

the battle-fields of South Africa, are the following physicians:—Prof. Dr. J. A. Korteweg, of the Amsterdam University, medical counsellor; Dr. D. Romein, army-surgeon 1st class at Amsterdam; Dr. C. W. Vinkhuyzen, physician to the City Hospital at The Hague; Dr. J. C. J. Bierens de Haan, medical assistant of Prof. Van Iterson at Leiden, and Dr. Oidtmann, medical assistant of Prof. Korteweg at Amsterdam. The nursing staff consists of 13 members: nine female and four male nurses. The chief of the nursing corps is Miss G. Beynen, the Matron of the Sisters of the Red Cross. The nurses are:—Miss J. Dykstra, Miss M. F. Smit, Miss S. G. Smit, Miss M. W. Schreuder, all Sisters of the Red Cross; Miss A. M. C. Geenen, late Sister of the Red Cross and now working as nurse in the hospital at Utrecht; Miss Van Stockum and Miss Wigersma, both nurses in the Binnen-Gasthuis (inner-hospital) at Amsterdam, and Miss Metelerkamp, private nurse.

The expedition will start from Amsterdam with the steamer "König," of the German East-African Line. The medical men only will embark at Naples; the other members leave our country next Saturday. We wish them God-speed and strength and courage to accomplish their noble work of love and devotion. Departing on the 8th of November from Naples, they hope to arrive about the 5th of December, via the Suez Canal, at Lorencó Marquez. This is most surely a long journey, but Dr. Lingbeek preferred this route to that via Capetown, as it would be very difficult to reach Pretoria by land with all the materials from the borders of Capeland if the railways between Capetown and the Republic should be destroyed. The expenses of the expedition, now going out, are paid partly by the Society of the Dutch Red Cross, and partly with the gifts that are received by the different Committees that have constituted themselves with this view in all parts of our country. Our young Queen and her noble mother have given a most brilliant example of generosity and liberality.

Mrs. Lingbeek has taken the initiative of forming a Committee of Women with the aim of sending regularly every fortnight by German steamers to the expedition all sorts of victuals, etc.

The expedition is arranged for the nursing of twenty-five patients, but also capable to be extended to forty beds, the construction of the brancards being such that, if necessary, they may be transformed into beds.

Dr. Lingbeek praises highly the kind and valuable aid on the part of the Dutch South African Railway Society.

True to the principles of the Convention of Geneva, the expedition bears a neutral character.

The Hague, October 29th.

THERE was a great bustle in the large hall and on the platform of the Dutch Railway Station at The Hague, in the early morning of the 28th of October. The rain, which poured down, had not been able to discourage the numerous crowd, assembled there to take leave of the Sisters of the Red Cross, going to Amsterdam, in order to join there the other members of the first ambulance, going out to South Africa. A quarter before the time of starting, the Matron and the Sisters appeared. Many kind words of sympathy and appreciation were spoken to them by the President of the Head Committee of the Red Cross, the Secretary, and others. The Hague Ladies' Committee of the Red Cross offered a splendid bouquet, with ribbons of the Dutch national colours, to Miss Beynen, the Matron. An unknown giver had sent beautiful roses and other flowers for each of the Sisters. Hands were shaken; looks and words were interchanged.

But time pressed—the moment of departure was near. A few seconds, and the train from Rotterdam entered the station.

A last greeting, a last farewell! The clock struck seven. The train moved.

On the platform reigned a deep silence. Those who were standing there were each absorbed in his own thoughts, and following the train with their eyes, they wished God-speed to the brave and noble women, who are willing to risk dangers and endure fatigue and physical and moral pains in order to help their suffering fellow-creatures in the South of the Dark Continent.

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At Amsterdam the bustle was still greater. A great many men and women were crowded on the quay, near the landing place of the "König," the steamer that is to transport the ambulance of the Red Cross. The deck of the steamer offered a lively and touching spectacle. A large number of persons were present, all eager to give proof of their interest in the departing expedition. A rich abundance of flowers was brought on board, and among these a splendid flowerpiece: a red cross of geraniums on a white field of chrysanthemums, and a background of laurels. The piece itself was placed on a standard of dark polished bamboo. The whole was bordered by white and red roses, entwined by bouvardies and lilies, amongst which were also some very rare anthuriums. At the above-side, right, was placed a bouquet of roses; at the left was a large silken knot with ribbons in the Transvaal colours, red, white, blue and green, entwined with roses.

This rich homage was offered by three inhabitants of Amsterdam to Miss Beynen, honouring in this way all the Sisters in the person of their Matron.

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