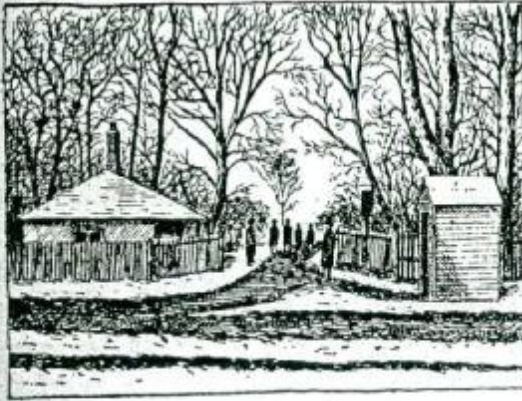
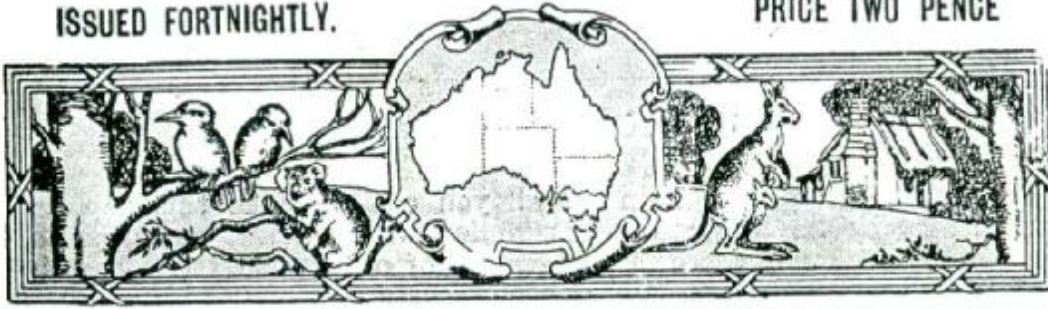


ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY.

PRICE TWO PENCE



The HAREFIELD PARK



BOOMERANG



NUMBER EIGHT.

APRIL 4, 1917.

EDITOR'S LETTER.

Readers of The Boomerang,

I want to ask you to help me all you can to make this paper a great success by keeping me well supplied with stories, verse, jokes, and sketches. I know there is a big store of original material here in the hospital. So, please all of you—Sisters, Officers, Orderlies, Patients, and ex-Patients—let me have it!

I know, too, that you will buy as many copies of the paper as you can. For The Boomerang must not only live, but have the most prosperous of lives, must be, in fact, one of the wonders of the war.

With this week's issue you will notice a difference in its appearance. It has added unto itself advertisements. The advertising arrangements are in the hands of an able Advertising Manager, well known to you readers. You will notice, too, that the paper on which the magazine is printed has been changed. We hope to have many more sketches and photographs, which will reproduce better on this surface than on the previous kind. And last, but not least, The Boomerang will only make its appearance once a fortnight instead of weekly, and on Wednesdays. We know this is the day that the gentleman goes round with the bag, and we hope that out of every three and sixpence, twopence at least will be changed before the day is over into a Boomerang.

There will be Competitions and Answers to Correspondents with each issue, and I shall always be glad to have suggestions for new Competitions and subjects of interest to you readers.

I hope The Boomerang will not only be read here in the hospital, but in France, and thousands of miles away, over in Australia, so that it may be a link between all the boys who have been here, and are now scattered, and also come as a message to your people at home of the life that you lead here at Harefield. Remember that for two shillings you can have The Boomerang sent to any address, post free, for six months.

THEODORA ROSCOE.

COMPETITIONS.

- I. A Prize will be given for the best pen and ink sketch of a Hospital Celebrity.
- II. A Prize will be given for the best Limerick describing some incident in Hospital Life at Harefield. The Prize Limerick to appear in the next issue.

All contributions should be sent in marked "Competition," C/o The Editor, not later than Tuesday, April 10th.



MRS. VENNING'S GARDEN SCHEME.

"If those h'Australians are a-going to take to the garden, where do I come in?"

