

Chatterboxes - Breakfast - 12-1800 officers' school

Upton - Base Hoop

Weeks - ~~Long~~ - Carrots -

Camp crane - off. - Mobiles operating Unit

Train - small ferry - aqueducts -

Wolverford - Grade crossings

Southampton - Nelson's Flagday Portsmouth

(Paper)

Harre - Jacks Summers

to Bazilles - Rations - Food at Sabons
American Soldiers at Bar

Trip to Copy - (Weeks) No light

German prisoners here

Copy - Hospital Files - all chateaux

Wounded - Marnes

"I can't keep up with you"

Knife in heart

Spies from airplane

loading Hosp. trains - 3 decks

Kommand Hell -

Night bombing of Copy

Dressings only - No Disinfect for wounded

Bathed in streams

1000 squadrons of 10 each
Every 5000 miles s. airplane motor
overhaul - 3 hr. at 100 miles an hour

Moved on special train to Toul
Charles Abbot in charge of ambulance
cray de guerre

Toul - half berry ogave
Flour " "
to new barrels
ice cream + Red Cross

Caval Boat

Battle started from hill - Front line
trench

St. Michel drive -

50,000 wounded expected only
15-20,000 occurred

Bay & pneumonia - Kidney wd -
+ pneumonia - over top feeling badly
one of them lousy shut

Ambulance trip -

Henry
arguing
Pauls - half a unit on side
Troops going up at night

Delayed union in Fractures---*Q*

DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION--For purposes of discussion, this classification falls into the following groups:

1. COMMINATION
2. COMPOUND FRACTURES
3. PLATING
4. THE UNDETERMINED TYPE

It will be observed that none of the ascribed "General Causes" figure in this analysis, except Syphilis. In 15 cases, during treatment, acute exanthemata occurred, which included typhoid fever, measles, pneumonia and diphtheria, as well as erysipelas, acute follicular tonsillitis, and two cases of delirium tremens. In none of these was there any delay in union. *There were besides* (Two cases died of uremia, one case died of diabetes, and one of septicemia.)

Three cases of compound, comminuted, fracture of the tibia were found to be syphilitic. No manifestations of the disease were apparent, and infection was not definitely admitted, but the Wassermann taken on suspicion, was 4----. Specific treatment, seemed, in two cases, to hasten definitely the bony union. The third case developed a severe staphylococcus aureus osteomyelitis *infection of its leg after 5 mos of fixation under observation & persistent union* which finally required amputation. There was no gummatous formation nor did the wound present the appearance of syphilitic ulceration in any of these three cases. *But no determination for spirochaetes was made from the history of wound secretion* It would seem advisable in all cases of delayed union, therefore,--even in the absence of definite indications of syphilis--to have a routine Wassermann done.

space ~~Delayed union of fractures is often merely fibrous in old age--is as well known that a bare mention suffices.~~

Handwritten notes and scribbles at the bottom of the page, including numbers and illegible text.

Champagne
Hunderburg home | Camp of Altta
Harry Johnson | Well -

Woman fighting
claimed to use machine gun

Therms - handling on trees
Mast + Chandon - ruins

Trapped Station waiting Room
crowded Train
Boats to Pont No 12 great trees

Mount see + Huts - Paper Bed Pels
laundry in neighboring villages
Arrests

Plans - Fraternizing Trading
Returned prisoners coming into Pont au
Mousson (Boats)

Chaban at Juville - Basket ball
Bordeaux -

DISCUSSION

result cannot be definitely stated. Of the 4 cases of non-union, 3 were over 75 years of age, and 1 between 50 and 60. The treatment consisted in the application of a plaster cast in extreme abduction as advocated by Waitman; with preliminary manipulation for reduction in unimpacted cases- or simple suspension in abduction by Hodgen Splint. Cotton's method of impaction was not used.

The lack of blood supply of the proximal fragment + the cancellous character of the part of the bone involved have been assigned for reasons for non-delayed union - Dr. Henderson of this clinic in the last year or two has done much to improve the ^{operative} technique for the cure of cases of non-union + has suggested that the ^{great} number of ^{these of non-union} cases ~~be~~, may be due to the lack of ^{adequate} ~~proper~~ primary treatment of the fresh fracture.

W. L. Estes Jr.

Capt. M. R. E.

Mobile operating Unit No 1

A. M. P. O. (731)

A. P. O. 702

Diary No 2.

Aug 5.

Still showery - raining morning & evening - a little sunshine this P.M. Had a disgusting night & rumbles but stuck it out till a.M. - Many gripes during day, much better to night had to ^{go} "show" our feed. several men affected - Water filtered seems O.K. Hard to account for it.

In Chateau operating Room all day - many interesting cases Sharpel Wounds - Hand penetrating Wound - early Gas of thighs & Sharpel in mouth & neck - one suppurating joint large sequestra I gave one fellow overdose of chloroform by mistake - can exactly same as ether - in hurry of anaesthesia didn't recognize difference till odor was very marked & patient had stopped breathing - could not resuscitate him so ^{Major} Bancroft had to do a rapid ^{abd} section & massage Heart directly - artificial Respiration, Splinter Tracheotomy - direct pressure over heart had all failed. Man recovered

Aug 6 -

Very fine to day - right on the crest
of the wave again - all over grapes +
Hid. p.c. Only 3 operations all
small foreign bodies - hard to locate. I
removed all I had to do - 3 tiny ones
in one fellow - had to have a second
fluoroscopic exam to locate one which
under other. In ~~second~~ case thought
no F. B. seen by fluoroscope, I came
upon nice little bit of shrapnel + bits
of clothing just below but not involving
humer. joint - even after the Major had
advised me to stop - small abscess left
about shrapnel below fascia - marked
tenderness - no redness - N. B. - In doubtful
cases fascia should always be incised.

No work after 10.30 A.M. - rested
+ wrote Panam in A.M. - Nothing
done in P.M. - Saw chloroform case
this P.M. doing very well - Supporting
knee dressed - Doing well - Had a
bath in improvised shower - First in
5 days - wonderful feeling - Played
Bridge with ^{Prof. R.S. +} 1 yr. Lynn + James - were
trained badly - No cards -

Went down to Coulommiers after dinner
as I had cleared about after running off +
on ever since we've been here. The
wind thicker than ever but a good
hard road to C. - found a
"Blanchisseuse" - a laundry written over the
door + she is coming at "Sept heures" domain
for said. - only about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile away
long steep road into C with the
same dwarf apple + pear trees like candle
rises on the walls + buildings of its
outskirts. -

Found part of the 82nd Div. going
through. No definite news of the 28th.
picked up a small edition of "Napoleon le Petit".
Hugs - envelopes - Map for Anne - + durin
blanc - cheese - Coulommiers
is a real town - buy anything - good
stores especially the book store - caught
in showers - but wended our way out
of the cobbled squares + winding streets
as the bars went up at 7.30 P.M.

Meals good to day + I ate heartily
with no qualms. The French lady's
smile + "Mad. M'sier" are found even in a
Blanchisseuse. The anaire aquiline type ^{is} ~~is~~ red cross
nurse max ^{appears}

Aug 8

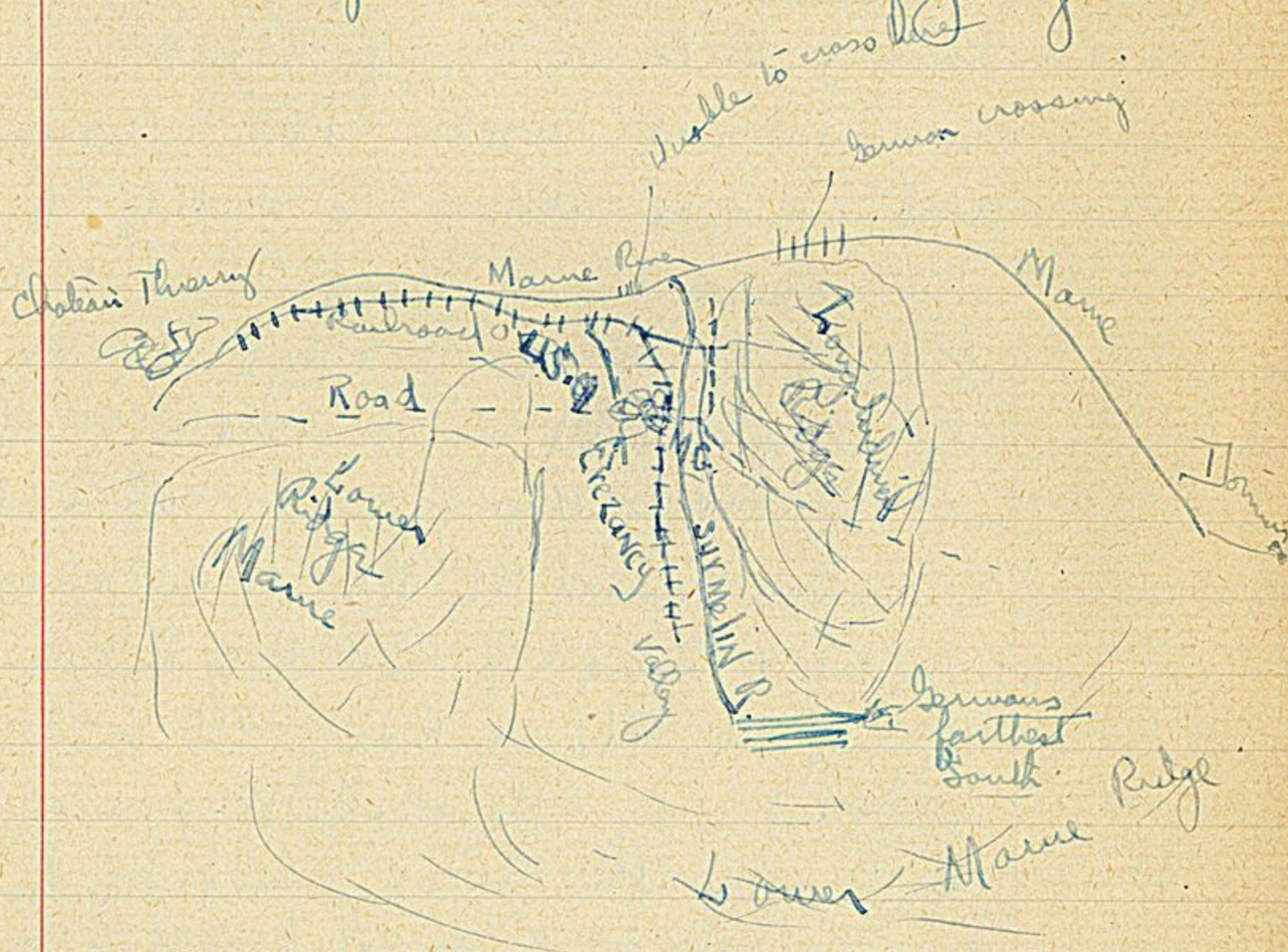
"Tige" reports Paris being shelled again - 5 shells while he was there. One near Eiffel tower. no special fear of or apparent damage by them. Everybody plays around unharmedly. We were posted for last night but slept right through - no call or cases.

Volunteered for dressings this 9.A.M. at request of adjutant. Interesting lot of cases - long standing. Transverse incision of external thigh muscles in comp. fracture of femur 9 days old - discharging freely but had done well, though Patient required opiate. - one poor devil had right leg amputated below knee, evulsion of post upper 1/3 of thigh including sciatic nerve + a puncture wound of left buttocks - 10 days duration. all wounds looked well but of course complete paralysis of left lower extremity. - I removed however a huge amount of dirty debris, 4 pieces of shrapnel, + bits of necrotic bone from the buttock puncture wound. He stood the dressing very well. In fact these boys all had the same bully spirit + pep visible everywhere among our boys, a

wooded - fairly high hills near the Maine
+ only a few longitudinal valleys. - on
the margin of Chateau Thierry - well
shelled houses appeared abruptly + we turned
sharply to right - (East) - along a dark
road about a mile, past a few crumbling
shelled houses, trees, + lines of dim fields
to a collection of faint white tents -
low voices + putt-putt of the scrubber-lighting
engine - Evacuation B + Mobile Hosp. No. 1
Bob Miller + Burns + team left us -
We started on in the dim dusky dark
straight down the road - 10 min but it
proved to be 4 miles - of the same occasional
deserted shelled farm buildings or barns along
the foot of the Southern Maine ridge, a
sharp turn to left (North) + we drew in beside
a small collection of tents with only a flash
of light here + there. Evacuation # 30. We
unloaded - The Majors reported - and we were
 ushered across the road into an old
ramshackled building - half tumbled down, a
shell hole at one end. a few officers sleeping on
cots + one washing in corner. ~~and~~ cots +
bed rolls were finally brought + we turned in at 11 PM.
after cheese-sam lunch -

2.3 miles

North is the Maine, in a long curve from C.T. to Thomons. We started out on a walk, across the longitudinal valley, on one side of which we lie + met an Infantry Lieutenant that gave us all the dope on the recent fighting here



The Germans tried to cross at junction of Maine + Surnelin R. - Maine about 14 footings wide - Surnelin - 15 ft - but 2.3rd Infantry holding the Railroad line absolutely prevented any crossing or held isolated all groups of Germans that had managed

to get across. The French held the opposite side of the valley + the longitudinal Ridge. The Germans managed to cross the Marne higher up + forced a passage + drove the French off the Ridge completely - an older lot of men (youngsters had been taken out for reserve) held it + retreated without much fight. The Americans held fast however along the entire R.R. entrenchment - a wood behind + using gained to the Marne ridge. In spite of a perfect hail of shrapnel + shell + losses of 175 killed + 400 wounded - the 23d held - not a German crossed the R.R. - 2300 dead were counted + buried in the valley beside the R.R. Luckily the Marne Ridge curves around the tongue of Lang. Ridge about 2 miles below Crezanay. The Germans held the Lang. Ridge from July 18 to 24th. when the retreat began the American Colonel was all for charging + cutting off the Germans but the French cautioned delay until they could come in too - finally on the 25th the Germans were simultaneously swept into the Marne + the Ridge was held territory again. But a day or two later

an American Doctor named Daniels had
been killed by a German sniper or rather
he died of his wounds. He had previously
been hunting for wounded (2 days before) had
seen a German Captain running away +
had shot him in the leg. ^{along a road wooded + machine gun employment} his automatic
was on a slight ^{on a slight} ^{up}

We crossed the little stream over a
stone bridge - hiding beneath its southern
edge was a wooden foot bridge evidently
built to permit passage across out of
sight of the Germans - we followed the
road into a "Y" but + bought some sweet
stuff + cakes + then meandered over the battle
field, the German shell holes, the trenches,
machine gun placements, picked up bits of
shell - apparently 6" + "75" - from across the
river. ^{over the railroad +} No German guns had been brought over
+ came back through the woods which were the
U.S. second line + camouflaged trucks lying
encamped there now. The stream is but
50-100 yds from the railroad ^{+ wooded} a damn strong
line to hold. No signs of anything German
debris of war well removed.

after lunch very sleepy - snoozed + rested
until dinner + wrote in this diary - Great

made

Aug 10

Notified this a.m. that we start work at 7 P.M. tonight. Operating + say Tents changed to open ground right opposite our barracks. Very convenient for us. Wrote, Read, + had a swim in the creek this a.m. met Rumney + Major Mott in village they are at No 5 - near Chateau Thierry about 4 miles away - our mail it seems has been dead lettered as no one in Paris office knew of our outfit but Major Bailey is to put them straight, they have visited Belleau Wood among other places now Am. Marine Wood - a perfect charred house, only stumps of trees left standing. Team boys is now Surgical chief of No 5 - Hoover knows they needed him.

In P.M. we snoozed then walked up to Mezy, the railhead North of us on the Marne, saw the bridges - trestle + pontoon + the old French one under construction. Marne is only about 50 ft wide fairly deep, clear looking stream - 16 pontoons placed 2 by 2 are sufficient to span it. Pontoons are specially made of zinc aluminum

allow + give a very stable bridge
even for trucks (3 tons) no give whatever
while riding over them. Pouches size
of usual life boat - flat bottomed but tapering
ends.

Discovered ~~from~~ the military
police that the 28th Division had just
gone in - the 109th Field artillery detached
& left Mezy at 4 P.M. - it was then 5 P.M. +
the 108th Field was expected tonight or
tomorrow. Great luck certainly ought to

see Ed. - + wrote time so. ^{inspected trench}
^{line behind + at}
^{R.P. strong position}
Work very light in the evening. ^{didn't}
begin until midnight really + the Major ^{was}
let us sleep from 9 until then. ^{filled}
^{water}
^{partly}

small stuff chiefly shrapnel wounds coming in
Men say food + gun base had difficulty
in getting up. The Germans are making
quite a stand on the Vesle - artillery mainly
employed - our barrage furnished by the
Trench! is inadequate + falling short + counter
attacks are fairly constant. Light wounded
casualties are high.

Hard from Rumay too that in Belleau Wood
fight. French said we've got to retreat + expect to
with the next German attack. The American
Colonel of Marines said he didn't know that

Aug 11

Tried to cable Anne but unable to get anything through - "Telephones too busy" - In bed by 6 A.M. Had dreadful gripes apparently due to corn at 3 A.M. - lasted until complete evacuation about 3.45 A.M. - quite O.K. afterward

awoke in time for lunch - ~~at~~ beautifully + apparently safely - We began to-day at 4 P.M. we have been deluged. 5 cases last night Capt Ross - Tiger's friend in Navy Jeanie, assistant + Beth Vincent - Tiger's cousin were here on extra teams Tonight only one extra team - We worked steadily with 1/2 hr out for supper ^{again} + lunch at midnight until 5.45 A.M. Still chiefly scraped wounds - one laceration entering the anterior interval aspect of R. thigh just above condyle + shooting across the popliteal space - gave me Hell. The joint was missed but the popliteal vein was lacerated at least as I traced the F.B. had down - I opened a pocket of old clot + away she went. Made a counter incision ^{on external surface} + removed F.B. almost lost it, it was so thin but quite near the external surface - Put on tourniquet - controlling hemorrhage

well - after one or two trials sutured
a bit of tissue c needle + tied artery
clamp holding laceration in vein to it
debride stump at it lay yet behind the
artery.

