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H. S. Langham.
Salonika. Mar. 5/16

Dear Lucile.

I sent off a line to you just after arriving - that was Thurs. a.m. the 2nd inst. & we expect to get to our Camp immediately after lunch to-day -

The entrance to Salonika is truly lovely. I wish I could give you an idea of what a picture it was. The city a mass of lofty tiled square buildings closely clustered together on the side of a hill topped by a most picturesque citadel or fort, around which runs an ancient city wall evidently in almost perfect condition & among it's situated can be distinctly seen - numerous minarets, similar in shape, size & location

there, & against all these soft pastel colors one sees an occasional dark cypress tree in the background. The buildings run right down to the waters edge in the distance everything so neat & tidy, it reminds one of a model — On either side rise the most beautiful hills, here & there soft patches of green, relieve the brown tones but no trees. On the opposite side of the harbour, rise a whole line of ~~mam~~ snow-toppid mountains — It is beautiful! So far we have not been allowed on shore, but the officers who have been through the town on business, say it is appalling — the filth of Egypt is nothing by comparison. Isn't it curious for even from our boat, which is tied up to the wharf. the city rising gradually in front of us is a picture! However there is not much chance of our spending ~~much~~ a great deal of time in the town midst, for one needs numerous escorts, passes etc. for it is guarded & pickeled at every corner. I wish I could go into detail about one or two things but suppose its useless to attempt it. Of course I was very surprised to find so many mosques; in my ignorance not realizing this country ~~be~~ belonged to the Turks for ages, & only was restored to Greece after the Balkan War.

The Camp is about fair
miles from the town I
hear, though the distance
seems to be somewhat
of an open question.
We are taking over a
New Zealand Hospital, or
rather I should say their
site & I believe the two
O. C's ~~at~~ have made one
or two little exchanges,
for instance we're taking
over <u>some</u> of their tents etc.
but stories differ so I'll
wait until we actually
arrive before going into
detail — The work promises
to be disappointing, unless
the unforeseen happens, &
our stay more or less fa
limited one — however
as you know one never

can tell what may happen, our life depends so much on the movements of others. But oh! the colossal waste of war - its positively depressing —
Our hospital now owns a motor ambulance of its own, & this is going to be a tremendous help especially during our first week or so -
There has been nothing special doing on the boat. We felt a little up-set inwardly, but otherwise are fine. The time has flown - it is astonishing how impossible it is to get anything done, even a book read, when living

in the midst of so
many - The bedlum
when writing is awful.
Piano going, others talking.
& no one seems quite
exempt from the conversation.
Haven't another scrap of
paper anywhere - so must'nt
ramble on. Its just time
for the church service too.
Did I mention the B. C.
unit (no 4 General) &
the Toronto unit (no 5 General)
are both here?
We're mighty lucky to be here,
for I'm sure the climate
is much more promising
than the Suez or Persian
Gulf - & so long as we're
right out of the town, its bound
to be healthy - Love to Uncle
George & yourself - Yours in the
best of spirits Lollie.