night.
Several tents down to ground everywhere
lying flat.

Sunday 16th

Still cold, weather better. Had half day off duty. Spent quietly pasting photos. Had fire in officers' block, one marquee destroyed. Also large snake killed in Sister Kemp's tent. No church, tent down.

Monday 17th 3rd letter from Billy, & Jimmy

Weather nice and calm. Saw aeroplane very close in afternoon. Australian Red Cross in Egypt sent stores which were most needed being the first to come.

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Tuesday 18th

Not so busy. Nothing startling.

Wednesday 19th

Same old work, eat, sleep.
No change.

Thursday 20th

Weather very hot.

Friday 21st

Rumour of leaving – very delighted at thought. Washing all day when off duty and writing letters.

Saturday 22nd

Had two hours off duty. Looked after 58 men for 14 hours. Very tired and weary.

Sunday 23rd

Had half day off duty. Dr Matheson took two of us for walk round vineyards. Situated at back of our compound in the valley

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near the village of Kur.
Saw hundreds of grape vines and also fig trees. Afterwards through ravines between hills where shrubs are plentiful such as juniper (used in dropsy), also ash, blackberry, wild rose, ground holly, cyclamen, crocus (tulips), small blue berry trees (like dawsons). Could see heaps of mud in between hills.
Ground holly plentiful. On top of hills real holly grows. Corn flowers round our tent.
Went to Holy Communion in tent 6am.

Monday 24th Letter Uncle Charlie

Very busy. Had two convoys in 250. Hospital full. Opening new tents. Another convoy tomorrow.

Tuesday 25th

On two hours pass; another convoy today, getting very tired and weary.

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Wednesday 26th

Not so busy in wards. Had a talk with boys. One of them reading a letter in Welsh to me. Others showing their photographs of home etc.

Thursday 27th

Nothing exciting. Wrote letters when off duty. Beautiful sunset and peeps of _? in far distance in moonlight. Went to bed early. Mosquitos buzzing round tonight. Wasps just as troublesome here as wasps in Australia.

Friday 28th

Rumour says leaving in one month. German taube visible overhead to front of us 10am. It was shelled from anti-aircraft Salonika. Could see seven or eight shots quite plainly and hear too. German travelled very fast in

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time and then came back apparently to have look again. At 7pm large explosion towards city. Aeroplanes buzzing round. German dropped bombs on hill overlooking Salonika.

Saturday 29th

Nothing exciting happened. Quiet in wards. Took a few snaps of boys.

Sunday 30th

Had whole day off duty. Dr Matheson took Sisters McDougall, Hancock and self to Mt Kotos. Getting up 6am to get things together leaving the mess tent 9am for day. Walked to Hortiach village. Turkish. From there we got a donkey to carry all food-stuff etc but preferred walking ourselves. So donkey and Greek boy of about 10 years lead the way up mount. The track winding round hills.

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The village was very quaint and old the peculiar type of house square, several with top storey at front without windows for balcony and here number of pot plants including tomatoes, onions growing. The

people dressing with lots of clothing
very often only thick socks, no boots –
some of Greeks between Greek and Bedouin
or Turk wearing short skirts with
jacket. Village shops very small
butchers shop – meat propped up
on top of poles and stuck on sticks
outside door and shopkeeper sitting
outside also. Some of children
very fair haired. Houses
whitewashed with tiled roofs.
Village is situated on slopes of
Hortiach Mount.

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From there we wound round
and round hills, looking back could
see about 12 camps on
slopes of hills in valleys
nothing but tentland. Up higher
we got into wood. Plenty of
shrubs – aspen, chestnut,
Spanish chestnut, holly trees
in berry, juniper. Practically all
beechwood trees here and lot of
chestnut. Bracken fern very thick
intermingled with crocos flowers and
cyclamen. Passed two springs on
way, had drink of water.
Looking back again could see
two very large lakes – Lake Langada
(Greek name) Lake _?
On banks of these lakes are small
fishing villages here and there.

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Also Struma front 50 miles off.
Lakes lying to right – to left could
see village of Kuri-Kot (hostile village).
Again plodding on until winding
round more reached summit of Mt Kotos.
First of all our donkey boy
Johnny Greek made fire and put
kettle on. In short time have a
fine repast under a spreading chestnut tree.
(This lad could not speak English.) Then we stood
at pinnacle and viewed scenery.
Height 3,000 odd feet, below ravines
and hills. Villages here and there dotted.
Saw to right view of Salonika, part of it
Salonika Bay and vessels in harbour
on opposite side of that. River Lada
and estuaries and in background Mt
Olympus, also saw to left
Vikna Bay. To right of us
the historical peninsulas of

Chalcidice, Athos, Pallini
notable of inclusion in Greek history,
probably time of Alexander the Great.
On this Mt Kotos there appears to have been
forts from natives of heaps of stone.
Had photos taken at pinnacle
much like our own rugged rocky

pinnacles. Arrived pinnacle 1pm.
This is end of my good day
reaching home 7pm.

Monday 1st October
Feeling tired after trip.
Nothing exciting happened.

Tuesday 2nd
Another convoy 165 patients. Very busy.

Wednesday 3rd Letter from Jimmy
German taube visible in sky very
high scouting round good deal.
Went to concert at 5th Convalescent Camp
in evening enjoyed it very much.

Thursday 4th
Nothing exciting. Aeroplane buzzing
round.

Friday 5th
Had two wards all day. Sisters given
picnic to Kotos by medical officers.
Worked 15 hours. Convoy arrived 130 patients.

Saturday 6th
Still very busy in two wards and very
tired. Feeling miserable in tent at night,
got some bread and dripping to eat, being so
hungry and then retired to bed. At midnight
awakened suddenly by pierce shrill screams
nearly two tents above (being night nurse tent
lotto). Other nurse and self rushed out side to
find crowds of nurses in night attire
shivering and nervous peering at a tent
to right where Nurse Nolan was brought off
duty sick 11pm and put to bed in tent alone with

(To add to matters could have
big guns going all night at firing line.)

lantern beside her apparently falling
to sleep very soon. Nurse Nolan was
wakened by a blow on head and tried to scream
but eiderdown quilt stuffed in mouth prevented,
again another blow on head and blanket thrown
over face and then screams piercing for help.

The man ran out and left boots outside door. The colonel rushed over from his tent very soon and found nurse covered in blood. He then called for help and by this time about 12 doctors and 50 nurses were present. Search was made around trenches and tents nearby, no result. The wounds were stitched up and patient carried to matron's by doctor. Everyone was afraid to go to bed again. Extra armed guard were put on duty. Apparently the man was hiding in rooms as lantern was burning all time. (We want to go home now.)

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Sunday 7th

A picnic being previously arranged by doctors was carried out today as they thought we must have a change. At 10.30am left by motor ambulance from mess tent nurses and doctors all jammed up like sheep on floor. Arriving at Hortiach village walked through to Kotos. Escorted by Captain Anderson up short tracks to our resting place where a great spread was arranged and dainties boiling fast. Down we sat and ate hard, afterwards walking to top of mount escorted by Captain Morrow and Captain Collins who arrived late to picnic, had a great time. Saw some more interesting points in far distance over Lake Langada way, saw [where] village of Monastir was.

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Nurses were killed at beginning of war, Aversel village on banks of Lake Langada fishing village. To left of Mt Kotos as we faced Mediterranean Coliedace, Rupel Pass which the Greeks gave up to Bulgarians and held by them since. Lake Teahuroos opposite to Lake Langada Balushituya Range, top side of Lake Langada. Had a great day, arrived back to charcoal pits nearby picnic had tea and started home again and got motor at Hortiach village. Very cheerful very nervous at night again, too frightened to sleep in our tent so moved bed to another tent and barricaded doors up in this one for night.

Monday 8th 5th letter from Billy

Feeling very tired. Still two wards 58 patients another nurse

sick making eight.

Feeling bit more cheerful during am,
got letter from Billy. Can hear
big artillery guns going, firing 11 am.

Tuesday 9th

Bulgarian aeroplane flying overhead
during am. British anti aircraft
firing at them for ½ hour counted
20 shots. Bulgars flying too high and
dodging about, eventually got away.
Aircraft near Summer Hill.

Went to concert in evening to
5th Convalescent Camp. All seated
on ground as usual, some 500 or 600
soldiers. Very enjoyable indeed, had
supper at officers mess after.

Sunday 10th

Enemy aeroplanes touring round
during am again, our guns again

Battleships in harbour also fired at aeroplanes,
fired without effect. Some of men
saw a note drop towards French camp
above they having ammunition dump
there. Enemy know every corner of place.
Went to another concert 5th Convalescent Camp
and cheered us up a little.
We still feel nervous and sleep with our
beds drawn side by side. Can hear
_? walking round all night.

Thursday 11th Night Duty

Came off duty 12 midday for night duty
had dinner, went to bed in afternoon
slept a little. Feeling homesick.
On duty 9pm. Have 87 patients.
Going about from tent with caution
in pitch dark. Very cheerful. Falling over
trenches round tent. Guns going
all night in the distance.

Friday 12th

Letter from Billy

Went to bed 9am and slept until 4pm.

Sent cable home.

Up and writing letters for time and moving luggage
from storm about to rage. On duty
8pm adorned gum boots, macks, southwester
raining a treat. Paddling in mud. Can
hear guns firing in the distance like
roars of thunder. Midnight the rain
fell down in heaps flooding everywhere
all trenches filled up. Water racing through
wards and reached half way up bedsteads.
Haversacks, boots, socks, pants floating

down road. Even the Quinine bottles went running about in mud basket. Could not get in ward door and pitch dark, real spooky. Walked about all night with mack and hat and gum boots on. Big guns firing in distance.

Saturday 13th

Poured with rain most of day, had luggage up on stones. Shift all day. Guns still roaring at night, pitch dark and raining, not so heavy.

Sunday 14th

Second letter from home, letter wanted map. Nothing exciting except to go to bed. Can see Mt Olympus quite distinctively on other side of Mediterranean. Great peaks snow capped and sun shinging on looked beautiful, neath the grey sky and Mediterranean at its feet.

Monday 15th

Not a bad night passed. Guns going all night (boys say Doiran front). Very dark. Went to bed 10am and slept until 5pm.

Tuesday 16th letter from Jimmy

Went to Salonique by 8.30am ambulance arrived Salonique about 10am. Had drive through town to canteen and then some of streets back home by 48th General Hospital at White Tower Hotel. Passed

arch of Alexander the Great house. Turkish quarters, cemeteries and saw some Turkish prisoners taken to camp of interment. Also saw Turk prisoners from attack last week. Refugees still living in tents.

Wednesday 17th

Went to bed 9am and slept until 6pm. Up and on duty 8pm. Had six wards to do = 174 patients. Can see flashes in sky from guns.

Thursday 18th Letter from Billy

Nothing exciting. Went to bed all day.

Friday 19th

Same old thing. Nights pitch dark with frogs running round.

Saturday 20th

No charge. Took few snaps before going to bed in am.

Sunday 21st

Night wild and furious

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wind blowing and raining with squalls. Lanterns blowing out and leaving you in dark. Big green and yellow frogs running round everywhere and can see flashes of guns reflected in sky from Doiran front and from guns firing all night.

Monday 22nd

Very rough weather, raining and windy all night, mud and water everywhere. Slipping in trenches, lanterns blowing out. Two hospital tents blew down and several fell back.

Tuesday 23rd

Night a little better. Raining, not so windy. Still don weather attire, only wearing men's pyjama pants, puttees, gum boots, man's shirt also. Had dress tucked round waist all night.

Wednesday 24th

Five letters from home.

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Night very dark with drizzly rain. Could hear dingoes (wild dogs) on hill nearby crying out and barking seriously. Mt Olympus looks beautiful this am, snow capped and sun shining.

Thursday 25th PC from Bi_?

Night duty same old thing, on weather very fine and bright as day. Heard some jackels barking nearby.

Friday 26th

Nothing exciting. Busy cooking mushrooms at present found on hills this am.

Saturday 27th Letter from B

Did few snaps in am and then went to bed and slept all day.

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Sunday 28th

Went to bed all day.

Monday 29th

Letter from Mum and PC, Ena & Tas.

Had a walk round hills in am
and gathered mushrooms on hill.
Went to see soldier's grave on hill
above our compound.

Tuesday 30th

Very busy in wards. Slept all day.

Wednesday 31st

Still very busy. Two convoys arrived
200 men, wards full. Heard guns
on Doiran front.

Thursday 1st November

From here I can hear the guns
faintly, though at night their flashes
play on the clouds like summer lightning
for hours at [a] time, roaring louder
at times more especially on dark
dismal nights and in direction of

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Doiran front or occasionally on
Struma front.

November 2nd [Friday]

Still same old night duty, paddling
round in dark. Imagine me
over my ankles in mud, dragging
first one foot out then boot and
standing on one leg in grim
peril or sitting down hastily
and rising at leisure in the
meantime saying a few nice things
about the place and feeling the rain
oozing through my mack.
This is the life!

November 3rd [Saturday]

Better night, strong wind this
day any amount frogs about
treading on them or else feel them
hopping on foot.

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November 4th [Sunday] Migrating of birds

During this month the flight of
birds takes place. Sitting quietly
one hears a strong buzzing and looking
out to find myriads of birds
overhead like a dust storm.
Very strong also this month
for which the natives have
special names.

November 5th [Monday]

Saw beautiful rise this am
all colours imaginable with sun

set in centre like an opal
occasionally a different ray appearing.
November is especially noted for
its sunsets and rises.
January is month of snow
blizzards which last six to seven days.
Snow lasts for six weeks.

November 6th [Tuesday]

Very dark night. Dingoes
howling and make terrific noise
few wild dogs running beside
wards during night.

November 7th [Wednesday]

Spent time in bed. Nothing exciting
at night, guns roaring.

November 8th [Thursday]

My ward's closed. Transport
to A lines have four wards
116 patients to look after.

November 9th [Friday]

My night on tiles (ie to look
after wards while sisters have
supper and see that Johnny
Greek does not run away with us.)

November 10th [Saturday] Letter from Jimmy
My birthday on Hortiach

Plateau. Spent all day sleeping.

November 11th [Sunday]

Wards being closed every day now,
getting ready to move. Had morning pass
went down lines and took few snaps about.

November 12th Saturday [Monday]

Nothing exciting. Hear wild dogs
running on hills and howling. Beautiful
sunrise and calm night.

November 13th Sunday [Tuesday]

Had night off duty. Rained all day.
Captain Anderson was taking Sister Breadow
and self to Langada Lakes. Too wet and cold,
snow on Mt Kotos and Hortiach and down
slopes. Very heavy frosts in morning
and bitterly cold at night. I wear two jerseys
and pyjama suit (woollen) and woollen singlet also with
woollen _?, top coat, puttees, gaiters
and boots with galoshes, balaclava cap and
another cap and then feel cold.

Monday 14th [Wednesday]

Very cold day. Had sleet in am and ice on water. In January snow

settles round and blizzards lasting four to seven days. Snow lies six weeks. Mt Olympus looks wonderful with its winter cap, glistening and shining in the sun.

Tuesday 15 [Thursday]

Tents closing each day, 500 patients, left hospital today for other hospitals in Salonique.

Wednesday 16th [Friday]

Still a night owl. Went to Salonika. The officer in charge gave five nurses permission to go to city by motor wagon. On arriving at spot 10am found it to be full of hospital equipment, tents etc. Having no other means of getting in, we hopped on top of luggage much to the amusement of some officers nearby who said we were sports. Had a lovely ride down

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to city arriving near 65th General Hospital, caught a tram on to city. Saw people gazing at sky and after while looked out and saw air fight of some six or seven aeroplanes and some bombs were dropped over Summer Hill. Nobody seems to get excited at these things. City very dirty and muddy, no asphalt or proper made roads, all being small blocks of stone and earth having washed off leaving it rocky and dirty. Streets crowded with all types of foreigners. Went to canteen, ordnance and some shops. Had lunch at Red Cross. Got lost before then in street where dancing and drinking going on. Back to Piccadilly Circus at 4pm waiting for wagon which did not turn up for 1.3/4 hours. Saw plenty of sights [while] waiting, chestnut man roasting chestnuts and selling four for _? _? and dozen hungry looking children as _? on corner.

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Lieutenant Perry was very busy pulling up any wagon for us, when at last one came, arriving home 7pm, tired and fed up of Salonika. Having the night off went to bed in _? tent first of all barricading door up. Not very necessary as the guard change outside of this tent.

Thursday 17th [Saturday]

To work again. Tents being taken down. Very cold and wet. Wind howling and raining.

Sunday 18th

Notice to pack up given. Patients still leaving hospital.

Monday 19th

Had night off. Trip to Lake Langada. A party of twenty nurses with few medical officers left by motor ambulance 9am and all sitting on floor laughing aloud. We went as far as 66 General and from

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there walked round long winding road about eight miles descending every turn, could see lake at our feet and villages there, arrived there about 12 midday. Had look round, saw quaint women with water pitchers and red buildings including an ancient fort on borders of lake, well battered and apparently fired upon often. Saw such queer canoe looking fisherman boats, about 50 yards from head of lake. There are dozens of grass huts, dome shaped with just a doorway to crawl in while here and there fishermen were sitting cleaning their fish. These people dress very antiquated and look different cast to others. They appear very industrious and spinning and weaving wool while others were knitting. Had lovely picnic and left for home 3pm reaching same 5.30pm.

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Tuesday 20th

At work again, 13 block. All alone with 116 patients. Very windy and cold. Tent nearby down. Big green frogs hopping round and dingoes on hills. Only 500 people in hospital now out of 1,500.

Wednesday 21st

Quiet, nothing to talk about.

Thursday 22nd

Slept all day, very cold.

Friday 24th

Only 200 patients left today. Quiet and moonlit night. Johnny Bulgar hovering round all day with aeroplane, at 11pm guns being fired sounded like naval guns. One of our aeroplanes having scout round between 12 and 1am.

Sunday 25th

Another 200 patients leaving today.

Monday 26th Off night duty

All patients left hospital today,
tents being taken down and removed.

Tuesday 27th

Enjoyed night in bed. Day [of] rest, no
work to do. Busy packing up.

Wednesday 28th PC from home, also Christmas card

Still at rest. Watched big air fight, bombs
dropped. Lot of _? going on today.
Went for walk over hills and took few snaps.

Thursday 29th

Still resting. Sitting in sun writing and reading.
Another air fight and bomb dropping.

Friday 30th

Watched very big air fight in am.
Saw six enemy planes and anti-aircraft
fired 30 shots at them in sky with no effect.

Saturday 1st December

Went to Kuriah (Kurri-Koi)
village in am. Commencing at 10am
to walk over hills to village arriving
about 11am at narrow streets and there
found our way to church there. Very
quaint inside – paintings of 12 Apostles
along front of altar. Afterwards wended
our way into the graveyard adjoining
and there saw old kerosene tins on each grave
for burning incense and lots of opened graves
and at top of graveyard an old stone building
with barred windows and inside hundred or
more boxes from two feet square to size of
small cabin trunk and poking out here and
there human bones while on opening the
lids the entire frame of human bones,
even some flowers that had been buried
with them. This race of people, between

Turks and Greeks, believe this part of their
religion and after their dead have been buried
three years dig them up and place in these boxes
and then the relatives can come and claim them
and take home or have the bones cremated and
the ashes kept for generations. In this
country the soil is so full of animal life
that it causes the bones to become clean so quickly.
So picturesque when coming home to see
the Greek women washing in the
creeks and running streams beating clothes

on rocks or with ratten and then striking some while others looked on knitting.

