

carry with her some token of their esteem. A travelling bag was subscribed for, and, through the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Harris, Calthwaite Hall, as many of the nurses as could attend had tea together, after which Miss Stent, Dalston, made the presentation and briefly gave expression to the warm feeling and good wishes which the subscribers entertained towards the recipient. Miss Greenwood thanked the nurses for their kind feeling, as shown on that and other occasions.

A case similar to that of Adolf Beck is being recalled in Cardiff. In 1896, states the *North Mail*, a nurse named Amy Edith Hale was charged with obtaining money by false pretences. The defence was that the numerous witnesses for the prosecution had made a mistake in identifying the accused as the woman "wanted"—that so far as features and general appearances were concerned Nurse Hale had a double. An alibi was conclusively proved and, in discharging the accused the Recorder of Cardiff said: "A most unfortunate wrong has been done this woman." It was admitted at the trial by Sergeant Watts Madely that Nurse Hale was re-arrested as she left the dock at Wolverhampton Sessions, where she was acquitted because again an alibi was proved, and taken to Worcester, where again she was charged and again acquitted. Once more Nurse Hale was apprehended on leaving the dock, and taken to Cardiff on a false pretences charge. As stated, she was acquitted. The verdict was received in court with applause, and the Recorder said it was the most remarkable case he had ever heard.

Dr. Felix Regnault says that in France the nursing question is beginning to receive serious consideration. The medical faculty of Paris have considered the question sufficiently serious to make it the subject of special theses. A recent thesis by Dr. Ch. Comte deals with English district nurses, and explains that the work of these nurses is to attend the sick of the artisan classes, peasants, and the poor generally. The doctor must necessarily content himself with a short visit; the district nurse not only applies the remedies he prescribes, but indicates, and, if necessary, carries out, hygienic measures. After her visit to a poor dwelling, order and cleanliness reign; it seems as if a beneficent fairy has passed by. They are assistants of the first order in dealing with alcoholism, and with dirt and carelessness in cases of infectious disease. Thanks to their care, it is unnecessary to send numbers of sick persons into hospitals, so that the demands on these are lessened; in the same way relatives can care for chronic cases instead of sending them into homes. The foundation of these visiting nurses of the poor is not, says Dr. Comte, English, as many suppose. In the seventeenth century St. Vincent de Paul founded the Grey Sisters, who at that time per-

sonally cared for the poor, without the aid of lay persons, and were exempt from monastic obligation. At the present time the Sisters live in community and content themselves with directing hospitals and the work of their subordinates. A more recent religious Order, that of "Les Dames Auxiliatrices," founded by Dr. Regnault's mother, is still flourishing. They give their services to rich and poor alike, caring for the poor in their own homes. Their work thus approximates most nearly to that of English district nurses.

Mr. O. Eltzbacher, writing of the Japanese Red Cross Society in the *Contemporary Review*, says that the Society may well be proud of its action during the Chino-Japanese War. When the war broke out the President of the International Committee of Red Cross Societies wrote to the President of the Japanese Red Cross Society and asked him whether China would observe the usages of war. To this inquiry the Japanese could only reply as follows:—

"We must renounce all hope that the Chinese will practise the principles which guide us in our work, and we regret to say that those of our soldiers who may have the misfortune to become prisoners will be horribly tortured and mutilated instead of being aided. Nevertheless, the Government has decided to act in the spirit of the Geneva Convention and to treat friend and enemy alike without discrimination."

With what skill and success the Chinese prisoners were treated may be seen from the single fact that out of 1,408 Chinese prisoners who were treated in Tokio, Osaka, and Toyohashi only seven died. This speaks well not only for the humanity of the Japanese authorities but for the care they received from Japanese nurses.

"The Society has two hospital ships, which were specially built on its behalf under contract with the chief steamship company. In accordance with that contract, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha was enabled to use these ships in time of peace, but had to hold them at the disposal of the Society and to deliver them up when called upon to do so. Those ships are called, the one, Hakuai, or 'Love without limits,' and the other, Kosai, which means 'Benevolence unceasing.' On the outbreak of the present war two further ships were fitted out as hospital ships. The war strength of the Society includes 320 doctors, 160 apothecaries, 1,920 nurses, 770 sick attendants (male), 457 probationary nurses, and two hospital ships."

We greatly regret to learn that Miss Rose Creal, Matron of the Sydney Hospital, who was appointed as the delegate of the Australasian Trained Nurses Association to the meeting of the International Council of Nurses at Berlin, met with an unfortunate accident on her voyage to England, having fallen and broken her wrist. We hope that Miss Creal has now recovered from the effects of this unpleasant mishap.

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