FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

It seems incredible that nearly a year should have flown by since a Sister wrote from Talence: ",Spring will soon be with us here; these woods will then be all shimmering with tender green leaves, and sweet with wild flowers. Our 'house' is in a wood; just as things are in order, the

SISTERS IN THEIR CORRIDOR, TALENCE.

War may end—then all will disappear like a dream." Alas! a year has gone by and the "house in the wood" will see another Spring. Our little pictures show the Sisters in their Corridor.

A Sister writes from France:—"I, for one, greatly value the intelligent appreciation expressed

to Miss Ellison by the Princesse Dennin d'Alsace, about our Sisters at Neufchâteau, because she has looked beneath the surface. It is so easy to dress up in becoming white uniform and flit about after the medical staff and help dress wounds in the Salle de Pansements, or wait on them in the theatre, but the Princesse has noted other things—she has realised that this is after all only the cream of the work, and that technical skill, discipline, and indefatigable devotion are required to effect good nursing, that is to do all the hard work and save these stricken ones dangerously ill; she lays stress on intelligent care. In this ambulance we also have met with much

appreciation—the French soldier when sick "is the pick of the basket!"

Another Sister writes:—"I have honestly tried to do my best—to make a mark for the French Flag Nursing Corps. I have given my mind entirely to the work and nothing outside it. And my friends have been most generous and I have been able to help scores of men who have

come from the trenches with their clothes rotten with dirt. Also all my infirmiers I help with small comforts and it is a great help as they all know when they need a new shirt or socks, or a towel they can have them for the asking and many other things for their needs besides. The work in my pavilion is tremendous. The wounded come as you know, straight from the trenches, and almost as soon as I have got them clean, they are transferred to other pavilions, they seldom stay more than 24 hours, but in that time much has to be done for them; then a rush to clean up the beds-and very often before I am ready up comes our ambulance with another load—and twice a week we evacuate—and as they all come back to evacuate through my pavilion, I see them come and see them go. All their clothes

them come and see them go. All their clothes are cleaned, disinfected, and repaired, and every man, except the stretcher cases, passes the douche again. Then the bundles are given out, and when they are all dressed and the ward cleared up, they have an exceedingly good meal and have time for a smoke. Then at 1.30 our British Ambulances arrive and take them off again."



PREPARING FOR TEA, TALENCE.

previous page next page