

Diary, 31 July-26 Aug 1914-mobilisation and action on the Western Front with No.4 Field Ambulance

Publication/Creation

1914

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RAMC 453

J.P. LYNCH

Joined (LOP)	30 July 1904
Captain	30 Jan. 1908
Major	1 July 1915
Lt.Colonel	26 June 1928
Colonel	28 Oct. 1933 (Sen 26/6/32)
Retired	28 Oct. 1937

Services brought to notice by Director of Transports
for service rendered on S.S. "Scotia".

Expeditionary Force	15 Aug. 1914
Prisoner of War	26 Aug 1914 to 28 June 1915
France	Sep. 1917

Post war service in India, Hong Kong and U.K.

Died	2 Feb. 1948
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RAMC 453/1

Private

This diary was prepared by
Sgt Small diary

Telegram at Yorgon 23-9-14.

Friday 31st July 1914. (Fine weather)

Various

School of Instruction
R.A.M.C. Depot
13th July 1914. Aldershot

Dear Breton - I am sending you my
diary for the period 31st July 1914 to
27th August 1914. This period covers the
precautionary stage, mobilization, operations
in France & Belgium up to the time of
my capture at Landreelles.

I have not a copy of my account
of the journey to Germany, and life in
prison camps just now, I did write a
long account of both, and I am
afraid that it has been lost in the
post, I will re-write it and send it
to you as soon as I can.

the garages were closed.

Telegraphic
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Friday 31st July 1914. (Fine weather)

For exemption; at my last camp in Germany, the small from the
Cork boxes was just as bad as that of the latrines, which
were most insupportable.

At first the German Government charged duty on all parcels
sent to prisoners, and as in a great many cases all money
had been taken from the prisoners, the men were unable to
take delivery of their parcels, this was a great and
hardship to many of our men who had been waiting
anxiously for parcels of food, + clothes. The weather was
very cold at the time

but men were made to do all the dirty work of the
camps, in most places they had to clean out sleep trunks
latrines with hand basins.

A good many men have been shot in the
western Camps in Germany, I know for certain that
a man named Mr. E. Green a private of the 80th Guards
was shot at ^{St. Etienne} early in December 1914, by a
German soldier, I have not heard that the German
was ever punished for it.

There are some entries in the diary which
are confidential, and I wish that you will
not quote any one of them without first referring
to me.

Please excuse the delay in answering your
letter, I put it off in the delays + was very
yours sincerely
John...
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the garages were closed.

Lx 2
I gave evidence to two Ladies of the D.R.C.S. on conditions in German Camps, and horrified these Ladies considerably, this evidence was sent on to Sir Louis Mallet, and he is going to do something about it sometime after the war, when it will be too late.

Our men were treated most shamefully in Germany last winter, I saw three Camps for men and in each of them the conditions were much the same.

The following are the principal items in the programme of cruel treatment.

On their arrival in Germany our men were often beaten by both civilians and Soldiers, long whips were often used for this, and on their arrival in Camp they were often beaten by the Guard.

They did not get suitable food their meals being almost always unfit

Friday 31st July 1914. (Fine weather)

On 31st July, (Friday) in compliance with a telegraphic order received the day previous, from the A.D. G. S. D.O. I travelled by motor bike from Eastbourne to Canterbury; my wife & little girl Nora accompanied me in the sidecar. The journey home to Canterbury was a pleasant one, we had no trouble with the motor, but the little tail lamp refused to light properly, and caused a good deal of delay on the road near Canterbury, and again in Ashford.

We just got home before the rain came, & found that the servants had arrived, without their & our luggage which had come on by a later train, they very stupidly allowed themselves to be separated from the kit at Eastbourne. After some trouble, & several runs back & forth to & from the West Station, I got all the kit up to the house with the help of an exhausted outside porter, and having fixed up the household affairs for the time being & I went to one of the hotels and had a little supper, we then turned home leaving the bike at the hotel as all the garages were closed.

List Of British Officers & Men
Prisoners Of War at Jorgan 8th Oct 1914

2 nd Lieut A. Campbell.—	Royal Horse Guards (Blk)
Capt J. E. Lacout.—	2 nd Life Grens
Lieut Sir A. Hickman.—	4 th Dragoon Guards
" R. S. Peck.—	9 th Lancers
2 nd " Lieut Hon Ivan Hay.—	5 th " "
Lieut W. G. Horne.—	19 th Hussars.
" J. S. Upton.—	20 th " "
2 nd " J. C. Rogerson.—	15 th " "
2 nd " M. D. Burrows.—	5 th " Dragoon Guards
Capt. J. Montgomery.—	7 th " "
Lieut B. B. Falkner.—	4 th " Hussars.

Saturday August 1st 1914. (Fine weather)

Back at the old hospital again, and glad to see all my old friends again.

Col Hunter, & I discussed international politics, and the possibility of war very fully, we came to the conclusion that it is inevitable.

Down in barracks I met Major Lamont R.H.A. and Capt Pasch de Corbinis, we had a long talk about the coming war, Lamont was in great form, and so was Pasch, I felt sorry that on mobilization I must part from the 4th Cav Bde which I have known so long.

According to the evening papers Germany has sent ultimata to both France, & Russia, and they say that the replies of both will not be satisfactory to Germany.

List Of British Officers Prisoners At Lorgau

Lieut Col. C. F. Stevens.	R. F. A.
Major A. C. R. Kutt	" " "
" E. H. Jones	" " "
" J. H. F. Lallyour	" " "
" A. R. Bayley	" " "
Capt. C. J. F. Leech	" " "
" P. G. Lyster	" " "
Lieut T. Macleod	" " "
" E. L. Armitage	" " "
"	" " "

Sunday August 2nd 1914 (Fine day)

Spent the day at home quietly picking berries and playing about the garden with Korah.

Lavin used very strong words in his article in the "Observer" today, the article was headed "England's Shame or Shame."

Col Winter came to tea, & we had further talk about the coming event which has already cast its shadow on our peaceful life in Canterbury.

Pilot did like his swim at Tonford Crossing in the afternoon, he prefers swimming to walking.

Got the "Times" Sunday edition, the first that has been issued for a long time; there was serious news reported in it.

Wrote to Michael, and both of them to come down to Canterbury.

British Officers Prisoners of War Lorgan

Lieut A. F. Day	Royal Engineers.
Capt. R. A. B. Sger	Royal Engineers
Infantry	
Lieut R. Heppel	Coldstream Guards.
Major G. S. Tweedie.	Royal Scots
Lieut C. G. Leaves	" "
" H. F. Graham Watson.	" "
" C. E. Scariabrick.	" "
Capt Harrington.	Royal Warwickshire
Lieut A. Chichester Courtall.	" "
Maj Lieut G. Raget	The Norfolk Regt.
Lieut J. B. Oakes.	" "
" A. E. Reeve.	" "
Major C. Looftood	Lincolnshire Regt.
Lieut R. F. Perrett.	" "
Major A. S. Pebles.	The Suffolk Regt.
" F. J. O. Wilson.	" " "
" S. J. B. Barnardiston.	" " "
Capt E. E. Pearson.	" " "
" W. M. Campbell.	" " "
" A. N. Cutbill.	" " "
" L. F. Hepworth.	" " "
Lieut N. A. Pettleston	" " "
Maj Lieut F. C. V. Pereira	" " "
Lieut P. C. Nicholls	" " "

Monday August 3rd 1914. Slowney Day.

