

sincerely appreciative as they are of the genuine kindness they have received from all with whom they have come in contact, that they are now longing for the restful greenness of dear old England.

Those that have already returned are naturally indignant at the attack made anonymously "by an English nurse at Athens" upon their colleagues, in the *Hospital*. They are well aware who the writer is, and that her statements are untrue.

We can assure our Sisters, who have done such self-denying and splendid work in nursing the wounded, that the official records which we have kept for the Committee of the National Fund, will amply disprove the malicious letter of dépreciation published in a paper—now notorious for its attitude of antagonism to the best interests of Nursing as a profession, and for the personal attacks it makes on those nurses who have the courage of their opinions.

The Athenian Committee have been busy of late distributing the magnificent consignment of stores so generously sent by the British public to Greece, and have received most grateful letters from the authorities of all the institutions benefited. Mr. S. N. Coclas, the energetic Hon. Secretary of the Committee, has worked in the most patriotic manner throughout the war, and has proved himself uniformly kind and considerate, especially to the English Sisters, who will look back with pleasure and gratitude to their work in Greece for many a year to come.

Appointments.

MISS MAUD TAYLOR has been appointed sister to the Children's Wards at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan. Miss Taylor was trained at the North-eastern Hospital for Children, at Hackney, followed by two years' work in connection with the Deaconesses' Home in Devonshire Square.

Miss Alice Clark has been appointed matron of the Southport Infirmary. Miss Clark was trained at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan, and afterwards held the position of assistant matron at that institution. She has since acted as night superintendent at the Victoria Hospital, Burnley.

Nursing Politics.

THE PRESS ON THE ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

ALL members of our Association who have its real welfare at heart will rejoice to observe that the question of its management is being criticised in the press, as the more those abuses are exposed the more certain is it that they will have to be reformed.

The most important event in connection with this publicity was of course the fact that the subject was raised on the 8th inst. in the House of Commons, when

"Mr. Howell (Denbigh Boroughs) asked the Secretary for the Home Department whether his attention had been called to the serious complaints recently made in the press by the Incorporated Medical Practitioners' Association and by the matrons of many important hospitals as to the mismanagement of the Royal British Nurses' Association (an Association holding a Royal Charter) by the officials of that body, and to the allegations of irregular and improper administration of the affairs of the Association; and whether, with a view to instituting a public inquiry into the matter, he would consider documentary evidence in support of such complaints and allegations if laid before him.

Mr. Collings replied: Yes, Sir, the Secretary of State has had a representation made to him with regard to this matter; but it does not appear to be one in which he has any jurisdiction, and, as at present advised, he cannot undertake to consider the complaints with a view to instituting an inquiry."

In our last issue we foreshadowed the first reply which the Government might be expected to make. We have now no doubt that when the matter is more clearly understood by members of Parliament, many of them will insist that an inquiry shall be held, and thus prevent further scandals in connection with the Association.

Under the title of "The Strange Case of the Royal British Nurses' Association" *London* has a long and very fair presentment of the facts, although we do not consider that there is sufficient stress laid on the fact that it is injustice which has produced the open rebellion of members, and that British women, as well as British men, never have dumbly submitted to coercion, intimidation, and unjust treatment, and never will do so; nor has the Editor of *London* quite grasped the great significance of the present struggle.

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