

Army Nursing Notes.**MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES.**

Two volumes of South Africa Despatches have been issued. The first contains Lord Robert's communications to the Secretary of State for War from the time of his arrival in Cape Town to that of his departure for home, dealing, therefore, with the military situation and its development as a whole; and the second relates solely to the work of the Natal Field Army—the investment of Ladysmith, the successive relief operations, the actual relief, the eventual advance of Sir Redvers Buller's Army into the Transvaal, and the operations against the Boers holding the railway to Komati Poort.

In these Despatches the names of many brave men, soldiers and civilians are mentioned, and recommended for distinction, and well have they earned any honours which may be bestowed upon them.

We are most pleased to notice that brave women also come in for a share of gratitude and honour, and have no doubt they will receive their just reward from the "fount of all honour." To quote

THE SIEGE OF MAFEKING.

"Nursing staff.—The work done by the lady nurses was beyond all praise.

Miss Hill, the Matron of the Victoria Hospital, was assisted by a number of lady volunteers, in addition to her regular staff, consisting of Mrs. Parmister and Miss Gamble.

Mother Superior Teresa and eight Sisters of Mercy also worked in the hospital.

Lady Sarah Wilson, assisted by other ladies, managed the Convalescent Hospital.

Miss Craufurd managed the Women and Children's Hospital.

The above ladies worked with the greatest zeal and self devotion throughout the siege. The protracted strain of heavy work, frequently carried out under fire (Lady Sarah Wilson was wounded), told on most of them, Miss Hill being at one time prostrated by overwork. It was largely due to their unremitting devotion and skill that the wounded, in so many cases, made marvellous recoveries, and the health of the garrison remained so good."

THE SIEGE OF LADYSMITH.

"During the period from 6th January to 1st March, says Sir G. White, our struggle became one against disease and starvation even more than against the enemy. Our worst foes in this

respect were enteric fever and dysentery, the former especially committing great ravages among the young soldiers of the garrison. Our deaths by disease from 2nd November, 1899, to 28th February, 1900, amounted to twelve officers and 529 non-commissioned officers and men. The officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps, the Army Nursing Sisters, the many ladies who voluntarily offered their services as nurses, and the hospital staffs of all ranks, maintained throughout the siege a brave and protracted struggle against sickness under almost every possible disadvantage, their numbers being most inadequate for the work to be done, and the supplies of drugs and of suitable food for invalids being entirely insufficient for so many patients for so long a period. Even more important was the regulation and augmentation of the food supplies, as will be realised from the simple statement that twenty-one thousand mouths had to be fed for one hundred and twenty days; and the admirable manner in which all arrangements were made and carried out by the officers of the Army Service Corps and Indian Commissariat Department under the able and untiring superintendence of Colonel E. W. D. Ward, C.B., my A.A.G., will be evident from the fact that at the date of the relief we still possessed resources capable of maintaining this great number on reduced rations for another thirty days."

SPECIALLY GOOD SERVICE.**NURSING SISTERS.****ARMY.**

Superintendent Elizabeth Ann Dowse.
Nursing Sister Elizabeth Treacher Noble.
Nursing Sister Alice Sweeting Bond.
Nursing Sister Jane Hoadley.
Nursing Sister Mary Greenfell Hill.

CIVILIAN.

Elizabeth Ludlow, *née* Barton.
Sophia Margaret Patterson.
Joan Charleson.
Jessie Edith Borlase.
Sophie Lees.
Rose Lina Shappere.
Harriet Maud Campbell Ross.
Amy Blake Keightly.
Maud Brice.
Ellen Philipson Stowe.
Dorothy Belton.
Isabella Jessie Philipson Stowe.
Katherine Louisa Hill.
Lucy Alice Yeatman.
Susan Margaret Gertrude Otto.
Ethel Margaret Early.
Margaret Nicolson.
Chrissie Emma Thompson.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)