Just about 3 P.M. Major Bancroft + I
shook out to inspect the other side of
the Marne + to learn news of Ed. We
hopped on a truck + was deposited in
Chartres across from Mezy - a badly
shattered town (American shells) + filled with
Americans. We went to the Signal Corps
Headquarters + looked over the map, heard
that the 108th had probably gone up this morning
looked the town over - walls + buildings.
badly battered nowhere intact but an occasional
family had returned. In fact we have
seen several two wheeled carts, c old horses +
old man marching in front with his household
effects + family perched high on the cart often
with a dog or cat clutched in a youngster's arms.
Had decided to return - jumped on an incoming
ambulance, when lo + behold who should appear
in a passing Humanson but Eddie. I
was out of the seat + pounding on the door

Aug 12

Slept through until 12 feeling
rocky for some reason or other no
grapes but usual disorder - ate but
little lunch read - slept all P.M.
No pep - Nauseated this evening but
much better afterward - No supper We
are off to night so I'm for bed -

Major Bump is coming here
tonight & his team to stay permanently
entertainment by Y.M.C. to night

Aug 13-

Much better this a.m. - still a little
Shaky as to interior - slept until 11 a.m.
Had a little lunch but still no pep.
Repairing our barracks, so laid out
under trees in lovely breeze with Brook
De. Boche plane passed barely
visible high overhead - Major
Bump ordered to return to Charnout
when relieved here. Capt. Jennings &
Majors Blay & Tarnack here this
a.m. - also went again - more
new teams this P.M. Hope we
heard in Newfoundland apparently true

English offensive well started - Total
offensive apparently about to begin
Evacuation 5 + 6 apparently going over
to that area - To bed early - fairly
good supper - new mess officer

Aug 14

- Major Bailey + Chiffle appeared
early this a.m. + were bound for
Coband a little lower this side of
Dungyung so Major Bancroft + I
out for Eddie started off at 8 with
them. Caught a truck to
Mizy. Here found 32nd Division
Adpts - a.m. + the last battery of
the 108th T.A. about to start - Capt.
Lockhart very busy, said we could
ride in escort wagon but had no
further transportation for us. No
Q.M. wagon either so jumped on another
truck for Paulgame - crossed the river
to Charters + on up a long hill +
along the Mame + its lovely valley
to another widered out flat area beyond
the long ridge opposite Cezanby - where
evidently the Germans had been able

to cross. Above this lies Jaulgume
another halting place of trucks + a gas
field Hospital - very much the same
bombardment here. We walked right
on through the town by a suspension
bridge completely demolished + then
picked up a Y.M.C.A. man in a Ford +
he drove us on up the long Hill +
up the ravine leading away from the
Mans at the head of which was a
turreted chateau commanding a wonderful
view down the ravine + valley, but sadly
dilapidated by the occupation of the
Gronch Germans. This served as
HQs of Col Seaman of the 32nd Tr. over
the tableland still inclining upward we
saw very little sign of German occupation
gouge on the road repairing old shell hole
+ beaten paths through the woods the
sole exceptions. A few miles farther
we passed a ~~slightly~~ town, scarcely
scarred + an old German ammunition
dump in a hollow, still showing the
rows of shells + from which a narrow
gauge railroad led. This railroad evidently

we had passed on the way - horse
drawn - ^{+ camouflaged - yellow green + black} rugged hardy devils we
knew they were the 108th but had
seen nothing of Ed. - Our Y.M.C.A.
car had a blow out + we had
transhipped into an ambulance. That
Major Barky was following us in. It
had been bound for the very front but
was stopped at Durgny. Here we
were about 10 kilometers from the
front. Giving Ed up as an
impossibility for to-day we started
down the road + across a wide open
bare field leading over a gentle tall slope
ahead of which shells were bursting. We
hoped to get a glimpse of the firing from
here. We found an advanced ~~an~~
signal officer in his little dugout with
telephone + glasses. ^{carefully camouflaged.} The planes it seems
either signal ^{directly} or deliver messages to him
by dropping ^{them up} metal tubes in containers
which we easily picked up + he telephones
them back to Hdqts or else they may
unless directly themselves to Hdqts.
It was rather exciting walking up

that slope - The Signal man had told us that the top had been shelled about an hour before + we could see the shells now bursting about a half mile ahead - No cover whatever - a perfectly bare hillside. We reached the crest + found a wide flat tableland - innumerable mines underfoot + many small trenches probably old machine gun emplacements + ^{French} artillery observation post well camouflaged rather spacious. Fearful we might attract attention to this by wandering over the tops of this rise just as bare as its slope we slid into the shallow holes + trenches + watched the bursts in the town directly ahead of us. An American Battery began to roar just ahead + below us in plain vision - the flash of its guns could be seen - long before the boom + we could see the clouds of smoke rise from the valley near Thomas which lay directly ahead.

on our way across country to
the Field Hospital at Coban where
we hoped to have lunch. Except
small artillery detachments we had seen
very few troops though beaucoup de
cautions. An observation
balloon was run up but promptly
descended as the Boche came over
for it very promptly - its centre of
activities was a wood that the
Boche planes seemed to be making
for + which the air craft guns were
protecting + which lay behind + to
the left of us.

It was a hot walk ^{up +} down the
wide ravine about 2 miles ~~up +~~
~~down~~ to the Hospital where we
discovered Turner + Salander of our
unit + had a delicious wash &
mess - screened + cool. The
night before had been a wild German
raid - the Hospital had been bombed by 6 or
7 planes from 11 P.M. to 4 A.M. + most
systematically - dropping bombs about
every 50 ft. 2 'dead' lines ~~had been~~ fenced in

were
+ proudly exhibited to us; they lay
within 2 feet of the tent line
right next to a nurses tent + about
20ft from Turner's tent + the planes
were so low, they could easily be
seen, luckily these bombs dropping
nearest to the Hospital had not
exploded. Everyone stayed in the
dug outs most of the night but
"Sally + Turner" had braved the
tent the entire time - quite a
harrowing experience. The
"Teds" as they are called were
long thin black torpedos shaped
about 18" long - not unlike a
large rocket minus the sticks - They
were being left strictly alone until taken
charge of by the Engineers.

We had a cool nap in the shade
of a tent - heard of a possible impending
bombardment that night of a hill the
Germans held + of a perfectly authentic
instance of a German plane in broad
daylight bombarding an ambulance
filled with wounded - riddling it with

Aug 15

Sleazy this a.m. - Bed leans
on call - very hot - lay around
all day playing Bridge + writing
no work whatever - O.K. this P.M.
abe better - but flies + yellow
jackets are thicker than ever.
Bridge this Evening finished letter
to abne - Got wash back
O.K. done well but at a princely
price - Q.M. has moved out of
town - good to say, as it was a
great convenience - Infantry + Engineer
also gone. No chance of getting my
helmet back.

Aug 16 -

Same old heat - dry - torrid. No
work - on 2nd call - Bridge this a.m.
Drainy this P.M. Meals better w
spots but flying vermin worse than
ever. No newspapers to day.
No cases at all - Bridge in late P.M.
Lazy - No Pep - Too hot to sleep in
day time - Bed Early -
Wakened about 11 by "archie" + shout
of Brass - De + Major Bancroft - jumped
into shoes + dashed out of tents - Boche

Aug 17

80000
cases
in 3
Divisions

Major Hans Zinsser appeared to day - has had the "Typhoid" himself, been working on its Epidemiology - apparently true Typhoid + Shiga - Epidemic type - says that 3 divisions are effected, that sanitation is universally rotten - water & flies chiefly implicated - he was summoned to investigate - anti-fly breeding measures - latrine care & proper screening - chlorination of water - should all be observed. Corps of 500 men for each army corps to perform this policing properly will be his recommendation. Same lazy day but back drain almost finished Bridge - 3 cases at the end of the afternoon - Rumor that we have driven the Boche out of Tismette across the River many gas cases - mustard - chiefly Heavy cannonading all day - and Boche only to night - only 5 shots at him Bully swim this evening - Rumor that we leave "for the East" in a week.

Aug 18.

On 4th call to day - energetic writing
+ Bridge this A.M. ^{with showers} Major Bancroft -
I shift away to Chateau Thierry in P.M. <sup>bill
+
clean</sup>
for food, though mess is greatly improving
Caught a Ford truck + road in by #6
which is coming out + #5 - Up + down
road with lovely view of Valley between
Mézy + Chateau Thierry - ^{Mame} little towns
along river literally full of holes - like
great honey combs along the left side.
Chateau Thierry ^{about equally divided between} on both sides River
Mame - the North side is by far the
more destroyed - Many shops have
reopened along Main St. of South side
filled with French + American soldiers.
Long avenue of undestroyed sycamores
into town - Main Bridge destroyed
South half blown away - replaced now by
a temporary trestle, a one way Bridge
Huge pontoon Bridge just below -
Canal well preserved almost as wide
as River but ^{boats} canal half submerged
along banks; crumbling here + there
on South side but huge areas of powdered
mud on North side - Everywhere uninhabited

however - a cobbled street runs
beside the River - here about 100 ft wide
+ what might have been an attempt at
a park. The Hotel de Ville is on a
square under a hill with the Theatre
both fairly well preserved but surrounded
by demolished buildings, a wall or two
here + there intact but the American
artillery did its work well. ^{German on N. bank}
^{Americans on S. bank}
Small courtyards absolutely filled with
debris impassable. all streets clear however
one store opened ^{on square} - cheese, fruit + cakes
procurable - Peaches, Swiss cheese, + a
few Molasses wafers fell to our lot - We
wandered back over the old Bridge to
the other stores. No Vin, Cigarettes, or
chocolate procurable - Camembert cheese
however. Fruit full of flies seemed impossible.
We strolled out to No 5 - Found Major
Bailey on his back afflicted with the cure.
Rumbaugh + Mott recovering -- discovered
Major Verdi + Foster also there - had
come over a week after us - stationed
at Bismarck on a tour of observation. He
told me he had asked for me for his

Bose in Washington + "they" had said
nothing doing - I was slated for a "Chief"
Timmy Dofe - gave him the Winton News.
We had a long walk before we finally
picked up a truck on the way back.
Many families coming back through
Chateau Thierry in their High two wheeled
carts piled high, two or three horses
drawn usually in tandem drawing them.
Chateau Thierry must have had between 6-8000
inhabitants, quite a bully little town, missed
Bellevue as the Major felt fairly all in.

Bully Dinner - trailed with Major
Van Buren + ~~He~~ up the Hill to the
South to the Amation Field - a lovely
walk through the ruined village + up the
stony road, wonderful view up the same
valley to the Marne + Jaulgonne - the
Chateau of Col Seaman's Hdqts showing fair
against the Horizon; clear blue-green hills
with soft velvet dots of trees + little red +
white villages at their feet, with the sun
drawing to the Horizon in a Blaze of gold.
The woods were filled with old Machine
gun entrenchments, dugouts, + trails, +

debris of the trenches - sleeves of shirts
upset land - empty reserve ration tins
a wall of 2 miles brought us out
upon a level plateau split by an avenue of
drums beyond which lay the hangars.
Big Bessoneau tents housing two squadrons
of French + one of American planes,
the Porcupine (Porcupine) - The Japanese (toile
d'ony flags) + the Royal Riders. We
saw four or five planes circle +
swoop down + ~~land~~ diving then
up to the hangars under their own power.
They stopped outside the hangar - the
rear two machine guns were unstrapped
removed + promptly cleared by the mechanics.
These guns were used by the observer + could
be moved on a circular horizontal base +
up + down + laterally on a ball + socket,
swivel - another machine gun above the
pilot or in front of him synchronized
with the motor to shoot forward through the
propeller. These were observation, artillery
directing, + photographing planes - "Bregas"
with a Fiat 6 cylinder motor, or a 9 cylinder
Rodio - arranged circularly.

Aug 19.

Theaterium Ran this a.m., but closed off - later in a.m. + I had a great swim in the River. Pretty definite hope that we have tomorrow for past unknown, The Taul Sector. Last Cases evacuated this a.m. - Letters + Joseph Coural finished the morning - a little rocky + a few gapes. Sat around + dozed. Major De Forest + Capt Cutler went up to Evanston #4 + ~~in~~ an ambulance + took Major Van Buren De + I. Very dusty trip turned left at Châtères up over + through Mont St. Pierre. - Road camouflaged with green cloth ^{open work} [^] making screens in places. - Woods open + tramped down - very little debris along roads. - No sign of bombardment except in the villages. - Over a ridge giving a lovely view over a wide rolling valley North to the Hills beyond the Vesle - Highly cultivated but with many wooded areas. Through Evreux + finally to Comicy - where right opposite the R.R. Station were Evanston #4 + Mobile Hosp. No 2. The H arrangement of

Mobile 2 seems a good one, as also the operating tables lengthwise on both sides of a centre aisle; saw Neuhoef ~~do~~ a single self wound - + the leg sling used - only 50 cases can be handled - no more are taken when their quota or capacity is filled. Found Major Shesney; Stout + Gordon there, not Adair. Grave of 7 French men right on Hosp. Grounds - 13 men - 7 Germans 6 French buried a little farther on. Aviation Field not far away. Plenty of Bessoneau word but otherwise Hosp. like #3 - Very little work here - but no signs of moving. Heard that the big gun emplacement was 2 miles below - spur of R.R. running to it - which had a platform of concrete but was like a huge turntable on ball bearings the size of a baseball. It is to be transferred to Paris to the Hotel des Invalides. I tried to get the Major to stop on the way back as we passed very near it but he saw no "camouflaged road" + therefore we missed it. Great disappointment as we were definitely moving out the next day. Major Bancroft has the "fix" pretty badly.

Aug 20

awakened at 6 A.M. by the news that we had to be packed by 7 A.M. when the tent was coming down. Major pretty well all in helped him. I packed myself including German helmet. Rumor we were to leave at 11 A.M. - flies & yellow jackets redoubled their efforts at breakfast. final drop we bore at 4 P.M. tonight. I started out to find some wine for the Major but none to be had. investigated the shell holes of the valley for more shell fragment specimens - found some bully ones. All the old families have moved in the Houses everywhere - Fields being harvested. stores opening in villages. Wine will come from Paris at 4 P.M. Major still very miserable & contemplates R.C. Hospital No III - farther afield for wine after lunch - 2 or more villages have no wine - hunted along Ridge again for German relics, picked up another 'Field Brief' card but hadn't time to strike the old boxes again - ^{Wonderful View of the Marne} Back to find the Major better & going with us after all. A frightfully hot day - cooled

off as best I could - Finally after
supper discovered some Champagne at
18th F. a bottle!!! + we had a
delightful session with it. Off on
trucks for Mezy at 8.30 - Beautiful
Full Moon - Train waiting for us
in yards - 2nd class carriages but big
+ comfortable - 6 of us in one, lots of
room - Men in "box cars" + crowded
but mattresses + blankets appeared mysteriously
out of the dark + slipped in with them +
they travelled in comfort anyway.
Chese lunch + finally dreamland. We
didn't leave however until almost 11.

Major Phenister contributed the
interesting dope that Lairis XVI was
captured at Varennes, just beyond Mezy +
opposite Jauloyne -

Incurred
It is
Varennes
in the
argonne

Aug. 21

We went due East from Mezy through
Tomans, Epemay to Chalons where
we lay to in the yard from 4 P.M. - Slept
surprisingly well, sitting up. ad. Bissell
+ Major Bancroft curled up in a corner
+ snored away. We all awoke about

7 - heard the station was about a half mile away up the track + set out for it. discovered a Red Cross canteen with ^{hot} chocolate, jam, + bread about to close but we managed to squeeze in. 7-8 was refueling time when they restocked - Wonderful café out of doors + Recreation room for French + U.S. Permissivaires.

The station just beyond had a bar + Lunch Rooms - We bought some Vin Blanc - + hurried to discover the train had pulled up into the station beside a big public ^{iron} wash - fountain. We promptly proceeded to use the conveniences at our door - a very popular spot. Then strolled back to find the lunch room was open - omelettes, ham, cheese, + bread + coffee. The omelettes were scanty but the rest was delicious.

Chalons is a large prosperous town + railroad centre, the objective of the recent German drive + on the Marne - a pretty modern station covered train shed + subways crossing. We fussed + fumed in + out of the

on the plains near it
attacked the
It was
defeated by
Chans + the
Salle. Roman
way back in
6 or 700 AD

station until about 10.30 A.M. Then finally
started with the usual shill body trot
up the Marne, a flat semi marshy
country or low lying hills - unattractive
through Vitry-le-Francois, Blesmes,
Bengny + Bar-le-Duc. We
had provided a sumptuous lunch -
Camembert cheeses, Swiss cheese, orange
marmalade, bread - 3 bottles of champagne
2 of white wine + 1 of red, - + lamb
tongues - Bologna sausages. - From
Blesmes we followed the Meuse - Marne
canal - a ~~canal de Meuse~~ - much more
hilly country, cleaner except for dusty
roads - cattle + harvested hill fields
deep valleys - + American boys. Down
through Nançois-la-Petite, - Bengny, Vaucouleurs,
+ Sandrecoart. - Hot as blazes - Many
Soldiers - narrow gauge track - a
Wait at Sandrecoart - supper of tongue,
marmalade, bread, + wine - back over the
divide through Rozieres, Void, + Sorey, then
East along the old line, through Pagny over
the Meuse + finally Toul, tunnelling the
hills + passing a large iron works near Pagny

Rhosselle River

Detained at Toul station at 8 P.M.

Baggage on siding + being unloaded. Long wait on station platform - ~~at the~~ at the foot of a hill, smoky, + dusty - but uncovered.

Just + the full moon, still we sat on the platform edge, dusty, sticky, + tired.

Finally a thin form + a familiar voice out of the darks, Charlie Webster + his ambulances; still a lieutenant, though possessing a Croix de Guerre + the offer of a Majority + a Medical job but he has done bully work with the ambulances + he won't give it up.

Finally loaded all the nurses + officers + off we went

up a hill around a corner, shadowing the familiar ~~grey~~ ^{grey} stone houses

~~and~~ along a narrow gauge line on into the country between two mesa-like eminences bristling with fortifications.

Flat prairie ahead of us hemmed in by more mesas except North - ^{+ East} hard road, rough tree-lined. After five miles a halt, we had taken the wrong road - lovely soft moonlight. I didn't much care but everybody else seemed fighting mad. We turned to the East, by ammunition trains + groups

of Infantry bound toward the front
+ again North. Another halt, more
oaths + remarks upon the Army Transportation
Star shells ahead of us - + green - right
around + back half a mile toward Paul
a turn to the East + we finally
entered the Serastopol barracks where
evacuation * holds sway. We
were quickly assigned to quarters,
given mattresses + blankets, a bulky
big wash room - after a great old
splash - turned in. No Rocking

Aug 23

We are quartered in an empty
barracks used as a ward. Serastopol
is nothing but a barracks + quite new
built as a training base for the 1918 class.
Concrete floors - white washed plaster
walls, yellow brick, red tiled roofs.
8 beds on a side comfortably - 16. 7 rooms
in each barracks. - 3 operators here now
Jopson - Hener - Mc Williams, each has
their own operating room + complete outfit
including X-ray
Sharing a sterilizer + supply depot - Receiving
Rooms - Shock ward. Each has separate

baracks for their patients - capacity
1800 - can be increased by tentage or
crowding to 3600. Very few cases now.

Our own lunch mess for breakfast.
Major Bancroft, very shabby & grumpy
going into Medical Ward - I telephoned
Bazille for mail to be sent here.
Hunted up Shatby Hener - saw him
dress a case - & then he took me
over his flat. Very interesting & great
records which he keeps in his own
office with charts of primary closures -
cross indices of types of cases, joints etc
has an anesthesia that helps him. He
closes 90% of all T. tractors & averages
about 85% ^{successful} closures on all cases & succeeds
in about 90% of all cases. - Keeps his
cases as long as he wants. Wonderful
opportunity for great work. In Timmie's idea.
Spent all morning with him. ^{Wonderful hot} both - ^{but} ^{don't} just
^{healed off}

Visited the Major after a wonderful lunch
at the #1 mess - desert + china - He's
better - Hopped an ambulance into Toul
broaking hot, fairly dusty. - old walls
+ Moat surround the city - winding

cobbled narrow streets - but many
modern stores; ~~though~~ ~~the~~ little
tiny stuffy ones prevail. This covered a
good barber shop + was <sup>Barbers all gone - leg or foot gone
sit on chairs while they shave</sup> ~~very~~ ~~show~~
Two or three cafes, a bully Hotel on the
Square. - + a Y.M.C.A. officers club
where pils kenowed + case can be
procured + a canteen, but nothing in it
but wotches + poor cigars now. No
candy, cake, or chocolate anywhere
Toul, the largest town we've been in
outside of Paris - (15. 20. 000 / plenty
of French + American soldiers, old
French Garrison town - surrounded
by hills - heavily fortified, pierced by
the Meuse - Moselle Canal + quite a
R.R. centre - bombed fairly constantly
yesterday in day time. Today immune.
Waked back of station, still no chocolate
anywhere or cigarettes - Moat filled
with stagnant, evil smelling, green
water - Walls bastioned, also grown
with luxuriant grass + weeds - well trimmed
Many people but absence of men from
17 to 40 except in uniform quite noticeable

Very few questionable ladies, very little
black. Prices reasonable. Red
Cross tent at station - serves ice cream
everyday at 4 - We appeared at 6 P.M.
only lemonade - almost stayed for dinner
in town but decided to go back to wonderful
mess - (Major Thurstin + Sykes in party)
Rode back on rough road trucks only
to find that we had our own mess
in Y.M.C.A. Fairly good but cold we
were late -

To Bed early but called by Shorty
Hewer to see a Fractured Forearm case.
a clean pretty operation, removal of bony
fragments - debridement - closure - forearm
put up carelessly in pronation. Boche
plane overhead dropped a few bombs in
the road right near us - search lights on
him - visible in moonlight - went on
toward Toul - No casualties but shrapnel
or bits of bombs pattered around us - Nobody
seemed disturbed - as I fell asleep
heard the Siren in Toul evidently Boche
had arrived. No anti-aircraft fire
could I hear -

Aug 23.

a little grouchy this A.M. - a few others also uncomfortable - loafed + wrote up diary - No work in operating Rooms - Major worse - Hot - Sultry peppy day - Snoozed in P.M. - another hot bath - No mail yet - Wrote letters - Went out to Suffering's grave in little cemetery across the road - No 57.

