

Hospital Training School, after which, for a while, she did private nursing. She is a member of her training school Alumnae Society, and also of the Spanish-American War Order, and was an Army Nurse for 7 months during the war, being stationed at Fort Hamilton, New York. She holds the American War Medal.

The fourth nurse is Miss MacVean, who graduated at Bellevue Hospital in 1898, and has since done private nursing in New York City. She is a member of the Bellevue Alumnae Association, and also of the National Alumnae Association.

THE UNIFORM.

The uniform of the Superintendent is entirely grey, that of the staff for indoor purposes is of Army blue duck, with white duck aprons and fine white lawn caps.

For travelling the uniform is blue and grey, the bodice being a dove-coloured garibaldi, the skirt Army blue cloth.

For out-door wear a three-quarters length cloak is worn, of cloth to match the skirt, with a storm collar, and snug little vest, fastened with gold buttons. The hat is of a soft wide-brimmed grey felt, trimmed with grey velvet and wings. This combination of grey and blue uniform has a very real significance in United States army circles, as it represents the fusion of the colours of the Federal and Confederate Armies. The costume is completed by a brassard bearing the word *Maine*.

For inspection the uniform consists of a white linen gown, the bodice being made in the "Norfolk" style, with three pleats, with gilt buttons and buckle, and a clerical collar, white cuffs complete the costume, and for outdoor wear there is a white sailor hat with a white ribbon bearing in front the name of the *Maine* in gold letters, with which can be worn a puggaree.

THE MALE NURSES.

The male nurses have not yet arrived, but 16 are expected next week. They are all men who went out to the Cuban War and did good work there. They were trained at the Bellevue Hospital, New York City, where there is a well organized training school for male nurses, the funds for the support of which were donated by Mr. Mills, the father of Mrs. Whitelaw Reid.

SALARIES.

With regard to the pay to be received by the American nurses, we understand that this is not to be less than Government pay in America, the rate of which is 40 dollars (£8) a month in the Home Service, and 50 dollars (£10) a month for foreign service.

Supervising nurses may receive the same pay if their staff does not exceed five, over this number

the salary of Superintendents increases to a maximum of 75 dollars or (£15) a month.

The nursing staff on the *Maine* will, therefore, receive at least at the rate of £120 a year, just three times the amount paid to our own Sisters on the Army Nursing Service Reserve.

A point to be noted with regard to the pay of Army Nurses is that rank is reckoned in the Army by pay, and therefore the higher the pay the higher the rank. It is also noteworthy that it is a rule in the American Army that the Chief Nurse in a hospital shall not do any detailed nursing work, her duties being those of supervisor, or Lady Superintendent of Nursing.

MILITARY NURSING IN THE STATES.

Miss Hibbard is deeply interested in the organization of an efficient Army Nursing Service in connection with the United States Army, and it is hoped that such a service may soon be settled on a permanent basis, on lines suggested in a Bill which has received the earnest attention and support of the leading women and Superintendents in America, and which is to be presented to Congress at an early date, in the draft of which it is suggested that the Superintendent of Nursing shall be a trained nurse, a point quite vital in its importance.

The difficulty of establishing a trained nurse as Superintendent of Nursing in the Surgeon-General's office is, partly, that the only two classes of officials in this office are officers and clerks. In order, therefore, to take her proper position, the Superintendent of Nursing must be an officer, and the Surgeon-General is not willing that she should be appointed except in this capacity. It is in the power of Congress to grant a commission to a Lady Superintendent, so that this difficulty can be overcome, and we have no doubt that it will be.

Before saying good-bye to these charming American nurses, who have shown such spirited interest in our sick and wounded soldiers by coming thousands of miles to place their skilled services at their disposal, we were not surprised to learn that they were already inundated with invitations from all quarters, an expression, we doubt not, of the good-will of those British colleagues who are anxious to make their acquaintance, and to thank them and their countrywomen for their generosity, for, indeed, the *Maine* is a splendid gift deserving of our national gratitude.

We must not omit to mention the warm appreciation expressed by Miss Hibbard and her staff of the hospitality extended to them by the Directors of the Royal Palace Hotel. They say that they are sumptuously entertained, and their comfort is considered in every possible way.

E. G. F.

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