

giving a course of instruction lasting two years. There is to be a superintendent of women nurses in the army who shall be graduated from a general hospital training school, and who shall be appointed by the President for a term of seven years. The Superintendent is to be subject to the orders of the Surgeon General. The nurses in the service are to be divided into an assistant superintendent, chiefs of nurses, head nurses and assistant nurses. The salary of each woman member of the commission shall be \$6 per day when in actual service. The salary of the superintendent of nurses shall be \$3,000 (£600) a year, the salary of the assistant superintendent \$2,000 per annum, the salary of the chiefs of nurses \$85 per month, the salary of the head nurses \$50 a month, and the salary of the assistant nurses \$40 a month.

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THE Bill does not require that women nurses shall be placed in military hospitals in times of peace, but does provide for their service in hospitals at the larger posts, and for an eligible waiting list of competent nurses who could be called into immediate service in time of emergency. Mrs. Judith Ellen Foster, one of the leaders in the movement, who is now in Washington, in discussing the bill now before Congress, said:

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"The wisdom of utilizing this trained nurse service was fully demonstrated during the past summer. While at first the call for these nurses was received as something of a shock by conservative regular army men—not that they questioned the ability of the women, but because they did doubt the practicability of the new departure—it was not long before regular army men, volunteers, civilians, and, more than all, the sick and wounded soldiers, united in praise of the women nurses, and it was clearly proven that wherever the trained nurse took her station in camp hospital wards there came quickly a change for the better in all the surrounding conditions. These women are kind and even tender, but they are not sentimental or silly; they are servants, but not servile; sympathetic, but not hysterical; they are heroic in assuming and bearing responsibilities, but they obey the orders of their superiors to the letter. Their very course of training makes their work particularly adaptable to army requirements."

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It is to be hoped that this example of patriotism of influential American women may arouse English women to take some action in the reform of our Army Nursing Service. It is well known that our Commander-in-Chief, Lord Wolseley, is quite alive to the necessity of reforms in this department.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Empress Frederick paid a visit to the women's hospital at San Remo last week, which since its foundation in 1878 has been under her protection. Her Majesty was greatly pleased with all she saw; she was attended through the wards by Dr. Freeman.

In response to Mr. Balfour's recent appeal for the endowment of medical education and research, Sir Frederick Wills, Bart., has forwarded to the treasurer of Guy's Hospital a donation of £5,000 to be used for the benefit of the medical school.

We hear that the London Hospital has had a windfall of £22,000. We hope it is true, and we can well believe it, as we understand that it comes from a visitor to the hospital who was conducted round by the Chairman, the Hon. Sydney Holland. Mr. Holland's influence upon golden guineas seems to be magnetic.

The power of the press is nowhere seen more clearly than in the substantial assistance which has been afforded to the London Hospital by its means. The Press Bazaar at the Hotel Cecil last year will long remain an abiding memory of what can be done by the united influence of our popular dailies, and now the Press once more bids fair to carry to a successful result the Convalescent Home for the London Hospital. The *Westminster Gazette* is receiving liberal promises of assistance; through the *Daily Chronicle* comes a gift of £250 a year for five years; and the *Star* and the *Morning Leader* are meeting with a ready response to their appeal for donations of £2 10s. to provide beds. The "London" Convalescent Home seems, therefore, a foregone conclusion.

The London Hospital has succeeded in obtaining a piece of unconsecrated ground from the vicar and churchwardens of St. Philip's, Stepney; Dr. Tristram, Chancellor of the Diocese of London, having granted a faculty authorising the sale. The hospital wants the land, and the vicar and churchwardens want its value (£4,166) as part of the endowment of the living, so everybody is pleased. We think the London Hospital is wise to annex all the land it can obtain.

The Baroness de Stern has left a bequest of £60,000 to be applied at the discretion of the trustees, in founding and endowing a hospital, or convalescent home, almshouse, or public institution, or for enlarging such existing institution, in memory of her late husband, whose name is to be associated with the bequest. She also left £3,000 for distribution among the Jewish charitable institutions at the discretion of the trustees, and £500 each to the Surgical Aid Society, Bexhill Convalescent Home, Brompton Hospital for Consumption, Hospital for Consumption at Hampstead, Earlswood Asylum, and the Hospital for Incurables at Putney.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)