2nd in row

aluminum plate on usual wooden cross + identification tag, grave not a raised mound but vicinity covered with testimonials from French + American fellow officers - ^{huge} ~~various~~ ^{various} shapes + shields outlined in worsted + worsted imitation flowers - pathetic pale yellow + purple colored symbols of honor + devotion + love of our bluff, crude possibly, yet fearless + greatest aviator. Blair Thaw's fresh grave at the other end was similarly adorned with lovely ^{real} ~~fake~~ ^{towny} roses. And it is a lump in the throat producing thought to think of our bravest + best fighting the straight true fight amidst the peaks of the air + ~~fulfilling~~ ^{cut short} their career, ~~without~~ their seeing the ^{great} ~~great~~ history that their efforts have done so much to inspire +

accomplish. -

Little engines + flat cars passed on
the narrow gauge - dummy engine type.
Major miserable to night - seems pretty
weak - requested opium for him - youthful
Lieutenant in charge seems a prig.

Severe thunder storm to night - No Boche
possible - a little Bridge -

Very little work coming in even here.
No guns firing - one rumor has^t only
10 guns have been fired in the last weeks
aerial activity persists. The logical
time to push ahead here, seems flashing
by, though even German newspapers have
rumors of a possible advance here. - We
are moving beds to Toul tomorrow
at 9 A.M. - more proof of probable
inactivity. We may soon however

be withdrawn to our own organization
Met Major Johnson after I had gone to bed -
through Major Plummer. Good scout
came over about 6 mos ago, Walker
of Bethlehem Steel Co. is one of his assistants

~~Aug 21~~

Aug 24

Packed up early - more pep - to day
but not completely there - Major better
Still looks tuckered out - No mail -
off in ambulances; Charlie Webster's again
to Paul - a turn to the right outside
the Wall + Moat up a gradual
incline to the top of ~~ardill~~ - two or
three barracks - ours is the central
one - Evacuation 14 also beside us.
Siding runs right up behind the Bldg.
regular Evacuation Depot - karger
two storied barracks here of concrete
stucco & red tiled roofs - a few but
+ bomb proofs - Quarters in a large
barracks. capacity 200-250 - same sized
rooms but a few small ones on end -
Nurses on one half floor - Wash Room for
us way down stairs + at other end -
Mess right below us - clean, very
clean, surprisingly so for Trench - sheets
as well as blankets - wonderful heavy
rough linen - Sides + hooks -
Very large quadrangle - cement walks
through turf patches - large airy windows
Settled quickly in default of mess, me

went into Toul - still showery +
damp - stopped at gate by M.P. - order
requiring definite business or pass from
Provost-Marshal to permit entrance
to city - we were passed O.K.
Delicious but expensive meal at Cafe
Hotel on Square - Melon - chops, Potatoes
Beer - Y.M.C.A. canteen for
cigarettes + cokes - one man there
had lost his division by losing a case
of acute appendicitis to a Hospital +
couldn't find where it had gone - was
going to trail them at 5 to a little village
where he hoped to get news of them
Bought a few books + papers at a "Librairie"
but no sweet chocolate obtainable +
nothing to drink from 1 to 5 P.M.

Started back - shower came up - retired
to a little leaky cafe - again caught in
shower - "manley" cap no protection -
water ran into my face constantly
dove into a French barracks in desperation
+ dried by head - after the storm I
walked up the Hill into Evacuation Hq by
mistake, finally steered right to our barracks

Shower locked - Traveled out - slept
about 3 hours - Good mess to - night
with beer - eating Bridge afterward.
Major Plummer a little low to day
No water to - night - only turned on
4 hours a day. -

Aug. 25

Bully cold bath before breakfast
in wash room. Foggy morning
bully day - we can look down upon the
gray roofs of Toul + the lovely ~~streets~~^{tree}
lined roads ~~leading~~ + stretching out over
+ between the surrounding ^{green} hills +
the red roofs blue roofs dotted with red
chimneys - of ^{the} white + yellow walled
clusters of houses ~~below~~ on between
the green + yellow fields or ^{rest} against
the white-roaked Hillsides. - Mary
+ Bridge this A.M. - Kicked over
the traces this P.M. + sailed off to
see the cathedral by myself. Down
the Hill one mile to town - Houses of
the more prosperous, walled in or ^{now} fenced yards
a few with bath or hedged - badly kept
now - small cornices of wood - many

brick houses, the windows outlined in red + one in red + green painted bricks - small yards - mostly garden, + houses on or near the road - very rough + dusty. Beautiful day - a bit warm - lots of pop.

Moat has smelly, more people - Sunday direction given by M.P.O. to Cathedral not accurate, but right general direction + after following a maze of narrow winding cobbled deserted streets lined by old abandoned ~~gray~~ stone + stucco houses a few ^{with} arched gateways leading into old deserted courtyards. - a moderate old empty square faces the Cathedral, street enters on two sides only. The Cathedral towers ~~black~~ high above, square topped ~~bristly~~ with heterogeneous gargoyles + gothic buttresses + the entire front smoothed by the winds + torrents of ~~many~~ years shows its age. It was built in 900 AD + finished in 1100 AD - bombarded in 1870 ^{with} a general sprinkling of shrapnel it would seem, from the symmetrical superficial crumbling but so far unharmed in this war. The huge height + bony

lies just below in a wide valley 15
miles as the crow flies from Toul but 20
miles by train - only 27 miles from the
line. A huge usual type of
covered station with military exit
waiting rooms for 3rd, 2nd, + 1st class. Our
passes were stamped by the ass't P.M.
stamp right at the exit + then we were
free to roam. It was 11.30; we
had heard of the Cafe Stanislas + we
promptly set out for it as we were beastly
hungry. Nancy has been shelled +
bombed. Metz is as promptly shelled,
within 3 mms, when Nancy is smitten so
that shelling has been given up but airplane
bombing is steadily kept up. Parts of
the station have been well peppered but
except for broken glass no where destroyed.
A house opposite on a large square
facing the station has been absolutely gutted
by a shell that dropped right through to the
cellar + has torn out to centre, leaving the
side walls but nothing else intact; at one
corner of the square where a street enters is
an old arch completely filling it except for the sidewalks

on each side; The sculpturing ^{is} almost erased
black + weather beaten - This is the
Rue de Stanislaus - 4 blocks down it opens
into the Place de Stanislaus, a strikingly
lovely square. Surrounded by a filigree
wrought iron gilded fencing which forms
arches over the streets + surmounts all the
houses facing it. The fronts of all
the Houses are of uniform height ^{3 stories} except
the Cafe Stanislaus ^{2 stories} + painted in black +
gilt to conform to the color scheme -
a statue of Stanislaus I, of Poland, a
Roman togged figure with curly locks
stands in the center of the square - fine
gravel packed hard is graded down from
it on all sides to the wide stone gutters
+ sidewalks - on one side is the
Hotel de Ville, on another two large
Restaurants + Cafes - shut up or deserted -
on the 3rd a few stores + the Cafe Stanislaus
+ on the 4th another Hotel + stores.
We strolled right steadily for the Cafe - over
what must be in peace times a right rollicking
jovial spot now silent + practically deserted
an occasional gamine that's all a dark

at a veritable snail's pace; digging in their
toes + pulling like steers all the time +
making a few inches only at a tug. The
average speed must not be over 2 miles an
hour. The horses are very cute, working
away from the canal edge constantly edging
along as they reach the opposite margin
+ when a lock is reached + the boat is locked
through turning around + walking back to
rest beneath the nearest shade or browse
on the grass. The boats are built
so large that they just fit by inches in
the locks - ^{Bronzed} Women work the gates;
running out from the neighboring lock houses
at the sound of a horn much like ours.
The gates have two shutters over barge
openings which are first raised to equalize
the level of water in the lock + the canal
below - the gates then opened + the boat
rides slowly in, the horses tugging slowly all
the time - the ^{low} rope being strung, as the lock
is reached, over ^{the top of} a mast firmly hinged
near the fore half of the boat - This lifts
the low rope above the lock level + the
people standing near it or opening the locks

The boat is lashed by steel bawseers fore + aft in the lock. Then the level of the water raised in usual manner + by opening shutters in upper gates, + then the gates, all ^{by} hand gears. The horses certainly are faithful slaves. The canal banks have ~~lots~~ of willow + alder bushes scattered over them + occasional trees.

I walked up a few miles to the next village by about 5 locks; ^{the canal parallels the R.R. but not water supply} many gun trains - 6 + trench motors - on the Railroad + a few troop trains; Many potholes fishing but no fish that I could see.

I walked back into town + hunted up the 37th Engineers + Major Cowan; had a bully time with him, great boy; - back by Paul - Y. for cookies, + beer at the Hotel + evening paper. - a Little Budge + Bed.

Aug 30

He + I decided to go to Bazilles for mail - getting very restless no mail nothing down here - Bridge this A.M. to bill time. as transportation to Bazilles doesn't leave until after lunch. - My new puttees do very well. - wrote up my back diary.

Motored planes. - One area where
a bomb had dropped showed a complete
clipse cut out of a grove of young
evergreens. clean to the ground. one tree
uprooted completely 30 or 40 ft. Two
villages above Neufchâteau - Soulesse¹²
a startling figure - saw summit a
church steeple overlooking the confluence
of the offshoot of the Moselle Valley & the
Meuse; + Tournay - Joan¹²

Departed in Neufchâteau; one of the
first men we saw was Major Bunnay
on his way to Aulnois Field Hospital 39,
Major Flint's outfit. Toole & McNevey
were to join him, walked through town
with him, heard of one of our nurse's death
Pneumonia - He had been at Charnout
2 weeks nothing to do, champing at the bit.
looked very well. Caught an ambulance to
Bospilles at outskirts of town, jumped aboard
waved good-bye to the Major. - Road Repair
but an easy ride over the Hill. Barracks
all completed & tents sprinkled every where
to cover every available inch. Capacity
for patients of Hospital area, seems almost trebled

Hospital train on siding. Drove right to
Q.M. - Dashed into Hqts - found a
bunch back including "Ted" Reed + Hyland.
our Hqts moving to St. Cloud outside Paris
Col Jones transferred to Head of Transportation,
Bocock to Col Mancroff, + Major Smith is
~~the~~ C.O. of entire outfit but may go with
Col Jones. organization apparently busted up
to make each section, a Unit + each Unit
to have but 4 officers + 30 men; probably
all off entirely - Not organized from
this side + Col. Mancroff are two
reasons given for it. Major Bancroft
out, caught him by phone at "18 c.
Cy" Sulthre, said "Good Bye to Cy + Walter don't
mind going to Paris but hate to be ^{robbed of} ~~robbed~~ chance
to see Walter occasionally. Went to
Q.M. bought Tobacco, cigarettes, + ~~Randy~~
galore + found the Major coming across
the fields. He had our mail + sure
enough there were 8 large lardy ones
for me, among other business stuff. Pre
it was a great joy + relief to have them
+ evidently none had been sent, after all,
to * - Mail also for Kirby Dwight + Major

Van Buren + Biss. Major Bureoff
was fine, had one negative culture &
was waiting for second. would
probably come up tomorrow, when
report of culture had come in. Found
ambulances for Paul waiting outside of
116 Receiving Room, the Sergeant in charge
gave us an ambulance. after putting
my overcoat in the Major's clothing
roll & making some last arrangements
for Biss' clothes which were a mess.
We were off, catching said ambulance
at Hdqts + with a haversack bulging
with letters, clothes, * candy + tobacco.
Easy trip right straight back even to
the Hospital here - were held up by a
train at crossing in Neufchateau. a Staff
officer was behind us, with a dressage
Trench Captain on the front seat, who was
much perturbed about being held up, tried
to stir up the natives to action with no
result. Finally decision for turning about
was reached as they turned who I should
I recognize as the "Staff officer" but Billy
West. He yowled at him + out he came

awakened at 4 A.M. by drum fire entrance
irregular roll fire punctuated by big gun boom.
stopped as suddenly at 6 A.M. No further firing

Aug 31 -

Regular Saturday cleaning up to-day
beside bath - hair brushes - comb - +
everything - letters for quite some
time - Then a walk down canal
to town - station - then Y.M.C.A. club -
hunt for new A.M. Supply Depot which was
discovered to be closed - Canteen devoid
of everything but "sweet crackers" - Browse
through book stores for medical books + pictures
of them - a few postal cards - Timely
at little hotel on Square discovered two
aviators on leave from observation squadron -
said barrage this A.M. was a German barrage
that they had blown up a big ammunition dump
yesterday afternoon with 3 shells from 17 K.
distance - [afterward learned it was only usual
small one + it took about 30 shells] - but
our pursuit squadrons are of no use to
the observation men, the Germans dive their
bombs apparently easily - bring down many
balloons + are fought chiefly by the observation
men who have slower machines. - Germans
still have it all over Americans in air, on
Chateau Thierry front the British had 17 squadron
Americans about 8 - + the Germans 33 -

guns were parked \pm American 8" boys each attached to doctos which make 4 K¹ an hour waiting for night to move up. Caterpillar tractors of small size - 4 cylinder Holt engine

also on the way back saw an old Frenchman throwing his seine along the canal bank - His method was most interesting - had lead weights around the edges of a 12 ft diameter net on the end of a clothes line rope - He was very deft in casting it to cover the full road + then hauled it immediately in - chiefly shiners, tiny perch, + ~~two~~ "bule" or "bune" all about garden size - He had about 1/2 a bucket full - but how any of them could be taken on a hook is a mystery to me + yet the inevitable fishermen were on the bank + using bird seed for bait - (or tiny snails)

Dinner with Major Cowan all tied up. Moore couldn't get away + Bios didn't want to + all too late to get the Major by phone before he had left for town. I accordingly tore down to town to the Hotel de Metz + the Restaurant opposite but

the Major nowhere. I finally had
dinner at the Metz - fairly good table
d'hôte at 3 1/2 F. Soup - pork - tomatoes
Salad - melon - + vin blanc - saw
a little aviation lieutenant + invited him
to have desert with me - He knew
"Tommy" Altaris - He was one of
70 men who ferry the new American
planes across France to the assembly
depots. We use chiefly French planes
but now Liberty Motors are appearing
in abundance - the planes are all given
over in an American hangar near
Paris + then sent out to the various
depots. The men fly them out + then
take the train back to Paris - only
2 hrs by plane + 11 hrs by train to Paul.
This is preliminary flying - the aviator
is then sent on to one of the services,
Scouting or chasse, - observation or bombing.
The Scouts also strafe. The Liberty Motors
do better for the English than for us; at high
altitudes a spark plug is prone to "blow out" +
in chasse planes so far there is too much
vibration from it + the motor will not last well

much over an hour but they are being
put into all or most English + French
planes + experimenting is at high pitch to
eliminate the vibration + other difficulties +
a wonderful plane will be produced.

Walked up the narrow dark streets
+ back in a gentle drizzle - No Major
Cowan anywhere.

Sept 2

Beautiful day. cloudless. heard
about midnight of a Hum plane
promptly appeared over head about 1.30 A.M.
+ off went the Archie + machine guns
+ on with the searchlight. Sitting in
bed I could see the beam of light
from the hill opposite pointing right up
over us, the shrapnel at times dropping
on the roof. Evidently the plane was
not accurately located though the
long hum hum of the motor could be
heard for some time. We couldn't
see the fringed thing from the window
but it seemed to be circling above us.
No bombs however - all over in 1/2 hr.
Officers of the Day - a stupid day

Sept 4.

Bully day again to Nancy, with
"Red Cross" Verrier, Bisco + Major Bancroft.
Verrier - a great card - though 3x a grand-
father he still has an eye for the ladies +
there seems to be no lack of them in
Nancy - We strolled around the shops,
Place Stanislas, + the business street until
lunch - Bully candy + ^{store}epiceries. Found
the glass-ware made in Nancy - not unlike a
Tiffany glass. Models of the ^{American} ~~Anglo~~ French
Monument are appearing in the shops - Prices
certainly double for Americans except in the
bookstore. - Lunch at "Cafe L'Europa"
bully meal for 6 F. - ~~deux~~ d'oeuvres - Duck
stew - wine cashed ϵ a soin sauce - delicious -
Bread + cheese - grapes - We chartered a fiacre
in the afternoon and saw the East part of the
city - The Medical school - Cathedral - all
the gates - ^{+ Public Bldg.} The Residential part West on the
hill we didn't have time for - Only 25,000
of 125,000 left in Nancy - none of the rich people
+ apparently there is abundant wealth here, +
all the Germans have left - Before the war apparently
they were practically the business heads of
the town - the breweries + most of the industries

Controlled by them - shops having names like "Schmidt" etc are riddled up - many houses all through the city likewise - The streets are in general wide - a bulging park + old + new public bldgs about maintain the same general height - Next to Paris it seems to have had the attention of the beautifiers of France like Louis Napoleon. One gate dates to about 1600 but looks much older - Norman towered type - Back at about 5 P.M. - Nothing doing here.

Some of the men who had gone up near the front - said offensive not expected for 8-10 days - artillery + ammunition hidden everywhere beneath woods + trees. - a balloon right near Toul was shot down by a German plane in spite of the efforts of 3 American planes to catch him + he got away after requiring 3 trials to swooper to get the balloon - The observers parachuted to safety. The fight was easily visible from the barracks the boys were rather sure about it until report came in that a German plane was brought down near the lines.

Sept 5

Rainy day. Read - Wrote - all A.M. -
Meeting in P.M. More cutlets from cutter -
In Town in P.M. - discovered Post cards (Military)
were free at Post office which is a combination
Telegraph + Post office; found Major Kear - Webb +
Putney on their way to Anluois. No 39 - Kees
out of Cushing's office now; discovered with
him a new officers club. Big rooms =
Swords + old armor on the walls, filled with
tables, biliard + others - Trunks at any hour
all on 2nd floor. Back to find great news -
unconfirmed, that Cambrai + Tonnai + Lens have
fallen - the Germans in full retreat. also
rumor that each section ^{of the MOU} is to have 4 officers
permanent - 20 tables for extra assigned operating
teams is much larger than at present. - a C.O. a
chief Surgeon - adjutant + Ass't. Surg.

Bridge + Bed.

