

friends to recover her strength, she refused, for, as she said, the "children" could not do without her. Alas! this sacrifice is the last this noble-minded lady has to offer. Her days are now numbered, and the Commanding General of the Pau garrison has hurried down to the hospital to pin the medal of the Legion of Honour to her gown.

Sister Julitte belongs to the Order of the Sisters of Charity of Nevers, and for twenty-five years has been nursing the sick in the military hospital at Tulle. As at Pau, a terrible typhus epidemic broke out there, and in a few days the hospital became filled to overflowing; beds had even to be placed in the corridors. During three months Sister Julitte laboured heroically, and it was only when the first victims were carried out to their last resting-place that she broke down.

Miss L. L. Dock writes in regard to her recent visit to Athens:—

Miss Jean Stilson (of the Massachusetts General Hospital) and I went together to the Evangelismos Hospital in Athens, and were delighted with it. The Greeks are very solicitous of the welfare of their sick; they make great efforts for their hospitals and are very proud of them. At the time of their last war much excellent constructive and enduring work was done for hospital improvement by Mrs. Fenwick and her staff of English nurses, who were placed in charge of the hospitals at that time. True, there is not yet a regular training-school in Athens, but all the hospitals for acute diseases are well cared for by trained nurses holding diplomas from modern hospitals. At the Eye Hospital there is an English nurse. At the Children's Hospital, Miss Klonare (a Greek nurse trained in America) and other English-speaking nurses. At the Evangelismos, which is the largest general hospital, a Danish-trained nurse is in charge, and has under her a large staff of nurses, all of whom are in uniform and cap, and of whom some have had German training, or hospital experience elsewhere, while others came from the different mission schools of the East to acquire the practical knowledge of nursing which they need, and for which this large hospital with its general service is admirably fitted. But they do not, as I understand, receive any theoretical course or serve for any definite time, although such women usually stay for two or three years.

On the afternoon when Miss Stilson and I went over to the hospital the Danish Matron was, unfortunately, out, and we were shown through by a young surgeon who spoke English. He was most courteous, and showed us over the entire building. He did not, however, know a great deal about the nurses (not a bad fault, I am sure), and there were few of them who spoke anything but their native tongues. The hospital was most exquisitely clean and orderly, a shining tribute to the management of the Danish Matron. It is quite modern in its plan and details, and, while its appointments were not costly or lavish, they were sufficient and good, and the wards and rooms looked pleasant and comfortable. It seemed to be the custom not to use bedspreads. The beds were made up just with sheets and blankets—why, I know not. The usual Greek bedspreads are of crumpled white seersucker, thin and light, which would make nice spreads

for hospital beds. The nurses did not all look trim or neat in dress. One got the impression that some kind of drapery would suit them better than modern dress, which they did not all seem to know how to put on well or with attention to collar-bands, armholes, &c. The ward maids, too, were neither neat nor picturesque, evidently suffering from being in a transition period. The young surgeon, however, was immaculate in white linen gown. The patients looked well cared for, beautifully clean, and cheerful. Their dishes were pretty, and the wards were bright and pleasant. The guide-book (Macmillan) says that it is difficult, sometimes impossible, to get nurses in Athens, and adds: "A nurse may sometimes be spared from the hospital, but she usually knows no English. The hospital itself is well managed, but nursing as a profession is hardly recognised in Greece."

There could hardly be much demand in Athens for English-speaking nurses, as the tourist season is short, and one could not get along in Greek homes without knowing the language and the customs. But there ought to be room soon for a good training-school for Greeks, and with this excellent hospital and modern scientific physicians there I hope the school will soon appear.

### The Passing Bell.

With great regret we record the death by drowning of Miss Elsie Riley, a nurse at Guy's Hospital, who was accidentally thrown into the Medway from a Government launch. At the time of the accident she was walking on the narrow deck, the speed of the launch being about seven miles an hour. Miss Riley was returning from an outing, in company with her mother and other relatives and Mr. C. Pye Smith, a house surgeon at Guy's Hospital, to whom she was engaged. Mr. Pye Smith made a very plucky effort to save Miss Riley, but was forced by the weight of his own clothes in the water to abandon the attempt. Two stokers who dived in with him were also obliged to relinquish their efforts.

When the body was recovered, artificial respiration was resorted to without avail.

We regret to record the death, at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, of Nurse Katie Fleming, who died of enteric fever contracted while nursing a patient. Miss Fleming, who was only twenty-three years of age, had been on the staff of the hospital for nearly two years, and was a promising nurse who had won the respect and regard of both nurses and patients. She was a native of Waterford and a member of the Roman Catholic Church. The funeral took place at the Higher Cemetery, Exeter, and was conducted by the Very Rev. Canon Hobson. The hospital was represented by the House Surgeon and Assistant House Surgeon, the Matron, and twenty-six staff nurses, and by a member of the Committee.

A second nurse who also contracted the disease while nursing the same patient is still in a very serious condition.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)