Sunday 2nd At Kalamaria
After coming from walk yesterday met hurriedly and told to leave for 42nd General in two hours time at Kalamaria and off had to trot arriving at 3pm and started work. The convoy of

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dysentery patients emptied itself at one end of tent while I walked in other.

Monday 3rd
Did a hard days work in CII getting straight with equipment etc.

Tuesday 4th
Weather freezing cold with strong Vardar winds coming [in] this tent and blowing us nearly out of bed. Taylor, Walton, Folder and self in tent perishing. Feeling very miserable.

Wednesday 5th
Still strong Vardar winds, everything frozen this am. Water in basins block of ice, hot water bags left out during day frozen at night. Towels hanging still on walls. Really it was too cold to wash and so I went without. In morning had to sit down and hold hands between dressings. Work seems too huge. Even medicines in wards were frozen.

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Thermometer standing in block of ice and Quinine hanging in icicles and frozen. Had to melt and warm glasses and medicines. Every man in ward complaining.

Thursday 6th
Still very cold with Vardar winds blowing. Seems too cold to undress [and] take clothes off. Face chaffed and hands. Aerodrome quite close. Aeroplanes buzzing all day long overhead. Heavy frosts with snow on hills.

Friday 7th
Still Vardar winds and freezing cold and miserable.

Saturday 8th
Weather changed with rain leaving ground thick mud and water. Wearing gum boots, skirts to knees and puttees. Mud comes to knees and leaves a paddock on each foot.

Sunday 9th
Still mud and wet.

Monday 10th Wrote Jimmy & Billy
Still mud and wet. Getting very tired.

Tuesday 11th
Weather bit more cheerful. Wards very muddy and wet. On half rations.

Wednesday 12th
Went to town and had to walk half way back, got ride in French car for way. Tiled streets very dirty.

Thursday 13th
Nothing exciting.

Friday 14th Received 8 letters from Australia
More cheerful today and hopeful.

Saturday 15th
Watched French airman today performing feats in air, looping the loop and all sorts action in sky. Still on bully beef and biscuits.

Sunday 16th
Had afternoon tea at home in mess tent.

Monday 17th
Bright day, sun shining. Still on bully beef and biscuits.

Tuesday 18th Birthday card and two letters from home
Watched air fight nearby. Anti-aircraft active. Nothing exciting in wards.

Wednesday 19th
Quiet day. Nothing exciting.

Thursday 20th
Half day off duty. Went to town leaving hospital at 2.30pm walked through the camp to road Kalamaria and walked to train and jourined in with all sorts of foreign people and paid our fare of 5 _?
= ½ penny for about three miles and got out at _?
Street and walked up and branched off to Turkish bazaar and Tin Pot Alley. The Turkish bazaars were much like Paddy's market only mostly Turks dealing in all sorts of fancy

goods calling out "Sister" as you pass by and asking extraordinary prices. From here we wandered to Tin Pot Alley and through such narrow quaint stalls of all sorts and kinds. The streets of cobble

stone being very dirty. Then wandering back by sea front hailed a motor lorry and had ride home.

Friday 21st

Weather very bad with rain and wind. Mud treading over my knees in spite of short skirts. Skating about everywhere.

Saturday 22nd Wrote letter home

Busy in wards. Nothing exciting. Still plenty of bully beef three times daily.

Sunday 23rd

Very wet and cold with terrific mud on our mule run. Shut ourselves in tent at night.

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Monday 24th Christmas Eve

Worked all day. Weather very wet and very muddy drizzly rain all day. Busy at night making up Christmas presents for men.

Tuesday 25th Christmas Day 1917

Received letter from Mrs Hill and Billy. Still at 42 General. Had day off duty to go to 60th General for dinner. Day broke more cheerful, with sun shining, very muddy and boggy. Left our tent (Sisters Grubb, Folder and self) 10.30am and met car for 60th, took Karassai road and past _? hospital and then found 60th on side of hill and overlooking Summer Hill and ammunition dump. Dinner commenced 1pm. Mess tent nicely decorated with holly and mistletoe and evergreens. Tables arranged well with nuts, sweets, fruit. Had turkey, nice green beans, potatoes baked and boiled brandy sauce, Christmas pudding

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entertained at 4.30pm by officers of 60th General.

and brandy sauce, bombons with sweets and caps. Had Claret cub

Dinner over and rested for when afterward taken to Base Medical Stores by Lieutenant Yeoman to visit the OC Major Williams who welcomed us and brought us back in his motor. Had tea and entertained in by "Kookaburra" party until 9.30pm and then car arrived for Kalamaria bog hole. Very sorry to leave had good time arrived home 11.30pm. Streets of city like one big puddle of mud and bad odour.

Wednesday 26th Boxing Day, December

Worked in wards still very muddy and boggy. Afternoon visited sick sisters at 43rd General, Sisters Taylor and Walter, had afternoon tea and then back to work.

Thursday 27th Nine letters

Received several letters from home today, nine.

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Friday 28th

Busy in wards. Nothing exciting. Still bully beef for dinner.

In evening doctors gave us a Christmas dinner in new mess tent just completed. At 7.30pm we arrived at tent and were received by the medical officers in sitting room and then escorted to dining hall which was very nicely decorated with evergreen and holly and shell cases as vases for holly.

Dinner was nicely set with all sorts of nice things sweets, nuts, fruit. Had soup, turkey and ham, peas, cauliflower, potatoes, entrée fish and mince pie. Plum pudding, ice cream and champagne wine. OCs of two hospitals were present and made speeches. After dinner had music and talking until mid night. Supper and bed after.

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Saturday 29th

Yet another letter from home. Sister Grubb and self started for Salonique 2pm and got ride by ambulance on Kalamaria road got out at _? street and walked to Picadilly Circus to meet Lieutenant May. He taking us out for afternoon. Then we went to Tin Pot Alley, had afternoon tea and there through Rue Egnatia to Turkish bazaar to look round, afterwards long sea front to White Tower went inside tower and round old spiral stairway of some 60 wide steps. The lower half of this tower is under army control while the upper half is naval being used on top as a naval signalling station. The view from top very fine overlooking whole of Salonique and hills and mountains beyond for miles.

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Left for home 5pm got ride in _? car half way and then by French car home 6pm and on duty until 7.30pm.

Sunday 30th

Weather very bad, raining all day.

Monday 31st

Still rain and thick mud over gum boots.
Gliding about everywhere with padock on each foot.

Tuesday 1st January

Dense fog and thick mud, getting round in skirts
above knee and gum boots. Very busy in wards.
Went to bed early.

Wednesday 2nd

Still mud and wet.

Thursday 3rd

Half day off. Went to city and then Turkish
bazaars.

Friday 4th

Had letter from Dr Nichol who is ill in
28th General, requesting me to see him

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before going to Bl_? Still busy in wards.

Saturday 5th

Watched afternoon German taube and
Bulgar spying about in clouds, apparently
taking photographs. Anti-aircraft became
very active and fired some 20 shells or more,
but enemy plane soon got the way _?.

Sunday 6th

Johnny Bulgar brought a plane over again
this am, not flying so high today. Our
anti-aircraft spotted him and began firing
Johnny soaring higher all time. Big guns
then fired several shells which went very
close, counted 17 shots in all and each one
said to cost 16/-. Heard buzzing of piece of
shell coming through air and landed some
where within hospital ground.

Monday 7th Still at Kalamaria

Enemy very persistent, still looking round.

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Tuesday 8th

Weather better but having Vardar
winds which are bitterly cold.

Wednesday 9th

Quiet day.

Thursday 10th

Sister Grubb and self went to 28th General
to see Dr Nichol. We left Kalamaria

and got in motor wagon for BEF canteen on Monastir Road and then to hospital. Stayed short time and then back to city by motor.

Friday 11th

Not so busy, weather light and better.

Saturday 12th

Still at Kalamaria. In afternoon went for walk with Dr Leslie over to see front Mikra Bay. Went round waters edge for about two miles.

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Saw aerodrome and walked through French camp and then home then back on duty.

Sunday 13th

Had heavy fall of snow, drifted into our tents and filled up all round tents and got on to beds. In morning all water was frozen to solid ice and hot water bag water frozen. Bitterly cold.

Monday 14th

Snow still thick all round and hills as far as can be seen covered thick. I fell into trench today trying to get to duty through snow and had to crawl under tent ropes to find my way. Gum [boots] were filled with snow and everything miserable.

Tuesday 15th

Snow melting fast. Had photograph taken with Captain Stanley and Lieutenant Leslie.

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Wednesday 16th

Very muddy and dirty everywhere. Still in gum boots and muddy dresses etc.

Thursday 17th

Went into city, very muddy and dirty, only went as far as ordnance. Had afternoon tea at Red Cross tea rooms. Came home in French car as far as Kalamaria MT Base and then walked home.

Friday 18th

Moved to Ward 4 for change and rest.

Saturday 19th

Weather fine and sunny. Had tents opened up all day.

Sunday 20th

On duty all day. Nothing exciting.

Monday 21st

Went to Salonique. Had afternoon tea at Flocea's the elite tea shop of city. Plenty of icing and _?

Tuesday 22nd

Up 6.20am as usual. Have nice quiet ward. Not much work to do.

Wednesday 23rd

Same as usual.

Thursday 24th

Left our compound at 2pm, walked along Kalamaria Road and was picked up by wagon and went to city. Had photo taken in Rue Franque Street. Had afternoon tea at Flocea's and then onto Turkish bazaar.

Friday 25th

Off duty in am. Had charge of three wards at night.

Saturday 26th

Quiet day.

Sunday 27th

Afternoon tea in mess 4pm.

Monday 28th

Nothing exciting.

Tuesday 29th

Went for walk along sea front with Sister Grubb and then back for dinner.

Wednesday 30th

Usual daily work.

Thursday 31st

Went to Salonika through to Tin Pot Alley and then Turkish bazaar through _? street into sea front to White Tower and home by Flying Corps motor.

Friday 1st February

Quiet day in wards. Boys dressed up in concert gear and had snaps taken.

Saturday 2nd

Instructions up regarding air raid and all to be ready for it.

Sunday 3rd

Went to church 6pm with boys, after first hymn light went out and service carried on in dark throughout.

Hymns were sung in darkness and address given. Singing was very nice and all went well.

Monday 4th

Not busy. Had nice time, easy.
New Matron Pritchard arrived this pm to hospital.

Tuesday 5th

Had half day off duty. Went to town with Sister Holland. Left hospital 2pm caught motor transport on Kalamaria road to White Tower from there another transport to ordnance through Rue Franque to Piccadilly Circus along Ignatia Street to Italian canteen and then to _? Street to Turkish bazaar. Had afternoon tea at Red Cross House. Down to _? Street and waited for car then soon a colonel with small car stopped and took us home.

Wednesday 6th

Went for walk round beach in afternoon, did a bit of printing on beach back 5pm and on duty.

Thursday 7th

Very light in wards. Aeroplanes very frequent today.

Friday 8th

King of Greece watched an exhibition of aeroplanes from aerodrome nearby, some 12 to 14 planes were around looping the loop.

Saturday 9th

Had football match on Kalamaria cricket ground nearby. In morning took snap of boys with my camera.

Sunday 10th

Afternoon tea in mess tent as usual, very large number visitors.

Monday 11th

Wards easy. Dysentery dying out now.

Tuesday 12th

Sister Holland and I went to Salonika. Had motor ride as far as officers' club and got in tram to _? Street up there to Turkish bazaar looking round and then back on to sea front, caught motor car and home.

Wednesday 13th Four letters from Tassy
Went to lecture in recreation tent given
by Reverend Father Luck "on Salonika"
_? mounds to be seen frequently
on plains and roads of importance.
Some _? were monuments
to Greek kings and are many thousand years old.
A large _? was discovered near

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Lambert Road.
Town was started (Salonica) in year 315BC
when giants were upon the earth in
time of Phillip of Macedon. Alexander the
Great, his son, conquered for himself the whole
world while Phillip his father joined
Greece to Macedonia. Phillip eventually died
in Babylon. Another theory exists as to the
foundation of the city and given by Str_? a
Roman historian who writing somewhere
about the birth of Christ says that in 316BC
King Cassander joined together twentysix (26)
villages on the site of an older town
of Therma (hot springs) and gave the new
town the name of his wife, the sister of
Alexander the Great, "Thessalonika."
This she was called because she was
born in Thessaly and at her birth was
dedicated to the Goddess of Victory
(Greek like).

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Thessaloniki was more famous for its
hot baths through having same, many
springs. It may once have been pearl of the Aegean.
The first person known to unite Salonica
was a monk who lived about 1185.
In years of Roman conquest 150
Salonica was made part of the Roman
Empire. Fragments of the palaces of these
Roman emperors still exist.

In Christian 53rd year when St Paul
visited the town, St Paul visited Macedonia
by boat first time through Mediterranean and Aegean
entered Gulf of Salonica and got to this city
and while in city he heard of a plot against
himself to do away with him as they thought
he was upsetting the welfare of the city. Instead
of returning by same route he left by road
passing through Kalamaria (this suburb)
and got into Rome eventually safely.
St Paul we are told walked to synagogue
of Jews and preached there (see Acts Apostle
17). St Paul wrote first two epistles to

this town. No relic exists at present day of St Paul's visit to city or no church to his memory. To north west of Piccadilly Circus a mount called "Mount of St Paul" still exists. Theory says St Paul may have preached there but it's only accounted for him preaching at synagogue of Jews.

Arch of Alexander

That name is incorrect. This arch was built by Galerius in year 302. Galerius held chief seat in Salonica being governor or so at that time. This arch was erected to commemorate his conquering of the Persians. The animals in arch all Persian figures and animals. The present street has risen some 6 feet above the original foundation of this arch. The Rue Egnatia is part of important road which connects Rome with Italy. In this street

is the site where hippodrome stood, not far from Arch of Galerius. Only space left now with exception of part of one great pillar. The French are very busy excavating there now and from time to time find important marks of ages bygone.

Stadia

Several stadias still remain. These are places where Romans rested during their long marches through country. Each 30 miles of country has a stadia. The stadia was top of _? Street near St Demetrios Church still remains.

In year 400 Roman Empire began to dissolve. Massacres took place in Constantinople under leadership of Theodosius and in

this place. The people reacted against taxes and then the people were driven together. The Gothic people were ordered to kill with result of 10,000 to 15,000 massacred together near a chapel. This chapel still exists and is called now the Chapel of Orphans. It is situated in Turkish quarter of city.

Salonica has been attacked by Bulgars frequently and under Samuel II massacred people, 15,000 at one time had one eye taken out for punishment. Since then

Bulgaria has attacked several times as far down as Island In Aegean. In year 850 Czar of Bulgaria wished to civilize his people, placed himself under missionary's for protection and these were Germans Bulgaria was converted by.

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In year 904 pirates attacked and went as far as Aegean, Crete Island to bring people to attack this town.

First Norman invasion was in 1081 and another in 1150. Salonica was first attacked at end of 11th century.

White Tower For a time this tower was called Tower of St Mark, also Tower of Blood on account of massacres which took place on top of White Tower. The blood it is said ran over the top and inside this tower again is an inner tower, which in second half was used as a prison, holes built in walls still remain where bodies used to be put. The winding stairway of this place was made so a donkey or mule could walk up comfortably, each step is about two feet wide

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and four inches high.

The Venetians arrived in year 1423. Several earthquakes have occurred in this town and once nearly whole population was wiped out and Turkish prisoners were then sent to populate the town.

The Jews arrived in year 1492. The greater number of population are Jews. Population of Salonica 130,000, 15,000 of these are Durmays. The women dress after style of the Egyptian being veiled. They follow the custom of the Moussalums. They have no place of worship but they worship in their own homes it is believed.

Salonica is chiefly a Turkish city and not majority Greeks. The city was taken by Turks in 1430 and held until 1912 when it became a Greek city for first time.

At one time 3,000 monks came down from Mt Athos and tried to take city from Turks but were hopelessly conquered. Monks still live on Mt Athos.

For a tour of the principal sites of city start from White Tower and then along street, National Defence, see Hippodrome and then Arch of Galerius and then St George Church which is oldest in town. Then via Aqualia Street to St Sophia (Haggia Sophia) meaning Church of Our Saviour, near this Church of Our Lady.

St Georges built in year 350.
St Sophia built in 5th century.
Bulgars took shelter in St Sophia during one of the fights.

St Demetrios was martyred in 306 and he was governor of city. He was

martyred in a prison house near the church.

See later Church of the Apostles and then all principal items have been seen. It is said the city has actually been burnt down 15 times.

This ended a very interesting lecture.

Thursday 14th

Scarcely any work in wards. Got off duty early and did some writing.

Friday 15th

Weather very cold and wet with Vardar winds and snow.

Saturday 16th

Snow fell during day, not so long as last time, very wet and muddy everywhere, wearing gum boots and macks for two days.

Mt Olympus 9,754 feet high.

Sunday 17th

Raining all day. Mud and wet up to our knees over top of boots. Had to walk about ½ mile to our duty.

Monday 18th

Still mud, but wind dropped and not so cold. Our tent very muddy and cold.

Tuesday 19th

Had easy day. Nothing exciting in wards.

Thursday 21st

Had half day. Went by motor wagon to Red Cross House in city, saw Sister Taylor,

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had afternoon tea and came back in motor. Had to wear gum boots and mackintosh to town.

Friday 22nd

Weather clearing up little.

Saturday 23rd

Quiet day in wards.

Tuesday 26th

Had half day. Went to 60th General Hospital. Left Kalamaria 2pm with Sister Folder. Went by motor to Piccadilly Circus and then in another motor to 3rd _? and got out, walked to 60th General. Had afternoon tea and left for home 4.30pm by motor to docks and then in another motor along sea front to headquarters and another motor home to Kalamaria.

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Commenced relieving Tuesday 26.2.18.

Wednesday 27th

Went down on beach for afternoon with Sister Grubb.

Thursday 28th

Had half day. Sister Grubb and self went to city. Had afternoon tea at Flocea's then walked up to Turkish quarter to some of ruins round by Arch of Galerius down _? Street, home 6pm.

Friday 1st March

On relieving stint flying about from ward to ward.

Saturday 2nd

Off duty 5pm. Went to concert given by Royal Serbian Band at

MT Company Theatre, Kalamaria.
The hall chiefly built of petrol
tins and pieces [of] tent, seating about
400.

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The hall was packed with officers
and sister some of all hospitals, Serbian,
French and English. The band
composed of 40 instruments,
string mostly. Monsier Vavonovich
and musicians and attached to one of hospitals
played selections on piano very finely
while Sergeant Major Fryatt gave a violin solo
and Lieutenant Yates and Covent Gardens singers
rendered two songs. The music
was very fine treat and lasted for
3½ hours. In interval supper was
handed round in hall.
Reached our tent again 11.30pm.

Sunday 3rd Letter from Lily Pitman
Raining again all am.

Monday 4th
Very muddy and wet.

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Tuesday 5th
Had mock air raid trial this
evening. Guns fired, all light were
out instantly. The night was fairly
dark and this was unexpected. Then
the sky was streaked with searchlight,
some 8 or 9 searching for planes.
Enemy planes had given warning
that day and had been troublesome up
line and threatened coming down here
and as soon as border was crossed
the alarm was given by wireless.

