

In France

30.

Bomb has fallen. Went to No2 General, saw Field, Simpson, Miller, Dingo, O'C., & Col. Hurley. Left Boulogne after 9p.m. A clear night.

1.10.17 October

Arrived No1 Australian General. Heard of Nick's death.

2.

Went to section X1. Busy.

3.

Off in p.m.

Give us grace and strength to forbear & persevere,
Give us courage & gaiety & the quiet mind,
Spare to us our friends, soften to us our enemies,
Bless us if it may be in all our innocent endeavours,
If it may nor, give us the strength
To encounter that which is to come
That we may be brave in peril.
Constant in tribulation.
Temperate in wrath.
And in all changes of fortune.
And down to the gates of Death,
Loyal & Loving to one another.

R.L.S. Born 1850 Died 1894. Samoa.

Under the wide & starry sky dig the grave & let me lie,
Glad did I live & gladly die, & laid me down a will
This be the verse you grave for me: here he lies where he longed to be.
Home is the sailor home from the sea, & the hunter home from the hill.

4.

Busy but straighter. A boy of my age. Worth the pain to be fussed over.

7.

Very cold. Off in p.m., but not able to leave hospital.

8.

Busy. Schofield very sick. Letter from G. The C.C.S. starting again & we're not there.

9.

Still raining. Went into Rouen in p.m. with S. Snelling. Letters from J.C.H. & Ida, about the new home.

10.

Well; it helps to be remembered when things are strenuous.

11.

Letters from Mrs. McClure; had heard I had seen Norman's grave. She is better. Went for walk with S. Symonds, fine after ward, walking a pleasure.

13.

New Col. did a round. Wrote letters in p.m. Raining hard.

15.
Went with Norah to Bons Secours. A fine view. Letters.
17.
Heard from Leigh in 59 General Hosp. A very nice letter. O'Reilly called after dinner.
20.
Fritz over during night, not disturbed.
21.
Off in p.m., wrote letters. Wondering, hoping.
23.
Went shopping with Grace.
24.
D. Newton came back, looks v. well. Great travel to get here.
28.
Letters. A busy day.
29.
A heavy frost, everything white. Went into Rouen with Grace, shopped. Grace fixed my room.
31.
Went to have our photos taken, no luck. Normandie rings. A fine day.
1.
Heard from Leigh, in Northampton War Hosp. & getting on well. Boyle very sick.
6.
Went out with Grace & Sister Scott- had our photos taken at last. Went to Gallery. Sadie & K.
O'Connor came back.
8.
Walked to Petit Couronne with Grace & Florence, woods beautiful. Saw P.C. through the Railway arch.
Coffee & full cups, biscuits purchased by la petite, French people annoyed with our leaves. Ride back in motor.
9.
Fair day.
10.
A bomb. Grace going, went into town with her.
12.
Went to see Grace off, but no train.
13.
Grace left.
14.
Off in p.m., went for walk with Florence.

15.

Busy.

16.

Went into town with Sadie, Christmas shopping. Letter from George, may get leave.

20.

Day off. Very tired. Went out in afternoon with D.M. Florence to go to South of France.

Dec. 13.

Quieter.

15.

Much colder. On all day.

16.

First snow, walked to St. Adrienne. No ferry.

18.

Shopped with Dorothy. To Canteen.

20.

Stocktaking. D.M.S. Burow's baby.

22.

Shopped in p.m. Holly & taxi.

24.

B. Baxter called, went to lunch with him, had had a good trip to Scotland. Brought home flowers & finished decorating the ward. A present unexpected.

25.

Christmas Day. Ward looking very pretty. Burnt gum leaves.

26.

A quiet day alone.

30.

Gaines very sick.

31.

S. Kemp not well. P.C. from Violet for Christmas and New Year. Wrote letters.

1918

1.1.1918

May we be home before another year begins.

6.

Sunday. Day off. Heard that Dorothy & Doherty had the R.R.C. Ida 1st Class. The Best Col. the D.S.O. Rested in morning. Walk in afternoon. A question.

7.

On all day.

8.
Bessie's birthday. Went to Petit Couronne - an answer. Letters to George.
12.
Sauerman very sick. Went to Lecture at 11 Stat. Dr. Sinclair & his wooden frames. Walked & talked. Wrote home. Florence brought me home letters & from I. Huntley.
15.
Busy. Graham relieving.
16.
Day off. Graham's. Walked into Rouen & shopped. No dinner.
17.
Busy.
18.
Through to this fine forest, waiting very hard & I agree.
20.
S. Tait went to Paris. Went to Church with Symonds in evening. Weather much warmer. Lowes died in early morning, quite conscious.
21.
Changes again. Johnny Bill had died of wounds at a C.C.S.
24.
Went out with Florence in afternoon. A beautiful day.
25.
Good nights very hard those days.
26.
Sports. Had a day off. Hear golden opinions.
28.
Miss Finlay's farewell. A glorious day.
30.
Sure absolutely. O'Reilly to go to a C.C.S. Walked into town with D., met O'Reilly & Kienan, saw the churches. Letter from J.C.H.
31.
Nesbitt & Cornish came with 8 others. Letter from George. O'Reilly at gas school. Very tired.
7.
Went to concert with D. & Florence, then to town.
12.
Heard we were to go for leave on the 13th. Packed. With all my heart, more unselfish than self.
13.
Left at 8.15a.m. in ambulance- Tickets causing some amusement- sat on suitcase. Crossed & recrossed the river, arrived before 12 noon, taxi to 175 Rue Fauberyy, Poissoniere - lunch & then out to sight see.

