

*British Medical Journal* on November 20th, write:—"We found evidence that the infective agent resides in the body for at least three weeks after defervescence. Fresh outbreaks occurred when patients were returned to their companies after the three weeks' period, *though they and their clothes were disinfected and were presumably lice-free.*"

Dr. Allan adds:—"Many years ago I had a considerable experience of typhus while Physician-Superintendent of Belvidere Fever Hospital, Glasgow, and I feel it to be my duty to give this word of warning.

"While not denying that the infection may be carried by lice, and agreeing that every means should be employed to get rid of them, I have faith in cubic space and a free circulation of fresh air as prophylactics in the case of typhus fever."

### NURSING AND THE WAR.

Miss Elizabeth Curtis has resigned the position of Matron to the Urgency Cases Hospital, which, under her superintendence, has done excellent work at Bar-le-Duc and more recently at Revigny, close to the fighting line in France. We hear she was in Paris last week inspecting some of the ambulances.

The *Times* reports from Amsterdam, December 3rd, that—

"The Dutch Red Cross sisters, who have just arrived from Serbia, give lurid accounts of the German entry into Kraguievatz. They returned because they were informed by the Germans that they were not needed.

"After the departure of the English sisters the Dutch sisters remained and hoisted the Netherlands flag over the Red Cross. It was fired on, however, and a messenger was dispatched to demand its removal. The sisters experienced many hardships and dangers during the German entry into the town, and the two days' fighting that accompanied it. Eventually high German officers came to speak with them, asking many questions, and informing them that 'little Holland would no longer exist after the war.'

"The officers asked had not this war most clearly proved that the independence of small States belonged to the category of impossibilities. One sister calmly replied, 'Holland still exists. Should it ever cease to exist I shall go to France.'

"An officer wearing many decorations laughed and replied, 'France! After the war France will no longer be an independent State.' The sisters stated that everyone agreed that dum-dum bullets had been used against the Serbians. That was evident from their wounds. The Germans quickly monopolized all supplies and so caused

terrible suffering among the Serbian wounded, who died like flies. One sister said:—

"'You cannot imagine the appearance presented by a transport of slightly wounded prisoners such as I have several times seen enter Kraguievatz. They bore on the forehead a large cross painted with tincture of iodine and on the cheek a cross made by nitrate of silver. They were branded like beasts destined for the slaughter-house. Of one transport load of slightly wounded men 14 were shot dead because they were unable to drag themselves along quickly enough. One patient, whose skull had been fractured by gunshot, was unable to keep up with the other wounded and he was repeatedly urged on by a bayonet being stuck into his body, which was covered with red, bleeding wounds.'"

A Paris correspondent writes in the *Times* on the "Duty of Neatness" in nurses. We thoroughly agree with much that this writer says:—"The English nurse," she writes, "can look, and very often does look, the neatest and trimmest of ministering angels; but she can also look very much the reverse, and there are some uniforms to-day to be seen about the streets of Paris which are neither neat nor trim. It is not so much the fault of the uniform as the way in which it is worn, and although some women may say that dress does not matter, our English traditions and the French instinct demand that attention should be paid to the appearance of all those who serve the country publicly.

"Our soldiers shave and black their boots under most difficult conditions. They brush their uniforms and clean their buttons as regularly as they clean their rifles. Therefore, it is natural that a nurse should observe the law of neatness and trimness as faithfully. A down-at-heel shoe, badly-dressed hair, a waistband that is not tidy, a slouching walk are fit subjects for a matron's admonition, and the neater a British nurse looks when she is serving in a foreign land the more, she may be sure, will the prestige of her countrywomen go up. The importance of appearance is not to be denied, and that it is not a superficial point of view may be accepted; for a neat person so often means a mind tuned to order, method, and pleasant ways.

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"The little bonnet and veil are capable of pretty treatment, and always look neat, but the wide-awake felt hat is another matter. It suits a bonny girl of 20, but any other woman, especially when she is weary with long hours of hard work, looks quite her worst in it. French people often remark on this hat, and regard it as one of our limitations. Very few Englishwomen have a talent for wearing hats, even the prettiest, whereas the plainest Frenchwoman knows how to make herself attractive with any sort of a hat.

"A more serious matter is the shoe, and here the Englishwoman is no more guilty than the

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