

### FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

La Vicomtesse de la Panouse, has, upon the unanimous request of the Committee, accepted the position of President of the French Flag Nursing Corps. This charming lady is the wife of the Military Attaché at the French Embassy in London, and, as President of the British Branch of the Croix Rouge Française, is well-known for her tireless work in aid of the French sick and wounded. Mme. de la Panouse has always been most sympathetic with the work of the F.F.N.C. and has sent many generous gifts to the hospitals in France where the Sisters are on duty. Her closer association with this Corps of British Nurses working in France under the direct authority of the French War Office, is a happy augury for its further success. We congratulate the Committee and the Sisters upon securing her appreciation and support.

A delightful Dinner was given on Monday night at the Lyceum Club in honour of two of its literary lights, Mrs. de Jan (Winifred James), known to her many friends as "Bachelor Betty," after her first celebrated heroine, and Miss Grace Ellison, who, with her instinct for international politics, warned us in her works on the Women of Turkey, that it would be well to keep on terms of friendship with our old Ally on the Bosphorus, failing which the inevitable would happen—and it has. Mrs. Dora Montefiore was in the chair, and both ladies learned, if they did not already know it, in what sincere affection and esteem they are held by their Lyceum colleagues.

The following Sisters will leave for France on Friday, 10th, if all goes well:—Miss Lucy E. Way, cert. St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Matron Cottage Hospital, Melksham, Wilts; Miss Myfanwy H. Davies, cert. the Birmingham Infirmary; Miss Edith A. Post, cert. the Holborn Infirmary.

Miss Haswell, who attended the *Manifestation en l'honneur de Miss Cavell* at the Trocadéro, in Paris, a hall which holds 6,500 persons, writes that the proceedings were most dignified and impressive throughout. "As the President entered his box we rose to the strains of the 'Marseillaise,' followed by 'God Save the King' played in a manner not to be excelled. It was really magnificent. Then followed three orations. M. Ferdinand Buisson, President of the League for the Rights of Man, spoke of Miss Cavell, her vocation as a nurse, her devotion to her work, her tragic assassination, and referred to her charity and courage. Mme. Séverine, so well known in literature, and one of the *feministes* of the finest type, spoke with tenderness and ardour of Miss Cavell's heroic example. Then M. Paul Painlevé, Minister of Public Instruction and of Fine Arts, pronounced a magnificent oration, ending 'O petite infirmière anglaise,

vous n'avez pas été vaincue; vous êtes, au contraire, victorieuse pour l'éternité. Vous symbolisez désormais toute la légion de ces femmes héroïques qui, dans les ambulances, s'en vont prodiguer leur dévouement anonyme et leur héroïsme silencieux. Vous prenez rang parmi ces gardiennes impérissables de l'idée humaine, dont le nom se transmet d'âge en âge. Et en cette commémoration grandiose qui devance l'histoire, devant le peuple de France, accouru en foule pour vous célébrer, nous vous saluons, comme l'annonciatrice d'une humanité meilleure et du droit triomphant.' When the wonderful applause had passed away, there was solemn and lovely music of an exceptionally touching quality. 'La Marche funèbre' of Chopin, played by M. Eugène Gigout on the great organ with orchestra and chorus, 'l'Élégie' by Gabriel Fauré, fragments of the 'Requiem' by Verdi. The solos were given with most profound feeling by great singers from the Opera.

"Mme. Weber, of the Comédie-Française, recited with great power two poems yet unpublished, 'A une martyre,' by M. André Dumas, and 'A Miss Cavell,' by M. A. Ferdinand Hérold. The whole was a grand and most impressive spectacle. It was splendid for English nurses to see Paris honouring their colleague. This homage could not have been more touchingly rendered had she been a Frenchwoman."

We feel sure both Miss Ellison and Miss Haswell will be pleased to see "war workers" passing through Paris, and to be of use to them if possible. The headquarters of the F.F.N.C. are very central at the Hotel Bedford, close to the Madeleine.

Miss Maxwell, Matron of the Simmer and Jack Hospital, Germiston, Transvaal, who has been working at the Military Hospital, Jules Ferry, Lisieux, for six months, in charge of the operating theatre, has completed this term of service, and left Lisieux, to the deep regret of the patients and her fellow nurses. Miss Maxwell has won for herself sincere affection and regard. The *Médecin-chef* says that during her term of office she has carried on the service of the operation room with the greatest zeal and devotion, and her very thorough knowledge of surgical nursing has been greatly appreciated by the medical officers.

The Corps has had another most helpful consignment of hospital equipment from the St. Marylebone War Hospital Supply Depot, the following articles having been sent to Hôpital Temporaire 25, Talence, Bordeaux:—Case 1: Roller bandages, 288; T bandages, 10; Head bandages, 10; plaster of Paris, 1; bedjackets, 30; day shirts, 18; handkerchiefs, 20; socks, 21. Case 2: abdominal bandages, 18; chest bandages, 10; stump bandages, 10; splints, 20; bed socks, 26 pairs; splint pads, 10; nightshirt, 1; day shirts, 8; handkerchiefs, 82; hot water bottle covers, 10.

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