A RETROSPECTIVE GLIMPSE OF HAREFIELD.

Many of us in the immediate future, and others at a more distant time, must bid a respectful though reluctant farewell to the congenial home of our convalescence. But, go where you may, thanks to "the inward eye which is the bliss of solitude," visions of our sojourn at Harefield will haunt our minds and entwine us indissolubly in a mesh of memories sweet and soothing. Each one of us will recall with varying vividness those incidents and events that engrossed our attention there. Everyone will contemplate with pride, how, obedient to conscience, they entered the portals of the hospital precincts, after a day's brief jaunt to the Metropolis, before the sixth hour, and smiled complacently at the M.P. who chortled approving remarks re respect for "a scrap of paper." Others will remember with mixed feelings how they nearly succeeded in getting the wherewithal to satiate the pangs of thirst, when the M.P., on business bent, frustrated the scheme. Others, bent on more ingenious pleasure, will recall the busy animation of the Canteen, conspicuous in which is the Austral-Scotty Jock, whose cheerful antics never fail to divert the throng, whose love-making proclivities are notorious, and vocal gifts no mean gloom dispeller. Jock, you are the master, par excellence, of the "glad-eye" making art. You have a monopoly of its elusive methods; your subtle ways are inimitable. Can the defacing hand of time dim our memory of this pleasing personality.

Then, surveying this apartment further, we discern that benign bevy of busy beauties, ministering with expansive smiles and typical English cheerfulness to the simple wants of the soldiery; and all this with a minimum of chatter, usually so voluble in assemblies of the fairer sex. Ladies, you and your cheerfully performed rôle have many silent admirers among us, for we realise that your tender

care and womanly sympathy have planted many a "green isle in the deep, wide sea of misery." Can any retrospective glimpse of Harefield be deemed complete without brief mention of Ward 29, flower-decked, the last word in elegance, amply evidencing in the simplest details of arrangement in the deft hands of the presiding benefactress, Sister Smith. Fellow readers of the BOOMERANG, I leave to your deductive reasoning the easy task of determining in what ward my lot was cast. A. H. HUNTRISS.

OVERHEARD IN FRANCE.

Says a German who fought on the Aisne,

"I don't like this style of campaign;

It's that Australian's Cold Steel
That is making me squeel;
And I wish I was back home
again."

Trooper J. GREEN, A.L.H.



HIS FIRST PRISONER.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

The Editor will be grateful for all sketches, prose and poetry. Manuscripts and pictures for which there is no room left, or which are unsuitable, will be returned if the owner's name and address are written on the back. Sketches should be drawn in ink (Indian, if possible), and on smooth paper. All contributions should be addressed to the Editor, c/o Recreation and Study, or given in at the Canteen.

HOSPITAL RULES.

A strict adherence to the following rules will shorten your stay here—if not they will shorten your life. Suicide is optional.

(1). Give all your valuables to the Orderlies; it saves them the trouble of going through your Kit Bags.

(2). Men expecting letters from France are requested to communicate with the Old Age Pension's Office.

