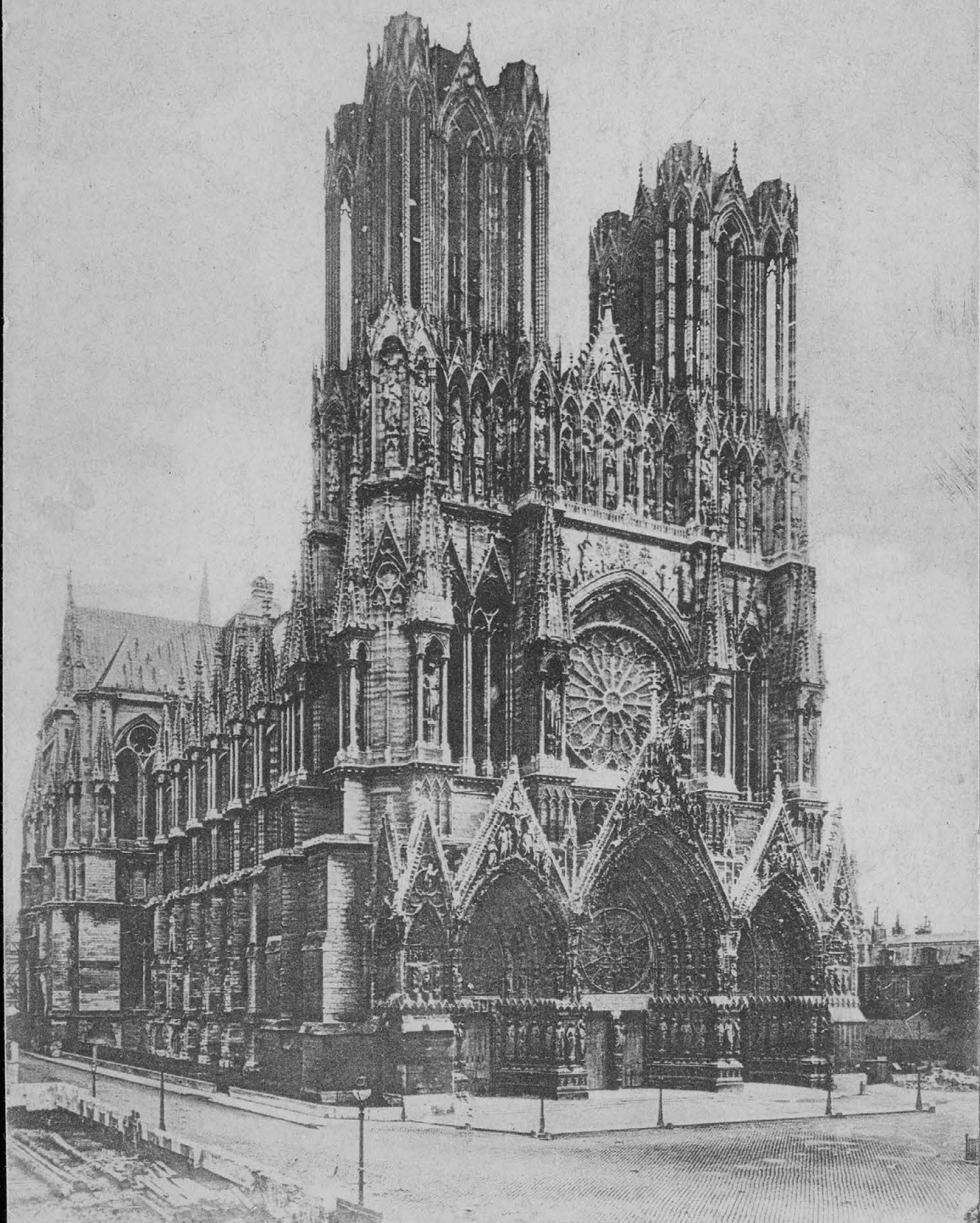




Reed and Hyde Families Papers.

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1 - REIMS - La Cathédrale avant le bombardement
The Cathedral before the bombardment

Collection G. Dubois, Reims. Reproduction interdite-

Dear Sam -

You see I am on my
travels again. Have ~~been~~ **CARTE**
demobilized from the Army
and am going to join the
Smith College Relief Unit,
Grécourt, Par Uesh, Soume.

I have just had a 3 days trip
up to Reims and Verdun
thrilled to pieces most of time
am starting tomorrow for Soume.

Have not heard from you
for about 5 weeks. Hope you
are thriving. I am getting
fat as can be.

Love to you and Gater.
Alice E.

