

Image © IWM Art.IWM ART 2268,  
[www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/25132](http://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/25132)

What can you see in the painting?

It shows the arrival of sick soldiers on stretchers to an aid station. They are covered by blankets and attended to by medical officers, who are wearing the red cross. Mules have been used to bring the sick soldiers from the front line. Medical orderlies have guided the mules to the aid station. One man is already bandaged, demonstrating some of the work of the location.

Describe what is happening in the brightest part of the painting.

It is an operating room/surgical bay, where two individuals are working on somebody under a white cloth.

What do you think is unusual about the painting?

The men and mules have been arranged so that you cannot see their faces. It gives them anonymity and also draws the attention of the observer to the operating table.



What words would you use to describe this scene?

Some suggestions include: calm, orderly, organised, clean, bright, careful, positive, controlled.