

soldiers and take succour to the people who are in most urgent need.

Since our last issue His Majesty the King has visited the sick and wounded soldiers at University College Hospital, London, Queen Alexandra and Princess Victoria have paid the wounded a visit at Charing Cross Hospital, and Princess Henry of Battenberg has been to Northwood House Red Cross Hospital, Cowes, and also to the Convalescent Home for Officers at Osborne House, Isle of Wight.

At the Court of Governors of St. Thomas's Hospital the Treasurer reported that since the opening of the wards they had treated 941 soldiers from the Front, the hospital bearing all expenses. Of this number exactly 100 were officers. The Treasurer further reported the receipt of valuable gifts of foodstuffs from various friends of the Hospital.

Speaking of voluntary hospitals in Norfolk to which sick and wounded soldiers were drafted from the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Mr. C. S. Tomes, the Vice-chairman of the Board, said recently that somewhere between 700 and 800 beds were offered at present, and in the last three weeks 116 patients had been sent to them. Out of the total number of beds offered not more than a third were used, or likely to be used. The consequence was that amongst those interested in these convalescent homes there was a great scramble for patients, and it was a difficult matter to distribute on any very definite system those who were fit to be sent to them.

As we go to press historic apartments at Dublin Castle are being opened by the Lord Lieutenant as a hospital of 300 beds for the reception of sick and wounded soldiers. It was originally intended to furnish St. Patrick's Hall, the scene of so many festivities as a ward, but the War Office authorities considered that this fine apartment could most suitably be utilized as a recreation room, and this accordingly has been done, but a corner has been partitioned off and fitted up as an X-Ray room. The supper room and the picture gallery, the latter containing some priceless treasures of art, have been utilized as wards, as has also the Throne Room where the throne remains untouched, and one patient will lie under its golden canopy.

Some of the guest rooms will be utilized as observation wards, and a minor theatre, and pharmacy have also been installed in this department.

The Matron, Miss A. M. MacDonnell, R.R.C., has been in residence since the middle of December.

It is expected that the first batch of patients will very shortly be received as the Director General of the Army Medical Service has intimated his pleasure that the hospital is now available,

and it is probable that the first shipload of wounded from France will be sent there.

Lady Gifford who, since the outbreak of the war, has been in daily attendance at the Headquarters of the British Red Cross Society, first at Devonshire House, and afterwards at 83, Pall Mall, in connection with the nurses' department, will take over the superintendence of the Society's new hospital train. This is a post which should surely be filled by a thoroughly experienced matron or hospital sister.

Mr. Douglas Hall has received a letter from the surgeon in charge of an experimental barge on the Seine testifying to the excellence of this method of transport. "In the case of the badly wounded," the surgeon writes, "this restful form of transport is of undoubted advantage."

The French Relief Fund, which was inaugurated for the purpose of giving British assistance to French non-combatants rendered destitute by the War, and especially to alleviate the terrible distress and suffering of the homeless women and children in the devastated Provinces of France, is doing a splendid work. It works in co-operation with the Secours National, which is under the patronage of the President of the French Republic. In an appeal for £100,000 it is pointed out that, in guarding her frontiers, France can be said to have safeguarded our country against invasion, and the fund is intended as an earnest of the admiration felt in this country for her sons, as well as for the courage and fortitude of her women in taking up the duties of their menfolk, or patiently enduring the terrible distress of which they have been the victims.

To mark its approval of the work of the French Flag Nursing Corps in providing thoroughly trained nurses for French soldiers, £100 has been given to it by the French Relief Fund.

We are glad to hear that the Hotel Christol at Boulogne has been closed as a hospital for the wounded. It was apparently in a far from aseptic condition, and the nursing department is in need of organisation and discipline. It is now occupied as the headquarters hostel of the Red Cross Society, and should the Allied Forces Base Hospital resume work under the military authorities, it is to be hoped that a well-qualified staff may be selected by an experienced Matron, and that the nursing department may be placed under her care and supervision.

The Lady Hardinge Memorial Hospital installed in the new museum at Bombay is now full of wounded, and has been entirely equipped, including beds and garments, by the Women's Branch of the Bombay Presidency Relief Fund. The most serious cases on arrival from Europe, the Persian Gulf, and Africa have been taken thither,

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