POSTALE Service Mail



ADRESSE

Mrs. Gater Daves

212 East St

Warren

Pennsylvania



"WITH THE COLORS"

Alice Evans

A.B. H[#]52

Miss Janet Newton.

The Concord.

Washington

H. C.

**OPENED BY
CENSOR.**

6519

(This written in Hareney near)
Talea Forest,
ON ACTIVE SERVICE

AMERICAN

YMCA

WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

Oct 22nd 1918

Reconstruction Aide

Med. Dept.

A.B. 14. #52

American P.O. 919.

Tom dear,

The above is my address for the moment but subject to change at any moment goodness knows where and where.

We came along with Unit 52 but find that there is no chance for our work here and probably never will be. We are just waiting now to have Miss Sanderson connect us up with something else.

I can not say though that we are exactly idle though because we have gone in on a 12 hour schedule doing equal work with the nurses. Every body is busy beyond words and most of the nurses are about all in so early in the game. Contrary to custom they did not give us any rest at all after our journey but jumped up right into work.

My share of the work has been interesting from some points of view because I am connected with the operating room where

2
Of course they have wonderful things
going on continually. The nurses
here are splendid too but my
special job of making gauge
supplies almost drives me insane
with its monotony. Picture me
with my fast habits of activity
doing the same kind of gauge
dressing for 12 hours per.
But there ~~is~~ cheer up. I think it
is going to be changed to a surgical
ward some time soon.

I would give a lot if I could
tell you about our trip and the
place here but of course I can't.
Heavens! think of all I will have
to tell you and the family when
I get home that must be bottled
up until then. After we landed
we had a wonderful journey
through France. I guess I sent
you a postcard or something along
the line. We have been here
just eleven days now.

I think I can tell you that
we are in a lovely old French
town beautifully set in the hills
and gorgeous now with autumn
foliage. The town is as quaint
and picturesque as my imagination
led me to anticipate. It has the
old simple houses along the
side walls a church that was
built in the dark ages and

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a chateau built some 3 hundred years ago redolent of old french feudalism. Today we switched a bit of time at noon and strolled into the gate way of the chateau park. It was beautiful beyond description, at least it seemed so to us, because we had been so confined to the hospital grounds which are a continual seething mass of slimy mud.

Well we strolled along old and stately winding roads and up a bridal path that ran along beside the small river for a time and then climbed up the wooded hill side. It was a hateful thing to tear my self away from forgetting every thing but the historical facts of the place and rush back to more gauge folding.

Our method of living is so out of keeping with the spirit of the place here that it is almost an absurdity. We live in the crudest kind of camp fashion that can include a ~~tent~~ roof rather than a tent. Baths are an unknown quantity except once a week or so in a basin of half warm water indulged in behind a cool french stove in a small room where every one else is writing or taking a bath likewise. It is very

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fortunate that I have been used to all variety of community life. We are sleeping under all manner of blankets now and wash in water in the morning that freezes our hands. Perhaps by cold weather we will be so seasoned that we won't mind. It is tough on the nurses who are not used to it but of course it is all in the game. I don't mind it in the least because my camping has taught me how to keep warm.

Today is the second smashing day we have had in 11 days so we have reveled in it I assure you. You can not have any conception of the mud until you are actually in it here. We can certainly appreciate a wee bit what the mud in the trenches must mean. I thought I appreciated lots of things about the war before I left home but somehow when you are here working with the boys who are actually doing the things you read about and when you are seeing bits here and there of the real things of the war it all strikes into you deeper than you could ever imagine. You can't imagine for a moment the awfulness of the wounds and yet the boys are so wonderful under the suffering that it helps to alleviate a little.

I wrote to Gates a few days after I arrived but I do not

5

thinks there will be much opportunity
of my conversing with him here.
Regulations are such that we
can not get out without great
difficulty and it is almost impossible
for any one to reach this place.
Any way the nurses and Reids
are never allowed to associate in
any social way with the enlisted
men or the officers. I do not
know what arrangements I could
make to see Gates if he could come.
Perhaps it will not be so difficult
in the next place.

As far as you are concerned
I hope you will not plan on coming
for a long time yet. Things are
very uncertain in our world as yet
and I think there is so much of the
work to be done at home. I will
let you know I assure you if there
is any chance for your coming over
here. You are really more
likely to see Gates at home than
here as far as I can see.

I have had a good many
letters since I came but not
one from you or mother yet. I trust
you have started some on the
way at least.

Did you succeed in getting
yourself in the Walter Reed and
Mary Eliza in Madison and are
you busy and enjoying life?

61.