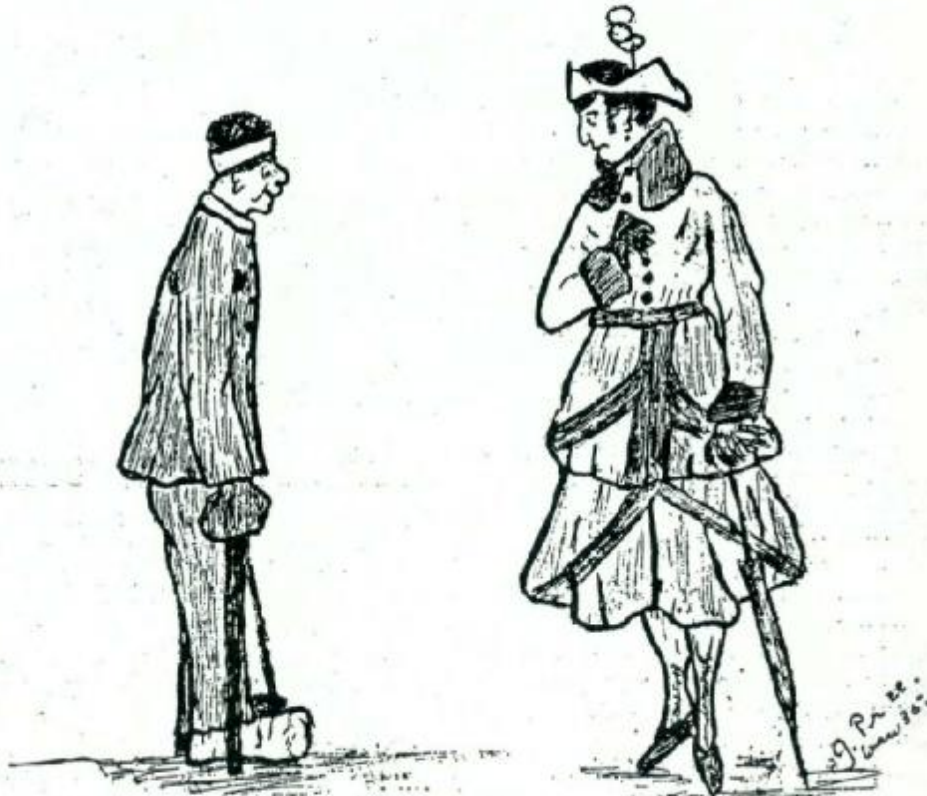
(3). Intending Suicides must bathe and shave before doing so, thereby facilitating the work of the Orderlies.

(4). Legless men will be severely punished for any attempt to Tango or Turkey-Trot with their respective Ward Sisters.

(5). Meals will be supplied in the Dining Hall by the "Endless Chain" process. One plate of meat will be passed swiftly from hand to hand. When the last man has seen the meat the pudding will appear and give chase to the nimble meat. This drama to be enacted daily and carried out in a soldierly-like manner. One-eyed soldiers who may fail to see the meat should move the small potato on the edge of the plate, when the meat can be seen from any angle.

(6). Morbid patients who get the "Giggle" at any of the plays or Amusements may obtain an aperient by application in writing to Head Quarters, London.

(7). Only men fit to die in their own homes will be sent to Australia. All men fit to work (or with any other complaint) will be kept here.



OVERHEARD IN HOSPITAL.

Visitor: "Were you wounded in the big push?"

Patient: "No; I got these trying to get my name down

THE BOYS OF THE RISING SUN.

Our Khaki Boys, Our Sailors,
 We love them every one,
 But we can't help giving a bit of love
 To the Boys of the Rising Sun.

We don't want them for sweethearts,
 But we like a little fun,
 And we know Our Boys don't grudge us talks
 With the Boys of the Rising Sun.

They've "Girls" home in Australia,
 We've "Boys" behind the gun,
 So it's a change for us, and a change as well
 For the Boys of the Rising Sun.

But when the War is over,
 And there's rest behind the gun,
 We shall have Our Boys, and say "Good-bye"
 To the Boys of the Rising Sun.

Then back home to Australia
 They'll all begin to run,
 And forget about us when they see,
 The Girls of the Rising Sun.

So until the War is over
 And we've Victory o'er the Hun,
 (We ask)
 Is it wrong to give a little love
 To the Boys of the Rising Sun?

"AN ENGLISH GIRL," Ward 15.

STAFF CONCERT.

Probably one of the most interesting evenings that has ever been held at this Hospital was on Monday last, when the Staff entertained the Boys who have left to train for Field Amb. Corps.

During the evening's concert our Commanding Officer spoke very nicely on behalf of the Staff, sincerely wishing the Boys who were leaving God Speed and Good Luck.

