

was but a type of what was prevailing everywhere. In the hospital the patients were lying three and four in one bed with one covering for the whole, while others lay on the floor and even under the beds. At one time there were 700 patients in 200 beds, with only two doctors. There were no sanitary arrangements, no bathrooms, and the sewage from typhoid patients was discharging into an open ditch just outside the ward. In the presence of such pestilential surroundings the two representatives of the British sanitary service might well have given way to despair; but, grasping the situation, they at once set to work to bring about a change. Acting in co-operation with the Parliamentary Sanitary Committee, quarantine stations were established behind the lines; notice was given that all railway communication would be suspended for fifteen days; and, in addition, all leave from the army was stopped, soldiers on leave were immediately recalled, so that there might be no danger of re-infecting the railway after the disinfection which was to be carried out during the stoppage.

These were the first steps; what followed was a marvellous demonstration of how even the worst diseases may be fought and conquered. Supplies had to be obtained from this country. Hospitals and nurses were sent forward with all possible haste, for in the meantime Sir Thomas Lipton had issued his stirring appeal for help in this country. Pending the arrival of help, however, the two officers worked incessantly to stop the disease spreading. Disinfection was carried out with very crude agents, especially in the conflict with typhus. Lieutenant-Colonel Stammer fitted up wine barrels as disinfectors and sent them broadcast through the towns and villages. The first object was to kill the lice which swarmed the rags of the natives. Clothes, blankets, or linen were placed in the barrels and were freed from vermin within half an hour. Notification of disease was enforced and infected patients were removed from their homes to hospitals, the houses they came from being thoroughly cleansed, and their other inhabitants kept in isolation for fourteen days. Finally, it was laid down that no infectious patients should be discharged from hospital in less than four weeks. The sanitary staff went from place to place in a train specially fitted up with all necessary appliances and containing sleeping accommodation for all on board. They were gratefully welcomed by the stricken people, who were only too willing to follow any instructions that promised to relieve them of their plagues. Englishmen, knowing no word of Serbian, struggled manfully to convey their meaning in broken German to such citizens as knew a few words of that language. Happily they were fortified with pamphlets and leaflets in Serbian. And