

the search lights playing to show the way, the procession of a hundred heroes, headed by a Highlander able to walk, the more serious cases on stretchers, filed into the hospital to the cheers of the public outside. The one cry of all the men was not for food or drink, or even the dressing of their wounds, but for a bath. Within an hour, washed, and as comfortable as circumstances would permit, all were in bed.

The wards at Stobhill are specially bright and airy; they open on to a central corridor and have windows on both sides. Here the 300 (or more) wounded are being cared for with all the skill and devotion that modern medicine and nursing is able to bestow—and that is much. Most of the men seem happy enough, though some are evidently in great pain. Unfortunately many of the wounds were septic on arrival, and the fear is lest gangrene or tetanus should supervene.

The men have brought back many mementoes, and are proud to display them. But it is a mistake to talk to them of the battles through which they have passed, for the horrors of them are far too present with them, to the extent of disturbing their nights with bad dreams. It is best, the Matrons say, to direct their thoughts into some other channels. Our illustration shows four gallant soldiers talking over their experiences, enjoying a pawky joke.

There are many tales of gallantry, and in one ward a most gorgeous pair of slippers, embroidered in gold, has been bestowed by the Ward Sister on a sergeant who specially excelled in valour "where gallant men were all." Let us hope they indicate the honours to be awarded him by his Sovereign and military chiefs. M. B.

### TRUE TALES WITH A MORAL.

*Ardent Volunteer Nurse to Hospital Matron.*—"I have been sent by my doctor, he said he was sure you would let me go into the Outpatient Department and feel *crepitus*, also can I go into the Ward and set a broken arm, there are sure to be heaps of shattered limbs on the battle field." Ardent volunteer retires a less buoyant but wiser woman!

### "GERMIDE."

We have pleasure in drawing the attention of our readers, both nurses and midwives, to a powerful antiseptic bactericide named "Germide," supplied by the Hospitals and General Contracts Company, Ltd., 25-35, Mortimer Street, London, W., and their proprietary product. Some of its recommendations are that it is more powerful and less poisonous than carbolic acid, it is non-irritant and non-corrosive, therefore hands and instruments are not injured and it is mixible with water in all proportions. It is supplied in quantities, varying from a 4 oz. bottle at 6d., to a gallon at 7s.; and not the least of its recommendations is that it is both British owned and British made. We understand that samples of

this disinfectant, which for the past five years has been largely used by doctors, nurses and midwives may be obtained from the above firm.

### THINGS NURSES SHOULD KNOW.

The British Red Cross Society has issued a leaflet on the Care of the Feet of recruits, which nurses might adapt to their own use when on active duty.

#### THE FEET.

1. Feet should be washed with soap and water, and very gently dried—not rubbed.
2. Dab with methylated spirit on cotton wool, except where the skin is broken.
3. When dry, dust with powder composed of equal parts of starch and boracic powder or Fuller's earth.
4. Bandage with clean bandage, preferably of domette, not too tight—or else put on clean socks. All dirty socks should be washed and dried before use.
5. Reddened skin or recent blisters should be protected by strips of strapping.
6. All corns should be protected by strapping. Open sores require surgical advice, and this should be sought whenever possible, especially if the surrounding redness of the foot is extending.
7. Toenails should be cut short.
8. Hard boots should be well greased—mutton fat is the best. They should be well dusted inside with starch and boracic powder.

Owing to long hours of standing when on duty, many nurses suffer from swollen feet. First of all procure well-made perfectly fitting shoes or boots. A well-applied domette bandage worn under the stockings to the knee when on duty, gentle massage of feet and legs before retiring to rest, and sleeping with the feet raised on a pillow in bed gives great relief.

#### THE HANDS.

The hands cannot be too carefully tended. A manicure box is no affectation. The skin should be kept soft with an emollient, and absolutely clean, the nails cut short. Indiarubber gloves should be worn when attending septic, unsavoury, or infectious cases, and the gloves need care and sterilisation. We asked a nurse recently going to the Front what she would like by way of a gift. "Two pairs of rubber gloves," she promptly replied. "No infection for me." Good indiarubber gloves are a costly item in a nurse's equipment, but many lives have been saved by their use. We suggest committees responsible for nurses on active service at home and abroad should provide indiarubber gloves as part of the equipment.

Rubber gloves may be put on wet or dry. When the wet method of sterilization is employed, the hands are most easily introduced if they are smeared with equal parts of glycerine and methylated spirit; or gloves may be distended with saline solution. When gloves have been sterilized by the dry method they can be readily drawn on after the hands have been dried with gauze and dusted with sterile talc powder.

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