I have been missing my hockey
this fall a lot but suppose I
will get adjusted to wearing gauge
dressings some time.

Will try to keep you posted
a bit on my doings but do not
know what will be my future.


Must drop mother a line now
so no more now. It seems
funny to think that there are
so many many miles between
us but I really don't feel it so.

Don't you dare to forget me
and neglect me in letters. If the
war goes on ^{any} longer as it is now
I think perhaps my trip over
here may change into a
travelogue before long. We are
thrilled to bits with the news
each day. We don't know half
as much as you do though.

I am writing this in the
operating room which is the only
warm light quiet place in the
camp. It is a bit mixed up
because there are a few chatting
around me but that is better
than a mob.

Love to you dear and hopes
of hearing from you soon.
Also love to Mr. Q. and tell your
uncle that what I told him about
the G. M. C. & Co was more than true.
Every thing being substantiated.
Ok. Lloyd D. Mann ^{love} Miss Evans

ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

Reconstruction Aide
Base Hospital 34
Amer. P. O. 767.
AMERICAN RED CROSS
Amer. E. F.
 Nantes
France.

NAME _____

Nov. 15th.

1918

Dear dear! —

You can see by the above that I have again a new address and again I must wait for all my letters to catch up with me which they have not yet done since I reached France. We are hoping that this is going to be a permanent place because we are crazy about it from every point of view.

We came down from Sarreway last Sunday and had a brilliantly fine time starting our work because just at that time peace was declared and every body that could wriggle just plain vanished from the front. So we did too, took in ^{some} all the celebration and enjoyed it hugely.

Nantes is one of the three largest cities in France and so has a very interesting and cosmopolitan population. I think all of it except perhaps the nicest women and girls were out on the streets the afternoon and evening of Nov 11th. I want try to describe the scenes to you.

because I know Washington and N. Y. were not backward in the same kind of celebrating, except that I realize that the French have a way of celebrating that few other nations have. They have many national songs which they sang repeatedly and strenuously, they waved flower bedecked banners and were as wild as any huge carnival crowd you could imagine.

We went down about 4 P.M. and stayed to dinner in a perfectly respectable hotel because we were without a man.

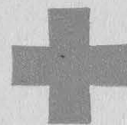
We had to walk both ways because of course all the ~~car~~ women had to join the rest of the world in celebrating. We had a thrillingly ^{interesting} glimpse of it but of course did not dare stay very late.

So many times they, the French, would grasp our hand and thank us warmly. As far as we can see they are still celebrating in town. Last night when we were going home from dinner we saw a jolly crowd come down the street arm in arm. They formed a circle and did a real folk dance very much like Severn-Temps and put pep galore in it and then vanished into a near by ~~café~~ café.

We are well settled now and

ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

AMERICAN RED CROSS



NAME _____

18

are loving our method of living. I am fortunate to have a single room about as big as a minute with my own fire place which is its only source of heat of course so I have to have a fire of tea.

The nurses here do not live in the hospital but are quartered, most of them in a large and attractive old Chateau and the rest of them including us in the Villa. We have to go down a small lane bordered by rows of trees to get to our own gate and then go into a most attractive but simple garden or court with small buildings ^{or houses} around and high wall to make it very exclusive. The six of us have the four rooms on the second floor. And I having recently graduated to Head Nurse had my choice of single room. We get our breakfast down in the Villa kitchen and start our work at 9 in the wards.

We are very enthusiastic

about the work here because the
chief nurse is really a human
person and every thing is friendly
and fine towards us as a result.
We can not say this about either of the
two places we have been before.

Then the Orthopedic doctor we are
directly is perfectly splendid in his
work and fine in his attitude
toward our work. which we can not
say of all the orthopedic doctors we have
seen over here either. We are working
entirely in the wards because we
have not as yet been able to dig out
a room. But that does not make
any difference with the wards. You know
I love the ward work don't you.

We spend a good percentage of our
time in rubbing the "well" legs of some
of the poor chaps who have terrible
F.C.C. (fracture compound comminuted)
and whose well leg is so atrophied
that there is nothing but skin over the
bones and that skin is so sore that
they yell when you touch them.
I think what the "sick" bird must be.

They told us tonight that this
hospital was one of the few hospitals
that will remain permanent ^{for a time} after the
war and will be strictly orthopedic.

ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

AMERICAN RED CROSS



NAME _____

18

which we hope will mean a huge need of us. Goodness knows when we will come home after the war. Not that I am yet waiting to come home.

One of the few letters I have had in my various travels was one from Mary Alice when you wrote or if you write thank her for it and tell her that I may get to her some time. I hope she will continue to be a nice child and write again.