War was declared by Germany on France last night and today between Germany & Austria on the one side and Russia & France on the other.

In barracks today the air was full of electricity; I went down to see the Buffs in the morning, and it was obvious that there was a great deal of excitement amongst the officers, but it was very well suppressed. No one knew what was going to happen, and doubt & suspense got on the nerves of every one.

An order was received (wire) later in the morning, about 11:30 AM. for us to carry out the medical examination of all the troops of the Garrison, for fitness for "Field Service"; so it became evident to all of us that the expected was about to happen.

I went round the town to hunt up doctors to help in the examination, & succeeded in getting only Harold Hatcher, Sydney was away, and Williams was too busy. My examination of the Carabniers was finished in 70 minutes.

Gracie arrived while I was examining the men in barracks, it was very good of her to come so quickly to us, Michael could not leave his work.

British Officers Prisoner Of War Loran

Lieut R.R. W. Carthen.	The Suffolk Regt.
" R.S. C. Harvey	" " "
" E.A. W. Balchouse	" " "
Lieut T.L. George (S.R.)	" " "
Capt. A.J. G. Hargreaves.	Somersetshire L.I.
" J.Y. M. Broderick.	" " "
Lieut J.G. Swayne.	" " "
" J.C. W. M. E. Tansan (S.R.)	" " "
" C.S. B. Philby.	" " "
" J.B. Taylor.	" " "
Capt. H. Harrington.	The West Lorks.
Lieut W.H. Langran.	" " "
" K.S.S. Henderson.	" " "
Capt. P. Lowe.	" " "
" E.F. Grant Dalton.	" " "
" P. Fryer.	" " "
Lieut W.W. Hagstaff.	Redfordshire Regt.
Capt J. A. Elliott.	The Royal Irish Regt.
" J.B. Fitzgerald.	" " "
Lieut A.J. S. Anderson	" " "
" A.D. Fraser	" " "
" C.S. M. E. Gath	" " "
" C. Ffrench.	" " "

Tuesday August 4th 1914.

Fine day showers

Not much doing at hospital today, I was found fit for field service. Col Pinches R.A.M.C. R.P. arrived to take over charge of the hospital.

The medical examination of all men left over from yesterday was finished today.

The suppressed excitement which was felt in barracks yesterday, has cleared up today, and everyone is merry, & bright; the cause of this being that it is now settled that we are to mobilise, and the order will come out today.

The Garratts, & Col Winter came in to tea, in the afternoon, and we were all very anxious about it; it was uppermost in all our minds and there was nothing else to think about but it, during the tea party we did not say much but we thought a great deal.

After tea Grace & I went down the town, and we met a Sergeant of the Carls in St Georges at who got off his bike and told me that the order to mobilise had just come in, so I got a few things and went back quickly to finish up my packing for tomorrow.

Later we 3 went down through the town to see the illuminations, Grace admired the lights very much.

British Officers Prisoners Of War Longau

Capt. R. S. Ledger	14 th Yorkshire Regt.
Capt. J. R. Davenport	Lancashire Fusiliers
Lieut. F. F. Corbett-Kinder	" "
" R. W. S. Steven	Royal Scots Fusiliers
Major. B. H. Chetwynd-Stapleton	The Cheshire Regt.
Capt. A. J. L. Dyer	" " "
" W. L. R. Angusmore	" " "
" V. R. Zahourshin	" " "
" B. E. Massey	" " "
Lieut. C. A. H. Matterson	" " "
" V. C. Randall	" " "
Lieut. L. Fairweather	" " "
" J. Spencer Jacobs	" " "
" R. H. Bolton	" " "
Lieut. Col. C. M. Stephenson	H. O. S. Borderers.
Major E. S. Haig	" " "
Capt. E. W. McDonald	" " "
" H. Cobden	" " "
Lieut. R. Johnson	" " "
" R. M. Pell	" " "
Lieut. J. F. Feeling (SR)	" " "
" W. M. Shewen	" " "

Wednesday 5th August 1914. Heavy rain all day.

First day of Mobilisation.

Got up early and finished packing, had a quick breakfast, and then said "Good Bye" to Rose, the two little girls (Korah & Joan) and Gracie.

The taxi came, & R & I drove to the East Station, it was an anxious drive, & I cannot describe how we felt while waiting in the station for the train, as the feeling of the unknown had taken possession of us, she did not know when she would see me again, & I felt that I was about to part from them for a most indefinite period of time.

Travelled up to London with Hunter of the Carls, we changed at Faversham, & got up to Cannon St. by a good train, but I took a long time to get from Cannon St to Waterloo, & so missed the early train down to Aldershot. I went up to Piccadilly by tube, & did a little shopping, got a waterproof at Cording's and a pocket case of instruments at the Junior A. & N. Store by the way they charged me 10/- too much for the case, this was my first brush with British Patriotism. London was very quiet, this was a rumour that 2 German Cruisers had been captured.

I left Waterloo for Aldershot by the 11.45 train down, and arrived in Aldershot at 1.30 P.M.

British Officers Prisoners Of War Japan

Lieut C. F. Hargreaves - East Lancashire Regt
 " K Hooper - " " "
 Capt F. A. Bowring - East Surrey Regt.
 Lieut O. Price - The Duke Of Wellington's Regt
 " W. B. C. K. Young - " " "
 Major N. H. Barlow - The Hampshire Regt.
 " N. S. Carter - " " "
 Lieut S. V. Halls - " " "
 Lieut G. S. Rose (R.A.) - " " "
 " J. de Hunt (R.A.) - " " "
 Lieut W. A. Leishman - The Dorsetshire Regt.
 " J. A. Burnand (R.A.) - " " "
 Major J. W. H. Swart - The South Lancashire Regt.
 Lieut F. Berry - " " "
 " J. Dehl - " " "
 Major A. S. Turner - The Royal Berkshire Regt.
 Lieut Col. R. C. Bond - The N. D. Yorkshire L.I.
 Major C. A. L. Gate - " " "
 Capt A. R. Keppel - " " "
 " C. H. Achroyd - " " "
 " W. E. Lataere - " " "
 " L. Simpson - " " "
 " A. C. G. Luther - " " "
 Lieut J. B. Noel - " " "
 " N. H. Unitt - " " "

Wednesday 5th August 1914 (Contd)

The train was packed full with officers of all branches of the service, soldiers, reservists and civilians, it was considerably late in arriving at Aldershot. I met Nolan on the platform at Aldershot and talked up to the mess with him (propping him up)

The old mess was strangely familiar, and on getting there I asked about No. 4 Field Ambulance, there were only 2 Subalterns of the Ambulance present, Hattersley, & Brown, so I found myself the senior officer present, and as such I had a lot of papers, pamphlets, & books of instructions thrust upon me by Major F. E. Adams, R.C.

My next step after having sorted out the jumble of papers, etc, was to hunt up the Depot Sgt Major, and he at once found Sgt Mackay for me, this Sgt. called out the recruits from the depot to help in pitching the camp on Pidan Hill, and the long afternoon, & evening was spent in drawing rations (meat & bread & groceries) tents, blankets, & ground sheets, & finally pitching the camp.