Opera House - Intervals between the acts longer than in Eng., this feature is appreciated by the French as they like promenading to theatre & talking with friends.
 St. Germain Church – 12th century statue of St. Michael by Marochetti – from its tower, which faces the Louvre, was given the signal for the massacre of the Huguenots on St. Bartholomew's Day, August 24th 1572. stained glass 16th century. Window of the twelve apostles by Viollet-le-Due, who restored many of the churches in Paris.
 Louvre – Champs Elysies –



Figure 30: Postcard purchased in Paris: Vue Générale du Louvre

14.

Vendôme Column – 140 ft. – covered with plates in bronze obtained from cannons captured by Nap.I.
 Rue de la Paix, rich shops, jewellery, millinery, costumes.
 Saint-Augustin – 1860 – 1871, by Baltard
 Christ & the Apostles (Jouffroy). In the interior, The Evangelists (Signol).

Arc de Triomphe 150 ft high & 146 wide, commenced 1806 & finished under Louis Phillippe – Sand bags – On the frieze, Departure & return of the French armies – On the ceiling of arch panels bearing the names of the victories under the Republic & Empire. Under the side arches, the names of the generals - those killed being underlined.

Place de la Concorde, finest & most spacious. In centre Obelis, of Luxor, from the ruins of Thebes – On this spot stood, formerly the guillotine where Louis XVI & Marie Antoinette were executed.
 Round the place statues of Lyons, Marseilles, Bordeaux, Nantes, Rouen, Brest, Lille, Strasbourg – being boarded up.

Hotel des Invalides – provides a home for wounded soldiers.

Napoleon's tomb by Visconti. The sarcophagus, carved out of one solid block of red Finland granite. Mosaic on the pavement represents a wreath of laurels in which are the names of Laffis, Rivoli, Pyramids, Marengo, Austulitz, Jena, Friedland, Wagram, Moscos – Surrounding the crypt 12 colossal figures, representing principal victories of the Empire –
 Napoleon's brother, Joseph, Tom of Jerome Bonaparte, & his son – small sarcophagus, with the heart of his wife, the Queen of Westphalia.
 Statue of a very spent horse, woman holding dying soldiers.

Chaone – La Marsailles – Lunch at Louvre.

Pantheon, ancient church of St. Genevieve, to the memory of Great Men –
 Statue of the Thnihn (1906) Rodin, Dome 270 feet – St. Genevieve. The small child & the blue robe at left end of picture.
 Statue of Joan of Arc - Down stairs, Victor Hugo, Rousseau, Voltaire
 St.Etienne – stained windows – carved pulpit. Walked down, got pictures - Joan of Arc, The Thinker, old curiosity shops – Did the shopping. Printemp, evidently our accent not like the inhabitants of Paris. The bagpipes. Dinner at Hostel. Our escapes getting to the Opera, Madame Butterfly. Small child in a green dress – back in a cab, driven by a lass.

15.

Capt. Henley called at 10 p.m. – Bois du Boulogne. Trocadero.

Lou Saint-Jacques – is all that remains of the Church of Saint-Jacques – la Bonchene-170ft 1508-1522.

Large statue of St. Jacques le Majeur, an eagle, lion & a bull, adorning the top Statue of Pascal by Cavalier – Sacre-Coeur – windows, blue & red – pulpit white & gold – Service singing beautiful.

Lower, Savoy ande, (with the exception of the great bell at Moscow) is the largest in the world – met here J.C.H. and John.

Notre Dame one of the finest monuments of Ogival art in France. Fuis stone laid by Pope Alex.III 1166.

Rose window 40 feet. The ball supporting the Cross, contains fragments of the real Cross & Crown of Thorns – Choir stall & bas-reliefs in wood representing the Life of the Virgin & of Christ. Children singing, Music for future guidance.

Afternoon – Maxim's met Major Embleton & Capt. Opera for seats, Rue de la Paix (Santa Philomela)

Dinner at Continental – one thing needful – flowers beautiful & the barrows in all parts small feet & beautiful coats, many small dogs led by women.

16.

Met Capt. H., Major G. & Capt. Rayson. Palais de Justice. Ceilings – tapestry.