Wednesday 6th
Went for walk round beach in afternoon.

Thursday 7th
Still relieving round hospital.

Friday 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th & 13th
Had several letters, 10 from Australia.
All quiet days.
Nothing exciting at all.
Continued in army book 136.

End of Volume 1.

History of Macedonia
Tunnel monuments to Greek king
many thousand years old
near Lembet Road big
tunnel discovered 315 BC
town started giants upon Earth,
Philip of Macedon, Alexander Great
who conquered for himself the whole world.
Philip died in Babylon.
Tessalia sister to Alexander.
In year 150 Roman conquest
Salonica was made part of Roman Empire.
Many fragments of buildings
still exist.
St Paul walked and preached
Synagogue of Jews.
In Acts of Apostles 17 St Paul wrote
two epistles to town Thessalonica.
No relic or church of St Paul to his memory can be
found in Salonica. There's a mound
named after St Paul at west of Picadilly Circus.
St Paul may have preached there.
Arch of Alexander built by Galerius. He had
chief seat in Salonica in 302AD.

Loose Page - Side 2

He erected arch to commemorate his conquering
of the Persians. The figures animals etc are
all Persian figures. The present street has by age risen
6 feet above original foundation of arch.
Rue Ignatia is near site of red
hippodrome a few yards from Alexander arch,
only a pillar remains now.
There is also red stadium near top of _?
of where Romans rested for some time.
In year 400AD Roman Empire began to dissolve
and emperor came to Constantinople and many
massacres took place under Theodosius
killing 10,000 to 15,000 people.
Salonica has been attacked frequently by Bulgars
going as far as island in Aegean Sea.
The greater majority of inhabitants of Salonica
are Turkish about 130,000 population.
The city has been mostly _? by Turks
until 1912 when it became a Greek city for
the first time.
There are a number of ancient
White Towers built by the venetians, building still
year 350AD.
The church of St George, built year 350AD,
Church of Our Lady. Church of St Sophia built
in 5th century, Church Street, Demetre and
Apostles. St Demetre was martyred
in prison house near church.
Salonica has been burnt down 15 times.

Left Salonica 22nd January [Tuesday], Wednesday
arrived Marseilles.

14th March 1918 - Continuation diary from black book.

14th March [Thursday]

Still at 42nd General, Kalamaria, Salonique.

15th March [Friday]

Had mosquito nets issued to us few days ago.
Mosquitoes coming round now. Saw several in tents lately.

16th March [Saturday]

Had half day. Went to Red Cross home to see Sisters Bailey and Taylor, from there we went to picture show on sea front. On payment of 1/50 we entered the hall and being ushered to seats in dark and sat down near our allies, the Serbs. The pictures were all French in style and description.

17th Sunday

Went for walk along beach and took few snaps about. Also went to church at 5pm.

18th Monday

Quiet day. On duty until 5pm and then did some washing.

19th Tuesday Letter from Australia

Fine day. Promise of an early spring.
Bulbs popping up and flowers coming out around.

20th Wednesday Large battle commenced in France

Went for walk along beach with Lieutenant _? today.
Later saw fisherman pulling in nets etc.

23rd Saturday

Went walk along beach as far as Mickra Bay and Serbian camp passing French aerodrome. Saw number of torpedoes on shore and nets for mines.

24th Sunday

Snow storm making third, on duty all day.
Went church in evening.
Fourth day of severe fighting in France.

26th Tuesday

Searchlights very active in sky. Had sham air raid. Shell rockets being _? plentifully. Snow on ground still.

27th Wednesday

Went to a concert at 41st General Hospital about eight kilometres away and saw the "Mikado" staged by the boys.

28th Thursday

Went to concert this evening at 600 MT Base and saw "Find the Lady" played by the boys there. The hall held some 500

people and was most enjoyable.

29th Friday Good Friday Night Duty
Had usual routine, bacon for breakfast
and meat dinner at night. Went to church
in evening at church tent. Commenced
night duty _? _?

30th Saturday
Snow nearly all gone, spent day in bed.

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31st Sunday
Eleventh day of big battle in France.
Number of boys left Salonica today for Bli_?
Sister Lee included from ward.

Monday April 1st 1918 Fools Day
Boys up to tricks playing fools and trying
to have me. Did some fixing tonight with
aid of orderlies in my ward.

16th April [Tuesday]
Still at Kalamaria. All patients transported.

17th April [Wednesday] Day off.

18th April [Thursday] Back to _? Hospital.
Left _? on 18th April for Hortiach
by motor lorry and settled at some old spot
in hills. Hospital not erected yet.

19th April [Friday]
Went for picnic with Sisters Grubb and McKendrich
over towards Kurri-Kai. Later on met Lieutenant
Gillespie, Wilson, Tirrells and went for walk over
the hills of Kurri-Kai.

20th April [Saturday]
Visited Kurri-Kai village with the
above through church and char_? house
cemetery and afterwards had afternoon tea
on hills. Walked for miles over the hills
and down ravines.

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21st April [Sunday]
In afternoon walked to aqueduct with
friends and then up ravine and saw
wild flowers growing thickly, primroses,
violets, buttercups and daisies, anemones
and all sorts others.

22nd Monday
Went for another long trip over the hills
overlooking Salonica, up and down hills
and then had afternoon tea.

23rd Tuesday

Raining all day. Lieutenants Wilson, Gillespie, Tirrell came over and spent afternoon with us in mess tent.

24th Wednesday

Friends came across and we went out with, afternoon tea as usual. Enjoying ourselves although it rained off and on.

25th Thursday ANZAC Day 1918

Our friends came across the three lieutenants at 10am and off we went bound for Kotos Mount. Walking along

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We had a pack donkey and boy to carry things.

road towards aqueduct through Hortiach village and winded our way up steep track, resting very often and looking back at beautiful view below and village nestled under the hill. Arriving near the top we had our meal and then we gathered together and looked round for donkey saw that six small Greek lads had been collected. However they came in handy for getting wood for community fire. After meal Lieutenant Gillespie and self walked on to Kotos pinnacle and reaching there saw the view once again looking around could see Struma Valley in far distance mountains in front of Dorain front and whole ranges of 90 miles along Lake Langada looking pretty and another lake further on.

[WWI ended 11 November 1918]

January 1919

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Left Salonica on Wednesday 22nd January 1919.

Motor ambulance called at 60th General

4pm took four sisters including myself to English quay and boarded hospital ship *Dunluse Castle*.

Lieutenant Allen and Joe Pittman and Jock Mack saw me off from 60th General.

We boarded the hospital ship by tender and left harbour next day 23rd 7am for Marseilles.

Did duty on ship and was not sick at all, arrived Marseilles 29th

as there was a strike on railway we could not land until 30th 7.30am.

Went to Hotel Marseilles near railway station for lunch, caught train for Paris 12.45pm.

The snow was thick in streets of
Marseilles and bitterly cold in train.
However we set to work and lit primus,
had a good meal at 5pm
and again at 11pm when we boiled
eggs while the train rolled along

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and made coffee. After this settled ourselves.
(A Canadian soldier gave us some
bread and also had supper with us.)
For night placing suit cases on floor
and slept a little. In morning had
another meal of paste, cheese, cake, tea.
Passed stations on way Minervau,
Arles, Taraseou, Legion, Orange,
Mouleman, Montelimar Livron, Valence, Tain,
St Rambert, _?, Lyon, Macon,
Chalon, Dijon, Melun, Paris.
Arrived Paris 11am 31st.

At Marseilles they would not give bread
without ration ticket so asked for book and
took my week's sugar ration ticket as
well as changing 6/6 for grilled steak and chips,
roll of bread.

In Paris a Red Cross representative met us
and took us in ambulance to St James
Hotel. The snow was thick on ground
here and bitterly cold.

Had lunch and then went to city.
The Louvre Art Gallery was closed still

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so we visited the largest establishment
called Louvre House and here had
afternoon tea – plain tea, no milk or
sugar but one slice of lemon in
tea, few little cakes 1/6.
Sacharine is placed on table,
had no butter. Also went in
underground railway to St James Hotel.
Left Paris 7.15am 1st February,
arrived Le Havre 12 midday. Here
met by British American Red Cross
lady and taken [to] club of same name
had nice lunch in American style
afterwards taken to the casino
for accommodation. In afternoon
had look round town.

Next day visited museum, art gallery
and Notre Dame Cathedral, a very
fine place, wonderful windows
(Roman Catholic) built in year 17.

The casino was a large French

gambling den and has many large halls, including theatre and galleries

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around halls. At present is a hospital for soldiers. Here the snow was thick. The casino is on water's edge and has a fine view of harbour.

Left Le Havre 8pm 2nd for packet steamer for Southampton. Slept in saloon and arrived 7.30am on 3rd February 1919. Caught train to London and arrived 10.30am at Waterloo Station. No one to meet us and a strike of local railways and tubes on. Rang up Miss Cougers and were sent to different parts. Four of us to Imperial Nurses Club, 137 Eburg Street, London SW.

Went AIF Horseferry Road 2.30pm afternoon. Had tea in town at Lyons tearooms. After tea got aboard bus and went around London on top [of] bus. Commenced at Victoria Station and journeyed for one hour in cold fog with snow on ground in parts. Cost 7d.

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4th February

Railway tube strike still on. Went to agent general's office in snow and rain. People fighting around police for buses as all railways out, crowds of people scrambling to get on buses being helped by police.

5th February

Went to Fulham on motor lorry, could not get near buses. Also visited Euston railway station and Westminster (Roman Catholic) Cathedral and Central Hall, Westminster. Received letter from Dr Nichol inviting me to stay with family at Essex.

6th February

Strike finished today. Left Imperial Nurses Club 9.30am for Victoria Station then to Euston Station from there by bus to Baker Street and caught midday train to relations at Pinner in Middlesex, arrived Pinner 12.40pm but should have gone Hatch End Station. However I got a cab to Hatch End 1½ miles and went straight old home Zetlands. Zetlands is a large old fashioned house with ivy over house and hedges around.

The snow was thick on ground and everywhere.

Cousins May Adams, Kate Mansell and Emily Roberts welcomed me to their home. We had lunch then sat by fire and talked about relations: our cousins in Leeds and Yorkshire. They talked of Harry and Ellen Pitman and of Uncle Tas. Showed me old photograph of my great grandmother in 1766.

7th February

I slept in old Queen Anne bed with old fashioned hangings. Had breakfast in bed, afterwards got up and took some snaps in snow of my cousins and their lovely

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Persian cat. After lunch cousin Kate and self went for walk to village at Pinner house for tea. Cousin May talking about Wicklow Castle belonging to Lord Monk. Cousin May was governess to his daughter at the Castle.

8th February

Left Hatch End 2.30pm arrived London 3.30pm took bus to Victoria Station and from there went by underground to Chingford Essex ½ hour in train, and then tram to Hose Street ¼ hour to Dr Nichol for tea. Had a very enjoyable time and left again 10.30pm for London. Invited out again to spend the day.

9th February

At Imperial Nurses Club. Had breakfast in bed. Getting ready for Scotland.

10th February

Went to Fulham in morning and AIF Club in Strand. Afternoon getting ready for Scotland. Left Imperial Nurses Club 7pm by train for Euston Station, met Sister Kemp and Sister_? there and got tickets for Scotland. Left by train Great North Western railway 8.30pm non stop train, flying along. Passed Peterborough 10pm.

11th February

Arrived Edinburgh 7am, had up to one hour stop and then left for Glasgow 8am. Passed Philipstoun, Linlithgow, Manu, Golmont, Falkirk, arrived Glasgow 10am, took taxi to Grand Hotel. Sauchiehall Street, Charing Cross. Had breakfast and rest then went around shops and visited Glasgow

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Cathedral afternoon. In evening listened to concert in park near hotel. Bagpipes

band playing around street. Beautiful music. Had supper at Miss Carblestones tea rooms, Sauchiehall Street.

12th February

Got up 9am, had breakfast then got ready for 10.30am train to Dalmeir West Station and changed there for Balloch Loch Lomond arriving there 1pm. Passed through villages Dalmeir, Dumbarton, Milton Lodge, Renton, Alexandria, arrived Balloch. Had lunch Balloch Hotel and there met two Aussie soldiers we knew and we walked over bridge to Loch Lomond Park and there saw beginning of Loch Lomond. The lake was frozen so could not go in a boat. We walked along shore of lake, gathered some ferns and flowers. The scenery was very beautiful. Mountains snow capped. Very cold. Arrived back at Balloch 4pm and got train back to Glasgow by 6.30pm. Tram and railway fares very cheap.

13th February

Left hotel, walked down Sauchiehall Street and Elderslie Street to Argyle Street then up Edinburgh 10.15am. Cost 5/- with railway concession LNW railway, arrived Edinburgh 11.30am and walking along street met a soldier who knew us and so invited us to lunch at best café in Princess Street, Edinburgh.

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Very nice lunch with good orchestra. After lunch visited Edinburgh Castle and got bus one hours journey for two to Forth Bridge through village of Queen's Ferry. We were quite close to Forth Bridge which is a great sight. Saw some of British Fleet in Firth of Forth. Got train back to Edinburgh, had tea. Visited memorial to Sir Walter Scott and art gallery. Left 5pm for Glasgow arriving 6.30pm.

14th February

Left Grand Hotel Sauchiehall Street 10am for Central railway station per LNW railway for Manchester – passed station of Carstire Junction, Lockerbie, Carlisle, Penrith, Preston arrived Manchester 5.30pm. Stayed Queen's Hotel for night.

15th February

Left Manchester 9am for Great Central railway station, changed Guide Bridge, Sheffield. Had lunch in train arriving London,

Marylebone Station 3.30pm. Took cab to Queen Mary's Hostel then to Imperial Nurses Club for luggage.

16th February

Up 9am, had breakfast. Got 77 bus for Euston Station train to Pinner 10.50am arrived midday. Stayed for night with my cousins.

17th February

Left Pinner 9.30am for London.

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Met Miss Rendall 1.30pm at admiralty, walked through mall, Birdcage walk, Royal Exchange, Parliament Houses, staying at House of Commons to listen to debate by George Eryles, member for Belfast, Ireland, then visited Westminster Abbey taking great interest in Poets Corner, Chancel and altar chair. Passing Royal Horse Guards and back to hostel for tea. In evening went to St James Theatre to see Eyes of Youth leading lady Gertrude Elliott (Lady Forbes Robinson).

18th February

Went to Liverpool Station for South Chingford Essex to see Dr and Mrs Nichol spending the day, back to London 7pm coming via Victoria Station. Got No.8 train for Tooting Balham to stay with cousin Tom and Harriette who were waiting tea for me stayed.

19th February

Breakfast in bed. In afternoon with cousin Harriette and Gwen came to London and visited St Paul's Cathedral and then got bus to Westminster Abbey for service at 3pm. The singing of choir was beautiful all members in red cassocks and white surplice. Bishop preaching. After service visited Poets Corner, the Royal Tombs and wax figures of ancient royalty. Home for tea.

20th February

Went to London. Met Miss Rendall 1.30pm. Visited Tower of London. Evening to Court Theatre to see Shakespeare's Twelfth Night, got back to Tooting Bec in night.

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21 February

Cousin Harriette and I visited Cousin Carrie, Miss Turpine, Sister of Sir William Turpine, spent afternoon there. Did not see Cousin Carrie again as she died shortly afterwards.

22nd February

Visited National Art Gallery and British Museum, afterwards went to Pinner, Hatch End to spend week-end with cousins there.

23rd Sunday

Went to church service Pinner am, afternoon had a walk through villages. Very beautiful all about here, not far from Harrow.

24th February

Came back to London. Reported at headquarters 2.30pm and had orders to leave London 6pm for Dartford, arriving 7.30pm. Staying the night and for Sutton Veny tomorrow.

25th February

Left Dartford for London then Waterloo Station for Sutton Veny, Wiltshire at 2.30pm. Arriving Salisbury at 5pm waiting then until 7pm for train to Sutton Veny, arriving 7.30pm, met there by ambulance and taken to No.1 AGH.

26th February

Commenced duty 7.30am Ward 13 Influenza ward. Worked until 9pm.

27th February

Off duty 1pm. Sister Wright and self walked to Warminster (the village at Sutton Veny) about two miles by road. Did some shopping and came back by hospital motor.

28th February On duty all day.

1st March

Off duty 1pm. Walked to Warminster again, had afternoon tea.

2nd March On duty all day.

3rd March Stayed home and wrote letters.

4th March On duty.

5th March

Off duty 1pm. Went out to dinner 6pm with Sister to No.15 officers TB, had nice time in evening playing games, dancing etc, arrived back at hospital 1am.

6th March On duty.

7th March Raining all day. Stayed in.

8th March On duty.

9th March

Sisters Derrar, Young and self went for walk through country Sutton Veny. The spring wild flowers were beginning to blossom and fields green, a very pretty sight with thatched houses about.

10th March

On duty.

11th March

Mr Parry came over to our mess [for] afternoon tea so we had a nice fire and talked.

13th March

Cars called for a party of us to go to officers mess, 15 for dinner and supper. Had a very enjoyable time. Arriving back at our camp in night.

15th March

Had day off. Going to see relations at Bristol. Left Sutton Veny by motor got 10am train to Bristol arrived Temple Meads Station, Bristol 1pm. Got train to trainway crossing then changed for Trelawney Road, Cotham, ½ hour in train. Cousin Flo with Eileen at home and welcomed me. Had lunch and afternoon tea. Cousin Flo coming with me to station 5.30pm.

17th March

On duty until 1pm. Left Sutton Veny to catch 1.40pm train to Bath. Had a look around city and tea. Surprised at size of town and numbers of bath chairs about conveying people to the mineral baths for treatment. Arrived home 8pm to Sutton Veny.

18th March

On duty. Lady Fisher visited boys in afternoon.

19th March

My luggage that had been missing for past three months arrived from London today. Sister Derrar and self walked to Warminster, shopped, had afternoon at Tipperary café.

20th March

On duty all day. Boys very ill with flu. Gunner Garrett of Hobart dangerously ill.

21st March

Stayed in, washed and wrote letters.

23rd Sunday

Attended church at YMCA 5.30pm.

Gunner Garrett died today.

25th March

Day off duty. Rested in bed until 11am.
Sister Derran and M_? Morton went to Salisbury by 2pm train arriving 2.30pm. Walked up Silver Street, had tea then visited Salisbury Cathedral. A wonderful old building standing in acres of land of green lawns. The masonry is very fine, many figures carved on outside, also figures of 12 Apostles carved front of building. The old market places in streets very ancient and still bring old time coaches conveying people too and fro from town, were very quaint. The day was bitterly cold at Salisbury.

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26th March

On duty all day. Invited out to dinner officers mess 15 OT but could not go. I also had a bad cold.

27th March

Received a telegram from Lieutenant Gordon at Codford saying he was coming over for afternoon. We walked to YMCA for tea, a very nice old home, manor house loaned to military. I was invited to Codford to dinner but very cold, was too bad to go.

28th March

On duty. Has been snowing all night. So bitterly cold. Received letter from Hew Allen, Palestine also Tom Brindle, Salonica.

29th March

Sister Derran and self went for walk along track into Warminster village. The snow thick on ground, trees and hedges, all bent. The thatched houses and old bridges looked a pretty sight covered in snow. The weather was bleak and cold so we walked and got warm, met two Irish soldiers on way so we played snowballs. This is last day of winter, all clocks put on one hour (under daylight saving scheme).