Sept 6

on first call to-day, - but nothing
but a Vincent's Angina + an acute
appendix - + an infected toe. The first
dipped ~~is~~ by mistake - the other two were
necessary to operate. Finished Throat
on War Wounds of King - a much
padded but a very good book full

of interesting dope + very timely for us.
Bridge + Writing - Evening went to
Taul to hunt up movies - Name ^{present} until
Sunday - bought papers - Few ^{line}
on way - makes advances much more
understandable - a bottle of beer +
back - Major Cowan was here for
dinner, met him + Biss at the gate
going home - talked over an hour until
after 10 P.M. - told us about rotten conduct
of young aviators of this sector + their
"yellowness" - afraid to fight run from
Germans - German's bringing down balloons
as they please - 40 or 50 men of present
group behaving rotfully - Women + Wine -
Woods near front everywhere filled with men +
more men - The Major is a good scout

Sept 7

Quiet beautiful day - challenged in
Baseball by Mobile No 3 - Wrote + Read
in A.M. - Game at 2 P.M. Great lot
of fun - played 6 innings, No chances
but struck out once - He made a
home run but was out ~~before~~ not touching
2nd base - We won 11-4 a bully game

but nothing happened. It seems
concussion or heat is necessary to
explode them. We were soon to find
that considerable concussion is necessary.
The ^{pointed} end of the shell has a ring screwed
into it; this is removed & ^{replaced by} the fuse
before firing. The fuse may be a
time fuse (a certain time after penetrating or
landing) or an instantaneous or contact
fuse explosion on contact. Steel
casing for the shell. It was
a lovely ride - air clear, sky ribboned
with clouds. We followed the crest of the
ridge separating the Moselle from the North
the Valley northward up & beyond
Meuil la Tom lay before us - far over to
the Boche line - one or two balloons
swung high in the air. No airplane
in sight. Very little movement on
the road. On the other side the
valley of the Moselle, ahead Pont à Mausson
beyond & the hills on the other side of
the river. The road dipped & climbed
very gradually & bumped steadily. We
passed the Marais - now moving up

+ encamped in a wood - Hdqts in a
farm house - Very few cars on the
road - about 10 kilometers out, the
cars stopped + the 1st car received
orders to proceed, the others, ~~except~~
one remained behind + turned into
a little town - We had come straight
on the "Jaulouard" road - We kept on
but at increased speed - a rather
reckless driver - We rode on the seat
with him - one man only behind with
the shells that were lying flat in this
car. We bumped outrageously I didn't
like it much; about 6 kilometers farther
we struck a slight rut on our right
at a good clip. I tried to pull out - the
steering gear snapped + we dove a
full ^{angle} to the left at about 20 miles an
hour into the 3 ft ditch along the road.
Cameron was on the outside + he jumped,
I had no time. I must have instinctly braced
myself - absolutely no sensation of fear or
alarm - The front wheels struck + stayed
right in the ditch - I was thrown against
the hood + a blunt handle (an ironman truck)

our immediate destination. Here we
bade good bye to ammunition - no
more ever for mine. We bought
grapes, nuts, wine, + Kippered Herring
from a French woman + got some
bread from an enlisted ^{man's} mess
the 307th artillery - their Batt. and
Station - set up opposite it + we
sat out on a bench + had lunch +
a fair one it was, though the Kippered
Herring rumbled + roared after several
slices. The wine was of infinite power
for a mere our blame! so we started
to walk it off - due North. We
were apparently not far from Pont à
Mousson; at a cross roads, we met
another truck + jumped aboard. A large
wood was not far away - Forêt de Paveulle.
The road doubles though it for at least 3 miles.
Small ammunition dumps lined the road -
its entire extent + cartridges for rifles - 75's to
155's - (6") + 8" - shells; well camouflaged in
piles. 20 x 12 x 4 ft. - soldiers also well
hidden + ^{usually} ~~usually~~ from the road - almost
under brush cut away + used for shelter -

many horses - one corral of 3 or 400
but in general tethered in camouflaged
areas in great numbers near the
road - In some places barracks
were built about a half mile
from the ^{far} edge of the wood the trucks
stopped - orders forbade any trucks
going farther in day time. Except
by special order - In fact, the general
impression of a remote visitor was
that of a simple protective encampment
except for the signs of bustle & huge
amount of ammunition - We left the
row of trucks hidden beneath the trees &
picked up another a few steps farther
an artillery lieutenant, going up to his
batteries quite light - then to return for
forage - We turned down a dip by an
artillery camp - guns hidden out of
sight - woods well filled of underbrush -
an M.P. stopped us for our pass - our
lieutenant bluffed him through & we passed
on North for half a mile & in a trench
outpost apparently stopped. A view of the
lines, this said could be had a mile up a

sloping
gently ravine. The Lieutenant didn't know
when he would go back - So we
left the rather capacious dugout +
French Captain + strolled on East up
the ravine - Small shell holes
everywhere - The dugouts were built
into the side of the rise - not very
deep - camouflaged well, with boughs or
the artificial camouflage - stems
nothing to which tufts of ^{dried} grass size of
a fist has been tied at each intersection
or ^{blue} green cotton cloth with many ^{oval} tears +
perforations. The circular ^{cut} about
10 ft in diameter about 2 ft below the
level of the ground had small compartments
leading from it - At the top of the
perfectly barren ~~ravine~~ we found two
camouflaged 90 mm guns + their gun
crew, 307th art. - Coast. Point a. Mousson
was visible due East - distinctly visible
through the glass (about 2 miles away) - The
big white church + the two brown barracks
like buildings - all apparently unscathed.
We gave the Lieutenant in charge the
remnant of our chocolate. He told us

his guns - he only had had 1 wh - they
had been fired only twice since last
November - once in November - once
this week. They were old 1890 guns
+ were to be replaced by 75's. We
went into the gun pit in another
shallow dugout. It was fired by
a lance - the crew standing in the right
hand niche ^{instead of behind it} on account of the tremendous
recoil of the gun - two special Δ 3 ft
shaped restrainers stand 1 ft behind each
wheel to take up the recoil - No effort
made to support the trailer. A special
sight is slipped on the gun and adjustment
made before each firing. It can only be
fired once a min., a 75 3074 x a min.
4 men to the gun crew. On the left of
the dugout - was about 50 rounds of shell
ammunition + 100 fuses. The fuses were
of 2 kinds - one for instantaneous burst (contact)
other for time after contact burst - covered with
Silver foil - 1" in diameter cylinders about
8-12" long. The end of the shell is removed
+ the fuse screwed in place. The shell
put in the gun, the charge of powder

shallow ridges crossed it. One
large arm - like a miniature RR
trestle was raised along side the road.
Good drinking water. An ambulance
stopped ^{at the fork} side the Road. Finally we
found a wood road leading north
& we took it. - Underbrush heavy but
trails leading everywhere through it
to shallow dugouts or well protected
huts. The woods were teeming with
men. Our road ended in 200 yds
at an aid station + ambulance depot.
A dental friend gave us a drink. A
group of men came down a trail said
they were going up to the front line, we
asked if we could trail too, + they said
"Come along," + we did. - Jack board
made it easy to follow, though, there were
many deviations. We must have walked
a half mile or more + we came out
upon an open field + a cook tent in the
corner. We skirted the wood here
~~at~~ 10 or 12 ft intervals - in the open
in possible sight of the Germans. In
100 yds we ducked into a real trench.

Mar 10-11-12 (Paris
outing)

Aug 20

Aug 24

Sept 12

13

Sept 11

Sept 20/17,
in 26

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a bit worried that we might be
looking for the German trenches, as we
held their old front line + the trench
systems dead one into the other. Blackberry
bushes - brambles + brush covered over the
top of the trench now well over 6 ft deep
+ winding on through the wood + a
little down grade. We suddenly came
upon 2 soldiers picking blackberries -
We asked if we could see No man's land
+ the German trenches - They said "It's a
pretty good view from here" We crawled
up the trench side + sure enough
away through a thin line of bushes
lay an ~~open~~ open field with a rise beyond
on which the German barbed wire
was easily visible ^{a quarter of a mile away} - the trenches lay
on the far side + We asked if we could
go farther as we were out to see as
much as possible - They asked us
if we had seen a sentry or knew the
pass word, we said No - No reply
from them so on we went we came
to another part of the trench - ~~to see~~
+ a sentry at his post, his companion

asleep beneath a shelter on the parapet.
We stepped on the parapet + looked over
onto woman's land - stumps + low
grass scattered over it. Not a shot, nothing
sounded, but a white Hdq. tent to a large
stump about 100 yd out from our lines, I
just remarked about this - when I
turned to see our blackberry friend
behind us + the foremost one with his
bayonet inclined sword, "I'll have to put you
under arrest." I must say I felt a
little sheepish but proceeded to be
marched on down the trench front line no
duck board - I, first, then Cameron, then
the Bayonet - then a revolver - by
sentries every 50 ft or so - through
mud + puddles, half way to the ditches
yellow red clay mud - Stopped by one sentry
who with bayonet at my chest demanded
the pass word - ~~our~~ bayonet whispered
"Henton" + then remarked he would vouch for
us. We were finally allowed to pass.
The sentry posts were semicircular
enlargements of the trench or where
communicating trenches came in - Elsewhere

the trenches are so narrow two men
can pass only with some difficulty.
We finally after a half mile or so
reached a dug out - from which
Captain Peters was summoned. He
asked what he could do for us. The
guard replied "We had been found in the
front line trenches. He turned to me
& I told him where we were from &
that we had wanted to see No man's land
for ourselves". He asked for ^{our} identification
cards. "Well, Captain, the only thing
I can do for you is to show you the
way back." I thanked him, told
him his men were on their job &
back we went. The same men
looking us - at the second turn we
were told to look over the edge & there
lay Point a Maysson 2 or 3 miles off
below us. ^{a beautifully clear view} "You can go back over the
field or by the trench" we were told -
I gave the boys the rest of the
chocolate & thanked them, told them they
were certainly on the job. After about
1/2 mile of long curve trench we came

Dug out openings from front line + from communication trenches -
Some 12 or 15 ft others 30 + 40 ft under ground wooden steps leading down with two or three landings + wood frame curtains for gas attacks
We didn't go into any of these as we searched by hand time.

out on the camouflaged road near the Metz cross road - ^{as we had come out of our escape night} We had an hilarious trip back + had to walk five miles through the wood - caught in a storm, jumped into a truck until it was over - 5 P.M. then another mile or two walk - caught a French Ford + were taken to Villers en Haye - another mile walk - then a V.M.C.A. man picked us up + took us all the way in. The walk up the canal + we were here for dinner at 10 minutes of seven - 30 kilometers. - our truck in we saw being hauled away -

It was a marvelous, interesting day. I wouldn't have missed it for a great deal. + as it turned out as it did. I was very glad to have gone ~~as far~~ right up to the old German line + really seen the front line. We were the centre of many inquiries all evening, much talk, + I must say I think some evening

B. just feed all adhesions + bands. attached
cecum to wound for possible labi cocostomy.
Man to night doing very well. The sick-
ment to ward where he immediately was
better. Short walk in P.M. out toward
Choloy picked up a Frenchman - a little alcohol
but his gratitude to America was almost
pathetic - curious masonry construction
like a movie set residue about 1 mile out
+ a tall white electric factory bldg in
of apparent Boche origin - Strange to see
in an ancient tiny hamlet. French
History + Bed.

In a field
found an
aeroplane with
a broken propeller
blade which
the guard said
had been caused
by a collision
with a nulling
?? ?
Plane had a light
O.K.

Sept 11 -

A few guns to-day. Rumor that
to night's the night - Major Zisser at
noon had no special dope - Read
Fr. History + Med. J. most all A.M. - our
patient doing well - Rainy - windy day
Bridge in P.M. - cleared off beautifully.
New Commissary + Haircut in town in
P.M. - Mrs Walker at "Y" invited us to
breakfast some day in a "quiet hour" - The better
went back in evening however. History
+ Bridge in evening. More guns off -
on night bed time.

Sept 12

at about 1:30 a.m. - barrage +
drum fire opened up; irregular. rattle - loud
booms + medium sized, rapid then an
interval, then another long rapid series. The
entire northern horizon lit up by the
flashes - huge waves of sheet lightning.
Huge fire just beyond station below
Tand hill near or in ammunition factory.
periodic explosions of shells which lit up
the whole town - apparently 75's - not
spreading - burned lots two ammunition
wagons caught fire + burned - factory
unburned.

Steady fire, ^{of guns} not as near, ^{but} continuous,
this a.m. - aeroplane activity. no fights
so far. Two new teams arrived this a.m.
Medical Patients moved out to big bungalow tent
all lower rooms for nurses + doctors. Rumor
that the offensive is on parade - We
climbed the Middle Hill - North of us -
Many battery salvos visible all over
the plain up to the horizon - + airplane
dropping messages to them. attack is
on + apparently successful - fighting
must be over the horizon -

attacks began at 5.30 daylight
after barrage from midnight. First
wounded came in about 1 P.M. helped
log them. Then began operating at
2 P.M. - Great hope to be at it

again. Interesting cases - one
blue case - shrapnel in head of tibia
one chest case - many small
foreign bodies. The boys are
wonderful - say they gained all
objectives easily. Boche only fought
hard at first, then advance was
as fast as men could run - our
barrage excellent. We did one fellow
with 4 shrapnel wounds under local

anesthesia without a whisper. - One
boy said he broke his bayonet on the
first boche but graduated did quite
well after that. - Knock on a dug out
door + yell "surrender" was the usual
formula to bring the Boche out. - One
boy lost a finger or two + was only sorry
he hadn't got more than one before he had
to stop. - > OK Great news tonight
Thruancourt St Michel + Mont Sec here

fallen + 30,000 prisoners - Tued
to night (Finished letter to Anne)
Interesting system of advance
3 waves - 1st go over the top +
keep going no matter what is met
2nd is their support. 3rd - are
the 'moppers up' - finish any
isolated bunches of men, collect
prisoners consolidate positions.

Sept 13

- Wp at six + off again at 7-
No news as yet - cases still coming
in 5 or 600 so far. - group follow
up cards to them - still yesterday's
wounded - Communique merely says
8000 prisoners + 5 miles gain and
boy came in who knew we captured
all objectives yesterday that were
assigned for to-day - It was ordered to
day in though tanks had gone several
miles without resistance - The
gain is to consolidate all gains
our 20" guns have not yet been fired
St Michel has been definitely taken apparently
+ 7000 more prisoners to-day - still

many heavy showers. awfully
cold in operation room - Ben Delaney
Col. Rume + Thayer - Col Cushing
+ Major Pool came in to day -
The Rume + Thayer have aged
tremendously - all very enthusiastic.

This P.M. had several good cases
saw one case of gas gangrene
with a machine gun bullet in leg
with fracture of tibia - quite rare
Red Sox won the World's Series + I a
dinner therefore from Mayor Bancroft.
No more news to night. Much less
shooting to day; but by 10 A.M. yesterday
we heard the 75's; 6" were already
being moved up.

One boy is pathetic - went over the
top feeling rotten but wanted to prove
he wasn't yellow - had a bad kidney
wound + not has pneumonia + will
probably die -

Tanks apparently have played a
huge part in our success so far +
they are manned by Americans too.

case of leg is running a high temperature
dressed him, seems O.K. May have
pneumonia though. Had time for a
bath; parse. Hearen - splint team
for all splints is a great thing - time
save + very efficient. Shells team
+ head cases teams apparently working
out well - Major Paul to-day
no one else - we're getting away
with good work - Walked down
for paper to night - passed two soldiers
disputing; the delightful remarks we
heard were "Then you have to put
your S - d - name down + you
get a shut - one of them lousy shirts"
Air Raid last night we never heard;
no bombs however but the band
concert this P.M. was great.

Sept 16

Work slowing down to-day - not
called all night - only a few cases
last morning - none this P.M. + none
so for this evening - Gen. Gorgas
came through to night - slept this
P.M. - never expected I could - went

down town to Comedie Restaurant
bully dinner, Major Bross + I - bed on
Red Sox thus paid by Major - walked
back up the canal - bully day -
another attack this a.m. is subdued - little
downing - My gas case much better will
probably be evacuated.

Sept 17 -

No work last night + none
to day, we are admitting no
more cases + will probably move
up into the recaptured area. Bathed -
wrote letters + helped the Major dress
some cases this a.m.; almost went to
Mont Sec this P.M. but ambulance didn't
show up; played a little Bridge - visited
the laundry lady + then town for
a paper + a much needed walk
back by the canal - One rumor
is that we go to Bordeaux, another
near St Michel - More Bridge +
Bed - We work at No 51 to -
morrow.

Sept 18

Woke early, only to find that there was nothing to do at 51 - Dirty place - very badly managed - Back to read medical books - write letters - + be on call in case 51 changes its mind. all our cases have been evacuated.

This P.M. we were summoned to 51 to help in dressings - about 50 Boche came first. Major Biss + I cleared up about 60-80 cases in excellent fashion. Only a few seriously injured among the Boche. 3 or 4 unbandaged things help to take care of others - a mixed lot of Poles, Germans, a few Austrians + one or two better class men. most however were squealing-complaining at being dressed. None seemed poorly nourished but their ration had been the miserable 700 G of Bread. Soup Green Vegetables + meat once a week. I had a chance to talk to a man from Cologne: 36 yrs old - who said in his company of 300 he was the youngest, that all the youngsters were refusing to go to the front !! that the Government was

not shooting them or apparently inflicting punishment upon them for this refusal, that the Austrians sent as reinforcements were all old men, - these had to go to the front because their families could be dealt with. He had 3 children, + for them he received 85 marks every 7 mos. from the state - He had been in the Army 4 yrs + wounded 3 x - all Germany was tired of war + he believed could not last through another winter on account of shortage of food which though no special disease was prevalent - in general the people were healthy - there was insufficient food, even the officers had the same rations as the men in the field.

We found several cases that needed dressings ^{in operation room} or minor operations & promptly did them - one fellow who had a thrombosis of his popliteal artery apparently + another still had a piece of shell in his thigh after one week of "treatment" - we went through like a gale of wind - certainly straightened the

Sept. 19

after bath + clean clothes reported
again to 51 - found some general
inefficiency - circulation in leg of
case I did much better. foot only looked
badly - but man much weaker, poor pulse
dressed in of Room - stood 40.4
fussed around in Talsin + Bernan's
Ward under Major Pool's orders. We
helped clean up a great deal.

No lunches this P.M. or this evening.
went to town bought cheese at ~~Delicatessen~~
shop - Y.M. only one box of coles sold -
commissary practically bought out - nothing
in shops but bought a lovely embroidered
apron for Panama Birthday + Christmas.

Boels to find everybody packing up +
bed rolls to be ready as soon as possible.
after dinner - news that we wouldn't
leave until tomorrow - great search for
blankets + mattresses: many left in
nurses department ^{promptly seized} - Nurses left at 45: not going
went down to ^{with us}

Trouble to movies but no movies - had
a little beer + Boels to Budge + Bee
Running like the deuce - no one
sorry to be staying.

Movies only
from 6 to 7.30 P.M.
Thursday
Saturday + Sunday

Sept 20

Woke behind still raining -
bully breakfast - French trucks
arrived at 9. one driver said we
were going to Bar-le-Duc (right blind
road) to night - Angus Cameron
+ I went down for the papers - great
news - running everywhere - Back
to find we would probably not leave
before late this afternoon. we rode in
ambulances - clearing by noon + cook.
Fire in stove + windows closed. Sand-
wiches + coffee for lunch - ambulances
arrived at 1.30 P.M., piled in almost
forgot my towel + a satchel filled with
food - borrowed from Charlie Butler - We
waited until 2.30 before starting - The
men + outfit packed in trucks, - we in
ambulances. Amb. Co. 599 + had left
Allentown in June - landed in Senoa, Italy
staid there about 6 wks, then ordered to France
showered with flowers + good times
waited until ambulances were set up
then drove ^{them} through Modine into France.
Just arrived at Toul (at 5¹⁰) - A New-
york crowd - none that I knew; had

So for the dope held - It was
tempting to be denied the wide
sweeps of the valleys, the long
rolling hills + the heather-like country
side between Pagny + Ligny en
Barrois. Superb bits we did see
through clouds of dust
^ suggestions of what lay beyond the
tiny visual sample vistas. We
pulsed along at about 10 or 12 miles an
hour - stopping frequently, twice in
silent unpopulated areas our banners
were removed + we were allowed
to stretch our legs - a remarkably
welcome procedure. We had
supper at 6 - 2 huge sandwiches presented
us by the courtesan delicious beef,
cheese - hard tock (also presented) + beer
nuts + cakes, a great repast. Bus
+ I were in another bus - managed
to slip them some cheese at one of
our stops - From Ligny we
turned North West to Bar le Due
as per rumor - just as we crossed
the Orain beyond Ligny - we were
held up by a division train + guns

coming in from another road - crowd
of men, horses, + long lines of camions
Bram Valley as lovely as the Maine
rapid clear ^{rocky} stream, the road jammed
with traffic. Beautiful old rose
Sun set - against the deep blue-green
of the hills - Progress very slow
in jerbs - apparently one way road
so we proceeded in 2 lines, ^{in one} camions
for miles packed one behind another,
touring cars + ambulances beside them
in the second line - 5 min halt +
then 3 min of progress. - we
paralleled the railroad into Bar le Thu
in manelours limpid pure ^{full} moonlight
like into a famous night of long
ago. The beer made me sleepy we
met the division + artillery train at
7 P.M. - I snoozed away until we
stopped at Bar le Thu at 9 P.M.