My fire is going out and the only alternative here is for me to go to bed. We freeze here with out a fire you know.

Would that you were here looking at me rather than your picture, though of course I love your picture. I don't even know yet whether you got the job at Walter Reed and you have probably been at it for months. I hope you are thoroughly

enjoying it. The work at home
now of course is going to be much
more important in size than here
so I doubt if you will get a chance
to be shipped over even if you want to
come.

What is Gates going to do. I
have not heard from him because
I have moved around so. Don't
you dare get married without
cabling me at least.

To bed now and as always
my dearest love to you. Love what
I would give for a chat with you.
Love
Alice E.

Via transport

American Service

Sending 25 for sales tax

1918

Dear dear:

Would that I could write you
all the interesting and entertaining
things that we are going through
but we have been cautioned so
much not to say anything that
I almost feel that it is better not
to write at all. However I will
strike a stab at a short epistle
to tell you that I am alive and
moving, at least the boat is moving.
I have done very little of that
last since we came on board.
However also I manage to eat three
meals a day and sleep much
of the time.

This convoy business is
intensely interesting and gives one
a great sense of protection but
there are so many things that
go with it that are difficult
you know of course that we travel
without lights at night and that
our port holes are sealed always
and the ventilators open only
in the day time. We have to
give the decks over to the boys at
night so we are doored without
question to our air less bunks

You don't wonder that with rough
sea beneath and no air around
most of the ship has been really
sick ~~and~~ hawking on word
while I say it but I certainly
rejoice that I have been one of
the few who have escaped so far.
I have had a beastly cough the
last few days but that seems
better too. It was certain

better too. It was certainly
lucky that I did not get the
grippe from you. You seemed
to be so generous with it to others.

The boys on board are wonders the way they take their ways of living. They are jammed in the hold you know and have a camp meal standing up on deck. They are always game though. I am proud of them.

We have been having French lessons on board from a French man come, who knows how to teach us splendidly. I am certainly anticipating learning it when I get to France.

It is raining now but
some how we prefer the rain
to our state rooms. You doubt
me if this epistle is covered
with rain drops.

Some days later -

Thank beaver our journey is

over.

The weather has been most unfavorable and so many people have been sick that we have all taken our turns on duty.

Two days the sea has been tempestuous to a stunning degree if you could bear to look at the tumbling foaming withering thing. The colors have been wonderful beyond our imagination and the spray has blown over the surface so violently that it sounded like a sleet storm in winter. In spite of all the disturbance I have not been sea sick for a minute. It surprises me so that I don't know what to make of it.

We have one member of our ten, a girl who joined us in N.Y. laid up with pneumonia and in quite a serious state. But we are hoping to get to land in time.

We are rather near landing at present but we don't know where. We think we are going to have some time to recuperate after the journey either in England or Scotland.

I hope the latter because I want to see some of it.

The Eng. convoy is commencing to collect us now so we know we are rather near. And for the last two nights we have slept with clothes on and life preservers under our heads. The fear of submarines though does not seem to worry any of us. It just makes a frightfully slow trip of it.

Don't get your hopes or plans up for crossing the ocean anytime soon because I could not bear the thought of your going through a trip like this.

Can not write any more now but will try a real letter to you when we are on terra firma.

It is rather difficult to hold both the pen and ones balance when the ship is rocking so.

Am so anxious to hear about your work but suppose it will be about two weeks before a chain of letters can start. Anyway you know I love you

Alice E.

Send mail
to this address.

Reconstruction Aide
Quar B. H. 8.
A.P.O. 701.

I am dear:-

You see by the above that I have changed my address and consequently will not hear again from you for a long time.

Your two letters came just the day we left unit 52. and they certainly were a pleasure. You need not apologise for writing me a diary again.

I have certainly traveled enough in France for a time but am told that within the next few days I am to move on somewhere else goodness knows where. I think it won't be far.

We are all being collected in Savigny near Nantes as Miss Sanderson is establishing her head quarters here. Then we will be distributed in groups as she decides we are needed to the hospital centers. It is a great chance for Miss S. to do some

real constructive work over here
Dr Goldthwaite has taken her under
his wing and is giving her a chance.

We are certainly glad. I am going as
Head Guide some where or other with a
group I do not know. But Grace
Archibald whom you met in Washington
is going too so I don't feel so badly
about it.

So early in my career here?
have gone across France and back
again. In order to make us avoid
Paris en route here they took us
on a long circuitous jaunt rather
far South to the city of Tours.