30th March

First day of summer (daylight saving). Snow still on ground.

31st March

Received telegram from Lieutenant Gordon Codford saying he was coming over. We went for walk and on to YMCA manor house for tea. Walked home afterwards via Sutton Veny. The day was very cold and bleak. Took few snaps.

1st April

On duty all day. The boys playing all sorts of tricks.

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2nd April

On duty until 1pm. _?_?
and met Lieutenant Gordon at Warminster railway station and went to see sights at Bath. Got 1.20 train stopped Westbury ¼ hour, reached Bath 3pm. Went to Grand Pump Room Hotel for afternoon tea, afterwards visited old Roman Baths. Saw natural springs and mineral waters warm and hot. On top of pillars surrounding baths there were several statues of ancient Romans including Julius Caesar. Attached to pump room of baths is a museum of antiques found in the excavations of the baths at different periods. We then got a train to Oldfield Park and walked to Bloomsburg Hills to view Bath from the ruins of an old castle. The city is situated in between the hills quite a basin like effect. The abbey and Roman baths being centre. We took some snaps and afterwards walked back to baths through old byways and hedges.

3rd April

On duty all day. Lieutenant Parry came across from officers mess 15 OTB to say goodbye as he is leaving tomorrow for home, Tasmania.

4th April

Had day off. Met Lieutenant Gordon at Warminster 11am and got train to Bath. Walked to Grand Pump Room Hotel and had lunch. Afterwards visiting abbey of Bath built in early part of 16th century. Has same wonderful carving in stone of Jacobs ladder each side front door with the beautiful carved figures of angels ascending and descending the ladders.

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(See piece below re hot springs at Bath, forgot to put it in here.)

Inside walls of abbey covered with cenotaphs of noted people of the time. Also beautiful stained glass windows and some old statues. Afterwards we visited museum, saw fine collection of old Roman and Egyptian antiques, also birds and animals. Then we got train from the Guildhall to suburb outside Bath. Had afternoon tea in old thatched cottage surrounded with lovely hedges.

Bought some oranges and apples and returned to Bath in time for dinner 6pm at a restaurant, "Ye Old Red House" in evening, went to the Grand Palace Theatre and saw a fine Vaudeville show. Returned to Warminster by train and motored to Sutton Veny after a most enjoyable time and had to say goodbye to Lieutenant Gordon as he is leaving tomorrow.

5th April

On duty all day. Lieutenant Gordon sailed for Australia this morning.

4th April [refer note at top of page]

The hot springs at Bath exist as far as they know from 800 BC. The baths are supplied by three springs yielding three half million gallons per day. Each spring differs in heat, the hottest being 120°. Bath is the only place in Great Britain where hot springs are found.

6th April Sunday

On duty until 1.30pm. In afternoon went out with Sister Bass to meet a friend of hers, Dr Harboth and his airman brother. We walked to Warminster through the tracks passing thatched cottages on way, taking us about one hour. Had afternoon at Bath Arms Hotel, Warminster, very old place. Afterwards Dr Harboth

got motor car and took us for a drive to a lake near Sheerwater, a very pretty place. Went for walk about lake and then got into car and went eight miles farther on to Frome, a very pretty village. Afterwards motored home by different road.

7th April On duty all day

8th April

Sister Morton and I went for walk to Warminster. Had afternoon tea at Tipperary Café and afterwards for a walk taking some snaps, then walked back to hospital.

9th April On duty all day. Relieving Ward 16.

10th April

On duty until pm. Stayed in and wrote letters. In evening went to farewell evening to Sister Horb in our mess.

11th April On duty Ward (8)

12th April

Had day off. In afternoon a Sergeant De Bamford, a Tasmanian, called to see me with introduction from Reverend Fawns in Kent. We had a long talk of Hobart. In evening several of us went to No. 3 officers camp for evening and dance and entertained by the OC. Had a nice time. Home by midnight. Got letters from Palestine and Salonica (Tom and Alex).

13th April

On duty all day Ward 19.
Private Tremayne of Queensland helped me a good lot.

14th April

Off duty 1pm. Stayed in wrote letters and did some photography.

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15th April

On duty all day, Ward 13.
Took some snaps of boys in afternoon.

16th April Stayed in.

17th April

On duty all day in detention ward.

18th April Good Friday

On duty Ward 13 until 1pm. After dinner Sister McRae and self walked to Sheerwater, passed through old mill and then through woods to villages of Cockerton. Had afternoon tea and then walked through country to Longleat. The wood violets and primroses all in flower now. At last we reached Sheerwater after two hours walking. Met Padre Smith there and we all walked back, were picked up by ambulance on way and taken back to Sutton Veny. Went to church 5.30pm.

19th April

Easter Saturday. Beautiful sunny day on duty all day, Ward 13.

20th April

On duty until 1pm, Ward 19 and then went to YMCA for church 5.30pm. Sister Tyson died this evening 9pm.

21st April

Had day off. In afternoon Sister Morton and I walked to Sutton Veny churchyard and had a look at the Aussie's corner there.

Met there Sergeant Spike and Private Milne and Private Lewis they were also visiting the graves.

Private Lewis of Sydney, Sister Morton knew so he walked on to Heytesbury with us through several villages of thatched cottages.

Had tea at Heytesbury and then home by another road by 6pm.

22nd April

On duty until 1pm.

After dinner Miss Godfrey walked to Warminster by the back track about two miles; primroses and violets all in bloom. Did shopping at Warminster and came home for tea!

23rd April

On duty all day Ward 13.

Sister Tyson's funeral today.

Saw it pass by ward window, a large funeral with soldiers, sisters and _? walking behind, very sad sight.

24th April

Off duty 1pm. Miss Godfrey, Morton and I left by motor car 3pm to visit the Marquis of Baths mansion at Longleat arrived there 3.30pm. Walked through the lovely park to home for ½ hour passing number of deer, sheep, lambs, number of wild duck.

On arrival met by one of ladies of household who showed us over house. The furniture was all of the Elizabethan period.

The mansion was built in 1516 for Sir W Thynne. The rooms very spacious, ceilings painted and oak panel walls carved.

Many valuable paintings of kings and queens.

The present marquis loaned part of house for hospital during early part of war.

25th April

ANZAC Day

Troops and sisters, as many as could attended church parade 9am at YMCA and immediately afterwards some of us

with patients, orderlies and padres walked to churchyard Sutton Veny, an ambulance coming behind gathering flowers on stretchers that were put out by people on roadside to be gathered.

We placed flowers on all the graves in Aussie corner and some of German prisoners buried in another corner.

It was a pretty sight when we finished, all stood in line while the Last Post was fired.

26th April

Orders came through today for several of us to leave for London for non-military employment, Sisters Morehead, McRae, Oglethorpe, Robinson and myself. Very busy getting ready. Had lunch 12.30pm. Left Sutton Veny per ambulance for station Warminster and embarked for London. Had afternoon in train. Arrived London 4pm. Met an ambulance and asked driver to take us to headquarters to report and then got a bus to our new home, Cyril Mansion, Chelsea where we had a furnished flat. Sisters Morehead and McRae had gone on first so when the rest of us arrived a nice tea was ready. The flat had six rooms all furnished, every convenience and very comfortable. On Saturday

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night did shopping and then went to bed early.

27th April

First day in new home. Got up 9am, helped with breakfast and then unpacked. It poured with rain whole day. So we stayed inside.

28th April

Snow had fallen during night. Commenced non-military employment today, reported at Polytechnic College 10am, paid £5/5 entrance fee. The military paid ¾ fee £4/4 and then to St Georges Place and found out I was marked for Bristol but did not want to go there. Reported to DAAG and was struck off that roll. Had lunch army and navy store and look around shops. Got home for tea. Military allowing 6/- per day sustenance as well as military pay.

29th April

Got up 8.15am. Had breakfast. Left for college 9.30am. Commenced on laundry lessons, washed, ironed, after that dressmaking cutting etc. Left college 4.30pm for canteen to do shopping then got bus home, cooked steak and sausages, jam tart, coffee. Sat by fire after tea.

30th April

Up and cooked steak for breakfast 8am, college 9.30am. Had lesson in upholstering. Lunch at college. In afternoon cooking lesson. Home again 5.30pm.

1st May

May Day. Had lesson in cooking at college, morning. Stayed away

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afternoon and did shopping at Peter Jones, Chelsea. Came home and cooked tea.

2nd May

Millinery lesson at college morning, dressmaking afternoon.

3rd May

Day off from college. Went in to London to see Empire March of overseas troops. Went to Australia House, got up on roof and had fine view. The Canadians lead, then Australia, New Zealand, Newfoundland etc. This lasted two hours. The roof of Australia House was full so we came down and as the road was lined either side with troops they allowed us sisters to stand beside them and so get a closer view of procession.

4th May

From now until 15th no diary kept. Nothing of interest to note.

15th May

Had morning off from college. Went by train to Sloane Square and then tube to Westminster for funeral service of Edith Cavell at Westminster Abbey. We waited outside for 1½ hours and then got into the entrance hall of abbey. The abbey was crowded with people all holding special permits. Queen Alexandria, Princess Christian were present in the procession following after the cortege. The cortege was headed by the abbey choir, a general represented France and another Belgium. A wreath was placed on coffin from Queen Alexandria. It was a very sad sight and yet wonderful.

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16th May

Attended college am and dancing lesson afternoon at Chelsea.

17th May

In morning I left by bus (19) for Chelsea Town Hall and then changed for Victoria Station en route to Sanderstead, Surrey to pay a visit to Reverend Fawns late of All Saints Hobart and now rector here. Sanderstead is 35 miles from London.

Reverend Fawns was on station to meet me and took me home for lunch. His son, daughter and niece were there. We had lunch in summerhouse and afterwards went to tennis court. Had tea and left by 8.20pm train for London.

18th May Sunday

Sisters McRae, Morehead and I left home 11am for Hyde Park, walk through park passing Serpentine River and got on to the famous walk of Rotten Row and there watched the lords and ladies riding in Rotten Row and driving around park. Came home for lunch. In afternoon went to Albert Hall met an Australian officer who got us seats in the hall as it was crowded. Madam Melba, Tom Burke were singing, Miss Gordon and Mr St Seger accompanying. The singing was beautiful. Princesses Mary and Patricia were present in a box seat. Came home for tea. Had visitors, Mr and Mrs Sharp.

19th May

In morning went to kit store for some luggage and afternoon to college.

20th May

Had washing lesson at college, an afternoon sewing. In evening Captain Bowden from AIF headquarters came to dinner and spent evening.

21st May

At college until midday then went to Peter Jones for lunch afterwards got (22) bus for Piccadilly Circus and went to Lyric Theatre to see Romeo and Juliet. Doris Keane was Juliet and Mr Sydney, Romeo, Ellen Terry as nurse. The dressing and acting were beautiful. Had dinner at Piccadilly Circus café and then on to Palace Theatre to see Hulls America, Elsie Janis principal lady. This was spectacular only. Arrived home 11.30pm.

22nd May

At college morning and afternoon. In evening Private Horsefield and another Australian soldier came out for evening. Had some music and dancing and spent very nice time.

23rd May

Did cleaning of house.
Millinery lesson 11am.
Sewing and dancing in afternoon.

24th May

Empire Day.
Sisters McRae, Oglethorpe and I got up
6am, had breakfast and got bus (19) for
Sloane Square and changed at Liverpool Station
for Great Eastern Station and caught 8.30am
train for Cambridge. Met Miss Kempson,
principal of college at Chelsea.
Reached Cambridge 10.30am, had a
meal and then on to St John's College,
taken through college, dining rooms and walked
through grounds.

Here Bishop Selwyn preached.
He was first bishop to preach.
Next we went to Jesus College
noted for its beautiful stained glass
windows so mentioned in
Milton's Paradise Lost. This was the artist's, Bernie Jones, masterpiece.
This college was a convent in 1100.
Then over to Queen's College and Kings
College.
Left Cambridge 4pm, reached London
6.30pm. Went round to St Paul's Cathedral
to see procession of flags of the nation.

25th May Sunday

Sisters McRae, Morehead and self
left Chelsea 10am to meet Private Horsefield
and another soldier who were
taking us to Petticoat Lane for visit.
We got in a tube for Aldgate East
and then walked to Petticoat Lane.
This is a narrow thoroughfare crowded
to the utmost with all sorts conditions
of slum people.
With numbers of stalls on either side of
lane where was sold anything from a
needle to an anchor. They were calling
out in an endless babble of voices.
You are supposed to buy an article
at one end and for it to be missing when
you come out the other.

26th May

Went to AIF headquarters to get some
money.

27th May At college all day.

28th May

Went Colonel Bowden St George
Square re extension of our time.
Then on to Caxton Hall to hear

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst speak on Women's Suffrage. In evening Private Pascall, Private Horsefield and two other Aussie soldiers from headquarters, Senator Perce's office, came to Cyril Mansions to spend evening with us.

29th May

College in morning. Afternoon went to Commonwealth Bank _? Broad Street and claimed £16/16 sustenance allowance. In evening went to His Majesty's Theatre, Haymarket, to see Chu Chin Chow with Oscar Asche and Lily Bragton. It was a wonderful show for Eastern comic opera. All scenes of Eastern scenes, camels, Eastern men.

30th May

Left home 9am, met Sister Kemp and Sister Dennis, got bus and changed for Paddington Station, London where we got 10.15am train for Stratford-on-Avon. Reached Leamington 12.30pm and there changed reaching Stratford 1pm. Had dinner at Falcon Hotel afterwards went to Shottery, a village in centre of Stratford where we walked through long lanes of May hedges and beautiful fields finally reaching Ann Hatherway's cottage (of Shakespeare fame) a pretty low old fashioned cottage in a pretty garden of all old fashion flowers and shrubs. Went through house and saw her old bed with red plaited mattress and taper lights as used in those days. Also saw collection of old plates made of wood, metal and china. Afterwards walked on to Shakespeare's birth place where he lived until 18 years old. It is now an old museum.

Then on to Shakespeare's Memorial Church where he is buried situated on bank of River Avon. A short distance away is the memorial theatre where an anniversary is held each year of his birth. Saw the old school where he attended. Then we walked on to Marie Corellis' home in High Street. Could not go in as she lives there. An old stone house with creepers and flower boxes on window ledges in which pansies were growing. After this we went for an hours trip on River Avon in a motor boat and got a splendid view of the town. Then left by 8.20pm train for Birmingham reaching there 9pm. Stayed at Sister Kemp's aunt, Miss Connelly's home.

1st June Sunday

In Birmingham, went for tram ride through city in afternoon and then back to London by 6.20pm train arriving 7.30pm.

2nd June Attended college again today.

3rd June At college.

4th June

Stayed away from college, going to Derby. I left home 11am with Sister McRae, got (11) bus to Charing Cross from there by train to Epsom getting out at Tottenham Corner. The rain was falling steadily but with the crowd we had to move on to the racecourse. First race 1.20pm. The Derby to be at 3pm so by this time we managed to be pushed into a better position and with the aid of the London Police who noticing us in Aussie uniform

let us through the barricade which brought us in front of grandstand where the King, Queen, Prince Wales, Princess Mary and other members of royal family were seated. Had a fine view of them as well as seeing quite close the King's horse running second place in the Derby. A wonderful sight to see, all the costers dressed up with their pearlys riding in their carts and others pushing them. Plenty of gypsies on ground too. The bookies were making a great noise before the races. Epsom Downs Racecourse is 800 feet above sea level. We had afternoon tea with some Aussies and then got 4.30pm train to London and home 6.15pm at Battersea Chelsea.

5th June At college.

6th June At college all day.

7th June

At college all day. In evening the dancing mistress of college came to our flat and gave us a lesson. Three soldier friends also came along.

8th June

Going to Ireland today. Left the flat at 3pm, called at Cambridge Mansion for Sisters Kemp, Dennis and Miss Connelly of Manchester then got bus to Sloane Square, changed for Paddington Station and there got train for Fishguard, Wales 5pm. Passed

through Bath, Bristol, Cardiff, Llanelli, reached Fishguard 12 midnight and there got steamer across Irish Sea to Rosslyn. Passed Waterford and changed at Mallow for Killarney arriving there 12.30pm next day. Were met at station and taken to Graham's Hotel where a nice lunch was waiting. At 2.30pm we got into the hotel jaunting car and taken 10 miles to

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Lakes of Killarney. Passed Torc Mount overlooking the lake where Colleen Bawn was drowned to prevent her from marrying the heir to an estate. We then went on to Muckross Abbey built in 1540. Saw Diana's Cottage on border of a lake. Passed upper loch Glen Ayr and Eagle Mount on our return journey arriving 6.30pm. Took some snaps on way.

9th June Sunday

Left Glebe Hotel at 10am by jaunting car for Killarney Lakes (28) in party of Australians, Canadians, United States soldiers and sisters. We drove for ten miles to Kate Kearney's cottage and there each of us was given a horse to mount, all sorts and condition, from there we rode seven miles over the mountains and through Gap of Dunloe which is other side of Torc Mountain. Here and there old Irish women came running after us with their Mountain Dew (goat's milk and whiskey) in a beer bottle and several glasses in a basket and followed us until they tired. Then going through Gap of Dunloe an old Irishman sounded a bugle for us to hear the echo in the mountains around. The rain was falling heavily by this time but we had to keep on at last we reached that part of lakes where rowing boats were waiting for us with lunch baskets from the hotel.

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The rain having ceased we sat and ate sandwiches with lemonade. Then got into the boats and rowed by an old Irishman in and out the different lakes for 16 miles. The scenery was a beautiful green and quite worthy of its name "Emerald Isle." Got out of boats and visited Ross Castle an ancient ruin then back in boats through "Wishing Bridge" where had to

dip our right hand in the water and rub it
on our gums by so doing we are
supposed never to get toothache.
Shortly after we got out
of boats and met jaunting cars again
and drove back to hotel for dinner.
After dinner in evening
two of boys came with us to visit
some of the Irish houses in the
lanes of High Street, Killarney.
Saw pigs in corner of kitchen in
some places. All had large open
fireplaces with peat burning.

10th June

Left Globe Hotel at 10am for a
drive around Killarney and Lord
Kenmare's estate on shores of a lake.
The original house was destroyed by fire
1913. The present mansion has
170 rooms and is surrounded
by beautiful parks.
Then visited St Mary's Cathedral
and saw the stained glass window
Lord Kenmare gave as a thanksgiving
for his only daughter recovery
from a severe illness. Next visited

a convent where lace is made. Saw
the girls making limerick lace on
their looms and by hand. We then visited a small cottage down a lane where Mrs
Dillon made beautiful lace and had a fine display. The house is not far
from the International Hotel.
Took snaps in High Street of number of Irish children
who would follow us also on donkey
carts. The women seemed very shrewd
and asked us fabulous prices in their shops.

11th June

Left Glebe Hotel, Killarney 9.20am
reached Mallow 11.30am and there got
tickets for Blarney 1/8, reached Blarney
midday walked down a country lane
to Smith's Hotel, Blarney had lunch.
Afterwards walking across railway station
then up a grove of
five trees to Blarney Castle had
to walk up 108 steps to top where
Blarney stone is. Several American
and Aussie soldiers were there altogether
(18) in party. One after another we
kissed the stone, the boys holding
our legs and so keeping us from falling
to bottom of castle.
The Blarney stone is 120 feet high
and seems to project a little from top row
of stone in castle. Legend says
an Irishwoman told the son of

the owner of castle who was in trouble
at the time to get to top of castle and kiss
the projective stone and he would have
good luck for rest of his days
which was the case for rest of his days.

