

Reports from Deputy Inspector General Duncan Menzies at the General Hospital, Scutari

Publication/Creation

Sep-Dec 1854

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Recd 1st October

FCO 28/1

General Hospital Scutari

2nd Sept 1854

My dear Sir

Since writing to you yesterday about
the Medicine Stores I find the Medway has as well
as the Jason passed in a day or two ago, conveying to
Varna. The Golden Fleec, came in yesterday afternoon
with the 21st Reg. aboard and Mr. Ward has ascertained
that there are some Medical Comfits for our
Department, which he will see are landed today.
There cannot chiefly of Port wine and Brandy.

I was going to write to you, when you then arrived,
to inform you of the deficient bedding now in the
Purveyors Stores, to meet the demand that may
shortly be made upon us and hope the Stores by
the above Vessels may therefore be sent on with
whatever else can be spared from Varna as early
as possible. Mr. Ward has certainly been very
kind in all his arrangements here and I am

being to say I am still unable to get his half
yearly Returns to examine by a Board, alleging as
before his inability to complete them for want of
sufficient assistance in the way of Clerks to carry on
the duties of his Department And he is now principally
occupied with the Hospital stoppages. I have had
repeatedly to call his attention to importunities which
I expected of him to remedy, but nothing has been
done. The post office and Dispensary have however
at last been fitted up and which I find to be a
great convenience. I now only wish the Tanks
would give me immediate possession of that portion
of the building in their hands. but this being the
period for one of their great Annual Festivals,
their movement will be slow. —

There has been a great demand of late made
upon the Apothecary and Surgeon Stores for Medicines
and Medical Concocts by Surgeons of the Regiment
comprising the 4th Division Stationed on the Bosphorus
and I have just had also to take over about 60
of their sick and amongst the number several
Cholera Cases have appeared. I trust now that
the weather is becoming cooler, we shall have

fewer cases of this disease under treatment; and
it is satisfactory to observe that our loss here has
hitherto been comparatively small. - my Staff at this
morning found, do their duty very satisfactorily,
and Capt. Simpson Brady is the only officer at present
on the sick list with acute dysentery. I certainly
think with you, that one of the Medical officers
at Gallipoli might be spared to come here and
will thank you to name the officer. - Dr. Briggs
& Dr. Rogers and Capt. Staff Simpson Evans have arrived
here. The former is in a very weakly state and
requiring immediate medical care. Mr. Evans, I
hope to be able to employ shortly, although he also
looks weakly. - Dr. Brush late of the 93rd Regt. has
also come down to join the 28th Regt now
at Kutah. He informs me that my Nephew
(Capt. Surgeon R. Higgins 93rd Regt.) has been suffering
severely of late from Fever followed by dysentery,
and that he had left him in the sick list. -

I trust he is getting better and if he will
not be able to go on with his Regiment, as Dr. Brush
his late Surgeon, seemed to think he would not,
may I beg you will do me the favor to let
my Nephew's case into your consideration and

advise him what is best for him to do. I have written
to him to say that if he is not sufficiently recovered
for duty, that he had better apply to the
Commissioner either to come here on leave of absence
on account of his health or go to England on a short
leave. But I shall be satisfied with your
decision in the matter. All I can say of my
Nephew is, that he has always been most
zealous and attentive to his duties and I trust
he has given you every satisfaction. He possesses
high testimonials of qualifications from Dublin.

Trusting shortly to hear of the success of your
arms before Sebastopol and of your safe
return home. I am very dear Sir.

Yours sincerely
J. H. Murray

Dr. H. A. Hall

Paris

Varna

J. H. Murray has been told by that I yesterday
received information that Mr. Kirk-
who has been appointed Adjutant-General to
the 23rd Division, is now at Pera and
residing at the Hotel d'Europe.