Space will not allow us to give a very detailed account of the evening's proceedings, but we must single out certain people who distinguished themselves as entertainers of no small merit. A very unique number was given by our worthy Matron, singing to us in a language we hear very seldom in this Country, namely, Portuguese, in which she sang very sweetly about the Peasant folk of that Country. Pte. Jennings is worthy of special mention for his delightful rendering of "Mother Machree," also Mr. Gilchrist with his "Deathless Army." The "Star" of the evening however was our Jock! He had to respond to numerous encores, his most popular being "The Lads who have fought and won." His mobile features and his flexible voice go far in the composition of a great comedian. Other artistes who distinguished themselves included Sister Northcote, Lieut. Hayward, S/Sgt. Gourley, S/Sgt. Whitling, Corp. Savage, and the accompaniments were played with excellent taste by Miss Newton and L/Cpl. Lucas. S/Sgt. Brown, whose recitations were so much appreciated, made an ideal Chairman. Major Smeal responded in well selected words to the Commanding Officer's good wishes to the men. After light refreshments were served in the Canteen, the enjoyable evening was brought to a close by Jock suggesting they should all stay and help him wash up! Monday the 26th March will not be forgotten for a long time, and the success of the evening's entertainment was largely due to the Principal Matron and Sisters' kind invitation to the supper which followed the Concert, and to the untiring efforts of Head Sister Pratt and S/Sgt. Whitling for their clever organisation of the whole evening's Entertainment.

SOME PAGES OF HAREFIELD HISTORY.

IV. Queen Elizabeth comes to Harefield.

Never since the visit of Queen Elizabeth to Harefield, in the summer of 1602, has the village had such a merry-making. The coming of the Australians has brought good times to many, but the Queen's visit was a regular gold mine to the delighted village people—very different to the informal visit paid by the present King and Queen to this hospital last year. It was the last days of July and the first day of August when Elizabeth and all her retinue came to stay with the Countess of Derby in the house down by the church. She arrived on horseback; and it was raining. In fact it never stopped raining the whole of the three days—some Australians who have known how it can rain at Harefield may think that it has never stopped since.

When she rode into the grounds two people came forward—one representing a Bailiff, the other a Dairymaid—and delivered a "complimentary speech." We can picture the Queen, drawn up under one of the big trees, near the church, the rain pouring down, with her bright retinue of mounted followers in the rear listening to what the two had to say. Then the Queen, proceeding further, alighted from her horse, mounted three steps, and sat on a raised seat, where two more persons came forward, one representing Time, and the other Place. Poor Queen Elizabeth—she was but a year off seventy, and she had to sit out in the rain and listen to two long dissertations about herself. But she was a vain woman, and perhaps when she heard these words addressed to her,

"Beauty's Rose and Virtue's Book,
Angel's mind and Angel's look,"