Here we waited for orders along side
the road while trucks + camions
filled with infantry lined by in a
continuous stream ^{following each other} as close as possible
many with sides + rear battered down but

proper way - We had a midnight
lunch - cheese - chelsea - + crackers
+ beer - Through two or three
small ruined villages - walls over
grown with weeds black + white
in the moonlight - our white ribbon
road wound straight ahead at
Tenney we turned West ran a
mile or two - met a convoy of
cannons + stopped beside them ^{at 2 AM} a
low contourment ahead - no order - no
news of where we were or were going
We backed away to let another convoy
pass - We waited a half hour - no order
we went to sleep in the ambulance. ^{Capt.}
called at 3.30 a M. worse vs said
the barracks ahead were where we
were bound. Great Army - here we
were ^{for} 2 hrs within 100 yds of our
destination + were left high + dry
to find out for ourselves. We
jumped out with our baggage +
were soon installed in the long low
wards of a great little French Hospital
Inconspicuous iron bedsteads - soon sound sleep

one front to another - hammer away
one night + scoot away the next.
The personal live on the train +
travel everywhere with it. 3 little
Trench engines were digging it. Thirty
of narrow gauge trucks + tanks
going to the front - latter under a heavy
Better meals to - night but ^{camouflaged} beef bush -
a few guns this P.M.
tried to leave camp but found order
exists that no one allowed off the
post without a pass until dark -
men + storehouses + barracks
opposite wards - New mess hall up
on hill behind hospital where III is
quartered - great view of plain
from it level ^{level} greenwards of fields up town - very
which the level plain beyond stretches
out to the horizon - wonderful
country for tanks - very few trees.
Dinner - Newspapers to night - Poker
by the crowd - I staid up for midnight
dinner - corn, potatoes, + coffee - Bed at
1 A.M.

few trees

Interesting dope on tanks - small or

whiffet tanks we saw, ~~it~~ lined on flat
cars for half a mile at least down the
track - These are fairly small + fast
can make 50 or 60 miles a day easily
+ charge around the country in battle
like a bird-dog hunting the machine
gun nests + clear them out rapidly +
well. American built + named
[a French model] -

Sept 27.

Gray day - Raining early in AM
+ most all day - Woke for breakfast
after a wonderful sleep - Bridge most of
A.M. + P.M. - steady rain except at
meal hours - lunch after all to-day.
changed barracks from Ward G to N.
bully airy cleaner new place - took my
back rest + pillow + the Major's History
when Chastelmagne died his grandsons
battered their father + finally divided
his realm - so that - Charles received
France - ^{to the Meuse + Rhone} ~~to the Meuse + Rhone~~ Germany + Austria
+ Lotharing, ^{Lotharinger} ~~Lotharinger~~ or
+ Lotharing, Lotharing - Switzerland + Italy
a bouge of land thus thrust up between
ancient Germany + France at the very
beginning. The internal strife in France

made it easy for the German tanks
soon to take over. Lorraine + Burgundy
(South of it) + Northern Italy as part of the German Holy
Roman Empire. Hence the eternal
conflict & struggle between France +
Germany - Austria + Italy -

We are about 25 kilometers ^{S.W.} from Verdun
where incidentally the 3 brothers signed the
treaty + 20 kilometers from the line.
No activity of any sort to-day - a
few aeroplanes overhead this a.m. - a
pass is necessary even to go to the
"Y." for papers - letters to night

Sept 23 -

Slept through breakfast - first thing
hunted up a bath - Pass to Y., discovered
a wonderful bath house opposite it belonging
to the 13th Engineers in barracks near the
"Y."; bought some cookies too for
refreshments - Gathered in the Major
+ had a wonderful bath - real big shower
hot water - Sleepy but read a little till lunch
very stringent orders apparently - no pass
for a walk - all passes have to be signed by
C.O. himself - my pass really was worthless

but got back on it O.K. - 32nd Div in
woods near here - many troops on
station platform a stone's throw away
going up in broad daylight as aerial
observation impossible on account
of rain + "lowery" day. Rumor
that French have as great a concentration
in Alsace as we have here.

Bridge + more history in P.M. -
Bridge at night - bully meals - No
chance for exercise except walks to "Y" -
200 yds beyond bounds - Evidently
this security stunt is to be put over
properly - Very few guns as yet - Nothing
started. English fighting hard + slowly
advancing on Hunderburg line - ought to
start soon. This loafing is damn tiresome
Inspectors here to day - Col Owens old Hopkins was
Clear toward evening - lovely sunset -

~~Sept~~
Sept 24

Foggy early but clear later to day ^{warmer}
Laundry necessary to day - got a pass
to Fleury for merely the cashing - great
surprise - collected all possible candidates

from my bed-roll + set out across
the track I met Major Trout + Sam Jones
coming over from Gandy + as I was
learning the news ^{warning to us} ~~Major~~ Timney
passed in a car, evidently bound for
the Hospital. I went on into Tilney,
the air bridged only by a narrow
foot bridge, - on the left at the
bottom of quite a dip about
which the railroad circled. Swimming
Pool + spring board but very questionable
water. Tilney, the usual
dirty miserable little hamlet, with
which France abounds, with single street
along which trucks + straggling soldiers
were constantly passing possessed a
single "blanchisseuse" as far as I could
discover + the last house of course
in the village. An old cracked voice
had apparently inhabited a single room
with a stove + iron - a bright youngster
flashed in + out causing quite a
bush hum + disturbance wherever
he flitted. I gave him the satisfaction
of a little rough house when I left

by a Pailin excitedly coming in & telling us that there had been a ~~major~~ accident - 200 meters away & "Il y a votre sort" - about 10 of us jibed out after him ~~after~~ ~~at~~ a half mile at least over muddy fields to a little narrow gauge track where we found a tiny engine & a flat car filled with narrow gauge track sections completely overturned down an embankment pinning a poor brakeman beneath the car. Dead as a door nail when we came up, still wedged between the stack of track sections & the lower grade rail! A crowd of excited pailins were standing around, one or two actually climbed on the car & tried to lift off the sections, one by one - of course to no avail - Very soon a Yankee soldier emerged from the darkness with a railroad jack & in 5 min the mass of sections was raised & the man pulled out - Smashed in his middle & his forehead & nose badly stove in - bloated & purple face

Sept 25

Heavy barrage Early this 9.M
woke me at 6 - quieted by 8 - desultory
shooting since. Meeting of all officers
~~to~~ announce we were to be used
as seemed best in any capacity whatso-
ever in the coming offensive - as our
casualties were figured to be high +
our facilities might be taxed to the
breaking point. Started ambitiously
to ~~catch~~ catch up with back correspondence
Major Delabou etc. - Hair + then a
bath before lunch - lovely dawn,
but eventually a rainy day - quiet
afternoon but clearing - a few airplanes
but evidently only ^{a raid} barrage last night
Budge, then a stroll back over
the use behind us - The secrecy hiding
order has been lifted + except for only
short hours of absence we are now
permitted to roam - French grave yard
behind Hospital which has a huge capacity
15-1800. Long ^{beaped up} benches with individual
crosses + sign posts - ^{Mort au champ d'honneur} many washed
permanent floral tributes - ^{through}

Nearby
Some old delapidated huts but
a mile or so across the valley the
leafy eminence of the Argonne forest
rose over a long ridge stretching
out to the West - a mile or two
along the crest the gray spires of
Beaulieu lifted themselves against
the sullen clouds - at the foot
of the hill the reverberating hissing
clack of rifles & machine guns
~~sounded~~ away ^{from} the target range.
occasional cannons & motor cycles
blatted by us - at another cross roads
a squad of the 367th (negro) - passed us &
we turned East by another open
road on the right into which a
noisy narrow gauge railroad penetrated
& which was packed with ammunition
of all sorts - chiefly - 75 & rifle
cartridges & large & small sized
aerial bombs with torpedo tails. Sight
regaled us with his beemel stones &
bull dogs' prowess - We soon came
into the Vermont high road & in a half
mile past the scene of the last night's

filled with
Trench -
american
soldiers +
a few
Train 9

hurry calls for us before breakfast
but breakfast was late - chatted
with J. Finney again - he's a great
boy + then packed up + started after
breakfast. Ambulance took us
first to Finney where we collected
our wash which had not been touched,
then we sailed back through Waly to
Buzeanx - a mere 5 miles + a mile
north we discovered a lovely beflowered
row of barracks which we discovered
was most of * 11 - 2 other barracks
a half mile away for slightly wounded
but these are laid out in parallel +
parallel to the road - no covered way
between them. Officers - nurses + men,
quarters at R angles to road - on
opposite of administration shack in
centre. all usual type wooden barracks.
Assigned to barracks - found C.O. is
Col Dural, Dad's old intime; he was
very nice. Ellsworth Elliott is C.S.S.
+ his first experience at it. 12 teams
8 hr shifts work is on 6 team shifts on
10 tables. Hard to systematize

Walded up the road in A.M. - through
a mile or two of the Argonne forest on
the margin of which we are. Great old
woods now just filled with camps of
all sorts - French, Italian, + American.
Turks constantly passing. No new
North through the woods so we turned
back. - Fairly good lunch - but
many flies. Many observation
balloons high + far - evident Boche
airplanes are well checked - Beaulieu
is backy 4 K. away. Wrote most
of afternoon - only cold water in shower,
just washed - We are on 8 hr shifts
8 hr on - 8 hr off - start at 8 P.M. to night
Poor dinner, but long lines of cavalry
both American + French + French
cyclists - 2 or 3 regiments - + lanes.
American ammunition trains - held up
on side of road - boys from them had
great fun with the cyclists, yelling +
boasing them - saw bicycles carrying
soldier, full pack + rifle - one stout
a little puffing ^{red faced} pair trailed along about
20 ft behind the others. There were

immediate wild yells + shouts. "yea, here comes the rear guard" - but the "Fresh" all grinned + seemed to like it - The road as far as the eye could see was packed with them. The cavalry carried carbines, lances, + a lead horse with a machine gun - The 82nd div artillery also rolled by in the afternoon through upon throughs of men.

News at night ~~of~~ many prisoners advance of 10 kilometers - opposite only 5 or 10 K. back - strong opposition to travel East of St. Menahould - not much advance there + many casualties - our casualties apparently not heavy but the ambulances began to stream in after dark - after a line of 6 or 7 waiting to unload - Triage run abominably - no system - no proper sorting of men clogged with merely dressing cases - Slow in passing through X-ray - observations inaccurate. Major Elliott a perfect ringer + loud shouting ineffectual

↙
Prussian Prisoners - the Landsturm
older men held the 1st line lightly -
60 men to a company - the younger
20 - 25 held the 2nd line benches
4.5 Kilometer back. The Crown
Prince's Army is against us here.
The Prussians wear a black button
on their cap as well as a Red one
former means a Prussian - latter a German
Germany has plenty of food according
to them. The youngsters will fight
as well - the end of the War produced
a ~~shaking~~ shaking of their shoulders, they all
seem a pleased lot. They acknowledge
that the attack was not a surprise
because the Engines of the tanks had
been heard for 4 days. - They
also agreed that America was too
strong for them + that we would end at
the war if we kept it up. ~~///~~ I couldn't
help but feel a little sympathy for the
older fellows - the youngsters are the
typical proud sensual type. One
man was just grazed in the shoulder
by a bullet - He said that he was

top in the second line - men
with a special anti aircraft machine
gun - a new corps - to protect against
enemy strafing planes - Helped the
Major dress a case this evening all
are doing well - Major Baer a
peach, swore we were going back
to No 3 in a day or two, for which
we are duly thankful - this is a
damnable place to work. Rumor
of the 28th + 35th Fin. being caught in
a pocket of infiltrating fire - many
casualties.

Sept 28.

awakened at 4 AM to work
until 12 N. - indifferent cases early
but after breakfast (8 AM) - bulgy abdominal
+ nerve cases - one lacerated jejunum
+ transverse colon & lateral anastomosis
24 hr old + doing well this P.M. late -
another bad chest - I did an ulnar
suture - bullet Wd - discovered him
by chance on examining wound.
looked over wards this P.M. - 40 or
more boys lying untouched for over 18 hr.

tragedy jammed - no system or
judgement - most Penn's boys of
the 28th - great fellows - Ed apparently
still in command of his Regiment &
doing well & is in just ahead of us
here. - Rumor that we have

been driven back or retired a kilometer
to blow up a wood full of German
machine guns ^{total advance 18K $\frac{18,000}{\text{persons}}$} the 92nd is in &
blasting it up O.K. A few of their casualties
here so far. One negro in command
speaks for us all when asked whether
he wanted to live in France. "Yeah I'm
from Alabama & before the war I
never was farther than 15 miles from
my home town & believe me when this
here things over I'm going back there
& never get that far away again."

Col ^{Brewer} Turner & Major Fisher through
this P.M. - confirm the word that we
are going back to 3 - all our cases
doing well - dressed a few - clean
clothes & a bath & a little swage
this P.M. - Billy Turner on again to night.

Sept 29

Works letting up a bit.
My nerve suture case doing well -
slept until 12 - got to bed at 3 AM
as no more cases after 12 M. Had a
bad thigh + through bullet Wt of
head - Blind in both eyes - enucleated
one - Norwegian - sad case - Rumor
that Cambrai + St Quentin, hose
fallen - work began again at 2 P.M.
several bad cases - one shoulder
+ one bad thigh case I had -
bad case - good operation well
upper third fracture - Story of
a strange lieutenant appearing on
the battle field ordering a company forward
to take a wood - machine guns shot
them to pieces - evidently a German
spy - Dressed cases in P.M.
- evening -

Sept 30

slept right through until morning
no new cases. Dressed most of
our cases - Thigh was bad
gas gangrene extending above Poupart's
Lig. Jaraach + Major May saw him +

advised amputation at fracture
site - This I did operation started
only fairly well - pretty low this P.M.
nice Missouri bird - rotten shame
Very difficult to debride - Might have
done it by transverse incision of adductor
Major had to amputate another case of
his gas - arm - Major May
showed us interesting dope - No field hospitals
except 2 Mobile ones operating - all
cases have long haul to Evacuation Hosp.
transportation difficult + general mess
has developed (Col Stark decided Field Hosp.
no good as result of Chateau Thierry drive
OK for St Michel drive but not for
this) - Forward Dressing ambulance
station acts as triage for the wounded
at Field Hosp. will be sent up for each
Dir. - Ed is at Maulblanville
according to one of the boys.
Great dope we are going back to
#3 in an hour - packed told Perry
to look after our cases + off we went
in a pouring rain. Found 84 +
swamped by cases - helped in triage

he was Col Bach. - Joe Bach
of happy memory - Warned
I hit by the stove in the officer's
sleeping ward - wrote letters + had
a great bath. We leave today
at 3 in ambulances - only
sandwiches for lunch. We travel
by train - bed rolls + main outfit
come later by train - chilly
all day - stoked up on aspirin, fed
some to Col Madhams who also felt
all in. He also feeling badly.
our team in 1st ambulance
7 of us wedged in with the baggage -
the others followed us down the road -
~~then~~ the C.O. ^{car} led the procession; it
was a warm clear afternoon - we
left about 4 P.M. Back through
Tenny, then South to Nubecout, Sharp
to the right (West) + on straight through
to Trancont. many Moroccan repairing
the roads + quining as we went by.
Then South to Kabecout - not cooled
up this time. The drive through the
stubble fields - ~~rough~~ green meadows

but in spite of stopping it was very
chilly, & I was thoroughly cold
in fact colder than I ever remember
when we finally stopped beside a
large ^{green} cross evidently the site of
a French Hospital. We halted &
filled as usual missing the road
of entrance. Then a long wait -
two or three of us ran up & down
the road to keep warm but I was
shivering still. Finally about 9 P.M.
we were driven into the French
barracks, assigned to beds, - a
blanket stretched across the middle
of the room & the nurses assumed
duty on one side - we the other.
I took off my shoes & trousers &
piled into bed. I soon developed a
fairly decent chill & a fever.

Oct 2

3rd
4th

In Bed with Grippe - Daily
papers - no work until 3rd. Boys
went over the top morning of 3rd
after a terrific barrage - loading
steadily with loud massive bangs punctuating

it shaking the building - 9
Squadron of 128 day bombers
planes went over on the 3rd + 4th
a wonderful sight - I saw 40 of
them on their return trip. It took
20 minutes for them to pass. The
boys are having lots of good work.

let 5th
out 6th

In officer's ward where I promptly
improved with a little care but
was all in, so took 2 days to
convalesce. Major Phenix
with me. Very heavy casualties
among the officers of the 2nd Div.
most interesting to talk to them
In the 2nd Div's recent attack on
this front we took Blanc Mont, a
Hill the Chasseurs d'Alpines had tried
3 times to get; the Americans went
way ahead of the French took the
hill & then came; the French were
so far behind both American flanks
were exposed like the sides of a
finger - Many casualties especially
among the officers. Losses in

1600
2

general have been very heavy. - one
drawing Tennesseean + one Irish
boy particularly amusing. Mairies
just went ahead of their objectives
because it didn't seem "a good place
to stop". One boy picked up a
Luger automatic got back to the
trenches O.K., then discovered he had
lost the magazine & promptly obtained
permission + went back for it in a
perfect hail of machine gun + artillery
barraage, hunted high + low for it
quite nonchalantly, finally returned
with it. The officers say this is
quite typical of the recklessness of the
men + their fearlessness - the French
can't understand it. -

We are
this morning
the Marines
9th + 23rd -
the cooks
2nd Div
Storm troops
possibly a
complement
to #3 as
this is the
cooks Div

Oct 7th

Up to day + left the Ward - still
very shabby + head a little queer -
arranged my bed roll - had lunch - then
another nap most of P.M. - Major
Therwater worse to day - Temp 103 +
shabby but stuck through work giving
other until 3 G.M. - the meals are

Wore khaki trousers but peeled off everything + went to bed. Major served Pin + "Pale" sandwiches very very delicious + comforting. Major Thursten much worse 104. Temp. will be evacuated to - night. Dressed in Pyjamas for "underclothes" - very comfortable. Another poor meal. Worked hard all night + loaded well. many interesting abdominal cases. Did one or two myself - only serious cases being cared here, others sent on by pre-operative train. Many casualties. 36th Div has gone in to Belgium the 2nd.

Oct 9

Had breakfast + slept all day - very few cases. a little Budge + slept all night. Meals admirable - Work only for 2 teams we were on 4th call.

Oct 10

Lonely day - warmer - Major Bancroft + I started for Chalons - on 3rd call at night only - caught a truck a mile or two, then one to St Etienne - finally a French truck.

right into Chalons - a lovely straight
road, through amations fields, rough
but leading right through the margin
of the Champagne plain of upturned brown
earth, ^{stubble} + green wheat. Chalons very
clean - large town. met Major

Bailey + Stewart buying provisions,
much work at 5 too. They are at
"La Veuve" - soon descended a
bully bathing place - Hot tubs -
we wanted our turn c the 9.4 paper
but it was worth it. Great old
Soaks - then a glorious dinner in
the Square, at what we thought was
the Hotel Bevard + proved to be "Hotel
de Haute Mere Ther" - Delightful Hors
D'oeuvres - fish - steaks + fried potatoes - cold
chicken + omelette au dindon - beer +
a sip of cognac - the best meal
since we left Paris - the omelette
was delicious - it was a bad send
to us - a Haircut - a few maps +
we picked up an Ambulance coming
right out to #3. They went to the
Station, down the Main Street, across

Heard later
the Haute Mere Ther
is famous all
over France
for its wines

the Marne - . 100 ft wide but full
of weeds - dirty + shallow - sluggish
the canal just as dirty but its
banks lovely green. running through
the town in 2 different sections
parallel to the River. Paris is
only 3 hrs away + 3 trains a day.
Many "epicerie" + groceries + libanes
in Châlons, a few department stores +
"bodies" lingerie establishment - none
as good as Nancy but the town
seems almost as big - Hotels really
second rate but the meals are excellent.
Back in excellent time at 4 P.M.
Slept a bit until supper - then to bed
betimes at 8 P.M. - cold + penetrating.

