

completed. Rapid progress is being made with the branch railway line which is to connect Netley Station with the hospital.

On Monday, Princess Christian presented Army Nursing Reserve Badges to the 40 nurses who comprise the trained nursing staff of the Yeomanry Hospital, in South Africa, and to others to be employed on active service. They will all sail for South Africa on February 10th, but when the male staff shall start has not yet been decided. The latter include 19 doctors and surgeons, ten dressers, and 80 orderlies, of whom 28 are members of the National Fire Brigade Union. The 28 volunteered their services, and were accepted through the mediation of the Duke of Marlborough, President of the Union.

The following is the nursing staff of the Seventh General Hospital, who will leave for South Africa shortly. *Superintendent*: Miss F. E. Addams-Williams, Army Nursing Service; *Nursing Sisters*: Miss L. Basan, Miss S. C. Chown, Miss A. N. Ferguson, Miss L. M. Fletcher, Miss E. M. Gardner, Miss M. L. Gordon, Miss M. O. McNeill, and Miss E. H. Wilson, of the Army Nursing Reserve.

Miss Eleanor C. Laurence has been appointed Lady Superintendent of the Hospital at Cape Town, to be supported and equipped by Mr. Alfred Moseley. Miss Lawrence was trained for one year as a Lady Pupil at Guy's Hospital from 1894 to 1895, and worked as Night Superintendent and Sister at the same institution for the subsequent two years.

Patriotic nurses who are willing to give up remunerative posts at home to be sent on active service to South Africa have all our sympathy, and their indignation with the penurious management of the War Office in not long ere this having sent out double the number of Nursing Sisters, is quite natural when we learn as we do, from the best authority, that the few nurses lucky enough to be stationed near the front are working night and day, or, in Mr. Treves' plain English, "until they nearly dropped."

Adeline Duchess of Bedford, who helped Mr. Treves, financially, to take out his "specially trained assistants," has received a letter from him, part of which is as follows:—

"We had stirring times since last I wrote. I and the two nurses, after a little delay at Maritzburg, went direct to the front—viz., Frere Camp. They were the only women in a camp of 30,000 men. We reached the

camp on December 11th. Just before the great battle of the Tugela, on December 16th, we moved up to Chieveley with No. 4 Field Hospital. I was present at the battle. The nurses remained at Chieveley, which was, however, within reach of the Boer shells. The scene on the battlefield was beyond description. The heat was terrible, and the wounded suffered severely from thirst. The wounded all came to four field hospitals just behind the big guns. Here we attended to no less than 800 wounded. They were sent on as soon as possible, mostly to No. 4 Field Hospital at Chieveley. It was here that the nurses did such splendid work. Water was very scarce, and the heat extreme. . . . The nurses did not have their clothes off for two nights and were at work night and day. Miss McCaul gave away all her handkerchiefs, gave up her water-bottle and her mattress. . . . Just before we went to Chieveley two Army nurses joined us, and I expect these are the only four women who have really been at the actual front. I cannot speak too highly of the work they did. Many men will remember the nurses at Chieveley. . . . We came back here on Sunday, but we had no camp to go to, so the nurses slept on the floor of a looted house, and I slept in a waggon. The trouble here is want of water. What we get is like pea soup, and can hardly be filtered. No. 4 Hospital is here now, and we are with it waiting for the next battle. We have 70 cases of dysentery in the hospital, and of these five have died. I am sorry to say that one of my nurses (Nurse Tarr) is down with dysentery. I hope she will do well. The nurses will move on with No. 4 Hospital, while I go on with the Cavalry Brigade in a little field hospital which will keep actually with the troops and will therefore be on the battlefield. . . . I wish the women of England could know how these four nurses worked at Chieveley—worked until they nearly dropped, and did an amount of good work that cannot be estimated."

Again, a Sister we know, now working at the Military Hospital, Pietermaritzberg, writes to her sister of the same battle:—

"I am sorry I missed the mail this week, but if you only knew the time I have had, you would understand. We heard of the fighting on Friday week at Colenso, and we were up at 5.30 a.m. on Saturday to be ready for the first train-load to come down, which they did about mid-day. My two wards were emptied to receive fresh cases, and about 3 o'clock the C.O. came to say there were 32 wounded officers expected, so my two wards were to be got ready for them, as there was not room by a long way in the officers' hospital. It was a most terrible day. I was the whole afternoon dressing the men who came down. I had to do it in a ward belonging to another sister, as she had two wards, and about 42 men came in, each one with only the first field dressing on. The second train came in about 9 p.m. and I had about 14 wounded officers brought in, 13 of whom were stretcher cases. We attempted hardly anything that night but dressing them and making them fairly comfortable, and it was 4 a.m. before we were finished. I had three Majors brought in, three Captains, and seven Subalterns—every one badly wounded, fractured thighs, legs, and so on. I have seen a good many horrible sights, but I shall never

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