

FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

A few months' residence in France has greatly added to the usefulness of many of the members of the Corps, and thirteen members have been transferred by the Authorities from the Rouen region to the War zone to nurse fever, in addition to Misses Colchester, Lear, Ripley, Todd and Finlow, who are busy at Dunkirk.

Miss Conway Gordon has taken Misses Richards, Macauley and Willetts to Pont à Binson (Marne). Miss B. Workman has taken Misses Hall, Shankland, Welford and Robertson, the Bart.'s unit, to Château Thierry, and Miss Hanning, with Misses Roberts, Eaddy and Cooke, has gone to Verneint.

Thirteen nurses have been requisitioned to replace them. Those speaking French are preferred.

Thirty-four nurses are required for the Talence Hospital, and the following eight nurses held up owing to the boat not sailing, left London for Bordeaux on Tuesday, the 26th inst.: Miss C. K. Knox, Miss C. McKay, Miss E. G. Saunders, Miss Aldis, Miss G. Hutchinson, Miss I. Dodds, Miss Patrick and Miss Carroll.

FROM A FIELD HOSPITAL NEAR THE FRONT.

"The rockets make rather a lovely noise as they come. When you take a walk in the town to do a little shopping, a polite shop-keeper very often asks you if you would care to come in for a little, to shelter from the shells—as if they were an April shower!"

HUMANITY RECOGNISED BY THE KING.

By special desire of the King, the following have been enrolled as Honorary Associates of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England in recognition of distinguished services and of great humanity shown by them, in rescuing and nursing a wounded British officer on the borders of the Commune of Béthisy St. Pierre, Department of Oise, on September 1st:—

L'Abbé Ernest Pierre Marie Louis Bézard, Supérieur des Missionnaires diocésains de Beauvais à Béthisy-St.-Pierre, Oise.

Le Docteur Edmond Lagelouze, Docteur en médecine de la Faculté de Paris, Béthisy-St.-Pierre, Oise.

Sœur Benoît, née Laurent Marie Clotilde, Religieuse des Ecoles Chrétiennes de la Miséricorde, Béthisy-St.-Pierre, Oise.

Mademoiselle Juliette Caron, Béthisy-St.-Pierre, Oise.

THE PASSING BELL.

We greatly regret to record the death, at the Hertford British Hospital, Paris, of Sister Craggs, who went out under the British Red Cross Society to work in the hospital at the Hotel Astoria, Paris. Miss Craggs was trained at the Hertford British Hospital, and was moved there when taken ill with the intestinal trouble to which she unhappily succumbed on the 20th inst.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

An admirable article, entitled "Who is Responsible," by Hilda Thompson, appears in the *Clarion* of January 22nd. The writer has recently passed the Home Nursing and First Aid Examinations of the St. John Ambulance Association, and states "I am entitled to be enrolled as a member of our local corps to nurse wounded soldiers and sailors.

"If I were a certain sort of person I should swank now. If I were a certain sort of person, I should immediately order the badge and uniform we were told we were entitled to wear, and should proceed to air my own importance. If I were a certain sort of person, I should not now be writing this article, which will denude me of all my new-found glory."

The writer within the last five years has spent twelve weeks in a nursing home; and has had an abdominal operation, and an operation on her foot. She writes:—

"I have lain a fortnight, unable to move anything but hands and arms, and have been absolutely dependent for everything upon the trained nurse. Therefore, it stands to reason, I have some inside practical knowledge of these matters, and how things should be done by a trained woman. My wounds required but little attention, but I am dead sure I could not trust many of my co-workers in First Aid or Home Nursing to so much as lay a finger on either of them, nor allow them to attempt to lift me while lifting was a serious matter. In the death scene of Nelson in Hardy's play of 'The Dynasts,' at the Kingsway Theatre, Nelson asks Hardy to kiss him. On the night of my visit, the actor leaned across the dying and wounded man, and to support himself, placed his hand right on the top of the bleeding wound! That is precisely the sort of thing these half-baked amateurs might be expected to do. Now I submit that it is a shame and a scandal that women so inadequately trained, and with such surface knowledge as these, should be permitted to nurse wounded men. . . . Trained women ought to have all the work now being undertaken by insufficiently trained and often flighty girls and women. The trained nurse ought to hold the field to-day, and there are any number of them only too ready and willing to do their duty.

"It is monstrous that the British War Office refuses to accept their aid, denies that such aid is needed, when giving official recognition to titled and influential untrained women, allowing them to do work, both at home and abroad, which they are totally unqualified to perform. The zeal of these women may be praiseworthy, but, great heavens! what does it cost the helpless sufferers?"

"Who is responsible? Lord Kitchener is understood to say he is not. Who, then, is responsible?"

The paper also contains an admirable letter from Miss Beatrice Kent on the same subject.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)