

Coutroy till it was too late for Mass: however, we had a service in the village church, whence the Curé had gone to serve in the war. That was the first of many times that we used a French church, and very homely it seemed: no Catholic is ever a foreigner or "abroad" within the walls of one of his own churches.

In a lovely morning very early we left Coutroy village, and had a long march through splendid country, often like a vast park. Close by the exquisite, and exquisitely placed, fortress palace of Pierrefonds we passed, shining like a Gargantuan pearl flung among emerald folds of forest and billowing field. Not a month before the Ancient had been the guest of the Imperial lady who takes her travelling-title from it, and had listened to her wonderful talk. In the late afternoon we came to Crépy en Valois, marched through it, and camped in a field by the high road.

The Germans were following close, and next morning betimes we were for the road again. Through Nanteuil we came to Ognés, and camped on a breezy upland stubble, sloping down to green clumps of plantation. Before five next morning we were on the road to Montargis and ended our march before afternoon.

The evening of the following day brought