

NURSING AND THE WAR.

THE CAVELL MEMORIAL AT NORWICH.

Norwich gave Queen Alexandra and Princess Victoria a warm welcome, when, on Saturday last (the third anniversary of the execution of Edith Cavell), they visited that ancient city to open the Cavell Memorial Home for District Nurses, erected by the citizens of Norwich, and unveil the bust of the martyred nurse, the site of which is in Tombland.

The Royal visitors were received by the Lord Lieutenant, the Lord Mayor, and crowds of wounded soldiers, squads of nurses and ambulance units.

The Lord Mayor, in welcoming Queen Alexandra, said:—

Your Majesty will deem it fitting that in the chief city of Edith Cavell's native county, the home of Mrs. Cavell too, till her recent decease, some permanent memorial should be raised to this Norfolk heroine of whom we are so justifiably proud.

This city is already famous as the birthplace of Elizabeth Fry, and we desire to perpetuate the memory of this other noble woman, whose fame is also world-wide. In the splendid work which our nurses are doing, and in the knowledge that kind words and kind deeds can never die, we find reason to hope that the memorial to our martyred heroine will be lasting, for it depends not upon material things, but has for its foundation spiritual realities that are eternal. Edith Cavell rests from her labours and her works do follow her. This is the third anniversary of her death, bringing with it the promise of a lasting and righteous peace, and the hope that the cause for which Nurse Cavell gave her life is about to triumph.

After unveiling the bust, Queen Alexandra made the following reply: "I thank you, my Lord Mayor, for the welcome you have given me, and for the kindly expressions you have used with reference to my beloved husband, King Edward (who was so greatly attached to the County of Norfolk), and to myself. It has given me sincere pleasure to visit your ancient and historic City

of Norwich to-day, not only because it is the capital of the county in which I live for a great part of the year, and which is endeared to me by the happiest and most tender associations, but because the occasion of unveiling this statue and opening the Nurses' Home has given me the opportunity of testifying my admiration and respect for the memory of a brave woman, Nurse Edith Cavell, who met a martyr's fate with a calm courage, an intrepid faith and a spiritual resignation that have made her name honoured and revered throughout the country and the Empire.

"No Home for Nurses could have worthier memories attached to it, and I should like, if it were possible, to see these homes established, as some, I am glad to say, have already been, throughout the Empire to perpetuate Nurse Cavell's memory and to preserve the traditions which she maintained in her life and upheld by her death. It is most fitting and suitable that the county to which Nurse Cavell belonged should have instituted this Home, which, I hope, may now be established on a permanent basis, and may remain, with the statue, as a lasting and historic memorial, erected by this City of Norwich in her honour."

Later, Her Majesty, with a gold key presented to her by the Lord Mayor, unlocked the door of the Home and afterwards inspected the building, which is under the superintendence of Miss Arnold with a staff of eight nurses. Queen Alexandra also visited the Red Cross Hospital at the Bishop's Palace, and the King

Edward VII. ward of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.

QUEEN MARY'S HOSTELS FOR NURSES.

What has proved to be one of the most beneficent bits of war work has been the organization of Queen Mary's Hostels for Nurses, of which the Duke of Portland is President and Captain



THE BRONZE BUST OF EDITH CAVELL.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)