St. Chapelle – commenced 1245 – 1248.

15 windows – large rose windows dates from Charles VIII – divided into 79 panels

To Versailles – Resevon Ballroom, many clocks, view from windows.

Dinner with J.C.H. & John. Samson & Delilah

17.

Lunch at Café de la Païse. Drove through Bois du Bologne – La Voisin – La Favourite. Battistini –

An air raid – Walked back. A beautifully clear night.

18.

Shops. Hotel de la Ville. Ceilings. Faint colourings.

Palais du Luxembourg.

Galleries des Bustes, busts of former senators & political celebrities.

Salle des Seances, wood work.

Salles des Conferences (formerly the Throne room)

Escalier d'honneur, 12 tapestries from Lobelnis & Beauvais.

19.

Met train. Saw J.C.H. off. Dash for theatre tickets. Fountainbleu. Rigolletto.

20.

Met George & B. Lunch at Ciro's. Drove Bois du Bologne. Left Paris 5p.m., arrived Rouen before 8p.m. Letter from Elsie May, both very well.

21.

Section XI. A beautiful day & quite warm. Tired of waiting.

22.

Miss Cornwell arrived.

25.

A perfect afternoon. Letter from George. Promptly & trustingly.



Figure 31: Anne wrote on back of photo: Looking west from below Belboeuf. Taken from a path we descended from Belboeuf on Monday 25.2.18

5.3.18

Day off. Rained hard in morning. Letter from Grace.

7.

Through the forest. Feel much better. Even though away.

9.

Day off. Drove into Rouen in Scotch amb. Lunch at Normandie. Saw The Cathedral, where heart of Richard Coeur de Lion lies. Climbed the Tower, borrowed matches to come down again. Some shopping. Books from The Times.

Respite in me, miserere mei.

10.

One letter. J.C.H. Miss Conyers arrived.

11.

A great parade. Capt. Buchan & Capt. Niven arrived from The School.

A fine day & quite warm. R. Dougill coming to France. Carl – Matron at Mont Albert.

12.

A disappointment – a wire.

13.

Heard that Mrs. McClure had been taken to Craithie House.



Figure 32: H. Foxton in Montigny, 9/3/1918

(large gap here in Diary)

1.4.18

Mother's birthday. Very busy, but helped throughout.

9.

A letter, probably will change all actions. George settled in his new home – a good theatre & resus. ward to the ready. J.C.H. & Aunt Chris safe & well.

10.

Day off. Fine.

18.

Through the forest, an understanding person. Letter from George.

20.

A busy day.

22.

A day off. Rouen visited by most of the staff in the afternoon.

25.

A reproach & a painful one.

26.

Day off, went up the river with Dorothy & Jessie, trees beautiful especially fruit trees.

27.

Peace again & a great calm.

28.

Off in afternoon, went to Berners with D & G. Church, Words. Letters from home & from many others.

29.

Raining, not cold. Webster. Like heaven to be in the ward. Letter from Katie Edwards.

I sometimes think that never blows so red
The Rose as where some buried cousin bled,
That every Hyacinth the Garden wears
Dropt in its Lap from some once lovely Head.

(Note: must be May)

Lo! Some we loved, the loveliest & the blest
That Time & Fate of all their Vintage prest,
Have drunk their cup a round or two before,
And one by one crept silently to Rest.

9.

Here with a Loaf of Bread beneath the Bough,
A flask of Wine, a Book of verse, & Thou
Beside me singing in the Wilderness
And Wilderness is Paradise now.

10.

Walked through forests. Still no word.

13.

The last day in XI. Busy & just as well.

14.

Moved camp. Night duty XI.

16.

A sleepless day. Up in afternoon. A walk & much peace from it.

17.

Dorothy's visit, soon after breakfast, a fortunate woman.

A cable handed to me.

19. -----

21.

First shopping together, & a new walk.
Sacred days now.

6.6.18

Sharing everything.

7.
Geoghegan, Sadie & A.R.K., the R.R.C., Gen. Hown & F.
here. Miss McCarthy expected.

8. -----

16.
Out in afternoon

17.
Into town with Florence, a long letter from Big. Tired.

18.
Frailty increasing. Shy people.

19.
A well-spent afternoon & together.

20.
Together, a forest meal. Where will we live.

22.

23.
Photos & our tree.

24.
A letter at 4.30p.m. – a great comfort. R.C. Hosp. probably
to be evac. at once.
A visit from his friend, will do whatever possible. Long
days now.

25.
Letter from J.C.H. re Cland Grice. Concert in evening.

26.
Open air concert, a great success.

28.
Told 1a.m. that D & I were going for leave. Left hospital
2.30p.m.- all night in train – entertained at Abancourt by
American R.C.

29.
Arrived Boulogne 5a.m.



Figure 33: Photos of Harry and Anne in forest