

No. 10 Stationary Hospital.

9th December 1914.

My dearest Mother,

I have just received a letter from you dated November 19th but it was addressed to No. 14 General - so has taken longer to come. You have made lovely things for the Tommies, I thought perhaps you gave them first hand, but as you don't would you like to send them to me? I could always give them to very deserving cases and tell you about them - if you like. In fact it would be lovely often to give the men before they leave here - we don't get nearly as much Red Cross stuff here as we did at Boulogne. We had two very sad cases in three days ago, two mechanics of the Flying Corps came in with carbon poisoning, they were billeted the night before in a place where there was a charcoal stove, had made up a good fire, and slept with no door or window open. An Officer passing next morning heard groans and found them, one died last night, and the other is still in a heavy sleep. It seems rather pathetic, I suppose they thought they would have a thoroughly warm night - went to sleep and never woke. I did receive the Keatings from Hilda which I and my Orderlies were all very glad of. She has since then sent me some books and warm underclothing. She is a kind old thing. I was very grateful for all of them. A new order came from Head Quarters the other day that we were all to provide ourselves with winter kit, which is a grey dress terribly thick, long grey coat, and grey felt hat. I ordered mine yesterday. Our only hope is, they will be decently made; my last uniform was horribly badly done. This is me sitting in my little duty room writing to you, and by the way, I am re-writing. I had written a whole both-sides sheet but on reading it I had said things the Censor might not have allowed, so as it would mean much cutting out I have torn it up. Work is quiet again for the moment, I have been told. Scholbred, the M. O. has

just been round. He says they have been drinking the Kaiser's health because they hear he has pneumonia and a nervous breakdown and that three cruisers have been sunk in the Pacific, so one way and another there seems to be plenty to drink his health for. The Chaplain has re-opened the Chapel, it is joined to the College, just opens out of the passage like an ordinary room, it is a pretty little place with beautiful stained windows. He wants me to work some of the cloths for him, which I will with pleasure, if I have time. We have been having a lot of rain, we just squelch here in gum boots at night. Thank you very much for ordering the things from Newbery. They came last night. Thank you for ordering soap. I had no idea what a luxury it was before. It is sad that the Bordon men have been cut up so badly; it seems most regiments have, they all tell the same tale. I expect I shall finish this in the morning, as I have a job or two to do now. Most of our conversation to-night has been what we should do if we had five days leave, only of course, we shan't have it, but some of the men are getting it.

14th Dec. Somehow this never did get finished and to-night I have received another letter and parcel from you. Thank you very much indeed for the pretty card and handkerchief and those gloves are just -- the -- thing. Thank you very much indeed for them, won't they look nice with my new coat. If you are still with Amy will you give her my love, and thank her very much for her letter and Olive for hers and Olive and Dorothy for the handkerchiefs which will be most useful in the wards. I know I shan't have time to write any more letters, so will you very kindly thank dear old Lil very much indeed for the big picture paper she sent me, and tell her it is not done with yet by the men, and if you are writing to Fred please thank him very much for the little book which I shall find useful and for the poem, a very sweet one I passed on to the other Sisters to read and will give to some of the men. Poor old Bud, I am afraid the rough life is trying a

great many who are not used to it. Thanking you for all things again the same thought seems to have struck us both about mufflers etc. they would go to deserving cases, I promise you.

Your loving daughter,

Eddie.

P.S. I went to church last night at the Garrison Church and had a most delightful service, the place was over-full of Officers and men and just three of the nurses. Singing was splendid and they sang God save the King, after the last hymn. One of the regular chaplains took the service and preached a very sound sermon. It was the first English service I had been to since Boulogne.

E.

I made myself a laughing-stock last night. Coming home from Church I said I supposed the Chaplain was the Flying Corps Chaplain because he had F. C. on his stoles. They said they supposed in a way it was a Flying Corps but the F. C. meant chaplain of the Forces.