Major P. H. Walker, Capt A. A. Sutcliffe and a few Sqdn. & S.A. & Civil Surgeon Subalterns arrived in the evening, and found everything ready for them in camp. In the afternoon a letter came from

British Officers, Prisoners Of War Torgau

Lieut. C. H. Rawdon. - The K.O. Yorkshire L. Infantry
 " J. Reynolds - " " " " "
 " G. C. Hyams. - " " " " "
 " H. B. Hilbert. - " " " " "
 " J. B. Butt. - " " " " "
 Capt P. Lodge. - Oxfordshire, & Teuch's Light Infantry
 " H. L. Glass. - The Middlesex Regiment.
 Lieut L. H. O. Josephs - (A.D.C.) " " "
 " B. H. Allistone - " " "
 " L. J. Graham Yob. - " " "
 " J. L. Duce - " " "
 " H. A. Cartwright - " " "
 J. Budden - J. F. " " "
 Lieut W. S. Butler - The Manchester Regiment.
 Lieut Col. F. H. Keish. - The Gordon Highlanders.
 Maj. Col. W. E. Gordon - " " "
 Capt W. Keish - " " "
 " F. Bell. - " " "
 Lieut C. M. Waker. - " " "
 " A. A. Fraser. Master Of Saltoun - " "
 J. A. D. L. Stewart. - " " "
 J. L. P. Burn. - " " "
 J. J. F. H. Mouldsworth. - " " "
 J. Q. W. Hunter Blair. - " " "
 J. J. B. M. Hamilton. - " " "
 J. A. W. M. Robertson. - " " "
 Lieut & Adj. Major W. Clark. - Royal Irish Rifles.
 Capt J. Riston Warlow - The Gordon Highlanders.

Wednesday 5th August 1914 (Contd)

Major Collingwood, in my capacity as Q.C. I opened it, & found to be a request for Command of C Section, as he is Q.C. Field Ambulance, he must take A Section.

The old mess in the S. Ligon Barracks was fairly crowded, and I met a good many old friends in it, of course the mobilisation caused great excitement there.

Major Hinge No 7 Field Ambulance wanted to know Col Hunter had not turned up, so when I told him that the Colonel's ~~initial~~ mobilisation orders had been cancelled, he found himself Q.C. No 7 Field Amb.

Met Egan who comes from Dungarvan, & had a long talk & a game of billiards with him.

Wrote letters to Rose & to Mother.

British Officers Prisoners Of War Lurgan

Major R. A. Gray. — Royal Irish Fusiliers
Lieut. Col. A. W. Abercrombie — The Connaught Rangers.
Capt. W. W. Roach. — " " "
of Lieut J. L. Hardy. — " " "
Lieut J. W. V. Barker. — " " "
Capt. A. J. W. Maclean. — Argyll & Sutherland Hls.
Lieut E. F. Conal Rowan. — " " "
Capt H. S. Jervis. — Royal Munster Fusiliers.
" D. Rice. — " " "
Lieut. R. A. D. Moseley — " " "
of Lieut H. L. Newson. — " " "
of " J. F. O Malley. — " " "
Lieut E. W. Lower. — " " "
of Lieut R. W. Thomas. — " " "
Major H. M. Shewin. — Royal Dublin Fusiliers
Capt J. S. Higginson. — " " "
" R. H. L. Conlan. — " " "
Lieut J. F. H. Dobbs. — " " "
" C. H. E. Keat. — " " "
of " F. C. S. Mackie. — " " "
" W. H. Broadbent. — " " "
Capt. G. E. W. Lane. — Rifle Brigade.
Lieut W. Lodder Symonds. — The Wiltshire Regiment.

Thursday 6th August 1914

Friday Day

Busy day at mobilisation work today.

Major Collingwood O.C. No. 1 Field Ambulance arrived in Camp early this morning, & took over the duties of C.O.

The part of Redan Hill on which I slept last night was very hard and lumpy, but I was so tired that I had a good sleep in spite of the lumps.

I was appointed transport officer to the P.A. and O.C. B section today.

The N.C.O.s & men are very slow in arriving

As T.O. I later took over 13 light draught horses today, they looked a nice lot of horses fresh from stall, & well fed, it was rather hard lines to take them over, & put them out on Redan Hill without picketing gear, & without men to look after them, an orderly of No 5 P.A. named Thompson who had been a cow boy, & used to tying up horses without gear was very useful to me.

Received a letter Michael wishing me good bye & good luck.

British Officers Prisoners Of War Torgau

Capt. J. A. W. Tzell. — Army Service Corps (M.S.)
 Lieut L. G. Humphreys. — " " "
 Lt. Q. C. D. Rotts. — " " "
 Lieut V. S. C. Lindop. — Royal Flying Corps.
 Interpreter O. Belfour. — 3rd Signal Co R.E.
 Lt. J. F. Breca. — Intelligence Corps.
 Lt. H. de Grand. — " "
 Lt. F. H. Bevan. — " "

Capt P. Lowe. — The West Yorks.
 Col Jackson D.S.O. — The Hampshire.
 Capt G. T. Wymor. — The Manchester Regt.
 " C. Morley. — " "
 Lt. W. A. Sampson. — The Royal Fusiliers.
 Capt J. H. W. Knight. — Bruce — Royal Warwick.
 " 2. Offord. — The Suffolk Regt.
 Lieut Sloan Stanley. — The Middlesex Regt.
 Major. Fieckeljohn. — The Royal Warwick.
 Capt. Campbell. — The East Surreys.
 Lieut. W. G. R. Elliot. — The Cheshire Regt.
 Capt R. Gray. — Royal Flying Corps.
 Capt S. D. Lister. — Royal West Kent Regt.
 Lieut R. Phillips (Capt) — Royal Irish. Regt.

Friday 7th August 1914

Fine hot day.

Loss of H.M.S. Cruiser Amphion reported today. She went on to a mine & went down with 134 officers, & men 141 were saved.

Had a very busy day as we took over our waggons from the ordnance stores, three of the Amb. waggons were full of harness & saddlery all in a most awful jumble. About mid-day 39 H.D. horses arrived, and I got on with the picketing of them, it was after much hard labour & many mistakes they were all tied up at 8 P.M. I wonder how Carter Patersons would like to see their best shine horses tied in knots out on Redan Hill this evening. These horses did not have any use for head ropes or heel ropes, and the little shackle straps were too small for their hairy hind legs. The pegs both fore & aft came up at the first tug though it was hard to hammer them in, finally I gave it up as a bad job and went to bed very late, hoping against reasonable probability that there would not be a stampede during the night.

Saturday 8th August 1914

Got a move on with the personnel today, at the 6 Am. parade the N.C.O's + men were told off to their sections. The B Det lat were like the others a strange mixture of infantry reservists who had transferred to the Ram.C. reserve, Ram.C. reservists proper, and a few serving soldiers of the Ram.C.

My senior N.C.O. Serjt Todd comes from the Aberdeen University where he has been an instructor of the O.S.C. He has been allotted to ~~the~~ tent Sub-division.

