

British troops, we think we are justified in asking the Government to thrust aside sentiment and all such dangerous hamperings, and to give the question we have proposed most unprejudiced consideration. If the history of our station hospitals can place the benefits deriveable from the ministrations of our lady nursing staff beyond the pales of question and doubt, then, in justice to the Government and to the nursing establishment, let the advantages of the system be proclaimed to dissipate the vilifying opinions of those opposed to it; but if experience and careful investigation prove it to be a fad and a profitless fancy—a bright coloured picture which, on close inspection, is found to be valueless or harmful—then, in justice to all, let it be consigned to among the things that were.

"We anticipate that advocates of the cause will feel that they have a strong argument in their favour in the success which has undoubtedly attended the Nursing Sisters' labours in English hospitals; and these will not be slow in arming themselves with such a defence against the opposition party. But it must be remembered that, although the principles of working at home and in India are *nominally* the same, they are practically and virtually widely different. The sisters in English institutions are scrupulously careful in being nothing more nor less than the skilled supervisors and doers of the clear injunctions of the doctors, and none would dare to arrogate to herself the right of doing anything but what was specifically enjoined: whereas in India their gradually appropriated latitude of action, even to the extent of unauthorized medication, so materially alters matters as to make the Indian and at home systems scarcely bear a parallel.

"Let, then, the question be plainly put and plainly answered—Which does the British sick soldier in India prefer, and which does the army doctor honestly recommend—the sympathetic care and help of company comrades and the attendance of the orderly warrant medical officer, capable of recognizing and treating the changes likely to arise in the intervals between the visits of the medical officer in charge of the case, or consignment to the tender manipulations of a sister whose qualifications are limited to nursing in all its branches, and who may, only too often perhaps, be moved to meet contingencies as they arise by the administration of some medicament which her own poor experience suggests, and her duty-room almirah of miscellanies affords?"

### Appointments.

MISS JESSIE PARSON has been appointed assistant matron to the Mile End Infirmary. Miss Parson was trained at King's College Hospital, and holds a three years' certificate of training from this

leading training school. Miss Parson was one of the sisters recommended by Miss Monk and selected for active service in the late Græco-Turkish war, and she was appointed upon her arrival in Athens superintendent sister of the English hospital of the *Daily Chronicle* National Fund at the Piræus, a position which she filled in the most able and efficient manner.

### Nursing Echoes.

\* \* \* *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



THE following is the text of the gracious message sent by Her Majesty the Empress Queen to the Viceroy of India, as soon as she had heard of the recent severe fighting on the frontier:—

"I am grieved at the loss of my brave officers and men.

"I trust that the wounded are doing well. It is most gratifying to me to see how well my troops have behaved. The conduct of all my troops has been admirable. "VICTORIA R.I."

Her Majesty's message was immediately telegraphed by the Government to the commanders on the frontier, and it was subsequently read at all parades of troops. At every place the message caused the greatest interest and enthusiasm, and cheers were heartily given for the Empress Queen.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE CROWN PRINCESS OF GREECE has desired Mrs. Bedford Fenwick to convey to all the English sisters who helped to nurse the wounded in the late Græco-Turkish War "her sincerest thanks for the great care they took of all the wounded soldiers, and for all the kindness they showed to them."

FROM Athens we are informed that Sister Carter and Miss Bull, who have for the last month been nursing at the Municipal Hospital at the Piræus, "have, humanly speaking, saved the lives of the six sailors of the *Rodney* who were suffering from typhoid fever."

THE following letter has been addressed to the editor of the *Daily Chronicle* by the majority of the nursing staff:—

Sir,—We, the undersigned nurses of the staff of the *Daily Chronicle* National Fund, desire, to express to you, and to the Committee of the National Fund, our

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