

NURSING AND THE WAR.

We are informed by Miss Lightfoot, the Matron of the Officers' Hospital at the Fishmongers' Hall, that in addition to the staff mentioned in our account last week of the opening of the hospital, there are the following three Sisters—Miss M. Bliss, and Miss Henley (who nursed through the Balkan War), both trained at King's College Hospital, who have had long experience; and Miss G. Pillings, who was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and who has had considerable experience in the Theatres there.

The Sister Superior and Committee of St. John's House are most kindly sleeping the nurses at the House, free of charge, as there is no accommodation at the Hospital. Valuable assistance is also being given by members of the various detachments of the Red Cross Society (City of London Branch) in the still-room, linen-room, kitchen, in dusting the wards and carrying trays, &c. The nursing is entirely done by the fully certificated staff of nurses.

The first consignment of patients were admitted on Monday last.

The return of Miss Beatrice Cutler and three other nurses from Brussels, happily accomplished without exciting incidents owing to the skill of those who arranged matters, might have had a different ending. We do not propose to give any details of the method by which it was accomplished, lest—the party safe at home—trouble should arise for those who assisted them.

There is no doubt that the party, for whose return Miss Cutler was anxious to make arrangements with the home authorities, as their services were no longer needed in Brussels, had a strenuous and anxious time.

Arriving as they did in Brussels the day before

the occupation of the city by the Germans they were under arrest during the whole of their stay there. They worked in the Hospital of St. Pierre, nursing—with French, Belgian, and Swiss colleagues—Belgian and German soldiers. Many were the serious cases, the head surgeon being Dr. Depage, with whom some of the nurses had already made acquaintance at the Cologne Congress, and who proved himself their very good friend.

A strong guard was placed over the hospital, and it was somewhat nerve racking that the first

German wounded who came in all had loaded rifles, which the nurses had to avoid as best they might while attending to their needs.

The ambulance, some distance away, where the nurses slept was also strongly guarded, and the greater part of the time their work was done to the accompaniment of the booming of heavy guns, now nearer, now farther away, and they knew only too well that death and destruction were following in their train.

On Saturday last a telegram from Copenhagen was received from Sister Haswell, R.N.S., that the whole party of 30 doctors and 120 nurses, sent to Brussels by the British Red Cross Society, and St. John Ambulance Association, had arrived there. We learn that the journey through Belgium and North Germany, which took

three days in a closely guarded train, was a very trying one. The Danish people gave them a most enthusiastic welcome, and cordial entertainment, and the *Daily News* reported that Danish souvenirs consisting of gold and silver badges of the Queen's Charity Fund for War, will be presented to them. Some of the party decided to proceed to Petrograd, others are on the homeward journey.

We learn from a lady from Paris with very high ideals of what nursing should be, that the



[Photo.]

[Daily Mail.]

ENGLISH NURSE IN CHARGE OF WOUNDED BLUEJACKET.

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