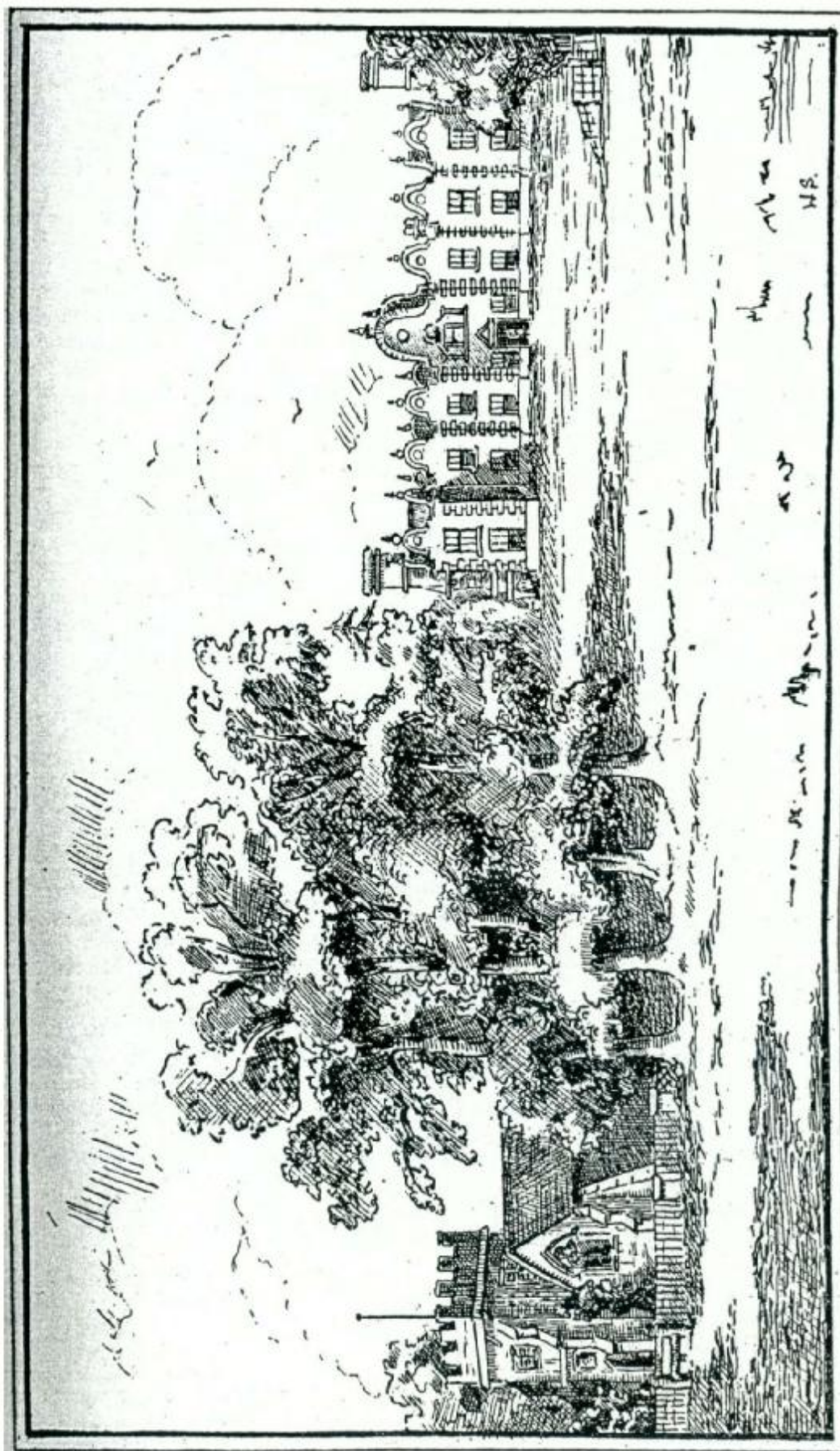
it made up for having to sit there in the wet. How they amused the Queen and her Court during these three rainy days is told us. They played a game—a lottery—in which people drew different articles—a fan, a looking glass—with two verses attached to each. It is also said that Othello was played before the Queen, and that Shakespeare himself was present. But there seems to be a doubt about this. However, whatever else they did, they feasted, for there are some old accounts still preserved, showing what great preparations were made for the Queen's visit, and how well they fared. These are some of the presents which Sir Thomas Egerton had sent him by friends to eke out the other provisions: 13 Stags; 74 Bucks; 11 Oxen; 65 Muttons; 15 Swans; 150 Lobsters.

And how the Village prospered by the royal visit we only have to read such items to know:—

| | | | |
|---|------|----|---|
| Walter Larke, for provisions of beefe, mutton, lamb and white | £177 | 5 | 0 |
| Abraham Viell, for Oylle | 79 | 3 | 0 |
| Mr. Hart, Earbe man | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| Wax Chandler, cotton and sope | 16 | 10 | 0 |
| Mr. Shewmaker, the tallow chandler | 6 | 6 | 0 |
| Jerry Weston and his men, attending to the beere and wine | 7 | 3 | 6 |

These are but a few items of the local purchases, but the whole amounted to £1,225 12s. 0d. And by the time all the accounts were settled Sir Thomas Egerton and the Countess of Derby had spent £4,000 on the three days' reception—and four thousand pounds was worth almost three times as much then as it is now.

And when the time came for the Queen to depart, the allegorical person, representing Place, made her the following speech:—"Sweet Majestie, be pleased to look upon a poor widow, moving before your Grace; I am this Place, which at your coming was full of Joy, but now at your departure am as full of Sorrow." Could Queen Elizabeth have enjoyed all this?



