

husband is at the front, and she has given it over to the British Red Cross. It is most comfortably fitted up, and the men are awfully well done here. Am sure that most of them have never experienced anything like the comfort of this place in their lives before. We have six small wards of four beds, and the men have the drawing-room as their sitting and dining-room, a beautiful big room full of easy chairs and Chesterfields. They have every known game, a piano, and two gramophones, which work, one or the other, from early morn till dewy eve. They are a cheerful lot of irresponsibles, mostly quite young. We like the young ones best. The old soldier is not always all one's fancy paints him, though we have had some very fine ones. We have the village Doctor who lives quite close and comes frequently. He is young and modern.

The only parts of the house not given to the soldiers are the Hall, Smoking-room, which Lady Rosemary uses as a sitting-room, dining-room, her bedroom and ours, our sitting-room, and the servants' quarters.

The Commandant of the local branch of the British Red Cross is Miss Holding whose people are of much importance in the county. She runs the business end of the Hospital. Sisters Craig and I are wholly and solely in charge of the patients, and the house-work, etc., is done by the Voluntary Aid Detachments of the village, who take it week about to come in relays during the day.

We are most fortunate to have fallen in with sensible people who don't imagine that because they are giving a Hospital they understand all about nursing. They never even venture a suggestion about the patients, and never grant any requests without consulting us. We hear so many tales of other V.A.D. Hospitals, and how the owner of the house gives instructions re treatment, etc., that we thank our lucky stars that we are here. The work is not specially interesting as we get our patients from a large Military Hospital, and of course they are more or less convalescent.

We had one case of a boy with a shrapnel wound in the calf. The note accompanying him said he had a tendency to abscess

formation every few days, and apparently they were quite happy that he should have it. Had been in ——— three months. We had him X-rayed next day and found the shrapnel there. His leg will be healed in a very short time now the cause is removed. I could quote a number of similar cases.

I am most anxious to join my own Government, so please Miss McLean if it is possible will you lend me your help? We are most comfortable here and are really living in the lap of luxury, have been taken many motor drives and have seen quite a lot of Hampshire.

FROM NURSE MAY WILSON, OF DUNEDIN HOSPITAL.

“ You will see that I am now in France. I came over here under the Red Cross and St. Johns. This hospital is organised and financed by Lady Hadfield, I believe, but is under the above Society and somehow under the control of the War Office. Vrinereux and Boulogne are full of hospitals for the British wounded. There is an Australasian one not far from here, but I believe it is to be closed down soon, and also several others. This one is to be then taken over by the War Office and to be run in conjunction with one just opposite us, for Anglo-Indian troops. The wounded are not kept here long. As soon as possible they are sent to England by hospital ships. We are not at all busy just now, but I do not think there can be much fighting going on at the front at present. We have had frightfully wet weather ever since my arrival in England, which makes hardships for the soldiers. I suppose the fighting will begin in earnest soon when Lord Kitchener's army is over. He is credited with saying that the war has not begun yet. We are just three miles out from Boulogne, on the coast, and are connected by electric trams. We went in this morning and had a look at the town, and saw the Cathedral and another old church. There are a number of French soldiers about, but they look very slovenly compared to our men. They say they are all to be dressed in khaki soon, too, which will be an improvement.”