

After a lapse of several weeks, in which the Sidney Hall Military Hospital at Weymouth has been left without a Resident Matron, and in spite of the shameful neglect and death of the poor soldier Gribbin, the War Office has at last sent down a proper staff of trained nurses and orderlies. A correspondent states that "riot" is the only word to describe the complete disorganisation of the place. As hundreds of trained nurses are waiting for Army nursing work, one wonders why this hospital has been neglected so long.

On the occasion of the resignation of Miss Gertrude Fletcher as Matron of the American Women's Hospital, Oldway House, Paignton (a position she has held since August 14th last).

up her duties as Assistant Matron at the Norfolk War Hospital, Thorpe (1,400 beds) on Saturday next, 15th inst.

We are glad to know that there is a deep feeling of sympathy with us in this terrible War in the United States. A leading Nurse Superintendent writes: "I cannot tell you how deeply we sympathise with you in the great anxiety you are feeling. It seems so terrible that young and promising men should have to give their lives—and if not their lives, I presume their health (in thousands of cases their health)—before the settlement can come."

Very little has been heard of the great work of Miss Gladwin and Dr. Ryan, who had charge of the



AN INDUSTRIOUS TRIO—PATIENTS AT OLDWAY HOUSE.

she was presented by the American Sisters with a lovely little silver travelling clock in a leather case. An inscription on the clock stated that it was from the Sisters of the American Red Cross Units D and F, 1914-1915, and on a card accompanying it was written "With the loving good wishes of the American Sisters, May 7th, 1915." The Commandant, the Secretaries and English Sisters presented Miss Fletcher with a case of silver teaspoons and a silver matchbox, while the probationers' gift was a lovely travelling rug and cushion and a gorgeous bunch of pink roses and carnations and lilies of the valley. A great crowd collected at the door of the Hospital and at the station to bid her farewell. Miss Fletcher takes

first American Red Cross Unit in Serbia. A compatriot, who happened to be in England at the outbreak of war, was one of the eight nurses who volunteered for work in Serbia a few days after the Expeditionary Force crossed to France. After experiencing the terrible condition of the wounded, she later found herself at Belgrade, and on visiting the military hospital met Miss Gladwin. She writes in the *American Journal of Nursing*: "Looking round the beautifully built well-appointed hospital, the immaculately kept wards and the real hospital beds and a bath-room at the end of each, it seemed as if we were in America again; and later, when we were allowed to accompany Miss Gladwin on her rounds, it

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)