

hospitals under the supervision of Boards composed of ladies, or partially of ladies, that those who know of the work these ladies have done in hospitals will realise its value, and be converted to having women on the Boards. There are many matters which do not occur to the men which are really necessary for the best interests of the institution, and I think it is of importance to have women on the Boards to express their views on matters of which from experience they have a more intimate knowledge than men. Now, I really must not detain you longer, beyond assuring you that after five years' experience I am fully convinced that there is work to be done on hospital boards which will be left undone unless the women take it up.

Army Nursing Notes.

WAR MEDALS FOR THE PORTLAND HOSPITAL STAFF.

Knowing your patriotic interest in the nursing of our soldiers, I know you will like to hear all about the presentation of war medals by the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Roberts, to the Medical and Nursing Staff of the Portland Hospital, which took place, by the kindness of the Duke of Portland, at Welbeck Abbey, on Friday last.

By invitation of the Duke, we all went down to Worksop on Thursday, as the ceremony was to take place early on the following morning, to enable Lord Roberts to return to town. We were lodged at the Lion Hotel, where we received the greatest hospitality, and everything was most delightfully arranged for us. The Sisters present were Miss Cox-Davies, Sister of Faith Ward, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Mrs. de Brett (née Davies), Miss Edith Pretty, and Miss Russell, and as you can imagine, there were so many reminiscences of Rondesbosch and Bloemfontein days to be chatted over, and our huge bedroom fires were so cosy, that I am afraid for some of us the night was very short; we were astir betimes, and after an early breakfast, we started on our drive to Welbeck at 7.45. The weather was all that could be desired; this was fortunate, as we Sisters were in full canonicals, including caps. The last mile and a half of our drive was through an underground passage that brought us out finally at the Riding School, where we found assembled a goodly company of spectators, as well as our own orderlies and the members of the local ambulance brigade, and very glad indeed we were to meet many of the men who had so often helped us in our arduous duties, and of whom we entertained many grateful thoughts.

A flourish of trumpets soon announced the arrival of dear "Bobs," and the Duke, and the ceremony began. Doctors first, then Sisters, then Orderlies received their medals, and Lord Roberts found time to say a few kind words to each. On

hearing that I was trained at Barts', he told me how very grateful he was to the two Barts' Sisters who had nursed his daughter through her attack of enteric fever in South Africa, and without whose help he did "not know what they would have done."

The members of the Welbeck Ambulance Corps then went through a drill and a march past with their ambulance, and the Duke thanked Lord Roberts for his kindness in coming, and you may be sure his request for "three cheers" was well responded to, by the men vocally, and by the ladies mentally.

Lord Roberts replied, in a few words, and said he remembered very well when the Portland Hospital reached Bloemfontein how glad he was to get the assistance of a well-organised hospital fitted out in every way complete, with doctors, nurses, and men who knew how to deal properly with those who were wounded, or in sickness. It was a great advantage to have the Portland Hospital and the Langman Hospital which came out at the same time, and it rejoiced his heart to get such able assistance, for they were in great straits with enteric fever, having something like six thousand cases on hand in the few months they had been there; and they would have been in an extremely bad way but for the aid afforded from private sources. These men, who went out to South Africa in the position they did, deserved the greatest possible credit, because there was none of the excitement of war in their case. They went to do the work of tending the sick and wounded, and he was thankful to note how cheerful and willing they were to do that work. He was very pleased to be present to return thanks for the services rendered by the Portland Hospital, especially to Mrs. Bagot and Lady Henry Bentinck. He also expressed the pleasure it gave him to see the doctors, nurses, and men of the Portland Hospital present.

He then, with Lady Aileen, his A.D.C., and the Duke, left for the station, a detachment of Sherwood Rangers forming a guard of honour. Before the Duke left for the station he instructed his agent to show us all we wanted to see (the agent remarking that to accomplish that we must stay a week), so off we started, and saw the beautiful horses first, of course. Of these, there were many racers, carriage horses, white Austrians for the Duchess, Shetland ponies for the children, proud and petted creatures. Then we were taken to the Fire Station, the Electric Light Station, the dairy, the laundry, the blacksmith's shop, the carpenter's shop, the stonemason's, the schools, the grounds, the winter garden, the rose garden, the fruit gardens, the underground ball-room, the library, the chapel, the print gallery, the kitchen,

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