



## With the Colors

Second Lieutenant Lucille Chaney, Army Nurse Corps, writes her parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Chaney of Yale vicinity: "I just can't think of how to begin a letter. The past week I have written a few lines every day but I will have to condense it and omit parts so I'll just have to start it all over again.

"I suppose you have received my safe arrival card. It should be there soon. I have to pinch myself to realize this is really I. My moving has come so gradually, yet every step has been a new and exciting experience. All I can tell you now as to my location is that I am somewhere in England. My thanks to someone. The boat trip over was wonderful with no exceptions. I certainly wish I could tell you which one I came on but it is not possible but we were all very much pleased at our privileges.

"I can say I know how it feels to wave good-bye to the Statue of Liberty. However, we all feel assured that it won't be too long before we'll again wave to it in a different manner. It was so hard to realize at first that we were on the seas but after a period of time it was very easy to detect. Occasionally seasickness crept upon us but I was able to overcome it except for one time which was not long. Our accommodations were very excellent. We had a steward and stewardess. I was given a stateroom with two girls and we had plenty of room including a private bath and shower.

"At times the tossing of the boat was quite severe but never enough to disturb anything in the stateroom. We carried water wings (lifebelts) with us at all times. They really took up a lot of room when we were in a group. Each day we spent most of the afternoon on deck. The waters are surely a most beautiful sight—I can fully appreciate an artist's or poet's description of the sea. One morning while up on deck we saw a whale at quite a distance; also many times we saw schools of large fish leaping up.

"At all times there were planes hovering over us. One thing that was strange was the weather—the sun would be very bright, sky clear and in five minutes time it would sprinkle. We met some very nice young officers and nurses and had a beautiful large lounge for games, singing, cards and other recreation. You can see we had a lot of enjoyment.

"We had two meals a day; most delicious food served in a very nice dining room. There were six at a table. We had white linens and a waiter to each table.

"Embarkation and debarkation was most interesting but that is one of the things I'll have to tell you when I see you. There are so many other details I would like to tell too but of course I know you realize why I can't mention them.

"Sights on land have been equally as interesting. These countries are just as beautiful as any story you have heard concerning them. I have seen both Ireland and Scotland. The homes, and cities are very peculiar, yet beautiful. The country homes are very lovely — flowers everywhere. There are very few fences; those are board or rock. The grain fields are small and sectioned off by built up sod fences. This is harvest time and the fields are beautiful. The country is beautiful. During inland transportation we met many interesting people. They all seem so pleased to see us and treat us with greatest respect. I guess that is all I can tell you about my trip to my present home.

"Much to our surprise we have found our camp to be very nice; that is, it is much better than our expectations. Right now we are busy (and I mean busy) setting up the wards, etc. We have to start from scratch; most interesting if only I could describe it

all to you. I know you want to know about my living conditions—very good. There are six of us living in a brick hut about the size of the living room, dining room and kitchen at home.

“We have good cots and plenty of blankets (I have a heavy comforter of my own) and, believe it or not, real white sheets and pillow cases. We have electricity. Therefore, we have two tables and lamps and two dressers. It is heated by a small coal burner. You see we are developing a technique for building fires every morning and nursing it along all day. It is comfortably cool now just enough to wear a sweater or light coat.

“We go outside to the bath house and toilet about a block from here. There are paths from one hut to another and I must add that if one misses the path there are low thistle bushes waiting to be stepped on. I think there will be a lot of clearing later. The mess hall being set up is equipped very nicely with real white table cloths. We appreciate all these things so much as we never expected them.

“We worked today (Sunday) as another day—we must as there is much to do here and that is our task. One realizes more every day his duty now and those in the future; the most efficient is needed.

“We were allowed to leave work this morning to attend our respective church services. With out few facilities on hand at present our most capable and respected Protestant chaplain rendered such a beautiful service. He always says the things we need most to hear at the right time. The little chapel, under a large spreading English tree, was more than filled.

“I should close now as I will write more later. Watch my letters closely for anything I might say. I am so glad you will know where I am. We have been promised a trip to London in the future.”