

under his command may be applied the words of a writer in the *London Times* (15th June, 1916) who, in speaking of the self-sacrifice of Canadian medical men generally, says: "These men have in a real sense given up for their country much that years of labour had made their own. They have in some cases literally cast flourishing practices to the winds, and taken instead the soldier's pay and the soldier's lot with splendid cheerfulness. They have faced an absence from home measured by years—for leave to return to Canada is a very different matter from leave to return to England—without a grumble."

Colonel Birkett's unit, which is known as No. 3 General Hospital (McGill), received instructions to mobilise on 5th March, 1915, and sailed for England on 6th May. After a sojourn of some weeks in camp on St. Martin's Plains it embarked for France in the middle of June. Its first location was at Camiers, where it had the Harvard medical unit for its next-door neighbour. When I visited this site, I saw the tent which had been occupied by our good friend Colonel Yates, whose death was deplored by so many warm friends in Montreal and elsewhere; it was on one side of the Commanding Officer's quarters, while the Clerks and Paymaster were clustered on the other. Camiers is still considered a suitable site for those who are more permanently settled there; but the McGill unit was housed in Indian tents which, though to the outward eye they carried some suggestion of oriental splendour, were not suited to the weather that prevailed in the later months of 1915. So the McGill Hospital was glad of the opportunity to make a move to Boulogne. The transference was effected on 6th January, 1916, under Colonel Elder, who acted for the Commanding Officer during the latter's absence on official business in Canada. When I tell you that the authorities allowed two days for the removal, and that it was completely achieved in eight hours, I give you some proof both of Colonel Elder's energy and of the willing support he received from all ranks of the unit. At Camiers over 3000 patients had been treated; at Boulogne the number