

NURSING AND THE WAR.

We are not surprised to hear from Dublin that the resignation of Miss MacDonnell, R.R.C., the very experienced Matron of the Red Cross Dublin Castle Hospital, is deeply regretted by Irish nurses. It is now an open secret that Miss MacDonnell resigned as a protest against the breach of professional etiquette and discipline upon the part of the Resident Medical Officer, superseding her authority as Matron by sending a Circular Order direct to the Sisters, of which she disapproved, and in other instances ignoring her position as head of the nursing staff.

Miss MacDonnell is, as we all know, an exceptionally clever woman, a fine organizer, and just an administrator, who for years was Lady Superintendent of the Richmond Hospital, Dublin, and who gained her experience of military nursing as Lady Superintendent of the Irish Hospital during the South African War. It is therefore greatly to be deplored that the Committee did not take a firm stand and uphold the maintenance of nursing discipline by supporting the authority of the Matron in her own province. It is very certain that a nonentity at the head of the nursing department is very injurious to the standard of nursing, especially in a military hospital.

The Princess Patricia of Connaught's Hospital for Wounded Soldiers is situated in a charming house at Bray, formerly the International Hotel. From every window there is a glorious view of sea or lovely mountains. Everything is very well arranged for the comfort and happiness of the men. A delightful dining room, with small tables (soldiers just hate the long unconvivial table used

in times when servants sat below the salt); a billiard-room, large recreation rooms in the garden, which a lady has kindly offered to keep cared for and in flowers. The kitchens and store-rooms are ample and well arranged; and there are plenty of cloak and bath rooms. As we have reported, Miss Michie, Q.V.J.I., is in charge, assisted by Miss Mullally; and the staff consists of two trained Sisters and a staff of Red Cross workers. Bray is just a lovely place in which to convalesce, and should brace up many a brave man willing to sacrifice life and health for his country.



QUEEN ELENA OF ITALY.

hospital ship service, and now that the *Galeha* is properly fitted they will be able to make the patients much more comfortable.

We hear that a large number of nurses have volunteered for active service in Italy, but so far there is no sphere of activity for them; the Government does not propose at present to requisition any foreign help. The Scuola Convitto at Rome is well organised under an English Superintendent in close touch with the Queen Elena, and if more nurses are required they will

The *Galeha*, the ship on which English nurses have brought sick and wounded from Mudros to Alexandria, has recently been in harbour, being fitted up as a first-class hospital ship, and will soon again be in use. She is painted green and white, with red crosses, and at night has green lights along the deck and crosses in red lights, very picturesque on the sparkling water. The staff of eight Sisters is quite "imperial": one regular, one reserve, two Australian, and four of the party requisitioned by the Dowager Countess of Carnarvon, and for the time being taken over by the War Office. The Sisters greatly enjoy this

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