

Society, and at Euston they were met by Lord Onslow, Chairman of the Committee charged by the British Red Cross Society with their reception, and Mr. H. Bonar, recently the British Consul General at Seoul, who welcomed the party in Lord Kitchener's name, and expressed the warm appreciation of the Secretary of State for War of their valuable help.

Both Miss Yamamoto and Miss Kiyooka give evidence of their distinction in the nursing world of Japan in the numerous medals they wear. On the right side of their neat blue uniforms is worn the badge of the Red Cross Society of Japan, and on the left Miss Yamamoto wears, amongst others, medals awarded her for service in the war between Japan and China, the war with Russia, and in the Boxer trouble in 1900, in which a medal was awarded her not only by the Japanese, but by the French authorities.

The Japanese Red Cross Society has two divisions, Voluntary Nurses, including members of the Imperial family, and wives and daughters of the highest dignitaries in the country, and the Relief Nurses.

The Relief Nurses are specially trained, in accordance with regulations authorized by the Army and Navy, for service in time of war, at the main hospital at Tokyo, of which Miss Hagiwara is Matron, or in provinces where no Red Cross Hospitals exist, under special conditions in civil hospitals. They are also sent from time to time to military and naval hospitals to be instructed in matters connected with the medical organization of the Army and Navy. The training is for a term of three years, admission to the Relief *personnel* being restricted to those with an adequate amount of general education. After graduation the nurses are bound by a solemn oath to remain faithful to the principles, and respond to the calls of the Society at any time during a period of fifteen years, reckoned from the date of graduation. During their training the probationers receive as "side studies" instruction in nursing ethics, in the rules of saluting, and other etiquette of the Relief Corps, in the grades and denominations of military and naval officers and their uniforms, in international treaties concerning Red Cross work, in the history and organization of the Japanese Red Cross Society, and the organization of its relief work in time of war. A high standard of discipline is enjoined and maintained.

In the Moral Counsel given to the Japanese Red Cross Nurses they are taught that the soldiers who "undergo hardships and privations in order to sacrifice themselves loyally and faithfully to the cause of the Emperor, are

the iron fortresses of the realm. The rôle of the Red Cross nurses being to nurse and alleviate the sufferings of these soldiers when sick or wounded, they serve the State indirectly by giving relief to the patients directly; and should they perform this work well, with benevolence (towards the patients) and loyalty (to the State), we may say that they are as meritorious as the soldiers themselves moving about in the battle-fields under the shower of shells and bullets. It is a matter of great honour for a woman to be able to take part in service in time of war, and only those that follow in ordinary times the counsel as set forth in the above paragraphs (the Moral Counsel to the Red Cross Nurses) will be able to keep this honour intact. Hence it is that over and above the technical studies a behaviour in good conformity with the moral ideal is necessary."

It is to the distinguished Surgeon-General of the Medical Service of the Japanese Army, Baron T. Ishiguro, that the Japanese Red Cross Nurses owe their right to go on active service, for, in spite of opposition, he insisted on their employment in the wars in which Japan has of recent years been engaged, with what beneficial results all the world knows.

He it was, also, who shortly after Miss Nightingale's death, instituted a Nightingale Medal as a reward of merit for Red Cross nurses in Japan. No nurse is eligible for it until, in addition to holding a three years' certificate of training, she has been a Sister for two years. The award of the medal rests with the lay head of the hospital, the principal medical officer, and the Matron.

Everyone who has met the charming members of the Red Cross Relief Corps sent by Japan to this country must be impressed by their professional dignity and personal charm, and will realize that the honour of the nursing profession is in safe keeping in their hands.

Members of the party have been received at the War Office, and also by the Japanese Ambassador. They have visited King's College Hospital, and on Monday evening the unit went to the Drury Lane Pantomime, with which they were delighted.

On Saturday they hope to take up work in the Red Cross Hospital at Netley. "We are," says Miss Yamamoto, "very pleased to be going to nurse the British soldiers, and hope we shall be useful."

When passing through New York the Japanese nurses received a much-appreciated visit from Miss L. L. Dock.

Our illustration, for which we are indebted to Miss Yamamoto, was taken in Honolulu.

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