Serjt Smith has been allotted to the Beans Sub-det, he is from the Ram.C. reserve, but he is a very smart N.C.O. and he ought to do well.

My servant is an old Dublin Fusilier named O'Connell, he is a cheerful man, he speaks with a rich brogue, he has been through the South African War, and he knows what's what.

Royal Army Medical Corps.

Detained at Lorgan by German Govt in order to ensure their personal safety. Not detained as prisoners of war.

Major A. G. Thompson. C. Surg L. J. Austin R.A.C.O.
" P. H. Collingwood. " " A. A. Elliot R.A.C.S.
" J. L. Furness. Rev B. G. O'Rourke
" W. B. Frigg.
" H. H. Long.
Capt E. M. Middleton.
" H. K. Beaman.
" A. A. Ginteloff
" J. P. Fynell.
" C. Y. Edmonds.
" H. M. Perry.
" A. J. Graham.
" P. C. & O'Quay.
" H. Crumble.
" E. S. B. Hamilton.
" G. H. Stevenson.
" F. Garland.
" A. C. Vidal.
" S. Field.
" A. B. Williams.
Lieut. S. M. Hattersley.
" J. E. Heffer.
" J. Y. B. Butler.
" M. Pouth.
" H. W. Hills.
" A. J. Brown.
" A. B. Preston.
" J. La F. Landet.
" W. B. Daubs

Sunday August 9th to Saturday August 15th 1914

Those days passed quickly, we were all so busy at mobilization work, getting the men, horses, and equipment into shape, and arranging the sections.

We were ready to entrain on the 13th but we did not do so until the 15th Aug.

We all regretted having missed our parade before the King on Tuesday the 11th before the King, we were late owing to a mistake having occurred in our orders.

On Wednesday Pina & Korah came down to be near me for the last few days, their presence in Ashot brightened up the outlook for me in a wonderful way, and with the other ladies who came to Camp (Mrs Malmer & Mrs Ginteloff) we had many pleasant little parties on Redan Hill.

I shall never forget saying good bye to Pina & Korah on the morning of the 15th on the muddy road in the drizzling rain outside the Govt. Aidling. Poor little Korah seemed to realize that something strange was about to happen, her last words to me were

"God will protect you Daddy."

Saturday 16th August

Our entrainment went off without a hitch, although Major Morgan who has been set up as an expert in entrainment was on the platform to criticise, I hope that he was pleased to see his own time record beaten easily by No. 4 F.A. by about 20 minutes.

We soon found that our train was bound for Southampton, and the journey down was an uneventful one; when we passed towns, & villages &c. crowds assembled to cheer us, & our men cheered and waved their hands in return. Our train ran right into the docks at Southampton and we quickly detrained in a large shed, which was already $\frac{3}{4}$ full of Cavalry.

(A Squadron of the 9th Lancers & the 18th Hussars)

We spent a weary day waiting in the shed, there was nothing to do, & it was raining hard all the time.

Met most of the Carbiniers who were embarking on the "Hohelmann" at a dock close by, and said "good bye" to them; I felt very sorry that I was not going out with

Saturday 16th August

them, and I invited Dunn his charge, & I fancy that he would have preferred my place in No 4 F.A.

The arrangements for obtaining refreshments at the dockyard were bad, we did manage however to get a cup of tea late in the afternoon, and for dinner we went out in the town, where we were charged 100% more than the usual price.

At about 9 P.M. we began to embark, on the S.S. Armenian, & we finished at 11.30 P.M.

The Armenian is a big cattle boat, & she belongs to the Leyland Line, there was plenty room in her for all on board; the Cavalry and ourselves.

Maughan of my batch came ^{on board.} ~~was~~ in charge of the 18th Hussars.

Major Falkner, & I were lucky enough to get a deck cabin, all the others were in cabins down below.

Sunday 16th August 1914

This day was spent on sea, for the most part, as we left Southampton at 4 Am. and sailed for an unknown destination, but although we did not know our destination, we all felt certain that we would not meet any German warships on the way, because ~~The~~ Navy.

The crossing was calm, & the weather was bright, & breezy, only a gentle zephyr. I spent the morning looking at the familiar English Coast, & easily recognised many of the spots I ~~had~~ saw last month when we were at Eastbourne. Brighton, Veachy Head, Eastbourne, and Revensay Bay, all looked familiar in the distance.

About mid-day we lost sight of land and headed straight for Boulogne, about $\frac{1}{2}$ way across we passed a Battle Squadron all ready for action, and looking very strong. After the usual Salutes we went by, amidst loud ~~and~~ Cheers from the sailors, & answering hoars from the men on our ship.

Sunday 16th August 1914

The band was paraded on one of the Dreadnoughts and they played "God Save The King." There was something about these ships, that made me think about war, they looked so strong, and so ready for it, that I shall not soon forget the sight of a battle squadron cleared for action.

We arrived at Boulogne at 3 P.M. and were received with acclamation by the people.

While we were waiting for the Cavalry to disembark, I wrote two letters, one to Mother, & one to R, and photographed the S.S. Welshman arriving with the remainder of the 9th Lancers.

Our disembarkation was a tedious business - water carts, ambulance waggons, S.S. waggons and horses took a long time to get ashore, and it was about 11 P.M. when we left the Quay to march to the rest camp.

During this march I had some trouble with the 3 water carts, all of which had a strong tendency to pull the horses attached them, over backwards, on the steep hills which we climbed on the way.

Sunday 16th August 1914

It was after midnight when we arrived at the camp, & then we parked our waggons in the best approved style, and picketed the horses on long ropes fixed up from wheel to wheel.

Monday 17th August 1914

After much labour with men & horses during the night; at last I got into my little bivy at 3 A.M. There was not sufficient tent accommodation for officers, however I was very well off in the bivy, and I soon slept the sleep of the just, the little bit of ground on which I slept, was very good for that purpose.

We early feeling fresh, & hungry, as we did not have much in the way of food yesterday. Jones soon had breakfast going, and after that we all felt, & looked better.

The day was spent in camp waiting for orders for our move up country, which is to take place tomorrow.

Emergency rations were issued to all officers N.C.O.s and men at 11 A.M. The tin of bully with 4 ration biscuits, and a little case of groceries when covered with the American cloth waterproof cover. makes a fair sized oblong parcel which has to be carried in the small of the poor soldier's back; mine went into one of the wallets of my saddle.

Monday 17th August 1914

In the afternoon, I went down to the town (Pau) with Major Falkner, we first went to the bank, and changed our money there, it was rather a problem to work out the rate of exchange, but the bank people did it well, & quickly. We put our horses up in a quaint old coaching establishment, & then went out to see Pau. The afternoon, and evening passed quickly, as we did some shopping and got a good tea at a little cafe.

We had a quiet little dinner at one of the hotels, and then went back for our horses; the owner of the coachhouse insisted that we should have some wine with him, & he got up a bottle of the best from the cellar, & we drank his health, & the healths of his wife & family, & they drank ours, & success to the army. We then rode up the hill to camp, and bought 2 doz eggs on the way. The horses were pegged out, & we turned in for the night.