Oct 11

awakened at midnight - more
cases - worked until 7 A.M., Biss + I
alternating on cases - Major Bancroft
brezed in, in the midst of showing after
breakfast to announce we had permission
to go to Paris - Major Van Buren +
his team - Wild hawf + huckle - ready
in 15 min. Major Hervey also going - Ambulance

took us in, deposited us at station, an hour and a half too early. We seized time by the forelock to see Chalons. I exchanged some wretched unsweetened chocolate for some thin "lady fingers" & inspected the Cathedral, a heterogeneous job of old & new with a glass flat & statue of the reserving angel in front of it inhabited by pigeons & birds, roosting in its eaves, - gaining access through the bomb holes in the roof. Services however were still being held in it though cold - bleak & wind with the flapping of birds' wings & the cold waves of the autumn winds coursing through it. The altar was intact but the balustrade & rear & roof, badly swashed up. The pictures had mostly been removed - crumbling bleak piles of masonry covered $\frac{1}{2}$ the floor, the other showed the Latin inscriptions worn beyond recognition of the resting places of the old bishops & holy men of the church - The large organ & a few shrines added little to the common place exterior & interior. The

for the same train. walked down +
finally caught one below the Place
Verdome. 2 Haversocks + a sweater +
a suit of clothes over my arm but a
wonderful warm overcoat on my
back. Just made the 8 AM train -
buying a ticket + registering out at
the A.P.M. - discovered a nurse
on the train who had set out for
Vity & Francis instead to Vity Veron
showed her how to get down to the
other main line - St. Leger near
which she was stationed at Chalons
without incident at 11 AM - an American
train containing a Naval 14" gun
was attracting lots of attention - drawn
up to the station platform. It was a
grand sight to see a real honest to
God American Engine + that whole
of a gun with all its attendant cars
just coming up into action. Another
excellent Chalons lunch at the Hotel
d'Angleure - 4 or 5 courses - then
back to Mont Trest by a speedy
ambulance in a dizzy race almost

upsetting once or twice - a
snooze then from 3 to 6 as we
~~are~~ on 1st call to-night. - No
work luckily + we slept all night
except for more lights at night +
a little more bustle + hilarity. Paris
seemed much the same.

Oct 13 - Had a great time early A.M.
arranging my new wardrobe +
filling letters in my folio. Then
to La Chapelle for + to take more
laundry - bulgy walk. "lawery" day
on straight road through camp - short
cut for a few miles + Motor cycles. Found
the Blanchussense: fairly all
preparing for mass - a healthy good-
looking lot of dames of all ages. The
old "belle mere" - was a Belgian - had
been under German rule for 10 months
very bitter against them - "Boche"
+ a gesture of slitting her throat was
her most persistent remark - old
withered eyed - sunken nose + face
marked but with the fire of revenge

still flashing in her soul, - Wash
beautifully done. a walk back by
the little Epicerie produced grapes,
"Pate", + Sardines for "Biss" - a little
girl with remnants of tears in her eyes,
lonely color, + the inevitable pleased
smile - discovered the food for us - she
looked about 15 but she said "18" to
our query. Back by a businessy pace
by ~~the~~ Attila's embankment - the
narrow gauge railroad + the thin
pave gone on top of the Hill, beneath
which a lowly funeral procession of
3 little Boche bombs, was wending
its way - a remarkable coincidence
I gleaned from the ^{Letch} Alumni Bulletin
was that Harry Johnson was killed or rather
died in Mont Penet Hospital. the
French establishment ^{right here} beside Evac "3"
+ was buried in their cemetery, +
lunch, fairly palatable - Boche
prisoners most useful in work about
camp - fed well, work well, - carry all
cases 3-400 yds to evacuation trains -
big asset. - But a dissolute degenerate

Well rested, discovered an ambulance
left for Chalons at 10.30. collected the
Major + off we went. a little shopping
U.S. - battery + letter paper - shoes
really quite good. Bully book store -
No "saxon sulphureux" for Mrs Estes, however.
No time for a bath. Delight lunch
at the "Haute Mère Dieu" apparently
famed for its wines. - Excellent beer.
Hors D'œuvres, eggs benedictine without the
spruach - steaks + potatoes, cheese, + grapes,
+ delicious bread. we added an ouzellet
an rhum - Charlie Butler + Jim Miller
right beside us - 2 French artillery
officers asked us to have a bit of
Cognac with them, awfully merry
joyous boys both speaking English +
flirting with the pretty waitress very
well. We were a very carnival
party + champagne followed + we were
not to be outdone so more champagne
asked toasts to "La Victoire" we
finally left - + final protestations of
our French friends that the "French
are always smiling they are never
serious" + Americans "bon amis"

ammunition dumps + a remount depot
filled with horses. - Probably the old
permanent camps of the old line.
Except for its lack of population + an
occasional crumbling shell town building
for which old age might as easily be
responsible as war Sniffer with its
narrow streets + war sheet signs as
"Sens obligatoire" - "Vers Sedan" - rem-
nants of ^{the} old street designations seems
on the outskirts - in the land of defense
but not destruction - one way roads
prevail with the ubiquitous M.P. (Trench)
directing us through the dirt + mud -
houses are hills - no civilians to be seen
a rolling fallow plain stretches North

Here

of Sniffer unwooded - unwarmed: ~~x~~
We caught a ration truck at the Field
Hospital going straight through - one of a
convoy + we were soon caught in a
massed stream of traffic. Trench rations
trains, ammunition, infantry, + artillery
horse + tractor drawn - caissons of all
kinds, an occasional officers car, all
streaming toward the front or threading their

camouflaged
the
trucks going
to push the
crossing of the
side

It seems impossible that

greater frequency - ~~How~~ the Paulus
& the Maines ever drove the Boche
behind this ^{ridge} ~~fastness~~ ^{fastness}, blasted
to perdition though it was, ~~as a usual~~.

At the foot of the high ridge lay the
remnants of Semme-Py - a village
of 1000 souls flattened to the earth, a
mass of broken stone + brick, ~~smoothed~~ ^{pulverized in heaps}

save for a bit of wall raised here +
there ^{in defiance} ~~as a defiance~~ of the engines of war.

a few German signs on sheet covers
could still be seen - American M.P.'s

ushered us over the Py, a stagnant
creek - + then we turned to the left
out upon the Ridge toward St. Etienne

sur Arnes - scrub pine woods covered
its top + though shell holes punctuated
the landscape + whole sections of the
forest had been ^{utterly} cut down - the country
began to assume a more normal appearance

Piles of German ammunition - stray helmets,
uniforms - dugouts - huts even
bungalows scattered along the road +
through the woods - still long lines of
French artillery + ammunition trains -

over the Ridge - an abandoned German
factory + 3 big 6" field gun - Piles
of empty shells - grenades - signs for
German camps + munition dumps -
many intact - little narrow gauge
tracks followed the road - torn up
carefully or rails broken at regular
intervals. Trench encampments

+ American munition dumps scattered
along the road - Military equipment
of all sorts + the inevitable tin cans
piled along the road. - at St

still badly ^{shot up however} the houses were well preserved
covered with German signs, even the
streets named - Kronprinz Rupprechtstrasse
etc. etc. - on we went through

Totter
normal looking country except all
the woods were filled with bungalows
dugouts - electric-lighted we were told
+ an occasional Boche helmet, grenade
shells - or ammunition ^{dumps + machine gun tripod} to indicate
the trail of the retreating German. We
now had left the Trench behind -
were bowling along ^{by} ourselves - on
through Machault fairly unscathed but

also filled with German signs to
indicate. "Soldatenheim" - "Soldatenkante"
"Flieger Keller für drei Mann" - "Verboten"
this + that - + the renamed "strasse" -
still the rolling plain - wooded on its
edges filled with German barracks -
huts + bungalows - one we later
investigated found it filled with large
dugouts - with chimneys on the ground
a hundred yards from the entrance
from one smoke was still issuing???
at Luffmeant we turned to the left
toward Truout - old overgrown
trenches otherwise no sign of war
or conflict - save a balloon a
few kilometers ahead + an occasional
distant gun. We stopped at the
Ration Dump - a pile of boxes along
the road - Ration for the 2nd Div
artillery. It was now noon
we had been travelling steadily for
3 hours - at least 30-35 kilometers
+ still far from the front lines.
"Boche parts" very rapidly. - In a

hollow below the dump we discovered
a detachment of the 36th Div. in reserve
line, bivouac, + at mess. We
invited ourselves for lunch - canned
roast beef - potatoes + carrots - bread +
jam - all very good - + delicious
coffee, learned that only 1000 men taken
from the 36th for replacement - also after
a "scary" start they had done very
well. - The Major fed them
American chocolate + cigarettes +
we strolled away over the hill
toward a deserted observation post
The old trenches + dugouts + machine
gun emplacements we passed on the
way - quite deserted + no signs of
recent habitation - The inevitable
helmet here + there however. We
promptly removed some arrows.
Signs indicating the dugout beside
the mill - which led deep into the ground.
"Brunschweig" - "Chemnitz - Nord" - a
10 ft lower represented the mill - old
round stone ruin with a platform
erected at it from which a

I picked up an empty Boche 75- +
a broken German bayonet but discarded
it + then in the opening of a deep
dug out spurned a wonderful bayonet
leading temptingly against the wall
too suspicious of a Boche trap.
We finally caught a Red Cross
car coming all the way back
+ though I wanted 2 German
bayonets - the ride was too good
to spurn. - Back over the
same road. - the only two
walls remaining together in
Somme. By we discovered was
the station. The railroad tracks
out of sight beneath the earthy
surrounding mounds. - a
cold chilly ride back - an
impressive trip - on a gray day
Back by 4.30 P.M. - Thayer
+ then an appendix + bone
case in the early evening. An
first call but slept through O.K.
The base case was a Red Cross
man younger from Hanford, knew

Billy Ferguson + Ted's Porono crowd.
the Morris, etc. Boy named
Goodhue - hurt while riding a motor
cycle near Vouziers over a shelled road
- piece of shrapnel just missed his joint.

Oct 16

Definite straight information through
Major Bancroft that two women
have been found fighting at the front -
Two killed + bodies examined - One
man we know too was chained to
machine gun - direct information from
men who have seen them. Diary
to-day - except for bath including
comb + brush + clean clothes, this
a.m. - great dope - Major Bancroft
has been asked to take charge
of the 2nd Div. Field Hospital +
Bros + I are going with him - for
a wonderful opportunity + very
gratifying to think that somehow
we're done enough to be given a
real job. Major Lee came in to
talk it over with the Major to-day
+ it seems he takes over Major

long machine gun + 1 ber train
followed it. Back to more Tracy
+ a short visit to Harry Johnson's
grave - No 47 - in the French Cemetery
covered with testimonials from his fellow
officers - the permanent artificial flowers
+ worned emblems - and in the end
row - on a gentle rise beside a
scrub pine grove looking North
toward the country he fell to defend.

I had a copy of some French
propaganda ~~copy~~ that the Major
picked up above Woffencourt. - Tracy
+ letters this P.M. + to-night. Very
few cases to-day - ambulances
having a hard time finding the
wounded which are very few +
scattered behind the fleeing Boche.

Oct 17

Still very few cases. Angus
Cameron back + suggested a trip for
trophies - seemed wise to take advantage
of lull. We were off after breakfast
up on another Patton truck - muddy
+ much slower trip over same territory

as 2 days ago - The tiny whiffet
tanks we saw there have been salvaged
at least 2 of the three - Turret had
been shot off one - only about 5 ft
tall + 8 ft long - motor in middle -
Motor man in front tiny compartment
gunner behind - has turret + rear to shoot
through - only 2 men - naval
caterpillar drive - These were
in the most shot up area of the ^{Here}
Hinderburg line - These ~~scrub~~
~~pine + hay + grass~~ district is the
barren area of the Champagne - top
soil only 2 to 5 ft deep - chalk below
it only scrub pine + hay apparently
can grow on it - should be great
gazing country - Hence,
the white line of the trenches +
the desert appearance of the
devastated blasted ridges below
Somme - Py - Blanc Mont was this
also named from the chalky
outcroppings - It is the part of the
High Ridge behind Somme Py +
was the stumbling block of the French

the Chasseurs d'Alpin failed 3 times but
the Marines drove right over the
scrub pine, ~~lightly~~ white treenched -
high rolling ridge - ~~had~~ marvelously
strong position for machine guns
with a broad rounded top, riddled
with dugouts. chevrons de frises -
natural ~~defensible~~ positions against
an enemy approached over wide
open fields with the land of destruction
behind them ^{through which} ~~to maintain~~ communications
+ supplies must be maintained.
all the abandoned equipment has been
well salvaged here - German
narrow-gauge cars - burned +
unburned ammunition dumps - large
gauge railroad cars at St. Eremie
We went a little beyond this village
+ then set out through the woods
to inspect the huts + dugouts -
Many semi permanent stable racks
with zinc feed boxes, smithies,
+ horse quarters - straw bunks for
the men - Many shell holes
+ machine gun emplacements

skidded the whole area of low
woods + rough fields - Upon
a ridge we found more huts
+ small dug outs - rough single
room - straw banded shacks -
+ single roomed dug out - 2 steps
down - as big as a double state
room - floored with straw - helmets
+ equipment strewn at their doors -
coats - canteens - papers + letters
Refuse everywhere - a dressing
station with a stretcher + a dead
German lying outside ^{shot through the chest} _{on}
the far side of the wood - machine
gun emplacements + shallow
trenches - the wood strewn with
duds - shells of all sorts - exploded
hits + holes showing radiating ^{pieces of}
shell fragments ~~over the surface~~
from the central explosion site -
I found a wonderful bayonet, shoulder
knives + angus a belt buckle - near
a machine gun hollow - several
coats with coat of arms buttons -
a book on the care of dependents of

We climbed in, mud from knee to toe
& rode in state through that
wonderful, fought over, fascinating
country. - The barbed wire
strung everywhere & still ^{dismal} ~~resembling~~
in 3 ranches - (1) Usually 3
rows of stakes 1 ft high - with
barbed wire wound across - ~~between~~
& diagonally between them - (2)
3 ft stakes massed with a perfect
tangle of wire - (3) - cross cross
iron frames ^{or chevrons de bois} strung with wire &
planted regularly between stakes as
~~XXXXXX~~ - a few sections of
these can be made out but
usually it is a wild tangle
of wire & stakes upheaved &
twisted in an unrecognizable
mess. - We finally got back
at 3:30 P.M. - Time for paper
maps & diary.

The Boche are said by aerial
observers to be loading their soldiers
on trains - our guns are
across the Arne - The

crazy French are wandering in
& out over the battle field firing
& firing star shells that leave an
inconspicuous green trail in daylight
machine guns & grenades - & not
devoid of casualties at this
dangerous occupation. Time mines
have been set by the Germans over
the entire area & are exploding
constantly -

Letters & Bed. 4 teams are
ordered away - including Angus.
No 5 is going to Belgium !!! 3
teams going there.

Oct. 18

The remnant of Major Phemister's
team, - Sights & Angus left this a.m.
more letters - and a sudden desire for
lunch prompted me to jump on an
ambulance for Chalons about 11.30. & Ives
required an order to go on from his
station a few miles beyond Cupley. I
demurred but one of the lieutenants volunteered
& we arrived at noon quite in time
for the usual excellent lunch at the

gun fire to prove their delight at
at least a dozen
alighted while we watched. One day
quite a throng around it while the
engine was being tuned up. We
learned a little later that the Stork
Squadron c. Fauck was housed there -
100 planes altogether - + judged the
crowd might have been about him.
Bully ^{both} - an excellent supper awaited us
also the news that our orders have
been changed in the making that
instead of going to the 2nd Air Field
Hospital, ~~the~~ Mobile operating unit
is to start organizing + we will
soon be ordered to Paris to assemble
also a rumor that the American
casualties on the Meuse front have
been 88,000 in 2 who - that Fauck
repeatedly orders them to attack in
spite of the losses. - ahead of
us shelling + more activity has
occurred - Only patrols across the
area - We were wakened at midnight
+ worked until 5 a.m. - Broedel +

Terminal lacerations - a knee joint -
- deep lacerations bodies of legs + thighs -

Munich
died. - Shells are falling especially
at meal hours at Machault + Trucant
+ Helfmeyer where it seemed so quiet
+ the ^{boats} ^{fast} ^{away} when we were there the other day.

Oct 19 Lazy day to day - because
we slept until noon. Heavy cleaning
up in general - as we have had 2
consecutive days without rain -
Tomorrow we are on day duty. Major
Van Buren went to Paris to confer about
M.O.W. - Our orders to move
Hospital cancelled - Evacuation ^{to} 3 way
go to new area. We were going up
to Machault - Chaplain on awful
party last night. Cognac - Champagne
+ Benedictine - gleaned at Chalons - Bed
early for us - Really read a bit
to night

Oct 20 Late breakfast - Plenty of
dressings this a.m. - our legs sore

are doing well - The major
brachial & femoral cases died -
Several interesting chest cases - one
I diagnosed of encapsulated empyema
with extension superficially along
course of exit wound - I thought
through machine gun bullet - another
case
P.B. lying on diaphragm - old case -
Pyopneumothorax - discharge through ant
Wd of entrance - did usual rib resection
& removed P.B. - local anesthetic - a
Marrow - mighty flusky kid -
Dressed cases until 4 P.M. - then no
bath - letters - as my correspondence has
grown apace - Bed - Rumor
that we are going back to Nancy,
train ordered for 125 men - evac. 18 men
will probably stay here. No new cases
coming in. Chalking up the daily
advances on the map. More letters
bed - Pouring rain to - night

bet 21

No Bath ^{as yet} - all our cases evacuated - No
La Choppe with laundry - because after
breakfast the Major appeared & suggested

"Phenix" - It was a little late but we
finally decided to go. Unshaven as we were
a French staff car appeared that took
us to Chalons - the officer had great
difficulties with my French which usually
the Paris fall for quite readily - perhaps
a cold interfered with pure pronunciation
We passed a group of Beruans
prisoners, ^{president} ^{with drawn sabers} ^{3 or 4} Algerians
^{horsemen} ^{white turbans} with a gay haired good looking
old Arab chief on a beautiful horse with
high saddle - at a fountain the Boche
made a sudden dash for a drink the
guard was on them in a jiffy + failing
to respond to his guttural ^{emphasis} the flat of
his sword was used with telling effect
one president devil he hustled back
into line hurling imprecations as well as
a shower of blows on his dodging
swelling back. One or two officers
at the head presented quite a contrast
to the usual dissolute muscular
brute - one man in the group of
200 still wore his helmet. The
rest their little work caps - but they

down the road to the next prison pen
or where they were needed for workmen.

at Chalons we bought some
excellent cheese, rolls, sodines, + apples.
+ then started out the Vaivre Road -
Several camions passed us going only
to the Parc d'artillerie, so we walked
out to the fairly spacious quadrangle
at the Northern end of town where
a huge number of light + heavy
German machine guns + 75's or 77's
were arranged in neat rows.

