

women in war time, both at home and abroad, and Lord Henry Bentinck shows his sense when he writes from the front:—"Lady Henry, with Mrs. Bagot, is still at the hospital (Duke of Portland's), where she is very happy and very much interested in visiting the sick and wounded. She does no nursing, as she has had no experience; and it is a great mistake, I think, for ladies to interfere with the work of the trained nurses. But there are very many ways, with the exercise of a little tact, in which they can make themselves welcome and useful to the sick and wounded."

Langman's Hospital has been installed in the premises of the Ramblers' Club at Bloemfontein, which is a spacious and attractive place of resort. Fifty beds for sick cases have been put up in the gymnasium. The operating theatre and tents for surgical cases have been pitched in the adjoining playground. The climate of Bloemfontein is so beneficial in surgical cases that it is destined to become the base in preference to Wynberg, and movable cases will be forwarded direct to the hospital ships. Four base hospitals are due to arrive there.

It is reported that the Colonial prisoners at Pretoria are suffering many privations, and are treated as criminals in goal; nearly 100 cases of enteric and dysentery have occurred among the prisoners at Waterval, and they are not provided with necessary medicines and nursing comforts. Lord Roberts has invited President Kruger to remedy this state of things.

Complaints have also been made that during the fatal outbreak of fever amongst our Boer prisoners at Simonstown, no women nurses were deputed to attend to them. But then, nursing on modern lines by women is not yet appreciated at its full value by our War Office officials. However, this war is educating them a bit.

Dr. Krummacher, one of the German medical attachés just returned to Berlin from South Africa, has, says the *Lancet*, been speaking at a meeting of the Vaterländische Frauen-Verein (the women's branch of the Red Cross Society). Dr. Krummacher described the details of the British medical service, the field hospitals, and the great military hospitals at Wynberg, near Cape Town. The system of organisation very much resembled that of Germany. The mark "made in Germany" was often to be seen on the surgical dressings, and, as the British officers jocularly observed,

even the Boer shells were "made in Germany." Dr. Krummacher drew attention to the army nurses, an institution unknown in Germany, where an organised corps of nurses belonging to the army does not exist, the nurses being supplied in time of war by the religious communities and by the Red Cross Association.

A Nursing Sister at the front writes to the Aberdeen press from the Imperial Yeomanry Hospital at Deelfontein:—

"The actual country strikes me as being absolutely hideous—all the ground like nothing so much as a dried marsh, sandy, with vile, unhealthy greenish and gray scrubby tufty little shrubs, absolute nightmare land, but very picturesque and wild taken as a whole, and the most lovely air I ever breathed.

"We reached our own siding on Saturday at 12.45. There is nothing at Deelfontein but a store and a station, with rebels all round not far off.

"The hospital extends over a quarter of a mile square, and is not half up yet. We have tin houses just now to sleep in—really wards—ten of us in each, till our own tents go up. These wards are floored and lined with wood, and are cool by day and warm at night, and the beds are very comfortable, and we have all we could want in the way of food. Of course, the dust is nasty and the sun mighty hot, but we knew that.

"All Sunday afternoon the wind has been rising, and now twenty tents are blown down, including our mess tent, where Miss F— got caught and banged about; but barring a few bruises she is none the worse. Also big tent with twenty nurses' beds, etc., is flat, and all their things going rapidly towards the flat-topped hill, with dressers doctors, orderlies, and Kaffirs in a wild rout after them in the rain which is soaking the exposed beds. Our bath tent, too, is flat.

"A sentry was found asleep the night before last, was tried, and the poor fellow is going to be shot. He is the second. It seems this is a tremendously important watering station; and, now our stores have added to its attractions in the Boer's eyes, it will be rather exciting if they come down some night.

"The wind and rain have cooled the place a good bit, but it looks as if our hut will come down. The ends of it bulged and swayed a good deal, and I put my back up against it, and imagined myself on board the *Guelph* again. We are 5,000 feet above sea level now, and in the Hex Mountains at the highest point we were 6,000 feet up. We are being deaved by the rain on this tin roof. They say we have eighty tents up. As the wind is still rising it is to be hoped they won't all be blown down.

"We have heard that the Gordons and Lincolns, who were with us on the *Guelph*, are going to pass here to-night. Everyone is going to get up to see them, and Colonel Sloggett is going to give them a square meal, as there is only one station all the way up where one can get anything to eat."

HER Royal Highness Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, has become Patroness of the Scottish National Red Cross Hospital, and presented badges to those Nursing Sisters who have sailed for South Africa.

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