HAREFIELD CHURCH AND THE OLD MANOR HOUSE.

“SOME” “MORE” “ZIG-ZAG” “REFLECTIONS.”

“Hullo Everybody” “Here We Are Again.” We finished last week telling you what a good “Time” Charles was having at the hamlet of “London Town.” Let us resume. Charles led this life of “Woman and Wine” for nearly “Three Weeks,” when early one morning he received “Sealed Orders” to return to his native village. He returned by the “Midnight Mail,” and the first question the people asked him, was “What Happened to Jones.” Charles told them, and was recorded a reception like that of the “Prodigal Son.” Now at this time “Queen Elizabeth” was at Harefield for “A Cheap Weekend.” It is still said that “Eliza Comes to Stay” even in these times. Mostly on Wednesdays and Sundays. How they feasted. “Bread and Cheese and Kisses,” “Mustard and Cress,” and even “Poached Eggs and Pearls” were among the items of the “Me and You.” “Oliver Twist,” the famous Whitechapel poet, wrote an old poem for this occasion.

“There was an old lady of Chester—” (censored, Ed.).

Now when “Our Lizzy” heard of Charles’ goings on, she ordered him to be “Courtmartialed.” His friends had said “Watch Your Step,” but he heeded them not. “We’re All In It,” he replied. After he had received “The Third Degree” he became excited. This is always “The Sign of the Cross.” His “Trial by Jury,” who were composed of “The Three Musketeers,” “The Pirates of Penzance,” and “The Gondoliers,” lasted for “Half an Hour,” when he was “Sentenced to Death.” “The Last Straw” was reached next morning, when Charles had his last meal, which consisted of “A Little Bit of Fluff” and a “Drink” which was taken out of “The Brass Bottle.” All the villagers were there to “Follow the Crowd.” Charles said he was sick, but the M.O. (“Dr. Nikola”) would not listen to such “Hanky Panky” talk. Cannot we to-day picture this tragedy which took place down by the church? Charles was “Doomed,” and after “The

Trumpeter” had sounded “The General Post” his breath was caught in “A Grip of Iron” at exactly “Half Past Eight” on “The 4th of August.” We now pass on to “Twenty Years After.” To-day, when we look at Jack’s Lock, we say, Surely “This is the House that Jack Built”! One morning, at this point a large iron box arrived at the old house (now known as “The Haunted House”). It was brought by “Theodore and Co.,” who were the “Carmen” at this period. Some say that there was “A Woman in the Case,” but “When Buntly Pulled the Strings” and the box was opened, only a quantity of “Bric-a-Brac” was found. But owing to the rough journey this was “Damaged Goods.” A label was attached to the box with “The Earl and the Girl” written on it. Next day the owner arrived. “Who Is He?” “Everywoman” exclaimed. “The Answer” was soon spread around. “The Aristocrat” was none other than “King James the 1st,” who was to succeed Charles. “On Our Selection” this seems right. When “Lucky Jim” arrived at “The House of Temperley,” he rang “The Belle of New York” and entered the mansion. His mother came with him, but rumour has it that she was “The Merry Widow,” her husband having been “Killed in Action.” Surely this was “Her Second Time on Earth.” Whenever “Wonderful James” sent “A Billet Doux” to “A Country Girl” he would say it was “A Message from Mars.” They lived in these parts a long time, sometimes playing “Patience,” at other times “See-Saw.” Now James was not rich, and he was “Looking for a Wife.” The only money he could get was from “The Silver King,” who used to lend out “Gold and Syrup.” One day whilst playing “Houp-la,” James discovered “Brewster’s Millions.” Surely this was “A Dream of Paradise.” How did he spend this “£ s. d.”? Buy the next issue of “The Boomerang,” and you will have the “Facts and Fancies” of this “Christmas Carol.”

C. A. G.

WHIZZ-BANGS.

Boys, you must all help to boom along the "Boomerang."

