HMC

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Miss M. LINEHAM.
A.A.N.S.

I embarked on the 15th July, 1915, on the "Orsova" and we had only a little duty as we had many sisters, and very little sickness, except for an epidemic of measles. We arrived at Port Said, and went to No. 2 A.G.H., Ghezirah Palace where I only stayed for six weeks, and during that time, I was in the acute surgical ward. The cases were very severe, and mostly came from Gallipoli. I then went to Alexandria as an epidemic of scarlet fever was raging, and stayed for two months at the Australian Convalescent Hospital at Ras-el-Tain.

I then went to Mena House Hospital, which had an Australian Matron and an R.A.M.C. male personnel, and we all got on extremely well together.

I left on the 25th March, 1916, and arrived in France on April 1st, 1916, at No. 2 A.G.H., which was a temporary Hospital at Muso, to take the sick from the transports.

After six weeks, I was lent to the British at the 24th General, Etaples. It was a large hutted Hospital and we worked under very good conditions. After a short time, I left there and went to the 13th Stationary at Boulogne. We had a most strenuous time there, the majority of the cases being gas gangrene, and we used the Carrell Dakin method mostly.

We had very little time off duty, as we were so very busy, about twelve months I remained here. I went from there to the jaw ward, for a little while. It was very heavy work, and we worked the theatre night and day. It was very well equipped. The food was very fair. The Matron, who was an Englishwoman was most charming. I then went back to No. 24, General, and nursed German wounded for some time. They were terribly bad cases, and we had an outbreak of dysentery, but we had very good results from the treatment.

Later on, I was transferred to No. 3 A.G.H., Abbeville, and I did surgical work there, using Carrell Dakins method. I stayed here until the Germans were advancing on Amiens and we had to evacuate the patients, and I was left at No. 3 A.G.H., with 24 other sisters. On the eve of evacuation, we got in about 2000 patients in one night, so of course we could not leave, but worked very hard, until we gradually got reinforcements of nurses. We had no time of duty.

After the Armistice was signed, we had a very severe epidemic of influenza, the patients dying in great numbers. The work was very heavy and we had practically no time off duty.

We were bombed all through May and June, but fortunately none fell right in the Hospital, but all around we had casualties. The patients were remarkably good during these raids. I stayed there until the Hospital was disbanded, and after furlough, I went to No. 3 A.A.H. Dartford, and am now awaiting transport to Australia.

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