

## The Passing Bell.

The *Transvaal Leader* of July 7th contains the following account of the noble character and devoted services of Nursing-Sister Cruickshank, of the Army Nursing Service Reserve, who had died at Irene Camp four days previously. Trained in Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, under Miss Lumsden, she remained in that institution for three years, and thereafter engaged in private nursing for four years in Edinburgh. Two years ago Miss Cruickshank volunteered for service in South Africa, and, the war being over, she was hoping to return before long to her friends in Scotland, when struck down by pneumonia. The deceased nurse was the third daughter of Mr. David Cruickshank, farmer, late of Colebarn, Elgin, and now of Granary, Rafford. The subjoined notice shows the high esteem in which she was held by the officers and men under her care.

"Sister Cruickshank came to South Africa on the nursing staff of the Imperial Yeomanry Hospital, and for two solid years, during the triumphs and vicissitudes of the British Army, she had been at her post of duty. For many months the deceased was serving with the Yeomanry Hospital in Pretoria, and became well-known and universally beloved for the consideration she so nobly showed to our soldier-invalids; later on she was placed in charge of the Chesham Convalescent Home for officers at Parktown, Johannesburg, and here her devotion to duty won her such love and popularity from patients and headquarters staff that Lord Chesham, on their behalf, presented her with a handsome gold timepiece as an appreciation of her worth.

"On the breaking up of the Imperial Yeomanry Hospital at Elandsfontein in December last, Nursing-Sister Cruickshank was especially requested by the Burgher Refugee Camp Department to undertake the duties of Camp Matron at Irene.

"Her services here were invaluable. By her tact and energy she induced the burghers to report their sick and indisposed daily. Previously to this it had been a hard task to induce the refugees to admit of illness, so prejudiced had been their opinions regarding the hospital. By her influence this prejudice was overcome, and all cases of sickness were early reported and efficiently treated at the hospital. She was beloved by not only the hospital staff, but all inmates of the camp, and at the military funeral accorded to her on the 4th inst. the numerous floral tributes from headquarters and elsewhere testified to the deep appreciation in which she was held. In days to come, when Britain does homage to her heroes and heroines who have fallen in South Africa, the names of Sister Cruickshank and her fellow-nurses who have died may well be remembered with reverence and honour."

## Nursing Echoes.

\* \* \* *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



Of all those who took part in the Coronation procession on Saturday last, saving only the central figures in the pageant—the King lately restored to the nation from the brink of the grave, and his Royal Consort—none received a heartier greeting from the crowd than His Majesty's nurses, who, in their professional uniform, drove to the Abbey in a Royal carriage, with driver and footman in scarlet liveries, to witness the greatest pageant of modern times.

In this gracious and kindly appreciation by His Majesty of the services rendered to him by nurses in his recent illness, not only the individual nurses but the whole nursing profession is honoured. All trained nurses will rejoice that their profession was represented at the crowning of the King by some of their number, and their public appearance on this historic occasion denotes that the King realises the importance of professional nursing in the modern treatment of disease. It was a public recognition of the nursing profession which every member of it who is jealous of its honour and prestige will appreciate.

During his visit to Cowes, the King, hearing that Miss Ethel McCaul (from whose Home Nurse Fletcher was selected to be one of His Majesty's attendants) was staying in the Isle of Wight, telegraphed to say that he would receive her on the Royal yacht during the afternoon. She was most graciously received by both King and Queen, who chatted with her at some length, and said many kind things. The Prince of Wales and Princess Victoria also gave her a hearty greeting before she left.

By command of Her Majesty Queen Alexandra, who is patroness of the Association, Earl de Grey has forwarded to the Hon. Treasurer a donation of £50 to the funds of the Up-Country Nursing Association for Europeans in India.

Her Majesty the Queen had an enthusiastic reception on Saturday last, when she presided at the seventeenth annual meeting of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, at the Queen's Hall, Langham Place. A summary of the annual report signed by Her Majesty which was, by command of the Queen, read by Colonel Gildea,

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)