~~Wednesday 19th August 1914~~ Tuesday 18th August 1914

I had a rude awakening at 2 Am. when I received a violent kick on the left thigh from a loose horse which belonged to the 2nd Field Troop R.E. Some 3 or 4 other wild horses cleared my bivouac without touching me. I spoke to Jordan and Egerton in the morning about loose horses, & told them that the incident reminded me of the old days in Canterbury, we parted good friends as of old.

At 10 Am. we left camp ~~at~~ and marched to the Gare du Nord for our entrainment.

There was no trouble about getting the F.A. on to the train, the waggons had to be run up a steep ramp on to the waggons, & packed off properly, but it was done with great ease.

After a long delay our train started off for an unknown destination at 3.15 P.M.

The journey up through France was a very pleasant one, the people were more than good to our men, before long we all had had various presents, & many a man parted with

Tuesday 18th August 1914

His badge to one of the many French girls who were so keen on souvenirs.

All the officers were decorated with flowers, and little bits of ribbon, (tricolor) and tricolored badges.

We did our messing in good style on the train. B. section did just as well as C.

After a short sleep during the night we arrived at Wassigny.

Wednesday 19th August 1914

Began our detrainment at Harsigny at 3 P.M. The men did not realize in their half sleepy state, that they had to get a move on, and there was a regrettable incident when a French R.S.O. went to the door of one of their compartments. The R.S.O. became wildly excited, and spoke about mutinous British soldiers, we pacified him by means of the British R.S.O. and then got our detrainment through in quick time.

We then marched to a field close by, & breakfasted while we were there Jones & Lander gave a side show in the form of a wrestling match.

Major Collingwood & I went for a stroll up the hill to the village of Harsigny where we found the headquarters of the 1st Division.

We soon got orders to march into billets at Grougis, and I started off with the billeting party at 7 A.M. A cyclist guide showed us the way and we had a pleasant ride through the woods to Grougis.

Wednesday 19th August 1914

I was the senior of the billeting party, and a detachment from each of the other sections came with me.

A. Sect Lt Lander
C - Lt Routh

The remainder of the party consisted of the interpreter, and our 3 bat men.

The billeting arrangements were simple, we were allotted a big farm yard with spacious outhouses ~~was used~~ for the N.C.S.O & men, they plenty accommodation. The officers were given billets in various small houses in the village.

Cooking & other sanitary arrangements as in Camp, contaminated wells supplied us with water.

Majors Collingwood, Franks, and myself were billeted in a pretty quaint old farm house in the midst of a splendid kitchen garden; our host a little deformed man was very glad to supply us with eggs & vegetables at a reasonable price. We slept well, all in one room, each in a feather bed of great size, and depth.

Thursday 20th August 1914

When we came in yesterday we heard that things were quiet in Gungis up to the present, & we looked forward to a few days of ease, and a little more time at any rate to get things straight in the sections. We intended to unpatch the operating tent and pitch it today, but this was not to be, neither was the bathing parade, for orders for the march arrived early in the morning.

B. Sect was the first to move, our orders were to march in rear of the 3rd Coldstream Guards at 1.47 P.M. We were ready when the time came and having said "good bye" to the others we fell in in our place.

It was a very sultry afternoon; all the men in the brigade were in fine form, they marched with an easy swing under their heavy packs, and although I say it myself, my little lot treked as well as the best of them.

For the first time ambulance waggons filled me with gloomy thoughts, it was horrible to think that many of those fine fellows would soon have to be carried in them.

Friday 21st August 1914

We left Oisy at 8.30 this morning, and did a fearful march to Marvilles to rest. Marched in rear of the 1st line transport of the 3rd Coldstream.

My billet of last night was a very comfortable one, & my hostess gave me a very good cup of coffee in the early morning.

The march to Marvilles was uneventful, but on the way I picked up the sick of the Irish Gds. at a little village off the line of march about 2½ miles from Oisy. The Quartermaster was one of the sick, he was suffering from lumbago, & sciatica.

On arriving at Marvilles the section was directed down a side road to our billets, but there were no billets for us down that road, I went up through the village to ask the Trade Hops about it, and in the village I ran into the staff of the 1st Division. The A.D.C. Col Thompson told me that we had been allotted billets up near the Trade Hops. I then found that some of the Guards themselves in occupation of our billets. Result words between D.A. D. Hill (Major Irvine) and the Staff Captain (Swames).

Friday August 21st 1914

The outcome of this argument was that we got very good billets, and our waggons were parked on the Green in front of Pale Woods.

Almost as soon as we were settled in, the A.S.C. visited the lines and told me not to prepare for the reception of sick, he then went away, & soon came back with Irvine, and asked me why I had not prepared for reception of sick, so up to this I thought the war is exactly like manoeuvres.

I ordered the Sect. to get ready at once for sick, & soon we had the cover of one of the Gt. waggons (N.S. 97) thrown from the waggon to one of the ambulance waggons; the A. & Q. took out and everything in order for treatment of minor cases, & I then found the A.S.C. Officer E. M. J. and made arrangements with him for the evacuation of more serious cases to rail head in the returning in the returning lorries.

A few sick did roll up later on, and I sent (A) cases back in a lorry to Landreco which was rail head for the division. Sinclair & Shields were supplied with

Friday 21st August 1914.

Dressings, pills, & powders this evening, and in order to make up the ~~def~~ deficiency so caused, I sent a long wire to Advance Depot Med. Stores indenting for dressings, &c.

We had quite a small tea party in the lines in the afternoon, Sinclair & the M. V. Officer were our guests.

There was a weary wait for orders this evening, I waited up until the small hours of the morning, and finally went to bed, but I was not allowed much rest in our luxurious billet, orders & counter orders turned up, & we left our beds at ²²⁻⁸⁻¹⁴ 3.15 A.M. to take the road.

A word about our Marville's Billet.

Host a very good fellow.

Fine house

Splendid garden

We had a long talk with our host, in the evening over a bottle of wine; he had very good maps of the country, & I remember him putting his finger on Blauberg, & saying that "The Germans will never take Blauberg"

Saturday 27th August 1914

W. Section marched out of Marville at 4.30 AM. in rear of the Vade. Ammunition column; for the first time in its proper place. The march was a very orderly one, as heretofore we halted 10 minutes before every hour, for ten minutes.

It was rumoured on the way that the enemy's Cavalry might be expected on our left, but though we kept a sharp look out, we saw none of them.

I had some trouble with a pair of Greys and the medical store ^{wagon} cart on the way, they jibed & put the off wheels of wagon into a deep ditch, it seemed an impossible position for the wagon but with the aid of another pair of H.D. horses it was pulled out without damage to itself or to the medical stores. While the cart was in this difficult position the A.D. M. I. rode up and then came along with me, and talked about the medical service in war, &c.

A great many men fell out with sore feet on the march today, at one time I had 17 in the waggons.

Saw Jack D. Keefe marching along in charge of the Royal Trenching Post.

Saturday 29th August 1914

We arrived at La Lagueville early in the afternoon, where we found a barn for the men, and the officers bivouached in an orchard.

On arriving we opened up for reception of sick, and had quite a busy afternoon at work, and soldiers' hearts, a few of the cases were temporarily unfit, and I intended to send them to the base on the first opportunity, and I admitted them for this purpose, but there were no empty supply lorries in the evening so they remained over.

