

245. *The Chairman.*] What was the reason of that?—I do not know where the orders came from.

246. Did the "red-caps" take control of you?—Yes, we were under their control as if we were deserters. I was away on special leave at my friend's funeral.

247. *Dr. Martin.*] You were marched back to the racecourse hospital?—Yes.

248. Where did you sleep that night?—In the hut that some of my mates had gone out of.

249. Did you sleep in any quarters where measles had been?—Yes.

250. How long since they had left that hut?—That was the Sunday I got back. I think they left on the Saturday.

251. *The Chairman.*] Was it one of the regular hutments you were put into?—Yes; one of the hutments that the Trentham Regiment had been sleeping in. We were first marched into the hospital grounds to see the doctor. It seemed strange that there were healthy men they would not let out, and yet they put us in. I was not on sick-leave, and was well enough to join my regiment at Rangiotu.

252. *Mr. Salmond.*] How long were you kept at Trentham?—From the Sunday till the Wednesday.

253. You were not treated as having been absent without leave?—No, they could not do that. In regard to sleeping in the huts, there were men sleeping between the end of the table and the door, and one night it came on to rain and blow, and the sergeant-major came up and said to one man, "Get up, you will be dead before morning." I understand the wet was blowing right on to the blankets under the door. The wind was coming fair on.

254. Is there anything more you can tell us?—The Staff sergeant-major came to our hut one day and gave us instructions on the rifle, and during "smoke-oh" he told us that they had stopped up all the draughty places in their hut, and we told him that if we did we could get C.C.

255. That was to the sergeant-major?—Yes; I think they call him the Staff sergeant.

WEDNESDAY, 28TH JULY, 1915.

VERA KEITH SWORN and examined. (No. 41.)

1. *The Chairman.*] You are a nursing sister—a duly qualified nurse?—Yes.

2. You were in charge, I think, of the temporary hospital at Berhampore?—Yes, for part of the time.

3. During what time were you there?—I went there on the 19th May and I left on the 5th July. I was not in charge during the first two weeks.

4. Who was in charge during those two weeks?—Sister Jamieson, who went away with the hospital ship.

5. She was in charge up to the first week in June?—About that time.

6. Who were there besides Sister Jamieson when you went there?—Just the two of us were there till Sister Hannah came.

7. When did she come?—About a week after me.

8. When Sister Jamieson went who took her place?—Sister Farron.

9. Were there any marquees put up while you were there?—Yes; they were all put up while I was there.

10. How many?—Three large marquees.

11. How many patients were accommodated in the building?—Twenty in the building, part of the time, and then sixteen.

12. The number in the building was reduced to sixteen when the marquees were put up?—Yes.

13. Do you remember about when the marquees were put up?—When we got the rush of patients, just after Sister Jamieson left.

14. Did you keep any temperature-charts?—We had temperature-books.

15. From the outset?—Yes.

16. And so far as you are concerned you kept the temperatures in the book faithfully?—Yes.

17. That is one of the first duties of a nurse, is it not?—Yes.

18. Do you remember two men called Pollard and Fordham being there?—Yes; they were there during the last week I was there. I left a fortnight before the hospital was closed. I was transferred to Trentham.

19. They died before you left?—Yes.

20. Have you got the temperature-book?—No, I left it there when I left the hospital; it belonged to the building.

21. Do you remember those cases coming in?—Yes, perfectly well.

22. What was the condition of Pollard when he came in?—He looked very white, and seemed to have influenza rather badly.

23. Do you remember his temperature, or would you require the book to recall it?—I do not remember. I know he had a temperature all the time he was there. I remember that on the Tuesday it went up to 105.

24. He died on the Friday?—Yes; he was admitted on the Friday and died on the following Friday.

25. He would be admitted on the 25th June: where was he admitted from?—Kaiwarra, was it?—I think he came from Kaiwarra, but I am not sure.

26. Were there many patients with high temperatures?—No, only two—Fordham and Pollard. We had only twenty patients then.