Wouldn't it be hard luck if the Huns got hold of our song "Australia will be there" and parodied it into "Australia will be theirs"?

Why did General Maude Kut?—To Bag-dad, of course!

All these nice Nurses at Harefield can't be our sweethearts, Boys, but they will give us the usual consolation and be—our Sisters!

I-tiddley-i-ty,
Tommie can have old Blighty;
We think it a failure—
Give us Young Australia.

Blighty would be a better Country to live in if people would only suppress, instead of trying "to raise the wind"!

A King George without alloy
Is, par excellence, le Roi;
But a "George" without a "Lloyd"
Is a thing we must avoid.

Why is our Mail Service like PZREMYSL? Give it up do you?—Well, it's because our letters are always hopelessly mixed up.

The Romanians seem to have lost their blocks. Why not blockade them instead of the Greeks?

The latest wireless: "The Clown Prince is enjoying a holiday in Rotter-dam." (He should be quite at home there!)

Neutral Bay, Sydney, is now known as American Bay. This is probably the outcome of overdoing neutrality.

"Strike me pink," Bill Anzac said,
"It's up to me to enlist."

So he went the way that's "red"

Fellow Anzacs to assist.

But when he got to Blighty,

Bill, perforce, had to behold

The fact that the Almighty

Had "struck him pink" with cold!

It is not surprising that the King of Greece should prove a slippery customer. Still his Country has melted under the hot pressure of the Allies, and Olympia is now all-limpy!

Wouldn't it be the limit, boys, if the Germans bombarded Cowes; and wouldn't John Bull be indignant?

The M.O. marked me "Dental"

And the Dentist marked me "Gas";

But I was soundly "Mental,"

So I marked myself "A lass"!

Is it dinkum? Of course it's dinkum—everything's dinkum bar the Enemy Submarines, and they're Sink-em!

Miss Alice Kenny, the well known suffragette, has presented a petition to Mr. Hughes, on behalf of the English suffragettes, requesting him to return to England and enter English Politics. Mr. Hughes declined the invitation.—News Item.

KILL-KENNY KATS.

It will amuse our Mr. Hughes

To hear the views, expressed in "mews"

Of Kenny-cats.

Give him his dues, he'll have a ruse

To meet such shrews with P's and Q's—

He'll give her rats!

The Chronicle.

TASMANIAN GOVERNOR.

Sir Francis A. Newdegate, K.C.M.G., Governor-elect of Tasmania, addressed a large gathering of Tasmanians in the Concert Hall on Thursday afternoon, expressing the Motherland's appreciation of the service rendered by Australia in the war, and his of the privilege of serving a portion of the Commonwealth in the capacity of Governor.

TO SUNNY AUSTRALIA.

Sister Le Messurier, who is one of the original members of the staff and one of the most valued, has gone on furlough, and will soon return to Australia on duty. She will be greatly missed.

DEATHS.

We regret to record two deaths which occurred in this hospital in the past fortnight. Private J. H. Mickels, No. 3560, was buried in the Harefield Parish churchyard on the afternoon of March 22, and Private L. C. Hingst, No. 4514, on Thursday last. The remains in each instance were accorded a military funeral, the gun carriage being preceded by the hospital band and a firing party.

A PATIENT'S GIFT.

Driver A. Elliott, 285, 1st A.A.S.C., before leaving the hospital for Weymouth, handed five pounds to the Registrar toward providing headstones for Australian soldiers who have died at this hospital.

MILITARY MEDALS.

The Officer Commanding, Lieut.-Col. Hayward, made presentations on Friday, March 23rd, of Military Medals won by Corpl. R. M. Montgomery and his brother, Private A. M. Montgomery, on the Western front between August 6th and 10th, 1916. Major-General Sir H. V. Cox wrote to each a congratulatory letter on their consistently good and courageous conduct during the operations on those dates.

AMBULANCE SECTION.

The first contingent of Harefield staff to leave for training camp to form our Harefield section of the — Field Ambulance left on Wednesday morning, marching the three miles to the station headed by the hospital band, which was in good form. There were many mutual regrets at their departure, and it is generally conceded that they are a picked set of men who should bring credit on the hospital when they get to work at the front. The remainder of the selected men leave later.

