

has been formed, including the names of Mrs. Gladstone, Lady Spencer, Lady Battersea, Lady Helen Munro Ferguson, Lady Harcourt, Lady Tweedmouth, Lady Henry Somerset, Mrs. Craigie (John Oliver Hobbs), Miss Creighton (daughter of the Bishop of London), and many others; with Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and Mr. Henry Norman, of the *Daily Chronicle*, as Hon. Secretaries.

The first meeting of the National Fund Committee took place at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, on Monday afternoon, when an Executive Committee, with power to add to its number, was appointed, and Mrs. Fenwick presented a report of the work already done by the Cretan and Grecian Nursing Funds, and also of the arrangements she had made for providing the Crown Princess of Greece with nurses. It was unanimously agreed by the National Committee to take over all responsibility for the future expenses of all the nurses sent to Greece through the two funds, and thus to relieve the Crown Princess of Greece of the expenses she had herself guaranteed. In answer to a telegram to this effect the Crown Princess has sent a reply, "Sincerest thanks, deeply touched."

Some nurses have left for Athens during the past week. Miss Amy Davidson and Miss Emily Fox from Guy's Hospital, at very short notice, by the P. & O. express on Friday. News of their safe arrival in Athens on Tuesday has been received by telegram.

Miss Clara Hill, Registered Nurses' Society; Miss H. E. Nisbet, King's College Hospital; Miss Florence Skerman and Miss Isabella Coombs, Guy's Hospital. Miss Henrietta Whiteford and Miss Gertrude Johnson, of the Nurses' Co-operation, and Miss Kate Walker, of St. John's House, formed a most enthusiastic party, which left Charing Cross on Wednesday morning amidst the ringing cheers of those present.

We hear often of the distaste of the public to trained nurses, but our personal experience is that their services are deeply valued by the general public, and the generosity of a Greek lady and gentleman, in whose family Nurse Clara Hill had nursed, is a proof of their confidence in her skill and devotion, as they have sent £200 to the Grecian Nursing Fund, £100 to cover the entire expenses of sending Nurse Hill to care for the wounded in Greece, and £100 to be spent in antiseptics and surgical stores, which she has duly taken with her to Athens. And this is only one instance of the appreciative interest and confidence in nurses, expressed in numberless

letters received by us during the past week, all giving practical proof—by the enclosure of substantial cheques—of the high esteem in which our well-trained nurses are held.

The practical usefulness resulting from the co-operation of Grecian women is of immense interest at the present moment, when we remember the enthusiasm with which the speech of Madam Parrens, of Athens, was greeted at the Women's Congress in Chicago in 1893. This lovely little lady was the only Grecian delegate present, and the passionate patriotism breathed forth in every word of her eloquent speech, and her faith in the ultimate good which must result from the active participation of the women of Greece in its public affairs, have been speedily verified by the success of the Grecian Women's Union, and the splendid work Greek women are doing for their country, from the ladies of the Royal House downwards, in this terrible hour when cruel, inexorable, war has been let loose on the frontiers of this beautiful land. Little did we think at the farewell gathering of the Great Congress of Women of 1893, when the women of all nations, decorated with the national rose, "American Beauty," wished success to the future development of the women of Greece, that our next link of union would be forged by the women of England sending to their sisters in affliction in Greece, a picked band of Nursing Sisters, to help them in an hour so dark, so full of heartbreak and danger, as that which now overshadows their native and deeply-beloved land.

Nursing the Plague.

R.M.S. Ganges,
Indian Ocean,

Thursday, April 1st, 1897.

MY DEAR EDITOR, — Our most delightful voyage is nearly at an end, and in the near distance looms the new life which we long to begin. Our fellow passengers have been very good to us, and we have had very pleasant excursions on shore at Gibraltar, Malta, Brindisi, and Port Said. Two clergymen, going to Egypt and the Holy Land, generally took care of us, so that we saw more than we should have done at the various ports.

At Brindisi we went to the Native Hospital. I cannot describe it. Two or three houses adapted—a ward of fourteen beds kept for the English, I was glad to notice was quite empty. The sister, a sweet woman, who showed us round quite proudly, and who conversed with

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