Left Blarney 5pm by steam train for Cork
Arrived Mallow 6pm, 11d fare. Passed
stations Banter, Lombardstown, Meourne Abbey.
The steam train runs through the street in Cork for about two miles.
On arrival in Cork we hired a jaunting car
to drive to Shandon Church (Protestant)
noted for peel of bells 170 years old.
The bell ringer played several tunes
on bells for us including Abide With Me,
Lead Kindly Light, also some poems
by Moore. The music was so clear
that one could follow each line.
A Roman Catholic priest composed a poem on the
church bells and he is buried there now.
Afterward had dinner and left by 8pm.

12th June

Train for Rosslare arriving midnight had to
wait 20 minutes at Waterford. Had some
Sinn Feinners on train from Cork.
They were shouting and going on in an
awful way walking up and down the corridor
carriages. Left Rosslare 12.30am by boat
for Fishgard arriving 5.20am. The boat
was crowded, no berths to be had so we
sat on floor and anywhere for rest.
Got train from Fishguard 6am for London
reaching there 12.15pm.

13th June

Spent day at college.

14th June

Sisters Kemp, Dennis, McRae and myself
left for Henley today. Got 6.40pm train from
Paddington, passed stations of Redding, Slough,
Maidenhead, arrived Henley 7.40pm.
Took bus to Temperance Hotel. Had tea
then went for a walk into the woods.

Coming back by waters edge had a
look at boats and racing boxes; house
boats getting ready for Henley-On-Thames
regatta.

15th June

The four of us left by ferry steamer
9am for Oxford. Had lunch at Wallingford.
Passed through many loch gates also through
Durham and Clifton Maple.
Spent all day on River Thames. The

scenery was beautiful about here.
Reached Oxford 7.30pm. Stayed at
Three Feathers Hotel.

16th June

Up early and out into town met an Aussie
who took us around Oxford.
Then went on to colleges. First
All Souls College of Fellows (no students here).
On entering saw a large sundial by
Sir Christopher Wren famous
architect of St Paul's Cathedral
and then into the chapel. The whole
front of chancel wall covered with
saints carved in stone in memory
of Battle Agincourt. These figures were
covered in plaster in time of Cromwell,
lost sight of, discovered again in 1870.
The chapel is 500 years old. Has a
statue of Sir W Hanson who coached
present Prince of Wales.
This college has 120,000 books in library
including first translated English Bible
1535 by Miles Coverdale. Also two other
Bibles printed in Rome 1592 by Vulgate.
Has Wren's original plan of St Paul's,
Milton's original Paradise Lost.

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Saw statue to Sir Blackstone great law
master. Field Marshalls Haig and Beatty
were entertained here.
Billy Hughes got his degree here.
Visited dining room, has a large painting
of portrait of Bishop Heber writer of hymn,
Greenlands Icy Mountains.
Another of Max Muller greatest authority
on languages in England.
Then went to Lady Murray's home
(my cousin Harriete's sister) but she was
away so were entertained to afternoon
tea by Miss Crocker, an American lady.
Left Oxford 7.40pm train arrived London
10.10pm.

17th June

In morning went to Australia House
re passport to Paris. Sister McRae and I
met Padre Smith and took us in the
electric train to Richmond and had look
at Richmond Castle of Henry VIII fame.
Also saw Charles Garvice's home.
Had tea and went on River Thames for row
for two hours as far as Twickenham.

18th, 19th & 20th June

At college all day.

21st June

Sisters Kemp, Dennis and myself left for Torquay in Devon. Left Paddington 11.30am. Passing towns of Reading, Exeter and crossing rivers Exe and Tyne arrived Torquay 3.40pm. Stayed at terraces on side of hill, after tea went for train ride round circular route of Torquay then on train to

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Poynton and back home.

22nd June

Left for Oddicombe Beach by train, had lunch, walked to Babbicome and on to Austey's Cove. Returning at 2.30pm got coach for drive through Rocky Glen saw lovely house Roby Hall owned by Sir W Moss. Saw racecourse and came through Watcombe Glen, got a beautiful view of St Mary's Church, Maidencombe and Portland Bell near by. Good view of Dartmoor Hills and Princetown where prisoners are sent. Came through Teignmouth and Exmouth. Could see Shaldon on other side river, passed through gateway made of two jaw bones of a whale into Ringmore. Called at Combe Cellars for tea and back home via Coombeinteignhead and called at Stokeinteignhead. Arrived Torquay 6.30pm.

23 June

Left Torquay by train for Darmouth changed at Kingower and crossed by ferry boat to Dartmouth arriving midday. Went to see Dartmouth Castle, Petrox Church and cross near by. Had lunch and walked round township. Left for boat and train 5.40pm for Torquay arriving 6.45pm. Had tea there and left for London 10.15pm.

24th June

Arrived London this am. Very tired getting ready for France tomorrow.

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25th June

Sisters Kemp, Dennis and self left Battersea Park Chelsea 8am for 8.50am train at Victoria Station. Missed train so went RTO and he gave us permission to travel on troop train at 10.20am to Folkstone from there got packet steamer to Boulogne, France arriving early

next morning and from there got train to Paris arriving that evening. Drove to Windsor Hotel Rue De Petrograd feeling very tired. Had hot bath for which we each had to pay 2/6 then a meal and went to bed.

26th June

Left Windsor with party soldiers and sisters for tube (underground) from Europe to Opera and then changed for De Invalides arriving at Hotel des Invalides. This was used as home for soldiers for some time during the wars in reign of Louis XIV. One of main doors is made from guns from battlefield and key made of solid

gold. Louis XIV asked in his Will for his remains to be brought here among his beloved people. Curock and Bertrang were his comrades through his trouble. Napoleon Bonaparte is buried here, saw his tomb which is a huge sarcophagus of red granite standing on massive pedestal. Arranged all around this huge vault are statues of soldiers with rifles. The sarcophagus was a present from the Russian Government. Came back to hotel for dinner, then visited the Tower de Eiffel which is said to be a wonderful piece engineering work. Built by Frenchman Eiffel and is all iron and steel. The tower is 1,000 feet high and has a lift to take visitors to top of tower where a wonderful view of Paris is attained.

Passing from here had a look at joy ride train wheel which is a huge revolving wheel with some 20 to 30 carriages suspended all round.

Then went up in a cable elevated tram up a steep incline to see the Sacred Heart Church on top of hill.

Came home through Boulevard Clichy which runs through centre of Montmartre where the main dancing halls are. Life begins at 11pm there and finishes 6am.

Passed the home of Premier M. Poincare on way back to hotel for tea by metro underground from Gare St Lazare.

In evening went to Vaudeville
Folies Bergere, a typical French show.

27th June

In morning went by underground
to city. Visited Hotel De Ville (town hall),
pass through Eastern Boulevard,
saw the Derat Café where King Edward
is said to have visited a lot.
Also saw another famous dancing hall
where one is said to come out of street
(hell) into Heaven (inside here).

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Saw (opera house) Place de L'Opera
said to be finest building in Paris
cost 37 million Francs to build.
Then to Palace of Justice where Louis XIV
attended, said to have a very guilty conscience.
Bonaparte and Josephine also came here.
Passed Notre Dame then visited
St Garvais Church which was partly
destroyed by bomb during
present war.

We then went for tram ride through
Boulevard de Waterloo, along Avenue
Louise back by Boulevard De Regent
into Boulevard De Jardin Botanique
to Palace of Louvre. Built in 1527
foundation covers 50 acres of land.
Every king gave a new wing.
Tuileries Palace part of Louvre where
Marie Antoinette lived and other kings for
while.
The Louvre Art Gallery very famous
only when an artist has been dead 10 years
are his works put in Louvre.

Separate page attached to Page 43

Visited a hall built for the purpose
of a huge picture called
Pantheon de la Geurre
(History of the War)
It represented the chief
events that the nations had taken
part in by the English, French,
Belgium, Italy America, Serbia,
Russia, Romania etc.

There are 6,000 portraits
and it took 19 artists four years to
complete. To 375 feet in circumference,
some wonderful scenes as
French women praying at an altar,
number of Serbian refugees homeless.
The ruins of Rhums Cathedral in
Belgium, also all great men in war.

28th June

Left Hotel Windsor and met party at YMCA with guide got into a conveyance and drove to Place de la Concord (a square laid out to form star).

This was an open space until 1748 when Louis XIV had it made a square shortly afterwards the French revolution started. So after revolution was called by this name.

In this square is an obelisk, a gift from Egypt in 1840 said to be sister of Cleopatra's Needle in London. Also two beautiful fountains here, one dedicated to river and other to the sea. A fine statue of mourning to Lille.

Everywhere here there are numbers of guns of battlefields. Then came along avenue 1½ miles in length beautiful on either side and back to hotel for dinner.

Afternoon the party of us were taken round Paris starting in a conveyance from YMCA with a guide. Drove to Lunar Park, a very pretty spot with River Seine running through.

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Saw miniature railways workings then came along Avenue de l'Arivee three miles long (called Bottom Row of Paris) or else Millionaires Row. Here the fashionable people ride and drive on one side and fashionable people and mannequins on the other.

Saw another avenue near where artists have their models parading. Number of photographers about here.

Avenue du Bois de Boulogne has a railway station where the king and queen enter Paris or any notables from other lands. The station was built here on purpose so that they might see best part Paris on entering.

The Wood of Boulogne where chief races are held.

Came to Arc de Triomphe. Was planned by Napoleon and took 20 years to build. Inside has names of all places where Napoleon fought and statues representing war and peace.

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Victor Hugo lay here in state when he died. The whole arch was veiled in black.

Came back to hotel for tea. In evening went to opera house to see Madam Butterfly.

29th June

In morning party of us taken to Emperor Napoleons home Villa Malmaison.

Emperor Napoleon born 1769 in Corsica. Empress Josephine is said to have bought this home for a country residence. She died in 1814. A beautiful carved table there given by Venice on Napoleon's coronation day. The special dinner service, Napoleon's stretcher and watch that he used on St Helena all preserved here.

Also Josephines dressing room and letters she wrote to Napoleon.

Church of St Paul de Reuil near by where Empress Josephine is buried. Also Napoleon III. The organ in this church was given by Napoleon.

Came back to Hotel Windsor for lunch.

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After lunch party of us met at YMCA 1.15pm, went to station Gare de Metro for Waterloo. Passed Waterloo Station and got out at Braine-l'Alleud near old battlefield.

Battle of Waterloo 1815. The church near station Braine-l'Alleud used as hospital for the wounded. The church was set afire but stopped when came to feet of crucifix.

Saw Wellington's headquarters at Waterloo. Also Chateau of Aulgumore. Saw well where 300 English were buried, also where General Gauford was buried in orchard. Sergeant Cotton called "Hero of Waterloo" Macdonald was here also.

Colonel Gordon was mortally wounded. Prince of Orange was killed. A huge mound made at Waterloo to his memory from earth off battle field and on top has a huge lion made from guns off battlefield.

The mount is 200 feet high and cost £31,000. Road over battlefield 3½ miles long. A panorama of battle of Waterloo painted two years before this war.

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Walked back through village of Waterloo and got steam train back to Paris 5pm.

30th June

Sisters Kemp, Dennis and self left Paris for Brussels, Belgium (no notes).

Stayed at Hotel Bordeaux, Rue de Midi.

1st July

Left Hotel Bordeaux, Rue de Midi, Brussels 8am for YMCA and there party of soldiers and a guide from YMCA left with them for Antwerp, Belgium via Gare du Norde. 9.15am travelled in German train comfortably fitted with writing table large racks and cosy seats. Passed station Inverckium, Weerde, Malines (Michelin), Duffel, Dude Cod arrived Antwerp 10.55am.

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Went to YMCA at Antwerp for lunch. Had to go in a queue with boys and wait turn. Had roast meat, vegetables, salad, fruit salad, coffee, cost £2.75. This was best meal we had since leaving London. Then visited Notre Dame built in 13th century, was struck by German air raid during war. Has beautiful altar of marble and silver. Takes 16 men to pull toll of 40 chimes. Preaching font formed as carved tree with birds and angels on _? There are twelve small chapels around altar. Beautiful painting here of Rubens masterpiece of Jesus descending from the Cross. Went to Grand Palais, saw city hall, saw wedding hall where 100 weddings used to take place in morning. First Christian wedding was in 650. Saw reception hall which was used for conscription enrolling during war. Has most beautiful paintings on ceilings done by Rubens laying on his back. Rubens was born in Antwerp. Royal Palace was first building in town. Saw underground prisons used in time of Spanish Inquisition 15th century.

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Had to go down to cellars with candles, used to cut prisoners hands off and hang them up by legs and put them in irons with constant drip of cold water on their heads and suffocated others with sulphur. Antwerp was richest country in world before Spanish Inquisition. They have been ruled by Spanish, French, Dutch, German. Had 20,000 homes destroyed in present war. German flag removed from top of town hall on Armistice Day. Most of ruins of town cleared away now, walls built around same. River Sheldt divides Antwerp from Flanders.

Passed funeral procession in city. Horses had bunch black feathers on heads and gaily decorated with brass and silver ornaments. Visited art gallery, number of paintings of Russia by Van Dyck. He was Rubens' pupil.

Rembrandt's Paintings – Portrait of Lady, another of Old Man.

Painting by Frenchman of Cleopatra

giving poison to natives before giving it to herself.

Old Dutch painting of lady – the eyes seem to follow you around room.

Van Dyck's works of Little Red Boy and also one of Blue Girl; Christ being brought down from cross; wonderful expressing [sic] of Mary, also St John with tears in eyes.

Christ between two thieves a masterpiece by Rubens.

Rubens' wife and family by himself.

Beautiful picture of Lady Godiva of Coventry by Nan Jervis.

Several artists at work here copying famous pictures.

Came back to Hotel Bordeaux for tea.

In evening went to see French opera, party of us taken to theatre box.

2nd July

Left Hotel Bordeaux in Rue de Midi,

Brussels 7am for YMCA in Rue

Verve and there joined party of Americans,

British and Belgium soldiers (numbering 20 in all) and only Sister Kemp, Dennis and myself Australian.

Then started for Gare du Nord Station

for Bruges, Belgium leaving 8.40am.

On the journey saw four railway bridges mostly at junctions blown up.

Stopped at Ghent some time. This railway station was blown up during the war, and since rebuilt. All the surrounding houses are in ruins.

Another station Dranger was in ruin.

Arrived Bruges 10.30am, went to hotel, left luggage and then down to submarine base at head of the canal at Bruges.

Zeebrugge seaport of Bruges at entrance of North Sea.

The base was started in 1914 by Germans and was main base of operation, was blocked 1918.

The world did not know until 1916 that Germans had a base here.

The Germans in occupation

at this time had commenced building

three or four more bases. They had already built eight sheds of concrete, the

walls were seven feet thick. These were the receiving sheds for submarines. In front of these was a large dry dock. The sheds were also a safe guard for submarines against air-raids. Sometimes these submarines would be away weeks at time scouting around. There were acres of concrete used. A number of British vessels captured by the Germans during the war were sunk here by the Germans before they left.

Saw two ruins of vessels at sub base Bruges which were German mine layers. Had large floating dry dock here as well. Went on a large submarine the end of which was blown off, also saw many other wrecks about. Nearby is a large concrete fuel shed heavily protected with concrete and banked with earth. The chief point was to hide it from observation to air raiders and had tunnel for the workers to go to and from without being seen. The public were only allowed to these parts on special permit. From the base we went to see old studio built 1634 of famous painter Rubens. Passing through ruin of old city gate and there got train to studio, took some snaps and had cup tea there. Then visited a lace makers. Saw Brussels lace being made on the looms. Had our dinner here at café. Afterwards went to public hall to see some famous lace. This lace is valued at 160,000 Francs and another piece 200,000F. It took 15 years at four hours per day to make. Now visited nearby church of Holy Blood built 11th century, has cobblestone floor and altar shaped as globe of world representing the scope of Christianity. Climbed 300 steps to tower to see bells ringing.

Have some famous pictures by Van Eyck here. Then went on to visit barracks and saw spot where Captain Fryatt was shot with 39 Belgians, shot one after another. They were here in confinement some time beforehand. Captain Fryatt was in command of a merchant ship *SS Brussels*. He acted as a spy giving information to British. Had tea in Bruges and got 8.40pm train to Blankenberge 9.35pm.

3rd July

Stayed here for night at Grand Hotel, du Littoral in Rue Haute.

Got up 7am had breakfast and walked along North Sea shores at Blankenberge.

The houses along here were mostly ruins others with all glass blown from windows and iron railings on verandahs and any other metal all cut away by the Germans for use in making ammunition.

Passed eleven large guns set in cement basements, also huge water tank that had been bombed by British aeroplanes.

Submarines could leave here merged run along canal nine kilometres and came out at submarine base. Came to the canal where it was blocked by the three vessels

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of British navy, *Thetas*, *Intrepid*, *Iphigenia*.

The *Thetas* was in lead but missed canal.

Wreck now in sight nearby. *Intrepid* second, *Iphigenia* third, all were sunk. The *Squires* and *Brilliant* tried to get in but missed the channel at Ostend. There were 280 casualties known from these ships.

Could see part wreck, funnels only, of Captain Fryatt's ship, *SS Brussels*. Divers were busy at work bringing up and locating sunken debris.

The coast line here had barbed wire entanglements as far as we could see. The British during this invasion had smoke screen all along coast as a camouflage in order to draw Germans to this spot.

Then walked down beach to the mole at Zeebrugge (Port of Bruges) and protection to the canal. A railroad runs onto end of mole built by Belgians in 1896.

This is said to be the greatest single exploit of the navy during the war.

The British considered it impossible to fire on account of it being the heaviest coastal fortifications in the world, being a meshwork of guns over whole area of land on seashore.

Sir R Keys advised the admiralty it could be done and the British warship had dummy trawlers to practice with to see how it was possible.

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On night of April 23rd 1918 the British airmen came over in a body and bombed for two hours, 12 midnight until 2am.

At a given signal the battleships fired. Captain Carpenter of the *Vindictive* got up

to mole in midst of firing. At same time the British submarine C4 in command of Lieutenant Commander Sandford, came in opposite direction. The submarine being loaded with 10,000 kg of dynamite. The sub exploded and blew up bridge cutting off mole from land.

Large blocks of cement are now standing out of water where sub entered.

The Germans were on guard here at the time but thought it was one of their own subs that had lost its way along the mole.

The men that landed after this were taken prisoners by the Germans but were treated well on account of their wonderful feat.

On April 25th the Kaiser came to prison to compliment them on their feat. The Germans always sent their prisoners to this spot to be killed as it was always heavily bombed by the British. Mines were thickly laid in this part also.

Then took street car direct to Osland, had dinner at

Denis Hotel and afterwards on to see the battleship *Vindictive* (which also took part in the Battle of Jutland).

This ship was loaded with cement and began to sink too far out so the steering gear was set and tied for direction of wharf in sight of Osland. Then all the crew got off in boats and she came in herself being nearly in halves. (May 7th 1918).

It is proposed to loosen the cement and get the ship to England eventually.

The British have lease of mole and canal for 10 years.

We now walked along beach to Kursell de Osland (The Casino).

