

CUS417/2.46

(Newspaper cutting)

Colonel Bruce Makes Apology.

Tells Col. Armour that criticism of him was result of being misled. Our paper, Capt. Whillastre, thought the Matron was in love with Col. Gornell and the man went to the Sisters and asked so I sent him a message to deliver to London, Jan. 3. We learn that Col. Herbert A. Bruce since the issue of the Baptie report has sent to Surgeon-General Colonel Donald Armour a letter of explanation, apparently intended as an apology, concerning his (Bruce's) criticism of Armour's work. Colonel Bruce reported that an operation had been wrongly performed by Armour, whereas the operation indicated had never been performed. The Baptie Commission investigated the matter fully, and found Col. Bruce's allegations entirely wrong.

Col. Bruce's letter to Armour states that he, Bruce, was misled by a subordinate officer, who did not follow orders. Colonel Armour, speaking to the Canadian Associated Press to-night, said: "As a Canadian practising in London and in close touch with the medical services since the beginning of the war, I am prepared to say that the Baptie report is just what one with such experience as mine would have expected. General Jones' work has been past all praise, considering the circumstances, and for Dr. Bruce, without any military experience or knowledge of military organization or military surgery, to issue a partisan report is disgraceful."

They have done for themselves already I hear. Miss Macdonald wrote me (privately) to say that she hoped by the end of Jan. that I would have No. 1 Gen. in France, the best they have, the one we all like best, and my O.C. would be Col. Wilde, a man I know and respect, a gentleman in the truest and highest sense. Sounds too good to be true, and if they thought she and I wanted it badly would do something to prevent it. So we must be very careful not to let anyone know. I don't know if I ever can thank you and Lady Galar for all your kindness to me. What I would have done without your sympathy and help I don't know. I couldn't have felt worse if a real bomb had blown me up. The worst wars are not all in the trenches!!

So all I really care about is to be given a place of trust again and No. 1 General would be perfect. All the 'workers', Lady Boston and her workers have written to me such charming friendly notes so they don't believe evil and if the Matron-in-Chief, Matrons and Sisters who I care for and the M.O.s. who really know me, nothing else matters a bit and I would not trouble to let them ever hear my name again. With my best wishes to you and yours for 1917. Ever sincerely yours, Edith Campbell.

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