GARDEN PLOTS.

The Australian Red Cross Commissioners have provided £20 to be expended on gardening tools and other material and plants and seeds for several garden plots which it is proposed should be cultivated in the vicinity of the Red Cross recreation buildings. Mrs. Venning has taken over the direction of the scheme, and asks for volunteers from the wards to prepare the ground for planting.

"THE CODS."

The Australian Red Cross has also donated the cost of material for the construction of a gallery at the back of the concert hall to accommodate over sixty persons.

THE CHRONICLE.—Continued.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

The concert hall has been fully occupied since the last issue of the "Boomerang," scarcely one night passing without the visit of a company or lecturer. The lecturers were Messrs. James Baker and H. R. Hall, and the concert companies, Miss Alice d'Egville's, The Whizz-Bangs, The Chocolates, and the Soldiers' Entertainment Fund party. Hospitality was extended to patients by friends in this locality and in London.

E. E. GOUGH,
Saddler & Harness Maker,
BOOT and SHOE
REPAIRER,
 HAREFIELD, MIDDLESEX.



"SOMME SMILE."

A MOTOR CONVEYANCE

WILL LEAVE THE

"CRICKETER'S INN," HAREFIELD,

TO AND FROM THE HOSPITAL.

PALMER'S VEHICLES

Meet all Principal Trains arriving at Debenham
 from Paddington and Marylebone.

TIME-TABLE ON APPLICATION.

FILKIN'S MOTOR GARAGE.

Motor & Horse Conveyances to and from the Stations.

Private Cars for Hire. Fares 1s. each way.

THE HOMESTEAD, HAREFIELD (1 min. from Hospital).

READ'S CASH STORES

.. HAREFIELD ..

THE CHEAPEST AND BEST!

Khaki Shirts, Ties, Collars, Handkerchiefs, Nugget,
"Kiwi" Boot Polishes and Outfits.

BATTALION COLOURS!!! BATTALION COLOURS!!!

We stock "Koly nos," "Euthmol," "Colgates," and "Calvert's"
Tooth Paste. Patent Medicines at Store Prices. 'Phone Harefield.

E. A. CLARK'S HAIRCUTTING, SHAVING, and
High Street, HAREFIELD. SHAMPOOING! SALOON.

Razors Ground and Set. Safety and other Razors. - Strops.

Brillantine and other Toilet Requisites. Walking Sticks. Large Selection of
Plug and other Tobaccos and Cigarettes. (Loewe) L. & Co. and other Pipes
from 1/- to 10/-. Pouches, Cigarette Cases and Tubes.

"Rising Sun" Badges, Buttons, Numerals and Brooches in great variety.

DANCER,

High Street, HAREFIELD,
FOR GOOD

CONFECTIONERY

of every description.

When going on your FURLOUGH
be sure and get your FLASH
GLOBBER made by

PRITCHETT'S,

183-184, TOTTENHAM
COURT ROAD, W.

Representative calls regularly at Hospital
for Orders, Measurements, &c.

W. EMERY (Bandy),

Photographer,

ATTENDS THIS HOSPITAL DAILY.

KODAKS and FILMS
supplied and developed.

ADVICE FREE.

H. G. McMILLAN,

HIGH STREET, HAREFIELD.

**NEWSAGENT &
STATIONER.**

Good Assortment of Local, Comic, and
Birthday Cards.

Agent for **KODAKS.**

WHEN ON LEAVE IN LONDON
STAY AT

ASHTON'S HOTEL,

29 and 30, London Street,

Opposite G.W.Ry. Station (Arrival Side).

PADDINGTON.

REAL GOOD!!!

PHOTOGRAPHY!

Don't forget to send your friends a photo of
your ward or self. they will appreciate it!

ARTHUR GUNDRY,

Photographer,

will be pleased to do it, and have it ready
next day. Films developed and enlarged.

The Studio, Rickmansworth.