

WITH A FIELD AMBULANCE AT YPRES

as a theatre or concert hall, for there was a stage, footlights, curtain and scenery. The party was got up just like the Follies, the stage was decorated with Chinese lanterns, and everything went with a swing and without a hitch of any kind, for there was plenty of talent in the company. The hall was crowded from floor to ceiling—brigadier-generals, colonels, subalterns and Tommies. And suddenly you realised what it all meant. These men in their grotesque costumes singing humorous or sentimental songs, these crowds of officers and men in an audience which seemed to contain representatives from almost every regiment in the army, had, many of them, come from the trenches and would return there in a few hours, or from the guns, or from aeroplanes. And this delightfully amusing show was being held only a couple of miles behind the firing line, and well within range of the German artillery. If a Prussian officer had walked into that hall I think he would have been considerably astonished. To me it was a very wonderful experience.

To-morrow we leave Armentières, as our course of instruction is finished. This is a very quiet part of the line, and that