

A TRAINED nurse writes to us from Egypt, where, since her arrival, work has been plentiful. She says: "I must first say a little about Helouar, as I think it is a great pity it is not better known by English physicians sending patients to a dry climate—it is certainly the most delightful climate I know. Helouar is about 15 miles from Cairo, quite in the Desert, it stands very high, and is three miles from the hills, so

entirely escapes the damp which is so dangerous in Cairo. On the one side are hills which are most fascinating to climb, and where you always get a bracing breeze, there are also the famous quarries from which the stones were obtained for building the Pyramids, most interesting to explore. It is famed for its sulphur baths, and a new building containing 50 baths of different kinds is being erected, which is shortly to be opened by the Khedive; but best of all is the perfect sunshine you get for eight or nine hours a day. Helouar is a very quiet little place, the chief

amusements being golf and donkey riding, and excursions to Memphis and the Pyramids of Sakkara are very popular. The hotels are good but rather expensive."

"Knowing how interested you were about the nursing arrangements in the late ward, in an interesting chat with a Surgeon-General, I asked him why he did not let the Army Sisters go up the

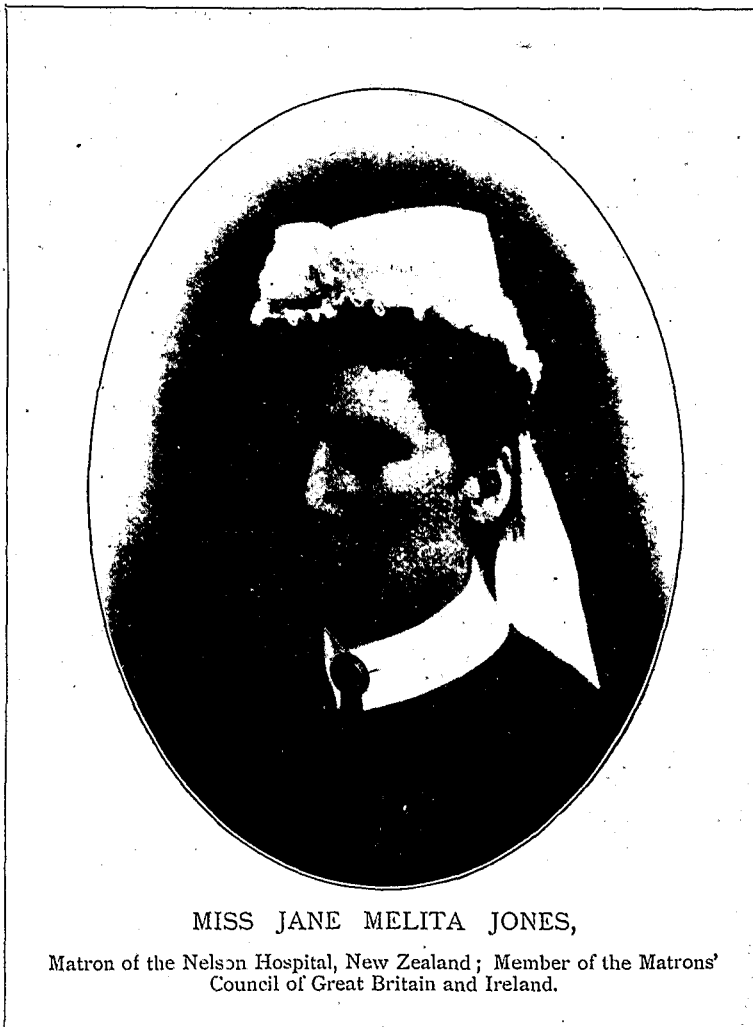
Soudan? He said it was absolutely impossible for women to live up there, with no house or hut of any description, and it was not safe from any point of view. Another high official said the same thing. I suppose we can form no idea of the hardships of the Campaign. Everyone praises the way the Sirdar and his officers behaved, denying themselves in every way for the men under them; the thirst alone from which they

suffered must have been awful."

* * *

"At Alexandria I found the Government Hospital most well arranged and beautifully situated. It is built on the site believed to be that of the lovely gardens of Cleopatra's Palace. Old pillars and vases have been excavated and are arranged in the gardens where a large fountain drips coolly, in which are gold-fish. The main building, operating room, bandaging room, kitchen and laundry were very well fitted. The Surgical Ward stands a little way off, and has a balcony round

it, with tables and seats where the patients feed when well enough. The perfect cleanliness and freshness of everything surprised me. Beds are approved English spring mattress pattern, the floors smooth stone, and are washed over every day. Then away in the gardens are isolation houses for infectious diseases of all sorts, including cholera, which are excellently arranged for the purpose."



MISS JANE MELITA JONES,

Matron of the Nelson Hospital, New Zealand; Member of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)