We had two glorious days there
which we spent in rather strenuous
sight seeing. There is the magnificent
Cathedral of St Ytienne which we
marveled over and then a number
of other interesting bits of historic
architecture. Grace and I shook the

crowd one day and took the car
to a small place Bourgueil down the
Loire. It has some lovely cliffs
which the French have used for
for generations past for their wine
caves and even their houses.

We nibbled all around, ate grapes
from the vineyards till we most
burst, had lunch in a beautiful

open court yard² and sight saw
an old chateau that crowned the
top of a broad cliff and commanded
a stunning view of the Loire and
Tours in the distance.

We loved the journey through
the gentle peaceful French landscape
to Nantes and here. We are in
Brittany here where the sweet
faced peasants wear most attractive
hand made caps, and the landscape
is marked with ~~green~~ windmills
and ~~the~~ each town has its beautiful
church. I only wish I had time
to really see some of it. But we
are here for real business now
and must think of nothing else
until the war is over. We are
anticipating that that will be soon
from the rumors we hear over
here.

We are all at work here although
our stay may be short. But we are
only too glad to help the nurses a
little. Many of them have been here
for 15 months, have lived under the
most uncomfortable conditions and
are really wretched as far as health

goes. I do not see how some of them have stood the long hours and the difficult living.

We have been amused beyond words at the methods of travel here now. You could spend a good part of a year on the trains without going very far. They think nothing of sending you out for a night journey on trains with no vestige of heat and just sitting room space for the night.

I have gotten so used to sleeping sitting up that I fear I shall be always tempted to do it when ever I am on a car in the future. The last trip was rich as to time. We waited 24 because the car was that late at our start and then we were 12 more hours late at Tours. During the travels we eat a meal any way we can usually we have a bundle of rations under our arms. Then if we stop two minutes in a station we make a "lo" here for the café.

3.

Once in a while the R. C. gives us
a very welcome donation. It is
no life for the delicate of flesh
I assure you. We are so used
to arriving in cities at night with
darkened streets or leaving in the
dark chill early morning that we
can not imagine anything else now.
I hope sometime to travel in France
where things are normal.

One of the interesting things
in our travels is the variety of
boys we meet and the remarkable
talks they tell. Some of the people
behind the lines seem to have time
to enjoy life but I assure you
I take off my hat to the doughboys
who work continuously without
relief, without sleep and food that
can be called such and never
have time for anything for a leave.
The nervous strain they are continually
under I should think would break
every one of them. We chatted with
two boys just off the Verdun front
the other night who had not had
their boots off for any length of time

for two months. I think how
Baths will feel to these
Baths by the way are about the
funniest proposition over here.
We have hot and cold baths and
showers here but it is rare indeed
I this my second nature to take
a sponge bath in a cup of water
but I can not say that I have
been in the habit of getting that
more than once a week.
And as for washing clothes we
never think of anything so luxurious.

I have heaps more letters to
write tonight so can not write
more to you much as I would like
to. There seems to be so much
to say and so little time to say it in.
We are really busy all day and
frightfully tired at night.

I am discouraged at the prospect
of learning to reach here.

Loved your picture, you were
a dear to send it. Hope you are
well settled in the work now and
loving it. If you have any prospect
of coming over let me know and
I will do what I can for you here.
I don't know what my prospects of
seeing Gates will be.
Love to you dear child.
Alice Evans

the possibility² of coming over
and probably seeing you.

But, I must admit, since my
journey here, that I could not
bear the thought of having Janet
take the journey over here.

People at home never can appreciate
the real conditions of such travel
and I would feel terribly to have
Janet go through what we had.

Use whatever pressure you
can along this line if you feel
the same way I do. Then I will
cooperate with you in what ever
you do.

If she is in this work and
really signs for foreign service
I think that her age will make
little difference in getting her
pass port. I am not sure about
her because she is so much below
the 25 age level. but we have a
number of girls in our unit who
were below the 25 limit. They
had no trouble about pass port.

I would feel terribly if, through
my effort, Janet should get in to any

work that would bring her trouble.

Tanet was ~~full~~ well except for a slight touch of the gripple where I saw her ~~but~~ is still full of the same buoyant charming spirit that she has always had.

Every time I see her I am amazed at her increasing ~~woman~~ womanliness and fine substance. You surely may be proud to love her and I hope will always be proud to deserve her.

I feel as though I knew you well because Tan has talked so much about you and yet I know I don't in the heart. I only hope that sometime I can have the pleasure of getting acquainted with you. Perhaps there will be some time some where in France.

Good luck to you in your present work and the best wishes of Tanet Miss ^{Alize} Evans.

Censored

Don M Hawley 15 St. 122 FA.