Before the war this was one of show places of world. All the lavish brass decoration, lamps, brass stair rails were taken and used for making ammunition by the Germans.

The Germans used this building as the headquarters. The gambling room is a magnificent hall.

Walked little farther on to the King's Palace left Osland 5pm with party, see below, for Bruges, arrived 5.35pm, went on canal in boat passing along rows of houses on canal sides.

Left Bruges 5.55pm for Roulers, passed railway station (in ruin) of Tophen and Ler. Arrived Roulers 8pm.

Only Sisters Kemp, Dennis, Sergeant Garfield and Sergeant Henderson (and Canadian) came on.

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Station in ruins. Went to Hotel de l'Yser not far from station. The party of us stayed here for night. After dinner we walked around ruins of town, which was a total wreck. The hotel we stayed in was very damaged by shells and many of rooms were blown out. The room Sister Kemp, Dennis and myself slept in had large hole through roof. The wardrobe had front blown out. The lady of hotel gave each of us a piece of shell that had been picked up in rooms. There only seemed to be about 50 families in residence in whole town.

4th July

We all got up at 4am. Getting 5.40am train to Ypres. Fare 50c. Passed station Moorslide, Git arriving 8.40am. Railway station in ruins. The country all around dreadfully devastated, shell holes everywhere. Passed numbers heavy artillery guns. Many tanks and lots of barbed wire entanglements with solitary graves dotted here and there, in most cases a hat or kit bag put on stick over the grave.

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Arrived Ypres 6.35am. Only few poles standing of the original station. The present station was built lately. Everywhere was lifeless, all trees dead around, remains of churches with crucifixes standing unharmed. In March 1915 B_? shelled this town day and night for three days. Out of population of 200,000 not one house was standing. The people that could fled from their homes and later returned but could not even find spot where their house stood. We walked through ruins and then on to Menin Road leading to battlefields. Passed many huge tanks standing on battlefield. Then came to a large cemetery where many AIF are buried, noticed these few names as I passed. Lieutenant Murewsen

25th Battalion AIF, Killed in Action
1533 Driver Flanagan
19th Battalion AIF, Killed in Action
Captain FL Moore
5th Battalion AIF
2761 Sig R Patterson
36th Battalion AIF
19327 Gun JM McRoberts
7th FAB, 3rd Div AIF

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walking on saw fingerpost marked:
To Thenin, Potijze, St Jean,
Zillebeke. About here a number
of German prisoners were working
clearing battlefields, any amount
shell cases and mills [military?] bowls lying about.
A British sergeant in charge warned us not
to pick up any bombs or shells etc on
account of explosion. The sergeant then
gave me mills bomb No. (4), unloaded egg bomb,
and German water bottle.
I found in truck little farther on
German tin helmet, British
tin helmet.
Picked up several shell cases.
Passing graves scattered about
all along road.
Walked on for two hours, passing
number guns, tanks, machine guns some in trenches.
Number of German prisoners picking
up shells and clearing guns onto
road. Then came to another large
cemetery fast being filled.
Came to a sergeant's dugout nearby.
Sergeant noticing us coming called
out and invited us in for cup of tea
which we need by this time and
enjoyed very much, especially the ham
sandwiches. We were then

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directed to go and see a number of
abandoned tanks, eight close
together. Up to recently
the sergeant told us there were 17 on
this spot. Getting over to a tank
I saw a human foot half out
of a boot in a shell hole, also a
horses leg. By this time each
of us had picked up that many
souvenirs that we hardly knew
how to carry them back home.
I managed to hang on to mine.
Got back to Ypres railway station
11am and caught train for Roeselare
11.30am leaving there 1.55pm for Bruges
arriving 3.5pm leaving in quarter of hour for
Ghent (Gand) arriving there 4.25pm.

Fare F1.35 and waited for train Brussels.
It was in Ghent that the British and
Americans met to sign peace treaty
in 1814.

Arrived Brussels 5.35pm. Sisters Kemp, Dennis and self
(men to YMCA) went to Hotel Bordeaux in Rue de Midi
had a meal, hot bath and to bed tired out.

5th July

We got up 7am went to YMCA and
met Sergeants Herndon and Garfield and then
on to Garde Nord got 9.40 train
for Germany. Paid F3.20 to Horden
only of Belgium and Germany. On German territory
all British people travel free.
Passed stations Canterbury, Herne,

Tiriemont, Corbeck. Came to junction
of Louvain Station all smashed up.
Beautiful flat country all along here
passing stations Landen, Warene.
Had to change into German carriages here.
Passed Remicourt. Saw beautiful
fields of clover being tied into sheaves.
Arrived Aus midday.
Stopped at Liege, a fine station not damaged at all.
I had lunch brought to train.
The country about Liege is more hilly
saw number mines in parts.
Passed over River Meuse
Now on border of German and Belgium
at Welkindeidt and Pepinster. Came to
Herbesthal. First town in
Germany Aix-la-Chapelle [Aachen] large town.
Passed stations Stolberger hof,
Eschweiler, Duren – a lot of British
soldiers on guard here.
Arrived Cologne 3.45pm, a very fine
station here with wash-hand basins
in centre of station. We had to be
very careful here as the British were
in occupation and if we were recognised
as other than Americans or French would
be escorted back to London.
The men of our party were alright
as they were in occupation at Cobleny,
so we sisters covered our decorations and
all went for walk in city.

Saw Cologne Cathedral, came through
principal street. It seemed a
very large city, well laid out.
Left again 5.15pm, seemed to go through miles
of railway workshop and station.
Passed station Kalscheuren, Bruhl,
Zechstein, Rossdorf. Passing through

beautiful country from Cologne every inch seems to be cultivated, saw potatoes, beet, broad beans, French beans, cabbage, also cherries, gooseberries, red currants and apple trees. Even the corners of railway stations had cherry trees growing. Came to Bonn a large city. Number of universities here. Now passed stations of Godesberg, Mehlem, Rolaudae, Oberwinter, Remagen, Sinzig, Niederberg, Brohl, Andernach, Weissenthurm, _? Saw lots of vineyards on side of hills. Arrived Cobleny 8.15pm. Walked through street to American YMCA. Had lovely meal costing 2 Marks 50, 1/- then the sergeants took us American billeting officer who gave us an order to stay at Park Hotel, Kaiser Wilhelm Street. The sergeants taking us there. The Germans were cool to us, would not let us have hot bath or hot water. Put our shoes out to be cleaned and they put them back dirty. The bed was peculiar – very little padding but it was custom to sleep between two mattresses.

6th July

Left Park Hotel 9am, met Sergeants Herndon and Horefor went to YMCA then on to suburb of Arenberg to visit church there, has wonderful altar with carved figures displaying the twelve stages of the cross. Then walked over pontoon bridge to large fort overlooking the point where River Rhine and River Mosel meet.

Went back to YMCA had lunch afterwards walking along banks of Rhine and went for trip up Rhine in motor boat. Then got a train to _? to see Mendelssohn's home.

Passed large school where boys were being drilled.

Had afternoon and ice cream at café here.

Came back to Cobleny and visited the Kaiser's Palace here which only has a caretaker now.

The rooms were furnished beautifully went all through the Kaiser's apartment.

Had many presents from different countries. Some were valuable vases from Rothschild, America; Inlaid table from Emperor of Russia; Ivory card table 200 years old from King of Italy;

The Koran from Shah of Persia;

Marble figure from Pope of Rome;

Photographs of each member of English Royal family covering whole side

Part of YMCA is on lawn of ex Kaiser's Palace.

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of one wall from Queen Victoria and Prince Albert.

Saw ballroom, Chapel of Emperor William (sat in his chair).

The Americans in command on Rhine.

Have a service in this chapel every Sunday.

They also use the royal stables for their horses.

We then went to the ferry and got

on a ferry steamer going down the Rhine

as far Vallendar landed for while

and had a ride on roundabout on the

beach then back on boat again for

Cobleny. Had to say goodbye to sergeants

as on duty on Rhine.

7th July

Left Park Hotel, they asked us there in French if we could speak English, in Kaiser Wilhelm Street 7.30am. Had breakfast at cafeteria and then to station and got on military [train] 9am going to Cologne. Arriving there 12.20pm had lunch and walk around city left again 2.15pm for Brussels on special military train which did cost us nothing. From Liege our train was pulled by one engine and pushed behind by two others. Arrived Brussels 8.50pm, went to Hotel Bordeaux, stayed night.

8th July

Left Hotel Bordeaux 6.45pm and got train to Lille. Passed stations Halle, Edingen, Enggraie, Leuze, Tournai, Blandain, Baisieux, Ascq. Arrived Lille 11.45am had two hours to wait here so walked around town. The town itself not much damaged. Left again by train 2.30pm.

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Passed stations from Lille:

Le-Madeleine, St Andre in ruin.

Country smashed very badly here.

Houses a mass of ruin.

Arrived at Armentieres all a dreadful

ruin here and for miles along

scarcely a house standing.

In many cases families seem to

be living in a shed or in whatever

part of their house that is standing.

Very often one room.

Huge shell holes every few yards.

In places I noticed the French people clearing the ruins on their part and trying to fill in the holes and others digging up a patch. Graves scattered everywhere even outside doors of ruins where people were living. In parts saw numbers Chinamen, Indians, French, Colonials, Germans with British in charge filling up shell holes and clearing the debris. Nearing station of Steenwerck several graves with (3) tin hats on a stick here. Still ruins, passing ruins at Bailluel Strazeele. Getting away from the battlefield now at Hazebrouck Ebblinghem, St Omer, Rummiingham, arriving Calais
7pm. Had to wait here for train.
10pm for Port De Cologne were carried on there to Abbeville passed Etaples.

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Got off train 1.30am and had to wait in cold and rain until 3.30am for Boulogne arriving there 6.35am. Had breakfast at Louvre Hotel and left by boat 9.30am across English Channel arriving Dover 12 midday and got train 1.15pm from there to Victoria Station, London arriving 3.30pm.

9th July

Went to kit store to pack souvenirs away in luggage.

10th July

Came in to headquarters for more pay and extra leave.

11th July

Getting ready for trip to Scotland tonight. Left Euston Station 9.35pm for Scotland (travelling all night). Passed _? arriving Glasgow 8am.

12 July

Got train 8.10am to connect with steamer to Loch Lomond. Steamer waiting there for train passengers. Stopped at Tarbet for passengers. Got off at Inversnaid and walked to Rob Roy's cave through a track of ferns (mostly bracken) and oak trees. Came back and visited Inversnaid Falls, took snaps with some Americans there. Had lunch at Inversnaid Hostel 1pm. Left hotel by tourist brake 2pm for Loch Katrine. Passed on way the birthplace of Rob Roy's wife, drove to Stronachlachar

met steamer at Trossachs Pier for trip to Aberfoyle. Beautiful scenery all way came back to Trossachs Pier and on to hotel

for tea and left afterwards by brake for Callenden. Left there 6pm for Glasgow changing at Labert, had tea here with two Australian soldiers travelling in train with us. Stayed for ½ hour and reached Glasgow 10.10pm. Got off at Charing Cross Street. Went on to Nurses Club, 10 Claremont Terrace, Woodside Crescent of Sauchiehall Street (where we stayed before).

13 July Sunday

Sister Kemp, Dennis and myself paid a visit to the home to one [of] our troops we knew in Salonica, Staff Sergeant Ewing. Had a talk and stayed dinner and then he took us to Rouken Glen [Park], a very pretty park about ¾ hours run in train. Came back to Glasgow for tea. Sister Kemp and Dennis then left by train 9.10pm for London as their leave was up and I had extra time so I went back to Nurses Club for night, going to Edinburgh in morning.

14th July

Got up had breakfast and went to station for 8.40am train to Edinburgh. Passing Holytown arrived Edinburgh 10am Princess Street Station and then went to King's Stable Road to see friend but not at home so went on to Princess Street, got No. (1) train to High Street. Walked down this very old street to John Knox's house built in 1490 and still has some of the original decorations and furniture. He died in this house 1572.

I then walked down High Street through the old cannongate which divides old Edinburgh from the new. In this part the friends and relations of Mary Queen of Scots lived. I then reached Holyrood Palace at end of street, saw some tourists walking round with guide of palace so went in and joined them. Saw Queen Mary's apartments also Lord Darnley (her husband) apartments. Also throne of Duchess of Hamilton. In Queen Mary's saw a beautifully worked old roud basket which was used when the royal children were born. They carried the child in this to the Ministers to prove they were born of royal parentage.

Then went to spot where David Rizzio was found murdered near Queen Mary's bed chamber. After this one of ladies of party asked me to be her guest at dinner. So we walked up High Street to leading café of Crawford's on Princess Street. Had dinner and afterwards we visited St Giles Church then on to Edinburgh Castle (this being my second visit here) where we joined up with party of tourists and guide of the castle. The first person I noticed looking at me was a soldier. I recognised him as Mr W Winterson of Hobart. He was alone so after this tour of castle we went down Princess Street to Bruce monument and climbed up some 200 steps to top. The lady did not come as she was going back to Glasgow.

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Had a splendid view of Edinburgh. Now walked on to botanical garden to see wonderful old clock on the ground arranged as floral bed with huge hands hollow and filled with bright flowers all growing. The clock is worked by electricity and keeps correct time. We then got train and motor bus for zoo. Saw lots of polar bears swimming in water, number of penguins and all sorts animals. Came back to Edinburgh for tea and later on to Waverley Railway Street where I left for London 9.45pm travelling all night. Mr Winterson staying in Edinburgh some time, changed at Carlyle for London.

15th July

Arrived Euston Station from Edinburgh 8.30am. Went home to Cyril Mansion Chelsea, had breakfast, wash etc and tidied up luggage. In afternoon went to headquarters DAAS office London and asked for one month's leave without pay, was granted.

16th July

Went to see Cousin Harriette at Tooting Bec Road and we both went to London. Got 44 bus to Kensington did some shopping and afterwards I came back to Chelsea.

17th July

Left Chelsea 9am met Sister Kemp and went to Paddington Station for 10am train

to Windsor arriving there 11.30am. Went to Windsor Castle gates and there met Miss Nicholson of Alexandria Street, Windsor who had a party of soldiers 50 in all waiting for us so we joined them and visited castle. First saw state apartments and then picture gallery portraits by famous artists. Beautiful furniture and tapestries in rooms. Then went up tower of castle and got fine view of Windsor and Eton Colleges. Saw old curfew bell in tower and prison both used in past centuries. We then went to township of Windsor had lunch and afterwards walked through township in country and along banks of Thames a fair way where we had to meet an excursion boat at 2.30pm. Had tea on board, came on to Slough and there met train for London.

18th July

I went out to Cousin Harriette at Balham train and we both came in by train to Victoria Station and from there walked up Buckingham Palace Road to see decorations for tomorrow (Peace Day). Came to stand where king is to take salute. This is commencement of Louis' row of white pillars up to Buckingham Palace with wreath of laurel hanging on them. Came to Victoria memorial near palace and then to Amirality [sic] into mall and along Oxford Street. All along this route the flags and decorations were wonderful. Saw Queen Alexandria and Queen Mary drive down

Oxford Street, also a march of officers and sailors from HM battleships *Elizabeth, Lion, Tiger*. A great crowd in streets, after a tussle managed to get home 8pm.

19th July

Peace Day. Sister McRae and I left Chelsea 8.30am, had a fight through crowds to get a bus, but could not manage it so came back, got train to Battersea Park and electric train to Victoria by 9am. After being pushed along with the crowd managed to stop in a good position near Victoria Street in front row. Had a fine view of the procession of all nations taking part in war. The procession was in alphabetical order commencing with Americans

headed by General Pershing, then large number of British navy headed by Admiral Beatty, Belgium, Canadian, French headed with March Foch, Greeks, Indians, Italians, Poles, Rumanians, Serbs.
It was a wonderful sight.
Had lunch in city then on to Hyde Park to see display of old English dancing. Tried to get home after this but got jammed in the enormous crowd in street that it took 3½ hours to get back home to Chelsea.
There were wonderful illumination and fireworks displays all evening.

20th July Sunday

Spent day at Balham with Cousins Tom and Harriette, Mr Roberts.

21st July

Busy packing up at our flat, Cyril Mansions, Chelsea.

22nd July

Finished packing and took luggage to kit stores in taxi and then on to Euston Station, got train to Pinner 5pm arriving 6.30pm and stayed the night.

23rd July

At Zetlands, Pinner – see note on Pinner church. Went to village to do some shopping for Cousin Kate in morning. Stayed home with cousins Eunice and May all afternoon.

24th July

Left Pinner with Kate for 10.30am train to London. Did some shopping and Kate had to return home. So I had lunch and then went Playhouse Theatre to see The Naughty Wife with Gladys Cooper as wife and Charles Hawtrey as husband. It was splendid. I had tea at Lyon's Corner house and went on to the Drury Lane Theatre and saw a light opera Madam Augots Daughter. The dresses were startling, afterwards went to Nurses Club, Eburg Street for night.

25th July

In morning an English Sister Stanfield and myself went by Baker Street underground to Madame Tussauds Waxworks. This is a wonderful show. Has a figure of every notorious and famous person known including royalty.

Had lunch and then walked on to London Zoo. Had a ride on camel and elephant. Spent two hours looking around the wonderful collection.

In evening we went to Covent Garden Royal Opera to see Faust played in French with Madam Melba as Margeurite and Signor Martinellai, an Italian, as leading man.

The staging and dressing was magnificent, stayed at Nurses Club for night.

26th July

Leaving Nurses Club today.

In morning went with some nurses from club to Buckingham Palace to witness an investiture in the courtyard. We had special permit to enter.

About three hundred people were present when we arrived, but being in uniform the gentleman in charge took us to a seat near front of dais where the king was standing.

Had a splendid [view] of king and of the hundreds he invested. Some were knighted, several

Victoria Crosses presented as well as other orders.

In afternoon went with Scotch Sister Alexander to Empire Theatre to see Lilae Damins with C Butterworth leading lady, Ivy Schilling dancing.

Went out to tea at Cousin Harriette's, Mrs Robert,

Balham to stay with them until I leave England.

27th July Sunday

At Torting Bec Road, Balham.

Don Lindley from Tasmania came out to spend day. Had some music in afternoon and evening a very enjoyable time.

Don left again midday for his home in Clapham.

28th July

Went in Commonwealth

Bank, Strand in afternoon and came home for tea.

29th July

Left Balham 8.30am for Paddington Street Station, missed 10.45am train to Stow-On-Wold, Gloucestershire, had to wait for train

1.40pm. Changed at Kingham waited one hour and then on to Stow-On-Wold about 20 minutes from

Kingham arriving 5.30pm. Fare 7/4½.
I was met by an old relation,
cousin Harwood (only descendant left in
Gloucestershire) who drove me to her
home at Party Street, Stow where she lives
alone in a little cottage called Lime Tree
Cottage. Her husband is dead, he was
Grandpa Pitman's sister Mary's son.
We walked around villages at Stow after
tea. This village was a battlefield during
Charles I reign, saw house where
Charles I ruined the battle from,
then we walked on passed the house of
squire of village

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and through an old monastery to the
village well where all the inhabitants
had to draw their water for daily use
until a few years ago when the pipe
system was introduced. Came back
through village square talked to some
old people of Stow who remembered
well my people there. Saw the old
Queens Head & Lion's Inn where my
grandfather and ancestors had often
been. Near by is a small square
with the "stocks" where people were
punished in the open
then walked on to part near
the road to Gainsborough and the Swell
[where] my relatives cousin, Sarah,
had lived. Walked on through Stow
to Maugesbury and saw the crescent shaped
house where King Charles I had lived
during part of war, where he could get
fine view of battlefield and saw the finish.
Came on past Maugesbury Manor House
over fields to Enoch's Tower.

