

Quartermasters, R.A.M.C. ...	28
All other ranks ...	2,050
Army Service Corps for Transport	800
Total 3,284	

As engagement after engagement takes place between our troops and the Boers, the services of doctors and nurses are eagerly requested. News comes that the wounded are excellently cared for, and the arrangements at the front better than they have ever been before. Hospital trains are puffing between Cape Town and the Western border, bringing down the wounded in comfort to the base hospitals, and the good ships *Trojan* and *Spartan* are coasting round between Cape Town and Durban picking up our sick and wounded in Natal. The doctors say that the Mauser bullet makes a clean wound which is generally easily healed in a month, which is not the case after injury by the horrible Dum Dum bullet, which should not be used by civilised nations in war.

The good ship *Princess of Wales* is, we hope, well on her way to the Cape, and the stores and medical comforts that this floating hospital carried were lavish in the extreme, but not a bit too much for "Tommy."

Three refrigerating chambers, with a capacity of 2,200 cubic feet, will convey fresh meat, poultry, game, and even fruit. Leading merchants have contributed fine brandy, port, champagne, and every stimulant that can be of use. Dainties in savoury jellies, potted fish, and preserves will be there to tempt unready appetites, and there is indeed no end to the contents of the piles of boxes conspicuously marked with the Geneva Cross contained in the hold. Nor are aids to the convalescent period wanting. The Princesses Margaret and Patricia of Connaught have sent comfortable lounge garments, Lady Wantage and Lady Lindsay, among many more, have sent books, and games—as chess and halma—have been contributed by others.

It is well-known that the Princess added another £1,000 to be spent in luxuries and comforts for the wounded soldiers, but it has not yet transpired that when Her Royal Highness visited the ship to name it, she brought with her a quantity of the softest pillows imaginable for the use of the patients. They are filled with down with a chamois leather covering, over which is a white case, and outside that a red twill cover. Each covering bears a little cross with a scroll inscribed, "A Gift from the Princess of Wales."

This will serve to remind the brave fellows in hospital of the gracious lady whose kindly thought made it possible to send such a ship of mercy to South Africa.

Sir John Furley, who is going out to the Cape about December 20th, in connection with the hospital train, will be accompanied there by his wife. Lady MacCormac, whose husband has already gone to South Africa, will sail by the same ship.

Many of the nurses who are on their way to South Africa with the Canadian contingent are members of well-known families in the Dominion. The head nurse, for example, is the youngest sister of Mr. Joseph Pope, Under-Secretary of State. She has acted as a nurse in at least three United States hospitals. Another of the Canadian nurses is the daughter of Judge Forbes, of Halifax.

We hope this does not mean that better nurses with less family influence have been superseded. Promotion for nursing the sick in war, only excepting for merit, must not be allowed to become a habit in our Government Services. Such a system would not tend to the welfare of Army Nursing. The best woman and most suitable nurse should be selected for active service, irrespective of the official position of her family connections.

Monday's function at the Hotel Cecil in aid of the funds of the *Maine*, is to be an imposing affair, and all the sub-committees are hard at work. Mrs. Hugh Reid Griffin, the President of the Society of American Women in London, will receive the guests, assisted by Lady Randolph Churchill, and all the world and his wife is to be there. Mr. Carl Hentschel has sketched a beautiful design for the programme, composed of a large red cross with the *Maine* ship picked out in whites and greys in the centre. There are to be several bands, and some fine singing of patriotic war songs, and the decorations will be on a most artistic scale. One of the attractions of the evening will be a series of tableaux vivants, arranged by members of the society, under the direction of Mr. Ben Greet, in illustration of patriotic songs, rendered by prominent artists. In the concluding scene the American doctors and nurses who are going out to the Cape on the *Maine* will make their appearance. We predict they will receive a grand ovation.

Lady Randolph Churchill, the "Chairwoman" of the American Hospital Ship Fund, has received

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