

vessel reached Santiago the outbreak of yellow fever had begun, and as none of the party were immune, their usefulness was practically destroyed. The party continued on the same ship to Porto Rico, and later cared for about four hundred patients on their way up from Porto Rico to Fort Monroe. Five of the nurses at Tampa later went to Cuba, and returned on the Concho when she made her memorable trip to this port with so many sick soldiers from the battlefields. The trip of the latter vessel did more than anything else to remove the prejudice against the employment of women as nurses which had prevailed. The surgeons on the ship all gave high testimonials of the value of their services, and the patients on board were united in their praise of them. The other nurses left at Tampa were employed in the hospitals there and at Jacksonville.

From that time on women nurses were in demand, both the Government Hospital Corps and the Red Cross Society employing them in large numbers. The hardest service met by the nurses was at Chickamauga, where the only fatality occurred, one of the nurses dying there as a result of the strain. The Red Cross Society furnished transportation for all nurses up to September 6th, after which it was provided for by the Quartermaster's Department at Washington. New York was the centre from which most of the nurses were sent. A reserve was always in waiting for sudden calls, and a few hours after a request from the Government had come for a number of nurses they were all on the way to their destination.

Many of the nurses returned from their stations, principally those at Chickamauga and Camp Wikoff, broken in health. For these, early in November, a home was opened at Rowayton, Conn., where more than fifty had to be sent to recuperate. The Red Cross Society, in a report lately issued, says that transportation for more than 400 nurses was furnished by the society, and that it shared in the expense of maintaining 494 nurses, and paid all the expenses of 91. The society had also the distinction of being the only organization whose aid in the matter of providing volunteer nurses was accepted by the Navy Department. When the prisoners from Admiral Cervera's fleet were brought to Portsmouth, the Surgeon-General of the navy agreed to accept the services of six Red Cross nurses. The excellent work done by them and its appreciation by the Spaniards were well illustrated when the latter requested that the nurses should accompany them on the voyage to Spain. Many of the prisoners were not expected to survive the voyage, so the nurses agreed to go.

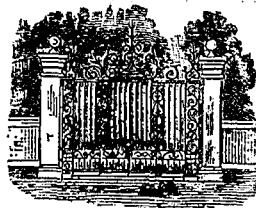
Upon their arrival at Santander in Spain, the nurses were welcomed by the Spanish representatives of the Red Cross Society, who exchanged brassards with the Americans. A mother of one of the Spaniards who had been among the prisoners expressed a wish that one of the Americans might become ill there, so that she might show how an American would be cared for by her.

Some idea of the importance of the Nurses' Auxiliary can be gained from the amount of money spent. As shown by the Treasurer's report the sum of \$107,785.12 was in all collected, and of this \$72,101.64 had been expended up to December 1st.

"STARS AND STRIPES.

## Outside the Gates.

### THE FORTHCOMING CONGRESS.



THE organization of the forthcoming International Congress of Women is going steadily forward, although it is early days to guess yet, how this first attempt upon the part of women to meet in London in International Congress will succeed.

We are glad to observe that the Hospitality Committee, under the genial chairmanship of Lady Roberts Austen, is quite determined to make the social side of the Congress a success; and it is the best of news that the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland have most kindly lent Stafford House (or "palace," as our Queen has called it in past times) for the *Conversazione*, at which it is proposed to welcome the members of the Congress on the evening of June 26th.

This is as it should be. Stafford House for the past two generations has been the acknowledged centre of international courtesy in London, and it is meet and right that it should sustain its social supremacy. It was here that one great Duchess welcomed the patriot Garibaldi, and another, Harriet Beecher Stowe, to whom the "South" of to-day owes its right to rank with the civilized nations of the earth, and now a third Duchess of Sutherland, more lovely, and if possible more brilliant than generations of predecessors—is willing to help to receive the foreign guests—to be given such a hearty welcome by the British Committee of Arrangements at the forthcoming Congress.

Lady Battersea who is one of the most earnest workers on the National Union of Women Workers—which acts as the National Council of Great Britain and Ireland—has arranged a party at Surrey House for the Wednesday evening of the Congress week—and other influential ladies interested in our work are also offering hospitality; amongst them Mrs. Creighton, the wife of the Bishop of London—one of the builders of the Union—will give a garden party at Fulham Palace on the afternoon of the Saturday.

But it must not be supposed that these delightful gatherings will be the chief feature of the Congress. No. It is proposed that the five departments of the Congress shall hold simultaneous sessions twice daily, and the Westminster Town Hall (which is to be headquarters), St. Martin's Town Hall, and part of the beautiful Church House have been secured for the meetings. At the Queen's Hall two public meetings will be held on the Tuesday and Thursday evenings, on the topics of International Arbitration, and Woman's Suffrage, so that the very best use is to be made of the time.

It is to be hoped that many Matrons will bring the work of the Congress to the notice of their Committees, in order that arrangements may be made if possible for members of the nursing staff to attend some of the meetings and social gatherings. We can imagine nothing more educational, nor more valuable to nurses than to meet the international delegates, and get a glimpse of fresh views.

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