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Saw large infirmary, came
around Parsons Corner to old
well and horsepool passing old
rectory and bank and a new hall
(St Edwards) and then through village
home.

30th July

Went to Park Street in morning
bought some post cards of Stow at bookshop
kept by Mr Hooley. He also sold me
a book which mentioned several of
my relations there. Mr Hooley told
me I ought to go and look
up old records at police station where
they are at present kept. I then met
Cousin Harwood and we walked up
Part Street into Digberth Street through town

down High Street into Moreton-in-Marsh on Moreton Road on way to Gainsborough and Swell Roads, took a snap of house where my grandfather had lived. Walked along Moreton Road to Donnington where we visited old lady Mrs Hathaway aged 100 years. Talked to her and took snap of her and her home,

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she was most pleased. She used to read the daily papers and had a good memory. Could remember well the Pitman's family and my grandfather Charles. Afterwards we walked along Donnington Lane to Gainsborough house where my grandfather's people the Pitmans had lived, asked the people living there if I might look inside which was very old fashioned having beautiful carved mantelpiece. This house has a bust of Shakespeare over door partly hidden with the ivy that is thick over front of the house. Some distance away down Gainsborough Lane is a house called today Pitman's Villa. This was originally the lodge to Gainsborough House. This estate of Thomas Pitman was sold for £13,000 100 years ago and divided between the eleven children. My grandfather, Thomas Pitman, barrister, being one of them, Henry Pitman, clergyman. The people living there invited me to come and see them but I had no time. Walking on down Gainsborough Lane came to Donnington Mill and Brewery. Cousin Harwood knowing the people so we had a sample of the brew. Near by at bottom of hill is an ancient elm tree covered with carved names and signatures for generations. Saw several Pitman's names there so I put mine there

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also.
We now walked up road to Upper Swell where we went in the church and saw the tomb of Thomas Pitman which is in chancel of church and coffin is said to rest on silver sleepers. I read the inscription Thomas Pitman who departed this life March 13th 1800 age 57 years (strange to note my father died at same age). Then came out of churchyard to The Manor House which is the adjoining property at Upper Swell Stow-on-Wold also owned by my great grandfather who was "Lord of Manor"

there. I walked up the ancient path to the doorway and stood under the old crest now almost worn out. At the invitation of Mr Foster the gentleman living there and present owner went inside and walked up beautiful and ancient oak staircase, every rail and step polished beautifully, then into a room to see famous fireplace and mantelpiece all beautifully carved. The floor was polished oak and walls oak panelled. Then went little further on to see old Swell mill and across fields to pretty

bower of trees called the Nut Tree Walk where they say all the courting of Upper Swell was done. Walked over another field came out by the Bowel Farm noted for its model dairy and through a park and crossed the River Dikler and came to two pretty cottages all ivy covered. One of these lives Mr and Mrs Esley, friend Cousin Harwood. They invited us to tea and afterwards took me to Lower Swell and into the churchyard at the church where Annie Pitman is buried. Saw Lower Swell manor house and came back through the village to Mrs Esley's home for supper and afterwards Mr and Mrs Esley accompanied us home by short road. We walked along Lower Swell Road to Sheep Street, passed old Unicorn Hotel on right corner and then near the PO Stow. Cousin Harwood showed me the house Mary Pitman lived (then Mrs Avery her first husband), she owned six houses on that side of road. When she married Mr Harwood (her second husband) she lived on opposite side road where she owned a whole row of houses. She having got her share £1,000 from the estate of Gainsborough but her second husband seemed to squander her money and she sold the property eventually and when she died had only a small sum which was given to her son (Cousin Harwood's husband). We reached home at Stow 11pm.

31st July

At Stow-on-Wold having hired a trap for the day. Cousin Harwood and I left home at 11am went along Park Street into the market square then straight on through Gainsborough passing Gainsborough House to Longborough into Sezincote Lane through

Worcester Lodge and stone quarries, finally reaching Bourton-on-the-Hill. Had lunch at Horse and Groom Hotel and afterwards went to church where William Gibbs Esq is buried in tomb. He was father of Lady Gibbs Pitman of Batsford Park. He died in 1833. I read on cenotaph in church where he had left a legacy for a blanket and article of flannel to be given to the poor of Bourton-on-the-Hill when attaining the age of 60 years. The present owner of Batsford Park is the chief trustee. Then went on to Sezincote Lodge and coming to Batsford Lodge driving passed miles of park. Saw Batsford Park house which belonged to Sir William Gibbs Pitman and later to Lord Redesdale who was a personal friend of King Edward and he used to stay at Batsford Park.

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We drove on through Moreton-in-Marsh along five miles of road passing through Evenlode, Broadwell saw old mansion at Broadwell, some old water wells and came to the old Four Shire Stone. This is a small pyramid shaped stone marked in large letters the exact side of country the shires of Oxfordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Gloucestershire commence. Passed this came into Broadwell and from [there] drove home for tea.

1st August

Still at Stow-on-Wold.

In morning 10am Cousin Harwood took me to old church of St Edwards where a great number of our ancestors are buried, could read of tombstones as far back as 1676:

Ann Pitman daughter of Thomas Pitman died 1676

Thomas Pitman died 1749 aged 52 years

Philip Pitman died 1760

Sarah Pitman died 1853 aged 79 years

Sarah Webb died 1834

These were all on different stones and so buried are they that I could only read the names from 1½ feet of headstones showing

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above ground. Visited the old grammar school beside the church built in year 1574 where many of the Pitmans attended.

Came home to Lime Tree Cottage for lunch afterwards leaving Stow-on-Wold by coach for Aylesford, catching the

1pm train for London arriving there 4.20pm.
Went to Nurses Club for rest, had a bath
then went to station and got electric
train to Balham, on arriving found
Cousin Harriette packing up to
go to Margate in the morning, so I was
invited to join them and will be glad for
a rest.

2nd August

Left Balham 9.15am with cousin
Harriette and Simon for London getting
11.40am train to Margate, arrived Margate
West 2pm.
Got tram for suburb Westongate-on-Sea
passed Broadstairs and walked
to Mrs Stanfields at Garbridge and Glebe Road
where we stayed. Had dinner and afterwards
went to Westongate and sat on beach.
A most beautiful long beach.
There were hundreds of people on beach
bathing etc, also plenty of amusement.

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3rd August

Spent all day on beach at Margate
and in evening went to a concert of
massed bands at The Oval Cliftonville.

4th August

Spent all day at Cliftonville on
beach bathing and had hot salt bath.
In evening went to Winter Gardens
Theatre to see the Peirrotts.

5th August

Spent on beach at Westongate.

6th August

Left Margate by train 11am for Canterbury.
Arriving 1pm. Had lunch and then visited
Canterbury Cathedral which was commenced
in 586AD and added to in 11th century.
Saw tomb in cathedral of Black Prince and
Archbishop Beckett who was massacred by the
monks. The Puritans come daily to worship
at his tomb and have worn the old steps
almost flat.
This cathedral seemed much same size as
Salisbury Cathedral.
Afterwards walked this town of Canterbury
and got train back to Margate for tea.

7th August

In morning walked good distance
along cliff at Westongate-on-Sea
had lunch and spent rest day on the
beach. In evening went to concert at Winter
Gardens Cliftonville.

Hear Carrie Tubb sing.
She is M. Clara Butts sister, she turned her
name back to front.

8th, 9th & 10th August

Spent every day on beach
bathing and in the sun.

11th August

Spent day on beach at Palm Bay,
Cliftonville. In evening bands
were playing on beach.

12th August

On Westongate beach all day.
Very sorry to leave tomorrow.

13th August

Cousin Harriette, Gwen
and myself left Margate 11.20am train for
London arriving 1.25pm.
Did some shopping in London
and then went home to Balham.

14th August

Cousin Harriette and I went to our
relations at Pinner for the day.
Came back via Elephant & Castle
to Clapham Common and then train
to Balham.

15th August

Left Balham 10am for Paddington
Station and got train 11.45am for Cirencester
Gloucestershire to visit some relations
I had not seen before.
Had to change train at Swindon
arriving Cirencester 2.30pm and met at
station by cousin Elsie Selwood and taken
home to Castle Street about 10 minutes walk.
Mr and Mrs Selwood and other daughter Agnes
were waiting to meet me. Had a nice hot
dinner and talked all afternoon.
In evening Agnes, Elsie and I went for
walk in Earl of Bathurst Park.

16th August

Had a walk round the town of Cirencester
out into country with Agnes and Elsie.

17th August

Made to stay in bed until midday for rest,
got up for dinner and went for walk in
afternoon.

18th August

Had to get back to London today,
but my cousins made me miss train.

19th August

Left Cirencester by 9am train for Charlton Kings. Had to wait there 1½ hours and change trains for Stow, arrived 1pm. Then got bus for one mile to Mrs Harwoods to say goodbye. Left at 7pm for London arriving 11pm and home by electric [train] to Balham midnight.

20th August

Got up early had to pack up to go to Cheshire. Left Balham with cousins Harriette and Tom Roberts by taxi 9am for St Pancreas Station. Got train to Liverpool in am arrival there, cousin Will Coulon was waiting with his mother to take us to his home at Heswall Cheshire some eight miles away arriving there in time for dinner at night. Cousin Freda and family waiting for us. After dinner had a talk and then to music room for evening.

21st August

Raining in morning.
Afternoon Cousin Tom and I went to Heswall and over the moors through masses

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of beautiful purple heath [and] home.
Could see Mt Snowden in Wales from here.
In evening had some more music.

22nd & 23rd August

Rained hard all day.

24th August

Cousin Freda took me to Liverpool, a very busy city, did some shopping and then went by train along miles of docks as far as Seaforth. Saw where American liners were docked and it seemed to be docks and wharves as far as I could see. In the evening went to Mr & Miss Johnsons home. He is a cotton merchant and large fruit importer of Liverpool. Very interesting to talk to. Had been to Tasmania.

25th August

My leave was up today so wrote for leave as my cousins did not want me to go.
In evening some friends came in also a Mr Jensen from Canada.

26th August

Went visiting in afternoon to Mrs Andrews

and then had tea on beach outside Mrs Andrews.

27th August

Received reply, can have more leave. Cousin Harriette, Tom and I went to Heswall for walk in afternoon.

28th August

Left Heswall today. Got train to Rock Ferry for Liverpool and changed for Manchester to visit relatives there I had not seen, Ethel and Bob, cousin Freda's sister. Bob came to Manchester to meet us

and took us to his home at Levenshulme, a suburb of Manchester and a very pretty spot. On arrival cousin Ethel was waiting to welcome us so we talked rest of day.

29th August

Went into town of Levenshulme with Ethel, quite a fair sized town.

30th August

Cousin Bob, Tom took me to Stockport, another suburb noted for its markets, a large number of factories also.

31st August

Raining most of the day. Ethel, Tom and I went to Manchester in afternoon. A very large city thought I was in London again, has beautiful buildings, many factories, saw works for BSA bicycles. In evening went to Stockport, walked along banks of Mersey River.

1st September

Raining. Stayed at home all day. In evening Ethel, Bob and I went to Port Sunlight (Sunlight soap fame). We went on these things and enjoyed ourselves, saw the above [below] as we passed in train. This is a model village for employees with shops, sports and recreation grounds. Houses all built same way and must be well kept. Everywhere very clean.

2nd September

Cousin Ethel, Tom, Harriette and I went by train to zoo at Bell Vue. Quite a large place. Had sideshows, really a Lunar Park with figure 8 railway and ocean wave.

3rd September

Left Levenshulme 8.30am
with Tom and Harriette, got 9am train from Manchester
to London on midland railway.
Arrived London 2pm. Had lunch in
London and then went on to Balham.

4th September

Stayed at home.

5th September

Cousin Harriette and I went into London afternoon
to Winter Garden Theatre to see
Kissing Time, new musical play with Phyllis Dare,
leading lady and George Grossmith,
Leslie Henson also Yvonne
Amaud, a French actress.
I enjoyed it immensely.
The music was very fine.
Kissing Time taken from French play by
Guy Bolton and PG Wodehouse.

6th September

Went to Paddington Station,
got 11.40am train to Cirencester, Gloucestershire
to say goodbye to my
relatives there. Returned to London
by 6.10pm train.

7th September Sunday

Helped Cousin Harriette, cooked dinner
and in afternoon got train at Clapham
Junction for Hampton Court. Walked through
lovely parks to the palace which is a
stately building and has a great collection
of pictures. Contains number of rooms at the
palace, are let rent free to widows of
state servants, widow of any
person that has done conspicuous work
for the country and have not the means
to live in comfort without help.

Each occupier of rooms have brass plates on door with their
names on. I noted a number of knighted people there.
Saw the famous old grape vine in
a hot house beside palace. Is
said to be 100 years old. The grapes grown
are only used in royal household.
Had afternoon in grounds and then
back to Balham for tea.

8th September

Spent the day at Pinner with Cousins
May and Kate and said goodbye to them.

9th September

Report to headquarters today, but was
told I could not get a boat home

yet so had better have more leave.
Also told of my promotion for extra pay
as Sister.

10th September

Stayed home at Balham.

11th September

In afternoon went to London,
met Sister Walters went to AIF lounge
in Strand and there joined a party to the
Royal Mint. Saw the coins in making
process from beginning to end. Any amount
sovereigns being weighted for correct weight.

12th September

In afternoon went to London, met
Sister Walters and then on to London Hippodrome
in Cranbourn Street to see Joy Bells
with George Roby, Leon Errol and Daphne
Pollard taking part. A very fine show.
Had tea at Lyons Corner House and afterwards
to Daly's Theatre to see
Maid of the Mountains with Dorothy Shale

Bertram Wallis and Laurie de Freece.
The music and staging were beautiful.
Got home to Balham by midnight.

13th September

Met Sister Walters at War Chest, Horseferry
Road, London 1.30pm and there joined party
of five others for a trip in Ford car
to Northolt Aerodrome,
a drive of 11 miles through
Harrow, Wembley, Hyde Park.
Drove right up to starting sheds at
aerodrome, had a look
around at the aeroplanes and then got
ready for a flight. Put on goggles
and top coat. Two of us got into the
machine with the pilot, sat behind
each other. Up we went gradually, I was
too afraid to look over side as the
wind seemed to be whistling all around.
After a while I managed to look over and
saw a peculiar sight of the city below
everywhere seemed so small.
Stayed up half an hour and then landed very
quietly that I did not notice the coming
down at all. Then had a very nice
afternoon with some of the officers
and shown more of aerodrome
and then left for London again.

14th September

Cousin Gwen came home for
day, we had a good rest.

15th September

Went to London and up to Strand lounge,
met several there I know. Had tea
and then to Court Theatre at night to see

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Trimmed in Scarlet with Violet
Lanburgh and William Burchill.
Trimmed in Scarlet is by William Hurlbut.
Very interesting and good dressing.

16th September

Stayed at home with cousin Harriette.
She was looking out [for] some pictures of Rome for me
and some good old books to take home.

17th September

Went to YMCA met Sister Walters
and joined party with Lieutenant Williams
and then on to Lincoln Inn and temple.
Saw all sorts of ancient historical things
too numerous to mention. I bought
several books of views to get a better idea
of all these things.
In evening went to London Pavillion
to see an extravaganza production
in two acts of Afghan by Charles Cochrane,
Alice Debysic principal lady,
Zaydee and John Humphries as
Afgan.
Very spectacular, good choruses.

18th September

Came into London in
afternoon, met Sister Walters and joined party
at Strand lounge for the United Services
Museum in Strand. Saw all sorts of
interesting documents, armour and items
of interest used in past wars.
In evening went with a party to Lyceum
Theatre in Strand to see the play
The Wild Widow by Arthur Shirley and
Ben Lambech. The widow, Miss Helen Temple
and Alex Fraser heroine kept us interested
all through.

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No diary kept since 18 September
to 25th – Rome
(leave this space – may think of something later)

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25th September - Rome

Left Balham 8am for Victoria Station,
there met Sisters Nelson, Smith, Buchanan
and got train to Folkestone, 8.05pm arrived
there 10.30. Left again 11.20 by packet
steamer across English Channel to Boulogne arriving there
1.20pm. Had very rough passage over,

small steamer rocking like a cork.
I was very sick. Had light refreshment
and then went to station for 2.30 train
to Paris arriving there 7.20pm
at Gare de Nord. Changed there
for tube underground to Gare de
Lyon and from there to book
at station for Rome, left 8.30pm,
changed at Modane 1am. Had to
wait until 4.45am so had
some wine and ham sandwiches on station.
The wine was brought on trolley in pint bottles
at 6d up the carriages.

26th September

Left Modane 4.45am. Passed
stations of Chambery, Aix-les-
Bains. Passing over Southern Alps
and lots of tunnels,
came through tunnel named Madame Turin
taking ½ hours. I have never seen

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such high mountain peaks,
all snow capped. Very
beautiful scenery. Looking out of
carriage window I could
not see top of some peaks.
Plenty of matter coming from
melting snow caps in places.
Arrived Turin 7.30pm, saw
R. Transport Officer on station. He sent
us to Hotel Rome for night.
Had dinner and then walked around
city of Turin, a very pretty place
seemed to be plenty of parks and statuary.

27th September

Left Hotel Rome, Turin 9.30am
saw RTO on station for special
concession each time. Left for Milan
11am arriving 2pm. Got tram to Cooks
tourist office for guide books and then on to
Milan Cathedral. A magnificent
building of marble. Went down
huge marble stairway in cathedral to the crypts
where there is a chapel
lined with silver and here lies the body
of Sir Charles Borromeo
cardinal and archbishop.

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Died in 1574 in time of the plague.
His embalmed body dressed as a cardinal
with his valuable jewellery and jeweled cap on head.
The body is enclosed in a glass case
and this has an outer casket of silver
the side of which is drawn down by
pulleys thus enabling one to see

the body through glass case.
Then met a naval officer who
travelled on same train with us.
He took us to afternoon tea at the
arcade which is a huge glassed
in terrace with beautiful orchestral
music.

Afterwards leaving by train for Lake
Cairo taking two hours arrived 8pm.
Got in charabanc to Hotel Metropole
de Suisse situated on borders of lake.
Had a meal with macaroni, steak,
lettuce, plenty of oil.

28th September

Left hotel 8.30am for trip on lake
by ferry steamer. Passed the villages
Como, Cernobbio, Blevio, Moltrasio,
Torno, Urio, Palanyo, Musso and
then came to Bellagio where we
got off for lunch. Quite a fair sized hotel,
very nice and clean and enjoyed the meal.
Then cruised about lake viewing
the beautiful mountainous scenery
with Swiss style houses dotted thickly

in the green trees
about the mountainous sides of lake.
Returning to Hotel Metropole in time
for evening meal.

Left 8.20pm by train for Florence.
The train was crowded with Italian
soldiers and civilians who were very noisy.

