

¹ 1 A.M. Jan 1 1917

The first time I have written
the new year. we have been
to service and I do wish
I could describe it.
Service was in our Recreation
Hall in connection with the wards
when we reached there the
patients had the seats well filled
my boys turned & beamed
upon me I judge half the
ward was there which was
quite unusual.

The service was most impressive
The padre in his white robe
and white hair looked so nice

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Then the soldier boys in karki
Hospital "Greys" crutches splints
Bandages etc. Officers & sisters
We sang a number of hymns
had several prayers repeated
the Creed & Lords prayer
The last hymn was for the
absent ones "Holy father in thy
mercy hear our anxious
Prayer keep our loved ones
now far absent neath thy care"
It was beautiful I shall
never forget it. All those
men in this time of strife
bowed in Prayer and
the minister praying

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softly as the hour passed
not one whistle or even chimes England
was quiet this year
After the service I was
very much please and
touched by the war the
boys of my ward (or "my boys")

crowded around me every
one shook hands and wished
me many happy years etc.
It was lovely of them
Now I must wish you a happy
new year & go to bed
it is 130 & I must get up
just the same.

¹ khaki