D. M.

General Hospital & certain

19th September 1854

My dear Sir

I was glad to receive your letter
 written off St. Helena and to hear that
 our Army has been able to land in the Crimea
 without any loss or even opposition. I trust all
 has since gone well with you. - I sent the Interpreter
 the following day I received your letter to the Austrian
 and French Post Offices, to enquire if there were
 any letters for you. but I regret to say there
 are none, nor have any been received as yet.
 I shall however from
 time to time make further enquiry and so that
 by the first opportunity to the Mainland
 I have written your names and address in
 ship papers at both Post Offices. so that
 they will know how to find and any letters
 that may arrive for you. I have also posted

your letter for Mr. Green as you requested and
have paid for it perhaps upon it and will be
dispatched of the Austrian Mail packet on
Thursday. Mr. Chapman paid me the same

thanks and you thank of. I trust you will

send me your account for your family.

I yesterday notified Mr. Green officially
the arrival here of 15 Staff Assistant Surgeons

from England to take as Dispensers of the Division.

Five of those Officers have been provided with

apartments on board of the "Mauritius" Steamer which

has very opportunely arrived from Cape with

the 57th Regt. on board. The remaining 6 with the

Dispensers I have detained here for duty for

the reasons I have given you and until I

receive your instructions.

I am now anxious to hear all

are Invalids ready to proceed to England with those
that have lately arrived from Varna belonging
to the Ambulance Corps and other Regiments - and
in anticipation of receiving authority from Head
Quarters to hold a Medical Board upon them,
I have already reported one and shall in a day
or two forward our proceedings for approval.

It being my opinion that these men should
be allowed to proceed to England as early as
possible, as they only take up much Hospital
Accommodation that might be available for
more serious and urgent cases as they will be
arriving from the Field - besides I may tell you
the Admiral is in hopes of having a good
opportunity of sending the Invalids home shortly
and he has written to the Commandant to be
prepared accordingly.

Yours faithfully
J. H. Jones

S. H. Jones

John H. Jones Esq

Inspector-General

British Expeditionary Army
Crimea

Westminster

1855

Sept 19 Sept 1854

Frederick Douglass Esq
J. Surgeon Mass

FCO 28/3a
(Enclosing FCO 28/3t-d)
General Hospital
Sunderland 9th Nov. 1857

My dear Hall

By this time you will have no
doubt seen Dr. Spencer, who will give you all the
news &c. It appears this want of sent, Ad
Liner &c. &c. has sent all the people in England
mad, and I fear I shall now be quite
tormented with supplying of all kinds from various
quarters. Already I have got a parcel of (Kashmir
from Sanyona, sent. 4th Nov. 1857) and
and yesterday, I had a communication from
Lieut. Sir Ralph Darling at Brighton informing
me that 24 Cases containing the above
mentioned articles in 5 Packages were to be
forwarded by the Ship Miranda from the
Ladies and Gentlemen resident there, which
of course I must acknowledge with thanks

but will mention at the same time that we
were not so helpful as they are again from the
false reports in the newspapers. I forward large

copy of a letter I have from the "Herald" sent to
me by the Director General and requesting that
he may be furnished with all possible information

in reference to the allegations contained therein
and to find out if possible the name of the
writer, which will not be an easy matter

to do, as I suspect it must have been addressed
to place of an office. I may tell you that

there was a great deal of confusion and

inconvenience in landing the sick & wounded the
their arrival here from the Vesp. at the time

alluded to, owing to the Admiral having
sent his steamer on two different occasions

along side and put the sufferers on shore
at an early hour in the morning contrary to

our wishes as much than once expected to the

even a drink, until they had their dinner
either aboard or brought on shore cooked with-
them, which was not the case on the two
occasions I speak of and probably they may
have been used to the remark, when disembar-
ked, "they had neither Tea, Tobacco nor any thing
except $\frac{1}{2}$ loaf Bread". I shall mention these
particulars to Dr. Smith, with any other infor-
mation I can collect respecting the foregoing
conjectures. I send you Copy of a Memoir
which was given him for other lately
arrived from England of directions of Dr. Smith
to which I will of course pay particular
attention; and you will find a note from
Mr. Weyland in reply to an official letter
him to be prepared for the immediate
reception of the wounded. I have also
expected to know when they will be ready
for the Board to speak to Miss Weyland
Relatives of receipt. I press on to the 30 Sept.
agreed to you to give advice from and the

