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### Editorial.

THE ROYAL RED CROSS.

MR. CHARLES J. BURGESS, formerly of the 45th Foot, has addressed a letter to the *Daily Chronicle* on the subject of the Royal Red Cross. As the introducer of the Red Cross Society to this country, and, as a soldier, taking a just pride in his large share in the work of "organizing, forming, and firmly establishing the society as the recognized medium for the offerings of the people to our sailors and soldiers in war," he protests "in the most emphatic manner possible" against the subjugation of the society to the War Office, as described by Lord Wantage in his recent letter to *The Times*.

Mr. Burgess then states that the nation's answer to the appeal of the preliminary Committee, of July 15th, 1870, was a public subscription of £296,000 in cash, and £45,000 in *matériel*. £223,000 was expended over the Franco-German war, and the balance of £73,000 was invested at about 3 to 3½ per cent. Twenty-eight years have now passed since an annual general meeting was held in August, 1871, nor have the life members been called together, no capital account has been published, and the rights of membership have been completely ignored. The very *raison d'être* of the Red Cross is, says Mr. Burgess, the incapacity of war departments to relieve the sufferings caused by war.

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