

## Tommy and Typhoid.

### A CHAT WITH A SISTER.

So much has been said about the outbreak of enteric fever, which is said to be epidemic amongst the Guards, who have returned from the Soudan, that a representative of the NURSING RECORD called upon a Sister at the hospital of the Coldstream Guards, in Vincent Square, to enquire what were the facts concerning the rumours afloat.

"Enteric? No, there is not very much," said the Sister, "perhaps one or two dozen cases. That is after all not a large number in a battalion. We have had two deaths I am sorry to say, but the rest of the men are progressing favourably. There is a good deal of diarrhoea, and some dysentery. There is no doubt that some of the men developed it on the way home, but they did not report themselves sick, even when they were definitely asked whether they were well or not. What can a medical officer do when a man stands up straight before him, and says he is quite well? My own opinion is that the men were so anxious to get back to London that they were afraid to speak, for fear of being left behind on the way. Many of them have friends in London, and therefore would not have liked to be laid up at Malta, or Gibraltar, or even Netley. But it would have been much better for them if they had been; their illnesses would have been treated sooner, and not have become so serious. The change from the intense heat of the Soudan to this cold weather is also very trying to them. Then the home coming I do not think did them any good. The British public gave them a warm welcome, but the warm welcome included a great deal to eat and drink that first day, and particularly in the condition in which some of the men were, it was not good for them.

"I do not quite know," continued the Sister, "why there should be this outbreak of diarrhoea, for the Nile water is good. I used rather to like it when I was in Egypt. Of course, it contains a good many wiggle waggles, which no amount of boiling seems to kill, and it is advisable to drink it in the dark, but if the water is taken from the middle of the stream, it is all right. Tommy Atkins is somewhat a careless creature, and I have seen him deliberately pass the apparatus for filtering and purifying water for him, and lie down and drink from a stream, close to the edge, where, of course, the water is impure. We are settling down to something like our normal condition now. There is always rather a rush of work just at first, when the men return home from active service, but it is nothing unusual."

The sick Guards are, we think, well off in having this Sister to take care of them. Her bright and cheery presence must bring sunshine into the wards.

## National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War.

LORD WANTAGE, the Chairman of the Council of the National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War (British Red Cross Society), we learn from the secretary, has received from Colonel Young, the Society's Commissioner, a telegraphic communication from Cairo, in which he states that, after conferring with Lord Cromer and the Sirdar as to the best means of showing in a practical form the Society's sympathy with all sufferers from wounds or sickness in the recent operations in the Soudan, irrespective of nationality, he has placed in the Sirdar's hands the sum of £300, to be applied directly for the benefit of the Egyptian soldiers, who have suffered in the campaign, and the sum of £200 for the purchase, and immediate despatch to Omdurman, of articles urgently needed for the Dervish wounded, who are being treated by the Egyptian medical staff. Lord Wantage and the Council of the Red Cross Society have given their sanction to this application of the Funds.

The Society's steamer, "Mayflower," returned to Assouan on the 3rd inst., to bring down the last of the sick from the front. This voyage terminates the Society's work of evacuating the sick and wounded, and the Society's general operations will probably be wound up by the end of this month.

It is very gratifying to the Council, and will, no doubt, be to the public also, to learn that the supplemental aid rendered in the Soudan Campaign by the British Red Cross Society, has met with a very favourable impression in Egypt and the Soudan, and has been most highly appreciated alike by the sick and wounded and the officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps.

## Legal Matters.

### "MESSAGE" INFAMIES.

#### NEGRO MONSTER SENTENCED UNDER A NEW ACT.

THE Act recently passed for dealing with the execrable class of men who live on the immoral gains of women, says the *Daily Mail*, was put into force for the first time at the Marylebone Police Court, on Saturday. The prisoner, James Davis, a well-dressed negro, was charged, firstly, with assaulting Sophie Cheshire, a woman with whom he lived; and secondly under the new Act.

The opening statement of Mr. Freke Palmer, who prosecuted, threw a good deal of light on the methods of so-called "massage establishments." Davis carried on at 120, Marylebone Road, what was described as "The Balneopathic Institution, for the treatment of rheumatism, gout,

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