in the light of the winter season. In the
nurses and the able superintendent of the
hospital have entered upon their duties.
They have at first only a few of the worst cases
brought under the hospital's direction
of the medical officers, who of course attend to
and ship the principal wounds themselves.
There is doubt as to the success of
surgery and the way. The only
find most useful in the whole of the
most important in the looking nursing
Department, and which has been from various
causes so large an establishment as this
is rather objectionable and in the we have
stated in addition it is not the that the
best can be properly attended to. There
always have to be placed together of the
hospital's organization. That being said in the
having for the hospital's officers and
to their removal. I have been to their before
their Regiments; when they were first becoming

Dr. Meazies

General Hospital,

Scutari, 9th Novr. 1854.

My dear Hall,

By this time you will have no doubt seen Dr. Spencef, who will give you all the news, etc. It appears this want of Lint and Linen etc. etc. has sent all the people ⁱⁿ ~~of~~ England ~~mad~~ ~~trade~~, and I fear I shall now be quite stormed with supplies of all kinds from various quarters. Already I have got a parcel of *charpie* from Smyrna sent with *out any* address, and yesterday I had a communication from General Sir Ralph Darling at Brighton informing me that six cases containing the above mentioned articles and bandages were to be forwarded by H. M's Ship Miranda from the Ladies and ~~gxx~~ Gentlemen resident there, which of course I must acknowledge with thanks, but will mention at the same time that we were not so helpless as they imagined from the reports in the newspapers. I forward to you copy of an other extract from the "Sun" sent to me by the Director General and requesting that he may be furnished with all possible information in reference to the allegations contained therein, and to find out if possible the name of the writer, which will not be an easy matter to do, as I suspect it must have been a soldier in place of an officer. I may tell you that there was a great deal of confusion and irregularity in landing the sick and wounded on their arrival here from the vessel at the time alluded to, owing to the Admiral having sent his steamer on two different occasions alongside and put the sufferers on shore at an early hour in the morning contrary to my

2.

wishes as ~~were~~ more than once expressed to the Commandant, until t~~h~~ they had their dinners either on board or brought on shore cooked with ~~them~~ them, which was not the case on the two occasions I speak of, and probably this may have given rise to the remark, when disembarked, "they had neither tea, rations nor anything except $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of Bread." I shall mention these particulars to Dr. Smith, with any other information collect respecting this paragraph in question.

Copy

Memorandum for Sentani

FCO 28/36

(Enclosed with FCO 28/3a)

A letter from Mr. Apothecary Reid to Dr. Smith dated 6 PM. 23 Sep: saying two different supplies of Medicines had not reached Sentani at that date.

They were both on board the Andway, which ship had been obtained by Chobara at Malla. She sailed from Malla on the evening of the 23: it is therefore assumed that these Medicines must have arrived at the latter on the 30: - to be Dr. Murgis "as a suggestion of Dr. Smith" to communicate with Dr. Hall. That all Medicines should be disembarked at Sentani, from whence supplies may be forwarded by steamer to the Cinema, according to orders that may be received from Dr. Hall.

If Medical Officers arrive not in immediate charge of troops, to disembark

What number ^{he} may find necessary to
efficiently carry on the duties at Scutari
and he must not hesitate to adopt this
course at the same time not to take
more than are absolutely necessary, as
Dr. Smith finds great difficulty in
obtaining proper qualified Medical
Officers at the present time. in the
7th vol. 1 Dr. Inspector. 1 1st Regt. Mott. 2.
2nd Regt. 20 ap. Surgeons sailed from
Liverpool and 20 ap. Surgeons are now
in London and expected to leave in 2 or 3
days at latest. —

no date given
D.M.

1521

FCO 28/3c

(Enclosed with

FCO 28/3a)

Burraack & Scutaro

7th November 1853

Sir

In reply to your letter
of this morning I beg to acquaint
you that I have directed every
effort to be made by my depart-
ments towards the objects in view
viz. that of getting Beds ready to
be laid down to meet any
Casualties that may arise.
and if the weather permit and
fatigue parties can be procured
to fill the Palliases I have
reason to believe that by

D. Minzies Esq

to morrow Evening there will
be over three Hundred Beds
ready to be laid down in such
places as the Medical Officer
in charge may direct.