Late in the evening Lieut Shields ~~Frank~~ ^{James} of the Irish Guards reported that an officer of his ~~bat~~ was down with appendicitis. This officer was seen by Hattersley, and myself, and though we were uncertain about the diagnosis, we decided to bring him along in one of the waggons in the morning, & keep him under observation.

The only available treatment for him was a No 9, and a liquid diet.

Had a long weary wait for orders this night and finally tired of waiting I turned into my
* Lt Inslow.

Saturday 22nd August 1914 (Morning of 23rd Aug)

bivouac and waited there in the light of my lamp, orders came at 12.30 Am. and amendments, and counter orders kept on coming at irregular intervals, apparently the order to march at 4 Am was final, but at 2 Am. we got the final order to be ready for the march at 2.30 Am.

Sunday 23rd August 1914

Td Section marched out of La Longueville at 2.30 A.M. in rear of the Td's. Ammunition Column, before leaving La Longueville we got Quastow into one of the waggons and brought him along. He had quite a number of sick from the Td's during the search this morning, and I hoped to be able to send them to a hospital on the line of communication, but there was no means available, & though we passed two railway stations on the way I had to keep the waggons full of sick.

It was rumoured early in the day that the Germans had made a rapid advance to meet us, & that there would be some fighting around Mons today, the men were glad to hear this and we pushed on as hard as possible, there was one halt soon after the start, and I do not remember any more after that. This was a hard march on the men with their heavy loads and empty stomachs, they were in a bad way when we halted on the hill near Hefon at 11.30 A.M.

Sunday 23rd August 1914

The column halted on the high ground south of Hyon at 11.30 Am. I lost sight of the battalions of the Tade who marched around a corner of the road. During this halt my cooks were busy getting breakfast for the men, and they were not long about it, as they did not know how long we had to stay. I remember the bacon & eggs we had that morning when I sat with my back to a stake of oats, with Hattersley & Hills with 2 batteries of the 4th Tade R.F.A. in position on either side of us, & not very far away.

This position was not a good one for B. Sect. but there was nothing to do but wait for orders, and in the afternoon about 1.30 P.M. the Staff Captain came and asked me to send an officer on billetting duty to meet him at the U. of Bommesteau in 2 an hour, as we were going into billets at Quevy le Petit & Quevy le Grand.

The Tade retired soon afterwards, and just as we were on the point of turning round at a cross road, I heard the sound of

Sunday 23rd August 1914.

Guns in front, and I saw a few shells burst in the distance.

B Sect retired in rear of No 5 Field Coy. R.E. in fact behind the brigade. We found the road blocked in Cify, and it was here that I felt for the first time that the Show had begun. As there was a continuous growling of artillery behind near Hyon and we could see the Shrapnel bursting all over the place.

As soon as the road was cleared we went on to Query le Petit by a bye road, just outside the village I saw the red cross flag flying, & on turning in found C section in possession, but there was plenty room for both Sects. and we put up in the field as it had been allotted to us.

I was glad see Major Falkner. Capt Outcliff and Lt Pouth again, it seemed that old No 4 would soon be ^{re}-united.

We gave the men skinner as soon as possible, and all the afternoon we watched the artillery fight in the distance.

Sunday 27th August 1914

The shells kept on coming over a wood about a mile away, & they burst up high in groups of 6 or 8, at times the fight approached our position by a little, & we heard the explosions more distinctly, but in the evening the firing gradually died down, and finally stopped soon after 9.30 P.M.

Early in the evening No 5 F.A. passed by on the road.

The A.D. M.S. Col Thompson visited us at 5.30 P.M. and read Sir John French's letter to the men, asking them to uphold the traditions of the British Army, and telling us that we are in the presence of the enemy.

Having heard the sound of guns, & seen the shells burst in anger, I sat down in the afternoon, and made my wife, and sent it off to R in a special "urgent cover".

The order of the evening was that we were to be ready to march at any time, so when night came on we slept for short intervals.

Sunday 23rd August 1914

out in the open field and when after a short sleep I was wakened up by the cold I got up and walked myself hot again, a cold wetting mist hung over the field, my best sleep was under a waggon cover where I found Hattersley slumbering in comparative comfort.

Under orders of the H.O. W.S. Rutcliffe, & Ranta (C Sect) went out with the bears, & waggons of C Sect in the evening, I did not hear where they were going.

Late in the evening Hills, & I opened up a large barn and filled it with the sick from T3 & C Sects. Ouslow spent the night there with the men, most of whom were weary, & footsore; and there was one case of severe bronchitis.

Monday 24th August 1914

I was up, and about in the small hours of the morning, before there was light, I visited the Sick in the barn, and found them all the better for a night's rest, most of them were still sleeping, and snoring as only soldiers can.

The battle began again at 4 Am. when at that hour I heard the guns firing heavily, & not very far away. Soon after this when I was going back from the hospital to the camp (7.8) I saw 8 six, or eight shells burst up in the distant clouds, they looked like rockets, and I did not know what they meant until I saw an aeroplane flying about up amongst them, I watched this extraordinary shooting for a time through my glasses, but I soon lost sight of the aeroplane, and I did not see it again.

I do not know whether it came down or not.

At or about 5 Am. the A.D.M.S. came and told us that a retirement had been ordered, and he ordered us to fall further back as quickly as we could, otherwise we should soon be scuppered.

Monday 24th August 1914

We marched slowly back to Genly, meeting many and various troops on the narrow road, soon after we passed through Quincy le Grand there was an N.C.O. (Sergeant) and 27 men of the 15th Hussars. The Sergeant told me that they were all that remained of his squadron, all the officers of the squadron had been killed, & most of the men were missing. There were other remnants along the road.

I should have first written about our sick - we took 2 waggon loads of them along with us leaving two waggons available for cases which might crop up along the road. All the rifles and ammunition we carried on the roofs of the ~~off~~ the waggons, I was very sorry to have to leave 14 men behind in the barn, but there was nothing to do, as we had no room for them.

We marched slowly along a most sorrowful road, there were a few refugees on track yesterday when we went up, but today there were hundreds of poor miserable people flying from the

Monday 6th August 1914

Burning villages which had lit up the sky last night. There were old men, and women who sat down on the roadside when they could walk no longer. There were mothers with their little children, and a few young girls walking along the road, and at short intervals we found refugee convoys made up of all sorts of horses and waggons, full of people and their household goods. All these poor people who were walking along the road carried bags full of their few little things even the little children had their hands full, but ~~and~~ although the times were full of trouble these poor people looked more cheerful, and hopeful than one would expect. At one point just beyond the Malplaquet monument a large party of civilians were digging trenches. All the time the guns were booming in the rear.

We halted in a field at the crossing

Monday 7th August 1914

at Priez d'Enlle, and remained there for about 2 hours, until Major Collingwood arrived with A Section, then No 4 F.A. less wagons & horses of one Section marched down the road to Pont sur Sambre.

While we had been waiting at Priez d'Enlle Simclair passed by with his battalion, and Egan with a section of No 6 F.A.

As we marched through La Longueville we saw an A.C. soldier's (British) funeral, the Curé gave him the last rites of the Church.

