

7LGA/2/1/18-[4] Oct 1914 (n.d., but envelope postmarked 8 Oct, and can be dated from other LGA letters by Roger Gibbs' visit) Written from 'L'Hopital Auxiliaire 137' [173]

Dearest Ivy Very many thanks for yr letter & for all yr help. We have had a splendid lot of clothes brought us by Miss Ellis & her brother who arrived y'day with their motors - an ambulance carrying 4 stretchers & a lorry. We can dispose of any amt of clothing to people who need it frightfully & who may be saved by getting it. I am feeling rather tired & sad today - partly because of an unusual influx of visitors all the afternoon & evening & partly as the result of a long night spent unsuccessfully with a poor Frenchman whose arm I had amputated for gangrene. He suffered so in his mind - and he died in spite of everything that we did. These long nights in the wards are experiences, which one will never forget. I think all the time of the women at home. We try & write to them - & always written when the patients are really ill or dead - long letters telling them as much as we can. I hope it helps them a little to know that the men they love came into our hands & that we did our best for them. The French temperament introduces an entirely different factor & I haven't mastered it yet. They seem to have much less recuperative power than our men, & they are tortured by fear of the Germans & the thoughts that their homes & their country are in danger. I have no time to write a proper letter so I enclose some notes of my expedition to Braisne a few days ago (notes not with letter). Please not to lose them - but to send them on to Miss Burdett to keep for us. I am so glad to hear good news from the Children's Hospital & also good reports of CSA & DFA & our dear Old Lady. Roger Gibb was here today & offered to come out again if we cd give him a job but I do not think I know how to use him. Yrs ever LGA Miss Burdett - secretary of the Women's Hospital for Children Children's Hospital - the Women's Hospital for Children, founded by Louisa Garrett Anderson and Flora Murray in 1912