We inspected them as no vehicle was
in sight - all captured in the recent
offensive. The Germans made these
guns 77 bore, so that the captured ^{French} 75's
could be re-bored ^{with their ammunition} + used; ~~but~~ when their
^{would be} captured by the French ~~useless~~ ammunition
also was taken they could not be
converted for use. We had a
desperately long wait outside the
low red brick enclosure with iron
fence - camions rushed by without
noticing us - motors dashed around
us ~~at~~ ^{the} chauffeurs shook their heads. - or

else prospects for advancement would
turn into the "Pare" or one or two
benches just below it. Finally
after almost an hour of delay a
handy Parli with an empty tonneau
stopped & took us about 5 kilometers.
a kilometer walk then brought us to
La Verne a tiny village on the
road, thus determining the site of
a French ^{baracks} + our No 5 Evacuation
Hospital now about to leave for
Flanders. In the village a canon
finally took us up & we proceeded
at a marvelous pace. Renault
engine + a wonder at driving a
hundreds trucks on we went
the plain opening before us toward
the Montagne de Rhemus using
a ~~presumably~~ gully on our left &
& ~~then beyond~~ ^{ahead} on long upward
undulant reaches ~~toward~~ North
a ridge in the far distance
indicating the Southern end
against the Roche - Though

Sam that promised to give us that
rarity, a clear day - at Beaumont
the Sergeant in charge of the convoy
called a halt to repair or change the
wheel. We transferred to a passing
truck that was bound straight to
Rhens - Beaumont is a badly
bombed ~~town~~ - no inhabitants -
most of the houses standing but
shot full of holes. at its upper end
we passed a barricade. shoulder high
made of wash tubs filled with stone
& a few sand bags - cut enough
to let a camion through - a shell
torn country lay on the far side; the
^{road} ~~road~~ full of ^{potholes} holes - thick with mud -
^{narrow} which apparently there had been no
effort to repair - Narrow gauge
tracks along the road - torn up or blown
up at frequent intervals - tops of
the trees ripped away but the forested
areas still standing. Trenches
deeper - dugouts more frequent - camouflaged
trunks - We were paralleling the
old German line - Progress was

necessarily slow but we fell in behind
an artillery battalion moving up + the
road being too narrow to pass we crawled
behind it for almost an hour out on
the Rhine plain. a well demolished
village had trenches all through it
running beneath walls, signs indicating
communication trenches to the wooded
lines ahead - Gas + Gas made warnings
Directions to "Focke Boyan" etc on both
sides of the road - In spite of the
mud + the holes we finally managed
to pass the 6" horse drawn dealers
of both + with a better road scooped
through sillery showing less bombardment
fewer trenches + finally at about
2 P.M. around a turn we came suddenly
upon a dome in the near distance +
behind it the unmistakable towers of
the Cathedral of Rheims. The hideous
modern yellow bricks + blue slated church
we rapidly left behind + entered the
city proper + abandoned our cannon.
a door into a deserted overgrown yard
thereas of a smithy seemed writing +

we entered + ate our lunch to the
sounds of a soldier mechanic's hammer.
Rhenus from one end to the other
has not escaped the wreck of
bursting shells - roofs may still
rest upon + walls - but the houses
interior is a mass of crumbled iron
+ brick as we crossed the river (Vest)
along a ~~Saure~~ gauge tram line
+ approached the center of the city the
evidence of systematic destruction +
after abandonment became plain.
Weeds growing up everywhere between
bricks + stones of the pavement +
along the walls of the houses. Very
few roofs ^{left} cellars filled high with
refuse, ~~was~~ no intact walls,
whole sides of buildings blown
out, whole houses in ruins -
or sieged by shell holes - Beds
in upper stories hung on the margin
of precipices to the basement - bolts
still standing on tables + bars of
cafes - sheets torn by shells -
barheaded 10-12 ft high. Sackbagged

leaf held, at all important street
junctions - Words have difficulty
in picturing what the eye can
see - Signs + advertisements
strangely preserved - a dancehall
still inviting patronage with an
empty shell and twisted eye beams +
behind it... a strangely silent city -
devoid of any civilian population - but
little groups of French soldiers already
robbery refuse in piles, uprooting weeds +
cleaning up the ^{quite} hopelessly destroyed city
The destruction is pictured at every
glance - We walked from the large
Eglise - down one block through faces +
then through a narrow little shop
+ residence street - an old Virginia
creeper profuse in its wandering
strangely lovely in all the desolation
was shining riot from its libertine
opportunity - I kept a leaf from it -
a few buildings are placarded +
boarded up as quarters for this +
that branch of the Army S.O.S. ^{Flour}
long years under the gun has

city destroyed -

The wide road across the Rhems
plains was filled with caissons & a
few refugees returning. A few
kilometres from Rhems the vineyard
begin to give way to the Forest
of the Mountain of Rhems some 10
kilometers away - The sun was again
shining. the fields banded in green
of new wheat purple of brown of stubble, ~~harvested~~
field of ~~upturned~~ earth dotted with
stacks of harvested grain ~~soft~~
the lovely soft light of the Western
sun over the rolling plain - a
Maxfield Parish could do justice to
it. - The road was well
camouflaged - particularly over
head with three strip wide bands
of straw streamers crossing the
road about every 15 feet. The
road wound up the hill side a
fair view of the valley of the
Vesle was sparked by the heavy
roadside protective screen. We
dashed along the wide plateau on

top of the mountain & finally reached
the far edge where the ^{deep} valley of
the Maine in the blue haze of
Sunset burst upon us. The long brown
lines of the vineyards stretching down
to meet the villages & towns
nestling at the foot of the opposite
hills. The road winds down through
the ^{little squares & sections of} Maet & Chandon fields - to our
the old men & boys ~~planting the grapes~~
~~cut at the time~~ pruning the vines,
pulling up & stacking the stalks ^{in small regular piles} upon
which they grow ~~or~~ uprooting the
older sections of vines - My caisson
only took me half way down the
mountain side - I walked the
rest of the way 3 Kilometers into
Epernay - as no caisson ^{or car} saw
fit to pick me up. I found the
Major awaiting me at the bridge over
the River & we wandered up through
the town to the Chalons road - off a 5 pointed
square - It was dusk & we were
thirsty so we sought a glass of
beer - It was delicious but we just

gone hard with the attacking
troops everywhere - Very hard to
get the artillery up & very poor
artillery protection - The Engineers
did not take kindly to the
suggestion of taking us to Chalons
though they were going through.
So we after a cigar and excellent
coffee - made for the train. an hour
late we dozed through the crossing
of French ^{guards by the} ~~permissives~~ around
us - I think $3/4$ of the French have
left their trenches - & finally continued
the snooze on the train though the
some story of casualties no food
caught in their own baggage ~~we~~
heard from the Paulus there. Our
first relief of the day was to walk
out of the station at Chalons into
an ambulance bound for Evacuation
Hospital #3. - We rode out with
3 ~~normal~~ ^{3rd} Infantrymen but
we finally reached our downy cot
at midnight - when we were counted
on a night at the "Y" in Chalons

Oct 22

Bath finally this A.M. +
a walk to La Chapelle for laundry
+ a visit to the Commissary - excellent
cigars, cigarettes, + candy - back in
time for lunch. orders cancelled -
Tents already partially down - no
more cases + a detail of men
up at St. Thome clearing a site for
us but still it is apparently called
off - We may still go East -
Rumor that the Aisne has been crossed
+ S.N. beyond. - Major Van Buren
back - Section of a line of
M.O.W. will be mobilized - Major
Turnure has gone to Harve to assemble
equipment - letters + Thang all P.M.
+ evening.

Oct 23

on duty to day - the Majors
skipped out for the front, however,
leaving us in charge - another
bath - one case only to dress
which Bess did - Many letters +
a lovely balmy Spring clear
day - Tent curtains all raised

waves the whiteness more apparent
there is no semblance of a definite
entity of a Mountain - a block
house ~~was~~ built in this whitened
area - the observing eye from its
vantage point could sweep the town
of Soume ^{Py + the lower} hills + valleys as far as the high
ridge in the Humberburg line -
from which point ~~to here~~ again the whole Southern
Plain far beyond Souffes lay exposed
to view - So that with the Humber-
burg line + its natural + human-hand
strength as a temporarily ^{strongly} prepared + fortified ^{gentle} first ^{up} position ^{grade of}
5 ^{or more} miles before it - plastered with trenches
+ defensive works -) + Blanc Mont
+ its forward ridges as a second
position the Boche had a
wonderful defensive fortification
which he used to great advantage
+ which he, with some justification,
believed was an impregnable line
To the north a slightly broken
valley stretches across to the
next high ridge some 8 or 10 miles

away - the Ridge behind Haffin court
~~behind~~ this the sloping valley
of the Aisne - so that after
Blancmont was finally taken by the
Marines - after the Blue Devils are
said to have failed 3 times - the
sermons held out upto St. Themie a town
edge a strong stream in the middle
of the valley behind Blancmont &
then made a straight run of it for
the Aisne - where they are now
holding strenuously. - Riding through
the battle ground is as nothing to
really walking over & studying & seeing
it in detail. - Blancmont is checked
by parallel & communication trenches
zigzagging everywhere. ~~the~~ the margins
of each copse of woods, ~~studded with~~ machine gun
posts - large enough for one or two -
covered with boughs or corrugated iron
& camouflage - little dugouts here
& there along the trenches for their occupants
protection. - In spite of salvage
still an endless amount of litter -
shell casings in piles (allied) or scattered over

the ground - (Boche) - ammunition boxes
used ~~to~~ line the trench butts or to wall
off areas of the trenches - with a corrugated
roof as protection from the elements -
evidently the result of allied occupation
of the old Boche lines - I investigated
the hill to the East of the road to
St. Etienne - The main trench zig
zagged up toward a clump of trees
a long communication trench passed
near it - a mass of concrete ruins
held the centre of this space on the
highest point of the Ridge - evidently
the site of a German block house -
It had been smashed to smithereens -
an area 50 ft square - level with the
ground, from it led a ~~steep staircase~~
incline down to a dug out - narrow
with massive staples for steps + hand
rail - ^{board lined} I started down but 20 ft away
was the gas curtain still down + the
likelihood of a Boche trap made it seem
hardly worth the candle - two or three large
shells had evidently made direct hits
on the concrete fort, but had not touched

Czechs Slovaks
5 days
before

quite open - used evidently by the
Trench an an encampment - camp
litters, benches, chairs, old coats - utensils
of all sorts scattered over the ground -
fishes of fire - bar to of corrugated iron.
The inevitable machine gun emplacements
+ forward trenches bespoke Boche + from
several bayonets I selected a short one
Several Boche graves here - cap here
+ their Boche equipment - many helmets
galore one with 6 perforations through
its dome - I picked up a bit of
altered propaganda ament the Bulgarian
Surrender - in German - dropped by airplane
+ a good-looking German 77 shells case
It was interesting to see how every
available tree or brush outgrowth in the
fields was used as a machine gun
hiding place - no other attempt to defend
the lowest edge had been made except
the ubiquitous triple rows of barbed wire.
Shell holes peppered the ground in this
area. nevertheless I managed to
lugger to the road with my trophies
sunched a bit of Sweet Chocolate
another lovely clear warm day - in fact hot

again
here

stop

I rode on a French truck to the high part of the Humberburg line through shot down Somme-Py. The truck driver told me my small bayonet was "artillerie" - the larger "Infanterie". - he was towing a disabled truck - employed in this ^{special} service of going out on call to rescue disabled or mired trucks - repairing + towing them in to the shops for repair - He was bound for Surpessus.

Where there seemed most tempting dug-outs on the North side of the Ridge I jumped off. I soon stumbled upon a wonderful brass Boche 88 + 155 shell tops + added these to my collection. a dirt road led over to the mass of ^{benches} dugouts + shell holes that now comprise the side of the hill - a perfect tunnel of upturned earth. the lower openings were shallow but used for stores, the central ones were the deep dugouts into the side of the hill, most of which had been carved in by the fierce shelling - a ^{few} but were deep

primary passage led down into another forced low corridors - I was a little wary in following it + came out - The game seemed hardly worth the candle - a few feet beyond I picked up a torn German map of the Somme Py area. The dugouts in the Hill were quite similar to the others badly cared in narrow + steep entrances - plenty of grenades + grenade throwers lying about + the usual ruff raff shell holes. ~~had~~ punctured ~~everywhere~~ an ^{wooden} observation tower 10 ft high was still standing - Trenches lay one above + beside the other almost continuous + winding over the entire hill. Trenches at almost every corner on the top a multitude of machine gun nests with a heavy double row of barbed wire with extra heavy barbs + supported in some places by plain wire - a long communication trench led to the next ridge I followed it over because

and one or two rifle grenades - long large $\frac{1}{2}$ black candle-like bombs that fitted over the muzzle of the rifle

Step

I had spied a concrete "pill box"
on the far side - I came upon
a pair of Boche wire cutters too heavy
to carry but a little larger than the
French, with heavy handles - the
French have two sizes a large + a
small - with wooden handles either
 $\frac{3}{4}$ of the entire shaft or rounded just
to fit the hands - the larger for 2 hands
the smaller I believe 1 hand might wield
but very heavy to carry - - at one
place along the trench there were seven
shell holes in a radius of 50 ft. + one a
huge 10 ft deep one - the entire Southern
exposure of the hill was one shell hole
after another - stamped like a huge military
gate - The pill box was a huge
block of unmet concrete big enough to
hold 2 men standing up - I followed
the hollow west to the Main Road
the hardest walk I have taken so far
only $\frac{1}{2}$ mile but the ups + downs of
holes - trenches - the tangle of barbed
wire that absolutely cover the entire
surface of the earth makes a maze

of earth upheaval, ~~scarcely believable~~
although a large plough had
run riot over it & that mass of
trenches certainly ploughed
by the allied shells. Now
little excavations on the North side
of the trenches remaining give evidence
two of allied occupations & the red
tin cans of bully beef & the big boxes
with beans largely inscribed
make it
~~all~~ unmistakable.

I caught a truck into Snuffes &
a car & took the rest of the
way. came back to find Major
Van Buren's team ordered away &
just leaving on an ambulance for
Somilly. It seems damn funny
without them.

Rumor tonight the 36th go over the
top tomorrow & we set up against
work. The second Division here
left for the Verdun front.

passed
permissionaries
laughing &
hilarious
being taken
out ^{covered} ^{trucks}
also a
cannon abattoir
on which meat
is quartered &
hung & brought
up to the
troops fresh &
refrigerated?
(French)

Oct 25

After breakfast + the usual ablutions in which I acquired some hot water for shaving from a kindly neighbor - an hour of anatomy + then Diary - One more Bessarian tent is going up to-day - evidently we are to stay for a time longer the frame work is put up first, then the outside canvas is pulled from one side by two or three men + hoisted along over the ridge poles by men below with long poles. High ladders are necessary to join the roof frame + the inside canvas is hung from the outside as a last procedure. Lunch excellent Papers + then to La Chapelle for Laundry commissary is gone with 2nd Div. The ploughs used in the fields are of 2 kinds - double reversible blades + single, both are on wheels!!! suspended from their axle - Ploughing is very shallow scarcely 6" - pressure played away or way not be made on the blades. The great stunt with the wheels comes when going home by or crossing the road - a husky bit of sapling is inserted over a handle on the axle + under the plough

obdurate - + the Major + I set out ~~by~~
ourselves - The train was not so
crowded as usual + we found seats
+ a "second service" that ~~proved~~ to be an
excellent meal - with delicious coffee "best
in France" - + good cigars - An officer, ^{French} ~~medical~~
opposite us had been a prisoner of war in
Germany for 2 yrs - finally released -
was imprisoned with Russians, not allowed
to practice ^{prescribe for men} - poor food - many P.C. packets
sent were stolen - Russians made to work
in fields ^{+ ditches} very wet + muddy - many died of
TB - He had been released 2 yrs ago - hadn't
seen a Frenchman or anyone that would speak
French for 13 mos

Excellent run to
Paris, arrived on time ^{2.30 P.M.} - Taxi down
Rue Strasbourg this time - many open
sidewalk cafes - to Mc Donnell's ^{buffet} ~~continental~~ ^{form}
lunch on - very sporty - To Hotel + then
out through the Place de la Concorde
literally packed with German guns painted
^{spotted} in rainbow camouflage - long 6 1/8" rifles
6" ^h howitzers - 6" + 77" guns + more - machine
guns + trench mortars covering huge squares
masses of rainbow black iron upon which

the children of Paris swarmed to their
fascinated delight here + there a
soldier an interested spectator or
observer but more often an amused
instructor - The magnificent statues
of Lille + Strasburg were banded
with flowers at their base + draped
with flowing folds of the tricolor
We flashed quite in + out of this
parade of war's now harmless monsters
to the Seine + followed its downward
course leaving the Rue de Tolon +
out along more squabbed streets with
3rd ave. type of stores to the St.
cloud gate - at the Parc des
Princes we found McNab + Serg. Hall
our equipment (motor) had just arrived
in bad shape - divorced with difficulty
by Major Tassure from a miserable
little A.M. lieutenant in Havre who
had broken up 5 Tords before he was
finally brought to book. our cook stores
had been taken but could be requisitioned
again + likewise Dodge cars would
be available for us. The outfit

needed painting + overhauling would
not be ready for \approx when our orders were
already ^{on the books at Chamant} calling us back to our
base which was to be Jouvillat near
Chamant instead of St. Cloud !!!
Col Jones had left to see to it personally.
We discovered also a lot of mail.
Slipped our summer clothes into bags +
trunks + collected a few more clothes
we needed - Great skepticism as to
whether the war will last long
enough to function - We were
lucky enough to catch a taxi back
+ to find Major Turure who described
the new Hexagonal Besounean attachment
for our operating room - S. H. Q.
says they are going to hustle us
out, attached to T.A. for the rush
- 4-5 days at a time - then back to our base
or somewhere else. We had the
usual continental excellent dinner +
some ^{how was good} ~~Banquet~~ - then off for the Casino
+ a wonderful show - French, but
a wonderfully well done artistic funny
+ well staged variety show with

light flashes. The crowds seem more buoyant + gay - smiles, not only feminine everywhere. The chorus is not as well trained nor does it dance as well as an American chorus - nor is it in general as pretty. -

Delightful session in bed with a little light + letters from "Way Back there" + then a wonderful soft bed with sheets + clean pajamas.

[Before leaving Chalons we found on arrival at station an hour to spare - accordingly we walked out along the canal - East. The banks are beautifully kept + a well paved road lined by a wall surrounding a rather steep canal bank led us into a "Jud" - Avenue of Trees + a ^{Park} well wood lined Paths with ^{large} grass plots a little overgrown between them - Huge tulip poplars along the canal which bordered it - in fact Budget (foot bridge) to be continued on the opposite bank almost to the Maine - Horse chestnut trees big tall straight fellows in the Park only pedestrians allowed on the paths

A fast flowing tributary of the Maine
curled around its far side - The wide
avenue ~~cut~~ ^{cut} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Water~~ ^{Water} ~~Edge~~ ^{Edge} + crossed
the stream to a wide Boulevard beyond
lute curb trees - a ^{tiny} Puffdome near
the stream + Cafe - ^{circle} cinema shows
a modern pale brown brick house
with a ^{blue} grape vine frieze ~~at~~ a foot from
the roof - a lovely garden - then a
series of similar well kept gardens with
older red brick unattractive but not
hideous houses - Residences? - a
glimpse of older more pretentious houses
across the stream as we turned back,
passed the cathedral - now well patched
+ just made the train in comfort.

Oct 30

We woke early - face of habit -
but rang for a waiter + had breakfast in
bed - Cold bath + shave though - arose
bravely - out to shop + the bank to have
a check cashed - learning "shopping Paris"
pretty well - discovered the silhouettes -
Maison Blane - numerous fake shops -
Bentanos - a shop with lovely postal cards +

Met Mayor
Bunaf on
the Rue de
Rivoli at
R.C. Hotel under
Munby - also
passed Hotel
Maurice where
Admiral
Wemyss was
just entering
his car.

inspected numerous jewelry shops - the
door of many of these is almost entirely
glass, like the adjacent windows - only
with a "push-down" handle - very
discouraging to walk by a shop trying
to get into it + to discover the entrance
in the middle of the windows. Lunch
at at "Tural" restaurant, on the Rue de
Rivoli - very good spinach omelet - steaks +
potatoes - artichokes - fruit - beer - for 8 F.
Tural has a series of 30 Restaurants + 2 hotels
in Paris - on the idea of but ^{on} much better
price, than Childs' - waitresses wear
white ^{and over their shoulders} polka dotted caps with long streamer
meeting in a bow on their bosoms -
"Alsation" in cost - a little dully but
service slow but good food -
continued shopping while the Mayor went
out to canal ~~saw~~ ^{saw} nurses at Aubert
Parisian crowd very common face - very
few well dressed people to be seen - men
even seem shabbily dressed + the women
highly subjected to facial fables - even
those ^{few} that seem to "belong" - a few old
soldiers smoking at all the American uniforms

garms ^{gowns} ^{gowns} ^{gowns} but
no dirty squalid elements
that are noticeable in our ^{city} ^{crowds}

women newspaper sellers + the elegant
endless uniformed crowd of French Red
blue + black + any combination of
^{well dressed} ^{new} these ^{Canadian} the British sporty + rakish
olive drab - ^{tempered} by many
sturdy broad shouldered powerful Angus
sheets with their side rolled hats
+ the old U.S. O.I. that with the
australian lacks both the well
dressed appearance of the French +
the sportiness of the English. The
uniform certainly seems to reflect
the temperament of the French English
+ Angus + possibly ours too?