Found Pont sur Sambre full of French Cavalry, they looked very fine fellows, & they were very good to our men as we passed through; the glass of neat brandy which one of them gave me, fairly took my breath away I thought that it was Vin blanc, & swallowed it as such, however it warmed me up, & made me feel better.

We went into a field near Pont sur Sambre

Monday 24th August 1914

and bivouached there for the night.

The bell tents of B Coet were pitched for the night, & we made them as comfortable as possible in them for the time being.

Quelso felt much better this evening, and a wash, & shave altered his appearance very much for the better.

We all had baths and shaved and felt much better for it in the evening, and after a good meal we turned in to our bivies and slept the sleep of the just.

A French Cavalry ^{Officer} came into our camp in the evening, he was full of buck about the war, and particularly about the Cavalerie Francaise.

At least a bde. of French Cavalry passed during the evening

Tuesday 26th August 1914

After a good night's rest which was badly wanted we marched out of camp at 6 P.M. to join the 4th Guards Bde at Landreay. The going along the road was very slow owing to the crush of troops of all sorts in full retreat.

I met Paddy Quyer in charge of the Regt L.B. of the D.C. Co. He had lost his unit, but was making for Le Cateau to join them there, both himself and his party looked tired weary, and he told me that he had had a busy time at Douai on Sunday.

A few miles farther down the road when we were nearing Maroilles I met Tom Potter who was very depressed about the whole show.

Just when we had arrived at the outskirts of Landreay in the afternoon at 5 P.M., a terrified crowd of civilians rushed out in a fearful panic, shouting "Les Allemands". These people were running for their lives, some were on foot others in motor cars, some in horse waggons, and frightened parents were running with their little children in frames or in their arms. We got through this crush with difficulty, and then when we were all but in Landreay the order came down the column that any men who were being carried in the

Monday ~~14th~~, Tuesday 15th August 1914

Ambulance waggons who were fit to go into the firing line were to go forward immediately with their rifles and ammunition. No this order came down the column, the addition "A.S.C. get out your rifles." was made by some person or persons unknown to them whoever they may be for this was the cause of awful confusion, several rounds went off on the road.

A Corporal of the Irish Guards whose feet were swollen, & red like boiled lobsters, went forward at the double on receipt of this order, this was the best performance that I saw in the war.

Our next order was to turn about on the road and this movement was carried out in considerable disorder, the sections did not come up to the turning point with their usual exactness. We went back on our tracks and turned into a field about 2 miles out on the left of the road.

The next order was to get out A. & D. looks out, & prepare for the reception of wounded, this was done and we waited in the pouring rain.

Soon after 8 P.M. the blow began with terrific rifle, machine gun, & artillery fire, at Landree, it was a fearful sound crashing out in the night the guns were obviously firing at close range, and flash answered flash in rapid succession until about 11.30 P.M. The rifle, & machine gun fire

Tuesday 26th August 1914

The rifle, & machine gun fire occurred in waves which gave me the impression that it was a well controlled rapid fire.

During the fight I had a busy time with all the horses of the P.R.; they had been tied up to a wire fence and there was great danger of a stampede.

A large number of motor lorries with bright headlights went into Landreux while the fight was going on, they reminded me of London by night.

About 11 P.M. when the firing was most fierce we thought that the position of the P.R. was not sound, and might possibly be wanted for guns, so we marched out of the field, & took the road for Marolles; I insisted on absolute silence, & no smoking on the road, having gone about a mile down the road, we turned back again, & marched back to Landreux.

The P.R. (less the heavy B. Det.) marched down the bye road to the village of Fravil which was about 1/2 mile from Landreux. We halted on the road for the night, most of the officers & men slept for a few hours on the roadside, but I found a barn with some straw in it, and I got about 2 hours sleep there. The people of the farm made some coffee for us in the small hours of the morning, and all the time we could hear the fighting at Landreux.

Wednesday 26th August 1914

Hattersley rejoined the P.A. with the bearers of TB Sect soon after 2 Am. He had been at Landreux all night, but got no orders from the Tade.

About 2.30 Am. we marched from Farnil, and met a supply column in the village, immediately on leaving the village 3 shells burst over a field about 100 yds from us, they did no harm, & we marched on without further adventure; a little way down the road an old woman gave a large quantity of milk to the sick, & to our men. On coming through a wood we met a strong patrol of the Scots Greys on the road, and we met the main body of our Tade a little farther on where our road joined the main road.

A section found a place in the column, and marched on, but TB, & C Sections had to halt on the bye road as there was not sufficient space for the whole P.A. in the column.

While waiting to fall in in the rear of the Tade. Tade Col Scott Kerr passed on the road, he was leading his horse, and he looked very worried and sad; he asked me in passing, what I was going to do, and I said that I would march in the rear of the column, & carry stragglers in the waggons

Wednesday 26th August 1914

The General told me that the losses of the Tade at Landreey last night were 160 killed and wounded. He then passed on with the column.

Major Palmer, Lt Hattersley, & myself were waiting at the junction of the roads when the Tade Major (Major Hore-Authorn) came up, and spoke to me. He said there are 160 killed & wounded in Landreey, and he then gave me an order for the whole Field Ambulance to go to Landreey, to collect, and evacuate the wounded, and to bury the dead. I asked him if B & C sections would not be sufficient, & he replied, No. the whole Field ambulance must go back, he also said that we should probably have Landreey to ourselves all day, as the Germans would probably not come in there. I ~~sent Hattersley~~ he finally told me that the Tade was making for Lizee.

I sent Hattersley with the above order to Major Collingwood C. Co. 4th F.A. In the meantime Major Palmer marched with B & C sections back to Landreey; I waited for A section to turn about on the road, and then rode back with Major Collingwood. A section took a considerable time to turn on the road, and by the time this section

Wednesday 26th August 1914

Got back to the junction of the roads B & C Sects were about 2 miles ahead on the way to Landreey.

In my opinion it was the delay in waiting for A Sect. that lost the Field Ambulance later in the day, and further I believe that with B & C Sects would have been able to evacuate all the wounded who could be moved Landreey, and that if those sections alone had gone back, we should have been able to rejoin the Bde later in the day at Guise.

We marched to Landreey and passed an outpost of the Gloucesters on the way, when we were about a mile outside the town a battery began to fire from a position quite close to us, on the right of the road.

Before leaving the column of Guards, Sinclair asked me to get his hat for him from the barracks at Landreey.

When A section arrived at the Military Hospital Landreey, we found most of the waggons of B & C Sects already loaded with wounded, these waggons B & C were all full up at about 8 A.M. and Maj Pealman marched back with them to rejoin the Bde.

In the meantime Major Collingwood after consultation with the Lt. Col. of Field Ambulance who was already in Landreey, & had been there all night in touch with the Bde, ordered the Prespers to search

Thursday 27th August 1914 (Contd.)

There was heavy firing East, West, & South of Landreey all day, but Landreey itself was very quiet.

A German Officer said to me, "We shall capture your whole army in a few days, & you will return home in a short time. I said to him, "How will he come fighting before you do that?"

German M.O.s arrived to the tent first on visiting our hospital today, all of them had their fists cocked in their hands while talking to us, they were most overbearing & rude in their manner to us, but they were not abusive.

We gave them drawings, for which they did not even thank us, they were full up of the will of the Emperor.

