

been the recipient, on her resignation—which is universally regretted—of many gifts, including a silver afternoon-tea set.

We are glad that the Local Government Board for Ireland realises the responsible nature of the work of a Superintendent Nurse, and recently informed the Belfast Board of Guardians that a salary of £100 a year was, in its opinion, "too small to attract candidates who have sufficient experience to discharge efficiently the duties of the superintendent of the union hospital." It was agreed in consequence to offer a salary of £130, rising to £150. Skilled nurses are entitled to salaries which will enable them to save sufficient to keep themselves off the rates in their old age.

Two hundred pounds damages have been awarded by a Dublin jury to a nurse who lost an eye through being struck by a stone aimed at a cow.

The following extract from that delightful book "An English Girl in Paris" will serve to prove that if we have nursing difficulties in this country, our neighbours on the other side of the Channel may perhaps have still greater ones:—

Mémé's illness was a severe one, but no trained nurse was considered necessary till the fourth day, when another doctor, called in for consultation, pronounced the case very grave, and advised a *garde-malade*. Till then we had divided the nights between us, two at a time mounting guard. Poor old Thomé manfully took even more than her share, but she insisted on drinking all the medicines that were over, and I think they and the leeches knocked her up at last. Waste was her *bête noire*, or thrift her strong point, whichever way one likes to put it.

"Impossible to permit excellent medicines like these to be thrown away," she said. "I prefer to take them myself; they are sure to benefit for one thing, if not for the other."

"But," I suggested, "they might perhaps do you some hurt, Madame!"

"Do some hurt! But impossible, my poor Mademoiselle! Expensive remedies like these, prepared by le Conte, in one of the first pharmacies in Paris! I could answer for it as for my own *cuisine*; it would be a real crime to throw away such good ingredients!"

With regard to the leeches which were prescribed, but by our patient firmly rejected, Madame Thomé used the same argument, and I was so thankful to see the horrible creatures go I fear I did nothing on this occasion to dissuade her. As for the *garde* she turned out a serious incumbrance, needing, as she did, constant nourishment and repose. She was, besides, a terrible anxiety to the patient. It was perpetually "Madame Bompert, say, then, have you breakfasted well?" "Make a good repast—take plenty of wine" (a most superfluous injunction), or, "Say, then, have they cared for you well, Madame Bompert? Did you repose yourself?"

In her delirium, poor dear Mémé imagined herself the *garde*, and Madame Bompert the patient. She insisted on continually feeling her pulse, implored her

not to refuse the pills, and once, while the over-fed Bompert slept heavily by her side, removed the mustard plaster, and woke her by placing it on her ample bosom.

Gamps and Priggs may have become extinct in England, but at least one specimen of the tribe still blossoms as the rose of Paris. We felt many tons of anxiety removed when the *fiacre* rattled off with the portly form of Madame Bompert at the end of a week.

"On July 3rd, 1900," writes an Army nurse in the *Trained Nurse*, "nineteen nurses of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps sailed from San Francisco on the United States transport *Grant* for Manila, *via* Nagasaki, Japan. This was during the trouble with China. After a pleasant voyage we reached Nagasaki, and were permitted to go ashore to view the various temples, shops, shell factories and flower gardens. We also took a trip to Mogi, a city seven miles from Nagasaki; our road led across rice fields and dark bamboo forests until we came to the beach at Mogi, where we visited the temple.

"When orders reached us for China the women and children on the transport were ordered ashore, and only the troops and nurses sailed. After a pleasant trip we arrived at China and anchored ten miles from shore in the Gulf Pecheli, where there were some forty or fifty ships of different nations, each flying its national flag.

"After General Chaffee went ashore orders came for ten nurses to go ashore. The nurses were put aboard an English river steamer and we slowly travelled up the Peiho river for twenty-two hours. Ruins of destroyed homes and villages were seen on all sides, and hundreds of dogs were devouring the bodies of the dead; bodies were also floating in the river. The odour and heat of the August sun were almost unbearable. The water was unfit for use on account of the contamination from the dead bodies. Very few Chinese could be seen at first, but gradually hundreds came forth from their place of safety, begging for food and work.

Food could not be brought to troops as quickly as was wished on account of the slow transportation by river, the only railroad at that time being under Russian control. Transports were anchored ten miles from shore and twenty-five miles from Tientsin. After landing at Tientsin the ambulances carried the nurses to the North American Missionary Home and School for Christian Chinese Girls, which was then being used as a hospital for American soldiers. There were also many tents in the compound, and about 300 soldiers were being cared for. The first night firing of guns and cannons could be heard, and on August 6th fifty-nine wounded American soldiers were admitted, and these were followed in a short

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