Met the Major at the Cafe de la
Paix + after a Dubonnet, we wandered
to Premier's on the "Ave Tufan" off
the Ave des Capuchins to engage a table
+ order dinner - back to wait almost
an hour for our uniforms to appear + given
out to women ^{to finish} in home sweat shops
in A.M. + returned by them in P.M.
The Major fitted very well - mine needed
some minor changes - in sleeves + front
but it was a beautifully fitting coat +
he was a 'chasse' + just out for the first time

Ran into
Waidman's old
English man
on the Rue
de Rivoli
just as I
took a
text over to
Rue St Germain
for some
Michael books
across the
Seine - ~~near~~
University
area quite
unexplored by
me + residents?
Liquor had left
P. Krom in Italy
as a bomber.

very sporty bellows jackets - almost
late for dinner - Excellent lobster cocktail
& boiled ~~live~~ lobsters as Penner is famous
for fresh-food - partridge mushrooms, &
fried potatoes - salad - fruit - coffee excellent &
cigars & a ~~very~~ good Sauterne - ^{the interesting}
lot of English & French officers with their
relatives & wives - filled the ^{lute} rooms
on the 2nd floor very well furnished, with the grumpy
oyster exterior below of a fish shop -
We took an English Red Cross officer with
^{my taxi} us to the theatre. Folies Bergere, an English
Variety show "Folies" ~~with~~ Shirley Kellogg - a
music hall artiste & the provincial short
comedian - Better dancing - very prettily
staged & very funny - Less crowded than
the Casino, ^{as but unaccompanied lady is allowed to enter} we were ~~promiscuous~~ at
first but readily acquired a seat in the
rear for a sufficient ~~pour boire~~ to the
attendant. Saw Amey Belmont in the
distance, didn't have a chance to see
him though - We met an English
friend "entre acte" & strolled with him
beer was readily obtainable & a cherry
marsechuno thing evidently quite popular.

less crowd than the Casino + an orchestra
that attempted rag time -

I believe the better class French
"ladies" must be very well dressed - have
their own cars or vehicles + are not
supposed to visit variety shows - not
seen on the streets at any time.

~~Had~~ walked back to the Hotel - the
usual saluting friends ^{in the corner} -
left a message to be called at 6.30 AM
+ tumbled into bed.

Oct. 31

Up on the dot + into our new
uniforms - very sporty - but my
trousers still end at the knee - had not
been altered - I rushed down paid our
bill, got a taxi, + then waited +
waited for the Mayor - He finally appeared
at 7.40 - My suit + extra clothes proved
almost too much for his clothes roll +
he had the great time getting it together - We
made the train fairly easily as the
taxi could run + so could we. No seats
the corridors well filled but room for 2
more - We piled our baggage in an
empty rack + consulted a piece in the

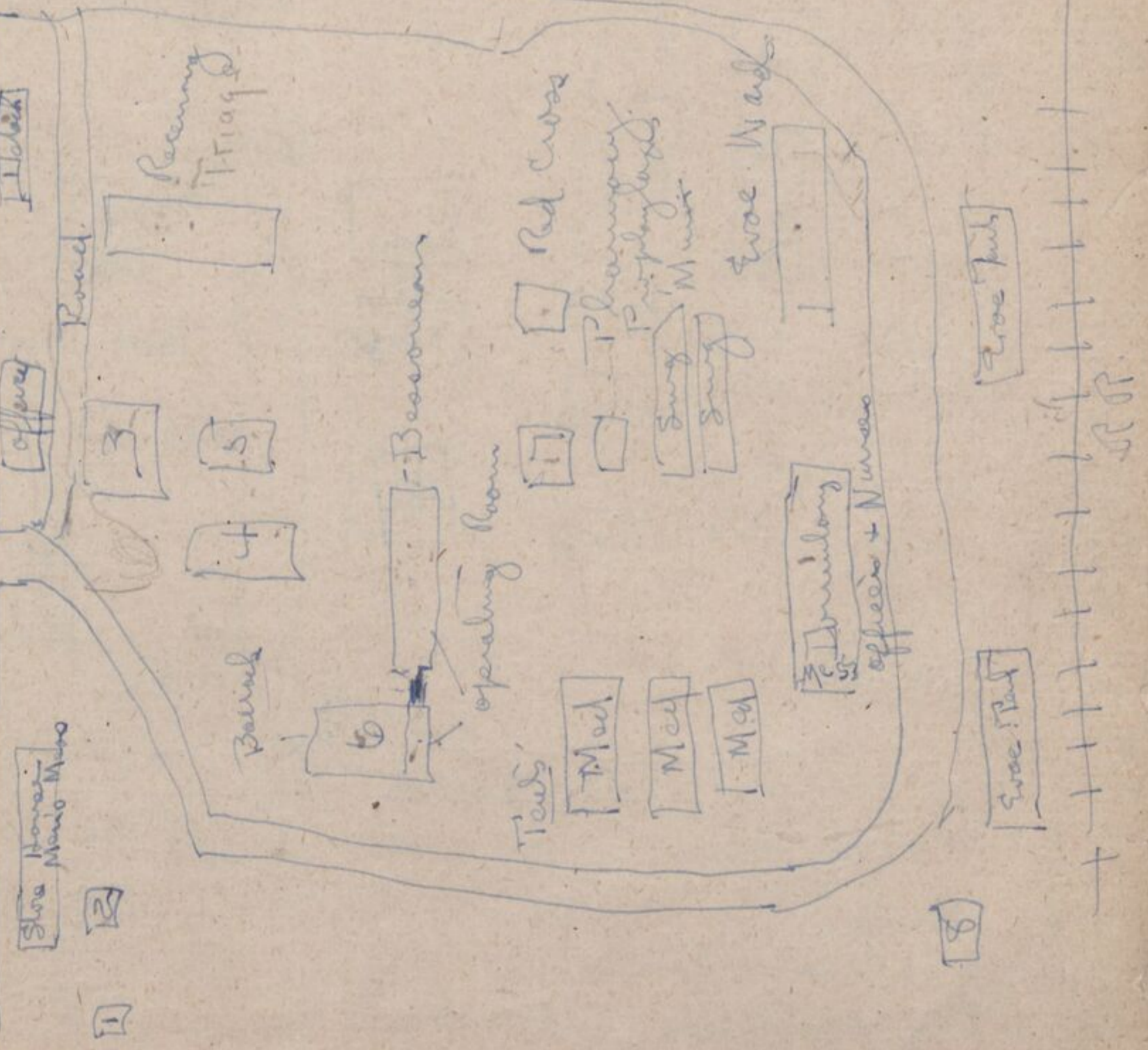
dinner for "petit déjeuner" - Hot chocolate
bread, & two amulets - Slow service for
which we were quite grateful but delicious
eggs - finally we were hurried out for
proper preparations for lunch. The
Major discovered an interested & pretty
curly headed ~~red~~ cross American
dame that was willing to learn about
the Oatan-Thierry district through which
we were passing & in spite of a
broad Western twang, she was a breath
of fresh air in fact a steady zephyr. An
occasional supplementary word from a ~~bag~~
by tender was my small portion, but
it was ^{all} very amusing & refreshing. At
Chalons we were quite late - 1 hr - , Charlie
Butter was on the car ahead we discovered.
but went out with our hand baggage to
camp - we went to the Haute Mare Train
to meet Biss - Had an unusually
good meal of Hors D'oeuvres - fish - chops
& potatoes - salad - fruit - & two bottles of
excellent Barsac - 1912 - & just a wee bit of
cognac - better wines than any Parisian
cave can produce - not quite as crowded

We stood up
all the way
looking out
the carriage
window

Plans for new Tent

Tent

Main Road

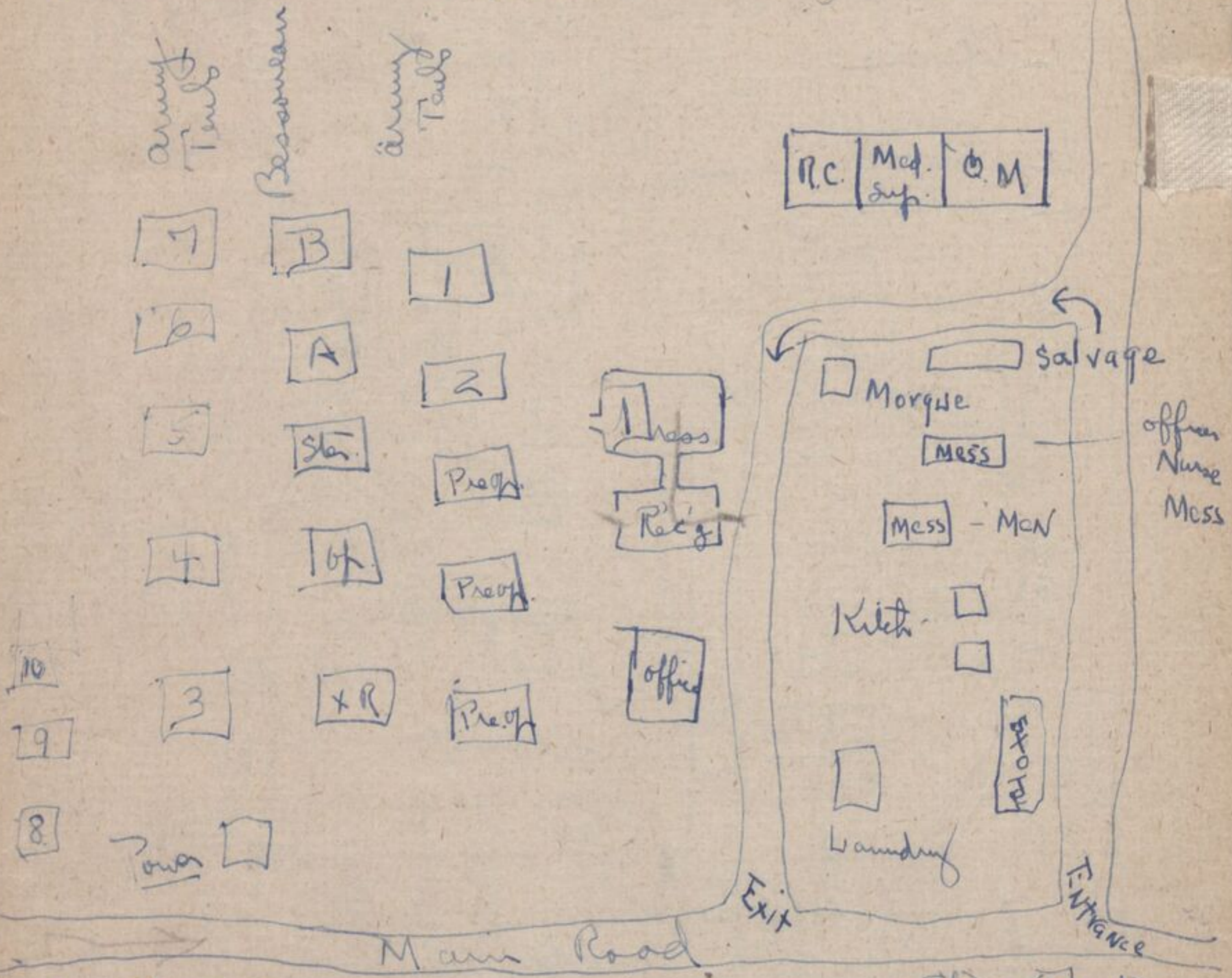
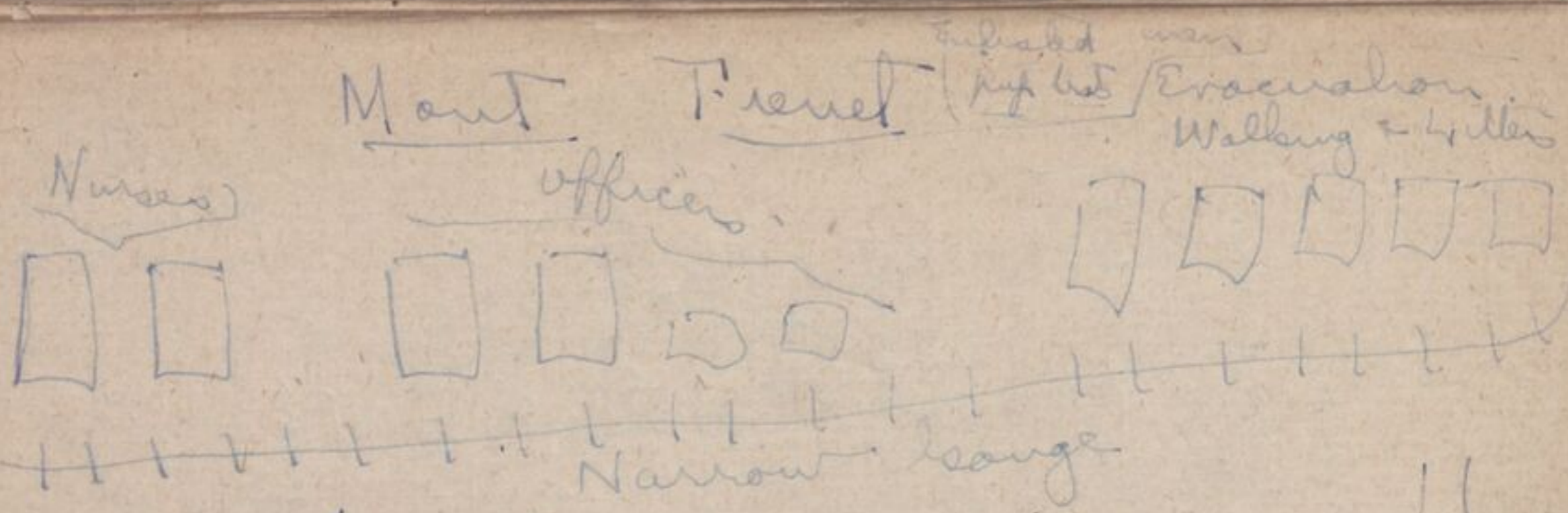


1. Morgie
2. Board House
3. Laundry
4. Pre of Tent
5. Dressing Tent
6. Building
 - (a) Wards
 - (b) X-ray
 - (c) - Stock Uds
 - (d) - Pre of Room
 - (e) of Rooms
 - (f) Sterilizing
 - (g) Dentist
 - (h) Lab.

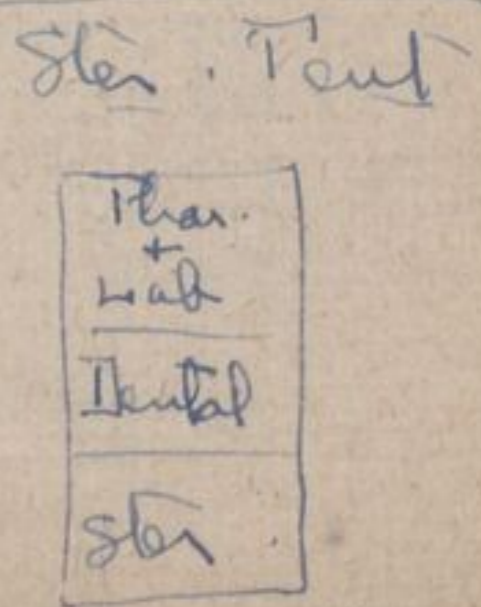
7. Reception Tent
8. Salvage
9. Ladine

Star
Ward
Ward
Stock
Stock
Ward
X-ray
Lab
Reception
Salvage
Ladine

19

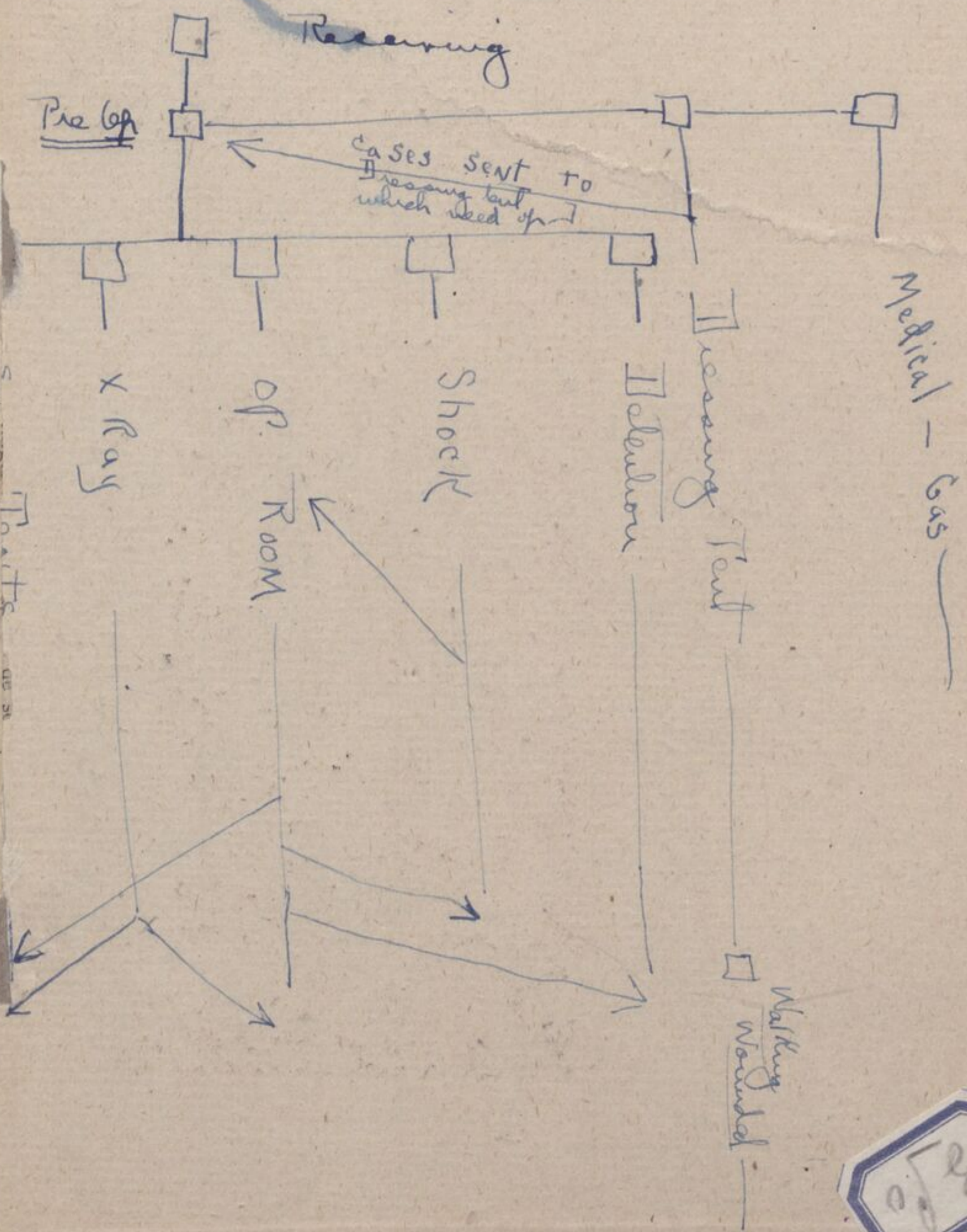


- 1 - Delained cases
- 2. " "
- A. shock
- B. Head, chest, abdomen
- 3, 4, 6, 7 - Evacuation wards - Beds
- 8, 9, 10. Medical Gas
- 5 officers



Cutter's scheme for triage - later adopted in all Evac. Hospitals - used in opposite ~~plan~~ for Hospital

Triage Scheme



Points
 enfant, âgé de 1 an.
 Il paiera pour cela, chaque année, jusqu'à la majorité de son enfant, la prime d'assu-

