

Scottish hospitals, Red Cross hospitals, nursing homes and nurses' associations, and your own courtesy in publishing the appeal, this highly satisfactory result would have been impossible."

The value of trained nursing may be estimated from the statement of Captain E. N. Bennett, who writing in *The Nineteenth Century* on "Some recent experiences in Serbia, says, "When typhus was neglected the death-rate might be anything from 25 to 55 per cent. When trained nurses were available the mortality sank to 8 to 10 per cent. . . . In the dark days of the nation's agony, when in the town hospitals the sick lay huddled on the beds, on the floor, under the beds,

the nature of the disease was established, the doctor's help was mainly valuable in the case of those cardiac and renal complications which frequently accompanied the disease; otherwise it was chiefly and especially a matter of careful nursing. Let me give one instance. In the morning the *Commissaires* or *Economes* would send to the hospital a large mass of meat—mutton, beef, or more frequently pork—with a small quantity of potatoes, onions, and carrots. From this were to be furnished not only the rations of the staff, but the diet of the patients. It is easy to understand how the cleverness of the trained nurse was taxed in order to extract from this rough food suitable nourishment for typhus and enteric invalids."



THE SOUTH AFRICAN NURSING CONTINGENT FOR EUROPE.

MRS. CREAGH, MATRON-IN-CHIEF,
SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

infected and uninfected, dead and dying, under every form of imaginable distress and discomfort; when the villages were decimated by disease, there were perhaps 100 trained nurses in the country; and yet nursing was the really essential factor. I have with my own eyes seen scores of men, women and children who have been snatched from the jaws of death solely and entirely because of the skill and care of our splendid nurses. The need of doctors was great, but infinitely greater was that of nurses. The vast majority of English and French doctors had rarely or never seen a case of typhus, and consequently their powers of diagnosing the malady were not greatly superior to those of a clever and experienced nurse. Once

An English nurse writes from Pallanca, Italy: "Seeing in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING the three treatments of a French surgeon for erysipelas, I think it may interest your readers to have a fourth, which Professor Cavazzani here uses with unfailing success. I have never seen it elsewhere. It arrests the invasion in twelve to twenty-four hours. The following is the formula:—

Tannino, canfora	aa g 8
Etere solforico	g 90
Alcool puro	g 10

"Paint liberally $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches beyond invasion line every three hours till a white skin is formed."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)