

Army Nursing Notes.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN is taking special pains to show her gratification in the good that is being done by the Committee of the American Hospital Ship Fund. She has graciously given a splendid Union Jack to the *Maine*, which the Duke of Connaught will present, in Her Majesty's name, on Saturday, the 16th inst., when the ship will be on view to the executive and general committees of the fund.

The *Maine* will be on view to the general public, free of charge, on Thursday, 14th inst. Cards of admission must be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. A. A. Blow, Walsingham House, Piccadilly.

The event in the nursing world during the week was, without doubt, the high official recognition given to the American nurses of the *Maine* by their reception by Her Majesty the Queen at Windsor Castle. It had been notified to Miss Hibbard and her staff that it was the Queen's pleasure that they should see the glories of Windsor Castle under circumstances of unusual favour, and take lunch there on Monday.

During the lunch the Queen made it known that she would receive the doctors and nurses of the *Maine* in her private sitting-room, and at three o'clock they found themselves in the presence of England's Sovereign Lady. Each nurse was personally presented by name to the Queen, who said, in her peculiarly clear and soft voice:—

"I am very pleased to see you. It is very sweet of you to have come, and I want to say to you how much I appreciate your kindness in coming here to take care of my men."

To the medical staff, words of welcome were also spoken.

This high official honour and gracious reception by the Head of the State has given intense pleasure to our American colleagues and, indeed, the whole nursing profession is honoured thereby.

In the evening of the same day the American doctors and nurses attended the splendid reception at the Hotel Cecil, organized by the Society of American Women in London in aid of the *Maine* Fund, and, of course, the latter in their "inspection" uniforms were the cynosure of all eyes, and, indeed, these uniforms are charmingly simple and serviceable. Miss Hibbard, who is a very elegant woman, wore a white cloth gown, with short Eton jacket, heavily braided in gold, and straight vest of white satin. The cap is

charmingly quaint, a type of winged "Dora," at once picturesque, unobtrusive, and evidently easily "got up."

The four supervising nurses—who are, when on duty, to be designated "Sisters" Virginia, Ruth, Sarah, and Margaret, but known to us as the Misses Ludekens, Manly, MacVean, and MacPherson—were to be seen busily plying the "little tambourine," their uniform being of white cambric, with gold buttons, and the becoming winged caps. All the Sisters wore their *Maine* Badges, the War Medals, and the distinguishing badges of their training schools.

The American Nurses have had a most courteous welcome in London, hospitality from all quarters having been showered upon them, and they are enjoying it thoroughly. Next week, however, business and hard work are to be the order of the day, as they are determined to have everything in first-rate order before the *Maine* sails, on the 18th inst. The eighteen male nurses have now arrived, and are staying at the Prince of Wales' Hotel.

THE interchange of amenities between the Committee of the Portland Ambulance Hospital and the War Office, has happily resulted in the selection of a splendid staff of medical men and nurses, many of whom leave for South Africa to-day (Saturday) by the *Tantallon* from Southampton.

As our readers know, Adeline, Duchess of Bedford, and the Duke of Portland, have been the inspiration of this equipment for the comfort of our wounded, and were very anxious to select their own staff, with the result that the War Office has sanctioned the following officers:—Senior Surgeon, Mr. Anthony Bowlby (St. Bartholomew's); Surgeons, Mr. Cuthbert Wallace (St. Thomas's), and Mr. Joseph Ernest Calverley; Physician, Mr. Howard H. Tooth (St. Bartholomew's).

Surgeon-Major C.R. Kilkelly, Grenadier Guards, has been appointed to the military command of the hospital and of the non-commissioned officers and men of the Royal Army Medical Corps, Major-General the Hon. H. F. Eaton acting as secretary for the equipment and despatch of the Portland Hospital on December 9th by the *Majestic*.

The hospital will be fitted for the treatment of 100 non-commissioned officers and men and four officers. With the exception that the medical and surgical staff are civilians, the hospital will be equipped in all respects as a military hospital, and will be at the disposal of the commanding officer

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