

During the action, wounded men were found in the fighting line who would not go to the rear. One of them asked a war correspondent to load his revolver for him, so that he could keep on firing at the enemy. In the hospital tent, when the bullets were dropping like hail, the wounded men insisted that they were still able to fight. They begged hard for any billet that would give them an excuse for getting into action again.

Miss Hill is the Matron, and Dr. Hayes the medical officer of the Mafeking Hospital, which is a somewhat primitive place. The institution, just before the war, was in very low water, with an overdraught of £200. In an article on its behalf we read:—"If there is any wealthy and generous person who wants to do some real good, he might offer to supply some linoleum. Foot-steps sound so loudly on the bare boards, and we all know how such noises worry invalids."

The Queen Mother of the Netherlands has given a donation of 1,000fl. to the Dutch Red Cross Society, which has decided to send out to the Transvaal, on October 28th, via Lourenco Marques, a fully equipped ambulance for twenty-five patients. Doctor Lingbeek, ex-President of the Red Cross Society in the Transvaal, will be in charge. The personnel will consist of three physicians, seven female and four male nurses. Fifty thousand guilders (£4,150) have been provisionally voted for the expedition.

Committees are being formed throughout Holland for the purpose of making known the appeal of the South African Society for funds to supply the Boer wounded with comforts and medical assistance. Some shipments of hospital stores have already been made. At the Dutch Indies a committee is also being formed.

A Central Committee of the German section of the Red Cross Society, which has declared itself ready to dispatch appliances and, if necessary, doctors and nurses to the Transvaal—of course for the benefit of both combatants—has, according to the *Post*, been informed by the English Red Cross Society with an expression of cordial thanks for the offer, that this assistance is not at present necessary. The Transvaal has accepted the help thus offered.

The Russian Red Cross Society has, according to a telegram from St. Petersburg, determined in principle on the action it will take in South Africa. It will offer help to both belligerents. The *Herold* adds:—"We preserve appearances by this dual proposal, but we do not conceal our views."

### Letter from Holland.

It is not without some hesitation that I venture to write this letter concerning the somewhat critical question of the British-Transvaal War. Nursing, however, is not a matter of politics; it bears a perfectly cosmopolitan character, and the emblem of the Convention of Geneva is an international symbol of love and devotion. The servants of the Red Cross stretch their helping hands to all sick and wounded who need help and care, without regarding nationality and origin, and reassured by this idea, I put aside all narrow-minded scruples, firmly convinced that our English sisters feel a warm interest in what is to be done in order to alleviate the sufferings of the wounded and sick Boers. The Head-Committee of the Dutch Red Cross proposes to send, as soon as possible, a complete ambulance to South Africa. Dr. J. A. Korteweg, Professor at the Amsterdam University, and Dr. Lingbeek, from Hilversum, the Founder and Late President of the Transvaal Red Cross, will be the leaders of the expedition. The ambulance is able to provide for the needs of 25 patients, and will probably arrive on the 5th of December at Lourenco-Marques. The nursing staff consists of 15 persons. A second supplementary ambulance is to be sent afterwards.

The Head Committee of the Dutch Red Cross has granted a preliminary credit for the equipment of the ambulance, confident that the Dutch people will pay its share of the costs.

The appeal to the humane feelings of the Dutch nation has not been in vain. Everywhere subscription lists have been opened, and large and small gifts stream in rich abundance for the sending of complete ambulances to South Africa, with the aid of the Dutch section of the International Union of the Red Cross; for the support of those who are mutilated by the cruelties of war, or deprived of their natural providers.

In all parts of our country, Transvaal Committees have been formed. The number of medical men who are willing to form part of the expedition of the Red Cross to South Africa is daily increasing.

A few days ago, a young sailor presented himself at the office of one of our leading journals, declaring that he would not place his name on the list of subscribers to the Transvaal Fund, as "it did not concern anybody who and what he was," but he was eager to sacrifice all the money he had in his purse—a sum of two pounds—surely a large amount for a sailor, who is not generally possessed of large means.

On the 30th of September, a large quantity of materials for the nursing of the sick and wounded

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