I beg to observe however
although you are already acquainted
with the fact. that the Purveyor's
Department is dependent upon
sources over which it has no
control for all out door labours
and that fatigue parties are
most uncertain in their attendance
and very inefficient in strength
when they do attend. So that

our best efforts are frequently
met by vexatious delays
and dis appointment
but of this you may be
assured that every attention
will be directed to over
come these difficulties &
to be prepared as far
as practicable for any
emergency.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Yours most obedt
Humble servant
Wm. Ford
Prov. & Genl.

Dr. Gndm



Aug 18th 1854

FCO 28/2d

(Enclosed with FCO 28/3a)

J. Hall

Extract from "The" London Newspaper 11th Oct^r

"Scutari Sept^r 28. - We have got to Scutari at last, but I thought we should not have brought any men at all, as the men kept during the voyage quickly dying of their wounds there were only 3 Surgeons on board to dress and look after 600 men - My dear fellow, England has a great deal to answer for, in not having sufficient medical men to attend the wounded soldiers, who risked their lives and bled for their country's honor. I never had my arm looked to by a D^r from the day I received the wound till yesterday, but thank God from previous experience, I was able to look after it myself, and the wounds of others also. During our stay on board the ship many a bright man lost his life through the want of medical attendance, we threw about 80 or 100 overboard coming down the Black Sea, but it is just as bad at Scutari. We disembarked on the 26th and we have had neither tea, ration, nor anything else except for 16 of bread.

There was a draft of 300 men to have sailed today for the Crimea, but it was countermanded. There are no more troops wanted in the Crimea, as Sebastopol is all but down, but I cannot vouch for the truth of it.

We lost about 168 in our regiment, and the British Army, about 1,200 or 1,300 altogether. Give my love to all, and God bless you. Good bye."

Stungun with Eschsch
from Times newspaper
of the 11th October 1854
- Typed -

Rev. 21 Dec 1857

FCO 28/4a

(Enclosing FCO 28/4b-c)

St.

Acute 15 Dec 57

My dear Hall

Having in my former
letter informed you that my
health was giving way under
Recent attacks of Neural Complaints
with general derangement of the
Digestive organs - and having
never been affected with
Bronchitis and now scarcely
able to leave my quarters
and to which I am very
subject - in exposure to cold
and wet - I feel in

after consulting and the advice
of my medical attendants, who
consider a change of climate
absolutely necessary; that I
ought accordingly to make
the intended official application
to you for a Medical Board,
and to which I will thank
you to give your support.

and in case it should be
considered necessary to
recommend my being allowed
to proceed to England for the
recovery of my health.

perhaps you will be good
enough to nominate the Officer
whom you would wish to
relieve me here.

I stated in a recent
communication to the Director
General, that my health was
not equal to the duties I
had to perform - so that
he will be prepared for
my making this application
before and which I am very
sorry to be compelled to do
at the present time.

Faithfully yours
S. M. Mungie

Scutari 15 Dec 1854

L. Mungius Esq^r
Reporting his improved
State of health, and sending
Certificate -

- Typed -

Dec. 21 Dec 1854

Itan

FCO28/48

(Enclosed with FCO28/4a)

I hereby certify that
having attended Dr. Hauser
professionally for the last
three weeks it is my
opinion that his health
is in a very broken state.

He is suffering from
general functional
derangement of the
digestive organs with
considerable excess of
action of the kidneys,
and his food is not
properly assimilated, the

result of which is a
considerable daily loss
of flesh. He has also
been prescribed for by
me in consequence of
repeated & obstinate attacks
of Diarrhoea from which
he has recovered in the
mean time, though there
is still a tendency to the
recurrence of that disease.

