

## AN EXPLANATION BY OUR CHAPLAIN

To the Editor of the *Canadian Hospital News*—

Sir.—Permit me to use your columns for the following :—

My work as Chaplain in the Granville and its annexes is of infinite pride and happiness to me every day. But I fear that with respect to one side of my work I am receiving more credit than is due to me. I refer to the practical and material things I do for the benefit of "my lads," if they will pardon the "Padre" for calling them by that name. I carry round smokes for those who need them—some 5000 packets each month it is my great pleasure to distribute.

Forty or fifty of the most crippled and weak (a majority being what I call three-legged men—*i.e.*, amputation cases on crutches), enjoy each week a motor-bus drive with me through this beautiful country, with a tea at Minster before returning. Then I am always ready to procure for patients things that they need, and which they cannot receive, through the beneficent Red Cross Society.

Now, these things I could not, of course, afford out of my own pocket, for I have nothing but my pay. I have told the story at home in Canada of what I would like to do for the "lads" while under my care in hospital. From St. John, my own town, and New Brunswick, my province, I have received within the past twelve months gifts aggregating \$3000. I have lately received \$100 from Vancouver, B.C., and these gifts have enabled me to do things, some of which I have enumerated above. It is to the kindness of these people in Canada that all the credit is due. For myself I can only say that the greatest happiness I have ever experienced has been in adding to my higher ministry as chaplain a practical work of unquestionable benefit and pleasure to my boys. It has added immensely to my "joy in serving," but please give the credit to those who have made such things possible.

My fund is getting rather emaciated from overwork. I therefore appreciate the more sincerely the great kindness of one of the Medical Officers and one of the Sisters, who have shown their approval of what I am trying to do in this direction by providing for three drives and teas. The M.O. has already given one, and promised a second; and the Sister has promised me one, at any time I like. As the cost of each drive and tea is in the neighbourhood of £3, the gift is a generous one indeed, and has been entirely unsolicited. I have never asked for help in England or from anyone connected with the hospital. I did not think it right to do so.

The *Hospital News* is widely read, and if any reader in England or in Canada is disposed to help me in this beneficent work they will find me very ready to acknowledge any contributions sent to me. I may add that I have a bank account for my *Fund*, and keep an accurate account of all receipts and expenditures. This is open to inspection by anyone interested.