

None of the many cards we have received at this season are more interesting than that from Miss Harriet Fulmer, of Chicago, Manager of the Red Cross Seal Campaign of 1914 of the Illinois State Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. The card, which is khaki-coloured, bears a seal representing the traditional Father Christmas. Above his head are the words, "American Red Cross," and across his breast a scroll bearing the words, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year.

The letterpress is printed in scarlet and green.

I BRING YOU GLAD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY!

For men, women, and children in this community have made efforts greater than ever before, to provide for the care of the ill, and the protection of the Health of all People.

May yours be a Happy Christmas, and may the New Year be filled with the gladness that comes with the knowledge and satisfaction of an enduring interest in a good cause.

PEACE ON EARTH, GOOD HEALTH TO ALL.

Miss Fulmer tells us that Illinois expects to sell 30,000 dollars' worth of the Red Cross seals, a sum which will materially help to support the tuberculosis work in the State.

Enclosed also is a prayer for daily use by those engaged in the tuberculosis campaign, which recognizes the responsibility of the community for the conditions which cause disease.

"Since we are all jointly guilty of the conditions which have bred their disease, may we stand by those who bear the burden of our common sin, and set the united will of our community against this power that slays the young and strong in the bloom of their life. May this death that creeps from man to man be a solemn reminder that we are all one family, bound together in joy and sorrow, in life and death, that we may cease from our selfish indifference, and together seek Thy kingdom and Thy righteousness, which will bring us health and life."

The story of the origin of these Red Cross seals is very interesting. We read:—"Nearly one million nine hundred thousand dollars has been raised by Red Cross Christmas Seals in the last six years, and yet many people who will buy these holiday stickers at this seventh annual sale do not know how the charity stamp idea originated.

"It was war that brought forth the charity stamp—our Civil War of '61 to '65. Some of your grandmothers first played 'post-office' with stickers similar to Red Cross Seals 'way back in '62, when they conceived the idea of selling stamps at fairs for the benefit of the

relief funds for the soldiers' hospitals in Brooklyn, Boston, and elsewhere. . . . Stamps on seals were first used to get money for the anti-tuberculosis crusade in Norway and Sweden in 1904." The idea of the American Red Cross Christmas Seal originated with Mr. Jacob Riis, a social worker in New York, and Miss Emily P. Bissell, the energetic secretary of the Delaware Red Cross.

"It is fitting to note that war, inhuman and cruel, was the mother of the Red Cross Seal, and that now war for humanity against disease brings it back to its fullest usefulness."

Miss Harriet Fulmer has also sent out as her Christmas greetings this year, the touching verses by Francis Thompson, English Roman Catholic Poet, "The Prayer of a Little Child":—

EX ORE INFANTUM.

"Little Jesus, wast Thou shy
Once, and just as small as I?
And what did it feel like to be
Out of Heaven and just like me?
Did'st thou sometimes think of there,
And ask where all the angels were?
I should think that I would cry
For my house all made of sky;
And at waking 'twould distress me,
Not an angel there to dress me.

"Had'st Thou ever any toys,
Like us little girls and boys?
And did'st Thou play in Heaven with all
The angels that were not too tall?
Did'st Thou kneel at night to pray?
And did'st Thou join thy hands this way?
And did'st Thou feel quite good in bed,
Kissed, and sweet, and Thy prayers said?"

"Thou can'st not have forgotten all
That it feels like to be small;
Take me by the hand and walk,
And listen to my baby-talk;
To Thy Father show my prayer
(He will look, Thou art so fair),
And say: 'O, Father, I, Thy son,
Bring the prayer of a little one.'
And He will smile that children's tongue
Has not changed since Thou wert young!"

THE PASSING BELL.

We regret to record the death, on Christmas Day, of Miss Nellie Clark, one of the nursing staff who left England for Servia under the Servian Relief Fund on October 29th, with Lady Paget. The unit to which she was attached is working at Skopia (Uskub). Miss Clark was buried with full military honours, and her funeral was attended by the entire population of the city, who most keenly regret her death.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)