It is my opinion that
Dr. Menzies' ill health
has arisen from constant
labour at the desk and
the anxiety attending

the harassing nature of
his duties for the last
three months, and I
have several times
advised him to apply for
leave to proceed to
England for his recovery,
but he has avoided
taking that step in
consequence of the position
he occupies at present
at Sentari. His sufferings
from deranged health are
marked in his countenance,
and must be obvious to
any professional person,

and it is my opinion
that unless he relaxes
from his labours and
adopts a change of climate,
he will ere long be in
a more serious condition
as regards his health.

J. P. French M.D.

Staff Surgeon
Vollus

General Hospital
Scutari

December 9th 1854.

Drumgins

Scutari 30 December 1854

Private

John Hall Esq. M.D.
Inspector General
Headquarters
Cinema

Purale-

Recd. 21 Decr 1854

FCO 28/4c

J.H.

(Enclosed with FCO 28/4a)

General Hospital

Letter

15. Decr 1854

I certify that D^r Menzies D^r Inspector
General of Hospitals, who has been
suffering for some weeks past with
frequent attacks of diarrhoea, is
now ill with some throat and Bronchitis,
and as his health and strength are
already much impaired by the great
mental and bodily exertions required
of him in his present position, as
Principal Medical Officer, it is my
opinion that a temporary removal
from his present post and change of
climate is really necessary for his
recovery.

R. J. W. H. H. H.
Surgeon
General

D. Mungie

D. Inspector General

of Hospitals

(2pp.)

FCO 28/5

Private

Scutari 30th Decr. 1852

My dear Hall

I sent you a few
lines a day or two ago. Privately,
never which have been forwarded
with your kind communication
and beg to thank you for your
good wishes towards me - altho
my health had improved for
a day or two - I find this
changeable weather under
me subject to a relapse of
my former ailments - and having
caught a fresh cold I am
again confined to the house.

I am now too glad to
avail myself of the Board, which
you inform me is in order

and I believe that Dr. Forest
is expected to visit me here.

I wish I could have held on
at the present time.

When you are writing to
Dr. Smith, you will do me
a great service by saying any
thing you can for me and
if he could appoint me to
a home station or even to
a healthy and mild climate
out of England or France or
Holland, I should be glad
of it. It will be satisfactory
to you to know that the
Sister of Cambridge visited
our Hospital yesterday and
with the exception of some
dinner meat in the Barrack

2. Cabbages which was not
sufficiently cooked. His Royal
Highness expressed himself highly
satisfied and said he could
not understand how such
false reports could have been
circulated. Mr. George Brown
had also been with both of us
the previous day. I was at
the Banquet when he went
round the Journal Staff but
he left a message with Mr.
Fleckerly & Tier, for me,
expressing of his perfect
satisfaction and saying "he
had nothing to complain
of." I have this with me
where I quarrel to go against
the false reports that have
reached the Queen's ears
for the time, and I should

also hope that the opinion thus
expressed by officers holding so
high a position will have some
weight - as that justice will in
the end be done here much
abused Department. I am more
comfortable since I have read
the remarks made in Parkman's
review & vindication here by the
Secretary at War and the
Director of War with reference
to the proposition made for
the removal after the battle
of Chancellorsville of the care taken
of them by the Medical Staff.
and as you had given me an
opportunity of expressing my
anxiety shortly afterwards.

The former opinion has been questioned
in all particulars on this
subject and the reply given

as to the means of Surgical
Applications were all Indian
without a single exception to
the effect, that we wanted
for nothing that was absolutely
necessary for the treatment of
our sick and wounded -

Therefore hope they will
also do us justice for our
studies on that occasion.

Dr. Spencer is indeed I
must again observe a great
loss to us: he was in every
respect disposed to take a
liberal view of matters - I
never like Mr. Marshall

to this

can

be

which

rather

than

lastly

which

rather

than

And I think he will support
us. Miss Nightingale and
her party "entirely" are
in fact looking themselves and
assuming a position, which
of the Purse and chief does
not look out. He may soon
throw up the sponge. No doubt.
But will give you a hint
for the account of their
last efforts - but I fear there
may be too much done in
the way of perhaps interfering
with their proper duties,
that I be given to question of
all the work will together.
Already we have had
circumstances have come to my