29th September

Train caught on fire near
our carriage at 12.30am nearing Bologna
where change for Venice. The Italians
got very excited came out of their
carriages in corridors. But the train
soon stopped, we got out with our
luggage and into another carriage
which was full everywhere so we had to
stand in corridor until
two Italian officers took off their
Sam Brown belts and tied across
corridor so that we could sit on floor
resting up against them. They
also got us drinks at station.
We arrived at Florence 5am.
Got into bus at station for Hotel
de Albion on the L'ung Arvo
(River Arvo). The hotel was not very
large but up-to-date and in beautiful
position, a foot away from door was
banks of river.

Being tired out we went to bed until 9am, then had breakfast, sat

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at table with English gentleman who very kindly took us out afterwards. First to the Cathedral (The Duomo) which was built in 1298. Noted for its fine architecture, the choir sit in a glassed in rotunda. Came on to Baptistery Chapel and to Palazzo Vecchio.

Back to hotel for lunch and afterwards to Lizzie Uffizi where we saw a large number of Michelangelo's works. Came down street to house where Dante was born and the church he was christened in. Saw the spot where he used to stand and view Beatrice his woman love in life. The streets were very narrow and marble statues at every corner. Some very fine buildings.

In evening we walked down street to a famous statue, the Piazzale Michelangelo. It was near this statue that Michelangelo concealed himself when Florence was surrendered to the Medicis.

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From here had a very fine view of Florence and hills surrounding. We then walked up hundreds of steps coming back over the Ponto Vecchio bridge over River Arno which is very unique. Heavy on either side of vehicular traffic, rows of shops, mostly jewellers (40 in all). An abundance of cameos. I bought a very nice cameo here for a brooch. There seemed to be more jewellers shops than any other, also selling marble.

30 September

Left hotel 9am for Presbyterian Ladies Guild in St Viola da Tolentino, all English women and do missionary work. One of ladies, Miss Palmer, took us around to church of St Lorenzo and on to the Mausoleum of Cappella Medici.

Here saw several statues, work of Michelangelo unfinished. Then came through a long corridor lined with picture over the _? to Ponte Palazzo Pitti Art Gallery containing many of finest work

in Europe.

Came back to hotel for lunch then

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and afterwards by ghari to railway station for 3.20pm train to Rome. There were several Italian officers in carriage.

They could not speak English but had dictionary English-Italian so we tried to understand a little this way and had a jolly time.

Arrived Rome midnight.

Got taxi on station to Hotel Londra and went to bed. We had a lovely suite of rooms, sitting room, two bedrooms and bathroom for ourselves.

1st October

Got up at 8am had breakfast then to YMCA on railway street. There saw Mr Englefield, an English gentleman who acted as guide in Rome for the YMCA. Several Australian soldiers were here too, so Mr Englefield took the party of us by tram to the Vatican. Walked through corridors of beautiful statuary and paintings on walls. Then to the Pope's audience rooms, sat in his chair. The walls and ceilings covered with paintings by famous artist Constantine Raphael. They say he always had his lady loves as his models. He died at age of 35 years.

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Also saw Homer and Dante painted in several pictures here.

Now into Christian Chapel of his Holiness built in 1400. Here the Pope is crowned.

The room is lined with magnificent tapestry hangings. The ceiling and down one side of wall is a painting of the Creation of the World by Raphael or Michelangelo.

There are 500 rooms in Vatican.

We now went into St Peters which adjoined the Vatican.

Seems like a great palace with several wonderful statues.

First statue I saw just inside was of a popular Pope. The statue is bronze and by standing close up you can just reach his foot.

The worshippers never pass this statue without first kissing this foot.

Consequently the toes are worn quite

flat with the constant kissing.
Came to Tomb of St Peters.
Looking over the rails you see

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a huge basement below with
wonderful carvings and statues about,
many lamps and candles burning.
These lights have never been
out since St Peter died.
Then came to the national monument
of gold and marble with huge horse
in centre. Inside this horse 16 men
can stand with ease.
In dome top of St Peter's Church
35 people can stand.
A short distance away from
St Peter's saw the
home of Shelley and little further on
Latimer's house.

Then got in train for St Paul's
Church. Saw the National Abbey of the
Benedictine then passing along the
River Tigris saw the island where the
serpent on the medical badge
originated. Came to cemetery
where Shelley and Keats are buried.
Passed the pyramid of Gaius Cestius
and came to St Paul's Church.

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The church, nothing near as elaborate as St Peter's.
Inside church huge statues of Peter and
Paul. St Paul is buried in this
church, having been removed from
a catacomb.
Aventine Hills where St Peter often visited.
Came to The Catacombs, only Christians
were buried here.
There are 100 miles of catacombs and are
said to go for miles under Rome
where excavations are still being carried on.
The catacombs date from time of Christ
and are taken [care] of by the Trappist
Fathers. One of the Fathers got a
torch light and took us down a long
tunnel and then walked about
the catacombs seeing many skeletons
resting in their graves carved out
side of walls of clay. Some had two
skeletons in them. Very musty here,
could not stay too long.
We then went along road via
Appian Way, the road from Apia to
Brindisi being lined with statues
in days of Romans.

Passing along where the Romans used to fight. It is a great pleasure resort now. Near here is a beautiful fountain of the Nymph.

Still on the Appian Way passed under two ancient arches and along walls which go around Rome for 15 miles. St Sebastian was beheaded near one of these arches.

Came to church of Gregory the Great who sent missionaries from Rome to England. The missionaries settled on Isle of Thanet later on.

Walking along road came to Church of Quo Vadis. A shrine near here records the spot where Peter saw a vision of his master and said Quo Vadis.

It is from here the book is written.

Little further saw

Baths of Caracella where only the rich could bathe mostly in wine, some of them 7 or 8 times a day. The walls are of rich mosaic work. Here and there are places for sun baths where they used to lounge all day after bathing.

Came back to Hotel de Londra by dinner 7pm.

2nd October

Left Hotel de Londra 8.30pm.

Got 10.30pm train to Naples.

Had to sit up all night as train was crowded. Several American soldiers travelled as well. Arrived Naples 6am.

3rd October

Went to hotel opposite station, had breakfast then went to YMCA on station and there met party American soldiers. We joined the party and YMCA guide took [us] by 8.15am train to Pompeii. Passing along coast of Bay of Naples in train we got a good view of city which is very dirty and the sand in bay black and dirty.

Passed several large biscuit factories at Colomia and also large tortoiseshell factory.

After about one hour train journey reached ruins of Pompeii and the city existed in 600BC was destroyed by ashes, lava and pumice from an eruption of Mt Vesuvius at Naples.

Pompeii was buried 1600 years before being excavated, even now excavations are being carried on, large portion of city is still

buried. There were two entrances to city of Pompeii, one for slaves and other for the residents. The streets are made of huge blocks of stone with here and there stepping stones projecting as people walked along these when the water flowed down streets. Came to ruins of house, the mosaic work and figures quite preserved they say. No women are ever allowed to see this particular work, so we had to wait while the men visited there. Next door is another house with a lot of mosaic work well preserved which we saw and written over the door in mosaic work is "Cave Canum" (Beware of Dog). Then came to the ruins of the arena of the gladiator, this being their chief pleasure. The best preserved house in Pompeii is house with letters written over door.

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We then walked on for about 10 minutes, came to the modern Pompeii, not a very large place, only seemed a village. Went to church which has all gold and silver decoration inside. The people seem to spend most of their time here having great faith as they think by so doing they will never come to fate of last Pompeii. We then went to the hotel for dinner. Had plenty of macaroni with sauce and oil. After this went to railway station Pompeii and got 1.30 train for Vesuvius arriving there 2.30pm and had to change from train into cable train which was pushed up the steep slopes of Mt Vesuvius by a cog wheel engine. The seats in train were arranged in tiers one behind each other and to look at them you would almost think the person at back would fall forward. Passing all while beautiful vineyards of grapes, olive trees and cyprus until we came to the lava thrown from top and sides of crater in eruption of 1856 and again 1906. We got out of tram here and walked around the crater until reaching the top and looking in saw great basin of boiling lava. Could not stay here too long as the sulphur fumes were stifling almost. Mt Vesuvius is 3600 feet high and there is an observatory at foot of mount noting all changes in

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volcano and know when an eruption is to take place and so give the residents warning to move. Left again in cog wheel tram creeping down mountain side reaching the foot 5pm and changed in train coming home via St Johns, a filthy dirty

place, awful smells said to be no proper sanitation, saw woman throwing dirty water into streets which were greasy and wet. In some houses saw animals and goats inside with people. Saw cows being milked from door to door, the people waiting for the required amount. Arrived Naples 7pm. Had dinner at large hotel there. All sorts of queer things plenty of oil on everything, hot meat and lettuce with oil. Wine and coffee after dinner, got tram to railway station for 10.30 train to Rome travelling all night. We took it in turns resting on seat, arrived Rome 6am.

3rd & 4th October

Went to Hotel de Londra had wash and breakfast. This being our third day at Rome altogether. Breakfast here consists of dry rolls and coffee, if you want jam it 4 Sera – 2/- extra. At 9.30 went to YMCA to Mr Englefield. He took us to Forum, visited first Hall of Justice which was the oldest town hall in the world. Still has great pillars standing on the steps here.

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Mark Antony made his speech – Citizens and Romans lend your ears etc. The Romans used this hall for public speeches. Running passed this hall was the leading street of Rome and it had many fountains on the route. Now came to the old Tragedy Theatre where Julius Caesar and Brutus took part – see Shakespearean plays. When hero arrived, men special entrusted spurted perfume along row of spectators to make them fresh and appreciative. Near here is the church mentioned in Lord Lytton book where Paul and Peter were kept prisoners before being tried. This church has a great number of steps leading to it. Said to [be] called in those days the steps to Heaven. Saw the Leaning Tower in the distance. Then came back to dinner at hotel. Had long pieces of macaroni with sauce and all over it. Meat, salad with oil. Eggs cooked in oil. Afterwards grapes and coffee. In afternoon went to Colosseum which is crumbling away. But patched up all around walls as the Romans

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are very superstitious and say if the Colosseum falls Rome will fall.

Left Rome at 8.30pm for Nice.
Changed at Genoa 7am.

5th October

Had coffee and rolls on station left again 7.35am
for Ventimiglia on border of Italy
and France. Had lunch at Ventimiglia
then into train passing along Riviera
passed towns of San Remo, Menton,
Monte Carlo.

Reached Nice 4.30pm went to Hotel
de Nations near station.
Had a wash and tea afterwards
going through town of Nice and on to promenade
on sea front where we heard some beautiful
music. Here the well-to-do people of
world spend a lot of time.
It is all very pretty and most restful, buildings
white and any amount of palms growing
around.

6th October

Went for walk along
promenade and beach afterwards.

Going to station for 11am train
to Monte Carlo, arriving there 12.30.
Had lunch at fashionable Café
Victoria, rest afterwards going to the
Monte Carlo Casino a short distance away.
No person in King's army uniform is allowed
to enter the gambling hall. On account
of them being infatuated and deserting their duty
as well as danger of using the many of army or
navy. We had to put scarves around
our shoulders to hide uniform and a couple
of Australian soldiers arrived had to put
on coats belonging to the attendants. Our cameras
were taken then one of attendants ushered
us around. First visited the theatre a
beautifully decorated large hall with Prince
Monica's box in centre. Next came
to lounge with fountain playing in centre
of room and all sorts of comforts. Reading room
near by. We then passed through more rooms
and halls to the gambling hall. Only allowed to
stand inside door there. Saw a
number of large tables
with spinning wheel in centre said to
be made of gold. The gamblers have
ivory discs which they throw into gold

rings marked on table and numbered, so much
money being declared,
then the wheel is set spinning
stopping at certain gold rings thus

declaring the winner of so much money. The casino is a beautiful building all white with carpet up the front steps and beautiful palms growing about. Leaving the casino went on to the aquarium which is said to be the private collection of the Duke of Monaco. Saw all sorts of fish in huge glass cases almost like rooms, one had a large octopus and all sorts of other sea collections.

Left Monte Carlo by 6pm train for Nice arrived 7.30pm. Stayed night at Hotel de Nations.

7th October

Left Nice 2pm for Paris via Marseilles arriving Marseilles 7pm. Had coffee and sandwich in train then on to Paris travelling all night arriving Paris 9am.

8th October

Went by tube railway to Hotel Windsor in Rue de Petroquad. Had a hot bath (cost 2/6) and breakfast. Left afterwards went to station Paris 12 midday for Boulogne. Stopped for while at Amiens, passed through

Abbeville, Etaples, arriving Boulogne 4pm. Got on steamer to cross English Channel, had to wait three hours for arrival of another train from Paris. Left Boulogne 7pm arriving Victoria Station, London 11.30pm. Left my party here and got electric train to Balham arriving 12.30am.

9th October

Very tired stayed in bed all morning. Unpacked curios in afternoon.

10th October

Went into London met the sisters at lounge in Strand. Did some shopping in Oxford Street and Strand. Had tea then went to Alhambra Theatre at Leicester Square and Charing Cross Road to see Eastwood Ho by Oscar Asche and Darnford Yates, Violet Loraine leading lady in Busta Veath. Ralph Lyn as Marmalade Ball.

11th October

Stayed at home.

Cousin Harriette away at Liverpool.

12th October Sunday

Cooked dinner for Cousin Tom.

Went to church in evening.

13th October

[no entry]

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No diary kept from 13th October to

1st November.

Went to Pinner again during this time,
two week-ends.

30th October

Went to kit stores see about luggage
leaving for Plymouth.

31st October

Busy finishing packing getting luggage ready
to leave in am.

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1st November

Leaving England today.

Left Tooting Bec Road, Balham 8am for
Victoria Station, met six sisters there,
from there got train
to Plymouth (Devon).

Arrived Devonport 2.30pm then went by tender
to *HMAT Nestor*. The embarkation officer
very angry that we did not come down night
before as we were the last to get on boat.
Left harbour of Devonport at midnight.
In cabin with Sister Tyers.

2nd November Sunday

Went to church parade on lower deck
in morning. Afternoon sat on deck.
On board we have 600 troops, 390
officers, 15 sisters.

3rd November

Stayed on deck all day. Rather rough,
several sisters were sea-sick.

4th November

Finding out who's who on board today.
Met Sister Moreg, a Tasmanian also.
Lieutenants Davis, Murchison, Blake, Bisdee,
Briggs, Gould.

5th November

Rather rough today. The Tasmanian
boys invited Sister Tyers and I to sit
at their table which we did for voyage home
and had a jolly time.

6th November

Sat on deck with boys, talked, played deck quoits.

7th November

Had quoits match in morning. I had to play with Colonel Fitzgerald. Afternoon did some photography, printing etc.

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8th November Sunday

Went to church service on boat deck in morning. Afternoon sat on deck reading.

9th November

Weather very warm. Played quoits in morning and deck tennis. Had sleep in afternoon.

10th & 11th November

Sat on deck all day, talking, playing games.

12th November

Very hot today. Boys picked a cool spot and we sat and talked.

13th November

Nothing to note. Very warm.

14th November

Passed Canary Islands. Had a look through telescope, sitting on deck most of day.

15th November

Going passed Las Palmas.

16th November

Very hot and windy.

17th November

Passed the Equator at midnight.

18th & 19th November

Playing quoits and deck tennis.

20th November

Busy getting ready for Cape Town.

21st November

Arrived Cape Town midnight.

22nd November

Landed at 10am. Captain Gould and Lieutenant Briggs escorted Sister Tyers and I on shore and took us around city.

The day was most boisterous
very dusty and windy.
We went to YMCA had tea and
then around Table Mountain
by train. Got out at Camp Bay.

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A very pretty spot but fearfully
windy, came back to Cape Town
had lunch at Maxim's Hotel then
I called on a relation Cousin Charles
Roberts at his office in Church Street.
He wanted me to go to his home at
Mowbray but I did not have time
so Sister Tyers and our party went for a train
ride to Wynberg, had afternoon tea
then back to Cape Town to dinner
at Opera House Hotel where we
had a private
dining room in great style.
Captain Gould then booked seats
at the opera house to see The Boy.
Had a box and enjoyed it very
much, out at 11pm. Got gharri
to take us to boat but the horse
got half way and went round and
round eventually reaching the
boat by 11.45pm.

23rd November

Left Cape Town in early morning.
Very tired after yesterday.
Played deck tennis and quoits in afternoon.
Had a small dance on deck
in evening.

24th November

Arrived in harbour of Durban
midnight.

25th November

Troops landed at 11am.
A party of us, Sister Tyers and self, Lieutenants
Cugers, Claridge, Chapman,

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Gash, Captain Gould went ashore 2pm.
Got into rickshaws two in each
drawn by men all painted and dressed
in coloured garbs with feathers and
horns in wonderful headdress.
We drove to Kenilworth Hotel
for afternoon tea, strawberries and cream
etc. Afterwards driving around city
and down main way West Street.
Had dinner at Royal Hotel
and a party of us went for motor ride
then back to Marine Hotel for
the night.

26th November

Sister Tyers and I got up 9am went shopping in a rickshaw which waited outside each shop for us. Came back to Marine Hotel for lunch. In afternoon went for rickshaw ride to native quarter with the boys. Back to Marine Hotel for dinner. Sat in lounge after and then for rickshaw ride along sea front and back to boat again by 11pm.

27th November

Very tired after being on shore. Played quoits and tennis and took some snaps. Evening danced on deck.

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28th November

Weather very cold and miserable. Played bridge in lounge. Game of deck tennis before tea. Had dance on deck in evening.

29th November

Did some printing of photos with boys. Played quoits in afternoon. In evening had some music and dance for while.

30th November

On duty today in Hospital Bay. In evening played bridge with Sister Tyers, Lieutenants Claridge and Chapman.

1st December

On duty in hospital.

2nd December

Busy getting ready for fancy dress ball to hold on 4th. Had to help the boys with their dress. Made a wig for Lieutenant Cugers to go as an aborigine. Boys were in and out our cabin all day.

3rd December

Still busy making things for the ball.

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4th December

Very busy getting ready for dinner and ball to hold tonight (fancy dress). The boys in and out our cabin fitting and getting things for their costumes. Sister Tyers dressed as

rag-time – dress made of
old rag and music printed here and
there on rag. I dressed as a
gippo woman.
We had a grand parade
around deck after dinner and then commenced
dancing, continuing until midnight.
We also had for the intervals
sideshows, fortune telling and
portrait painted while you wait.
Supper was served in Drawing
Room (Lounge). We had a
great time finding out each
other in their fancy dresses.

5th December

Very tired. Had a rest on
deck all day.

6th December

Weather very nice.
Sat on deck and played quoits morning.
Evening had a dance until 11pm.

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7th December Sunday

On duty in hospital all day.
In evening went to church
service on deck.

8th December

Had tennis match today.
I played with Lieutenant Chapman.
Played quoits afterwards.
Played bridge in evening.

9th December

Did some photography.
Played tennis and quoits.
In evening Lieutenant Cato gave us a
lesson in new dancing steps
but eventually others came along
and we danced until 11pm.

10th December

No further diary kept.

* * * * *

Arrived in Melbourne
about 17 December. General
shipping strike on.
Military authorities sent us
to Grand Hotel, Spring Street,
there the Tasmanians had
to stay for Christmas and New Year.⁹
At last the military commandeered
a cargo boat from Dar_? Transport brought

to run several trips bringing
us across in small batches
of about 12 to 14 per trip.
Taking 36 hours for trip.
At last home second week in
January. Had leave of one month and
free pass on Tasmanian railway
which I used travelling on
all lines in Tasmania as well
as a gift of £10 from Red Cross.