

In arranging the wards in the Hospital we named them after generous donors toward, and workers for, the Hospital, viz.: Connell, Gordon, Douglas, Martin, Davis and Bermingham.

The Barracks, as barracks, were supposed to be the second finest in the world, and situated on the outskirts of Cairo at Abbassia, fringing the boundless Libyan Desert, with many ancient landmarks within easy reach, they proved to be an ideal spot both from the hospital workers' and the sightseers' point of view. For we were hard by Heliopolis, with its historically famous Obelisk, its Virgin's Well and Tree, and its Church of the Holy Family, while to the other side of us the turreted structures of the Tombs of the Caliphs lifted themselves skyward, and further on the great Pyramids of Gizeh and Sakkara,

"Piled by the hands of giants for godlike kings of old,"

told the story of endless toil and ancient engineering skill.

Our Hospital at Abbassia opened with 400 beds, part of the space in the Barracks having to be used temporarily for X-Ray Room, Laboratory and Operating Theatre. For these departments a specially planned building was afterwards erected. Our patients consisted chiefly of wounded and sick from the Gallipoli Peninsula, but in addition we received a goodly number of sick and emergency cases from the troops quartered in the vicinity of Abbassia. The emergency cases included, e.g., men injured in tramway accidents, by bites from camels, and in their work amongst the horses at the extensive Remount Depots in the vicinity of the Hospital. Shortly after the opening of the Hospital, eighty beds were added to the equipment, and two months later we expanded by an addition of another 200 beds; and then in January, 1916, we passed into the category of General Hospitals by becoming No. 7 CANADIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL, with an establishment of 1,040 beds. We drew the equipment for this expansion, but it was never all put in place, owing to the turn events had taken in the Gallipoli campaign.

During our stay in Egypt we treated over 10,000 patients, including in-patients and out-patients, nearly all of whom were Imperial troops, but a number of Newfoundlanders and Anzacs were also admitted as patients. The time spent at Abbassia, where so many New Zealanders and Australians were located, gave us the opportunity of making friends with many on military service from the sister colonies beyond the seas.

There were bright and sad spots in our Hospital life in Egypt. We shall not soon forget the Christmas festivities provided for the patients and staff—the carol singing, the decorations, and the splendid dinner—when a special effort was made in that far-away land to bring cheer to many who were both disappointed and homesick. The members of the unit felt lonely when Lt.-Col. W. T. Connell, who had been a tower of strength to the Staff, was called home for duty at the University, his departure having created a yearning for home and the Homeland. But the greatest shadow that crossed our path was the sudden death, on February 8th, of Lt.-Col. H. R. Duff, who had joined us after our arrival in Egypt. He was quietly laid to rest in the British Cemetery, where he sleeps like the happy warrior, glad to have had some part in a great struggle.

The unrest that comes through a decrease in the amount of work due to the changes in the Gallipoli campaign, together with the natural desire to get nearer to the scene of hostilities, resulted in a proposal that we move nearer the fighting line. The outcome was that an order came authorizing us to close the Hospital, pack our equipment, and sail westward. The evacuating of the patients and the packing and shipping of the equipment were executed in record time. On April 10th we entrained at Cairo, setting sail from Alexandria on H.M.H.S. *Delta* the following evening. This voyage was even more delightful than the one eastward,