All the cases in my ward are doing well, some of the wounds are nasty, but they are all clean, and all of them ought to recover. One man who was severely wounded in many places by a high explosive shell, is convalescing today, & since yesterday the prognosis in his case is much better.

Wednesday 26th August 1914

the town and the scene of the night attack, for wounded and dead. I went out with the horses and was still searching when B tent Sub. Sect. marched out with Major Falhner. No wounded were found in this search but 4 dead were brought in. Early in the search I found a school which I suggested to Major Collingwood, might be used as a dressing station; this school had been fitted up as a hospital, & was in every way suitable for a dressing station, so it was chosen, & we moved two wards full of wounded into it from the Military Hospital.

The personnel of No 19 both officers & men were all rather exhausted after their night's work, & some of our officers were busy helping them with the wounded.

About 10 AM. a German motor car appeared on the bridge over the canal, and Major Furness of No 19 B. came out and waved to them to come on, but they turned back, and about 2 an hour afterwards a patrol of German infantry (2 men) marched on to the bridge, and remained there.

Hills went out on the road, and waved a red cross flag, so that the German patrol ~~was~~ should not

Thursday 27th August 1914 (Contd.)

At, or about 10 AM. I went with a party of 8 of our men to search the barracks which had been so hurriedly evacuated by the guards, for food; the scene in these barracks was simply awful, panic, & confusion were written plainly all over the place; the men had left everything behind, there were rifles (not many of them) well equipped, thousands of rounds of ammunition, & the packs of about 2 battalions.

This scene was most depressing for my little search party, and the work we had to do was also of a depressing nature; we found a large quantity of stale bread, & several tins of Bally Best (Emergency ration), and had them moved back to our dressing station. In the barrack square we found a large quantity of meat but unfortunately it was putrid & unfit for use.

While searching the barracks I found Sinclair's kit, and the medical equipment of his regiment, hidden away in a cellar; I had the lot moved over to the dressing station.

In the afternoon, at four o'clock there was quite a heavy outbreak of rifle fire which lasted only 2 or 3 minutes; there were none of our troops around at the time & 2 = 4

Wednesday 26th August 1914

fire on us; soon after this, (about 10.45 AM) a patrol of the Scots Greys entered the town, but they did not come into action against the German patrol, as a medical officer of No. 19 P.A. wanted them to go back.

Our hands were stopped in their search for wounded by other German troops who were now coming into the town, & Major Collingwood, & I saw one of our small parties held up, and being searched with their hands up, we went forward to remonstrate, and our own hands went up, but we were not searched. The German officer who took us came to the hospital and all arms were handed over to him, although his patrol was with him with their rifles, & fixed bayonets, this officer kept his pistol ready in his hand. This German officer (English) asked me a few questions about Genl. Sir D. Haig.

- (a) Whether he was at the front or not?
- (b) Where is he?

Finally he said that he was a personal friend of General Haig, that he had frequently shot with him in Scotland, and had stayed with him in England. My answer to the questions, (a & b) was, I do not know.

He then said that British wounded had fired from various red + hospitals, on his regiment, and that many Belgian civilians had also fired on them, when they were coming through the

Thursday 27th August 1914

Heavy rain all the afternoon & evening.

Up in the morning, and attended to the wounded in the dressing station, there were so many of us that there was not space for us to do, & the cases were all strewn, & made as comfortable as possible in a very short time.

During the morning we listened to the sound of the guns at Le Cotten, & we all hoped that they would come some back, so that we could get out of Landreux, and rejoin our own army, at times they seemed to come nearer, but eventually, the firing died away in the distance, and we were left with the Germans in Landreux.

The rumors which circulated amongst us, last evening to the effect that we are to march, & work with the German army is so obviously without foundation they cannot take our uniform from us, & with it our lives would be worth only a very short purchase in the midst of our enemies. Today it is evident that the local German authorities do not know what to do with us, and we are all full of the hope of a speedy return to our own army's in accordance with the terms of the Geneva Convention, we little know how this Convention had been disregarded, then up, & treated as ordinary by the more confident Germans.

Wednesday 26th August 1914

Belgian villages, and he added whenever ever this occurred we burnt the village, and killed all the inhabitants, men, women, & children; we were horrified at hearing such a cold blooded statement, and asked him if he thought that such wholesale slaughter of non-combatants were right, and he replied; it is war. This gave us furious to think.

In order to relieve No 19 F.R. we filled two of our wards with some of their wounded, & commenced operative treatment.

About mid-day I went to No 19 F.R. and amputated the leg of a Sergeant, who had been hit by shrapnel. In condyloid amputation, there was no difficulty about the operation, except the popliteal artery ~~was~~ which I had to clamp with a pair of Spencer Wells forceps, as the silk ligature was rotten, and useless. The patient stood the operation very well, & was sent back to his ward in good condition.

While I was engaged at the above operation my horse, with saddle, emergency ration, &c was stolen from the hospital compound by some German soldiers.

Next I went back to No 4 F.R., and gave Lt. Clegg to a case for Dwyer who trimmed up 2 hands which had been shattered by shrapnel.

28th Aug 1914

While giving chloroform to this case, I felt very tired, and sleepy, the operation was a tedious one, & before it was finished, I was pretty well under the anaesthetic myself, it had been a long day, & full of excitement, sneaking into the lines of the enemy, searching for wounded, getting captured, learning the game at Le Cateau, amputation, anaesthetic, and no food all day.

We lived in emergency ration which we ate in the evening, and finally went to bed in an empty room of our dressing station.

But now slept in straw, on the remainder of the dressing station. They were fairly comfortable, but they were without food.

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Officers Forbidden. Windows razor chairs
Smokes etc. Onions. Berlin Tageblatt.
Officers Potato Peeling Carrots etc
As their own washing.

Searches hidden Gold. Jean
Guarded by dogs. Melancholia.

Orders for Altengrabow.

Munich factories.

Altengrabow Reporting. British Linnets.
Hair Cut. White Bread
Orders for Göttingen

Journey to Göttingen. Hungary journey.
Barack 7 L Russian Inspection

Prison.

Famine Scenes { Rubbish cart
Soup of 30th Hannoverians.

Parals. Duty Inspector.

Pte M. L. Ewen. Nach Ein Englandes
Kaput.

Jene Herscher

Smoking in tents forbidden permitted outside
14-16 hrs Punishment

Prisoners Hospital.
Cholera Hospital. German Prison
Ramen Personnel

I act as interpreter to
Dr. Wachsbender.

The Tuberculosis ward.

Death of Russian T.B. Case
Baths & Exercise.

Prison's Bath

Reingolbers Operation

Civilians at the wire.

Orders for Chudorf.
Prisoners in better condition
Better Huts More Fuel
Sanitation Satisfactory

Disinfection

Food bad. Diet Table

Work Planting Stones not Spuds

Hospitals Chudorf.

Complaints of Amputations

Typhus Fever Russian Huts

~~Food~~

Arrival of wounded at Chudorf

Luxtonia Pay.

Some German Huts

Carl Stange

The Pic Inspector. Iron Cross
Commandant von Stolz

Dem. Hamilton

Halt, Das Englische Pferd

Die Cemetery.

