January 15, 1916

## NURSING AND THE WAR.

It will be remembered that the King recently authorised the division of the Order of the Royal Red Cross, instituted by Queen Victoria in 1883, into two classes, and the Cross as now designed bears His Majesty's effigy and the Imperial Cypher. Our illustrations show a Cross of the First Class which is enamelled red edged with gold.

Field Marshal Sir John French paid a visit on January 6th to the 3rd London General Hospital, Wandsworth Common, and chatted freely to the soldiers and thanked the nurses for the splendid work which they were doing. Further, he expressed to them the gratitude which the British Army in France and the men in Gallipoli felt at the way in which the wounded were being treated at that hospital.

, Later he entered the hall, where convalescent soldiers were greatly enjoying a concert. He



THE ROYAL RED CROSS. OBVERSE.

was immediately recognised and lustily cheered. In a short address he again emphasised the debt of the men to the nursing staff.

Mr. S. Gee Wainwright, 20, Westridge Road, Southampton, notifies to the public in the local press a need which has become very apparent during the wet weather for a rest room for the nurses who care for our wounded on the hospital ships ? When the ships are in port, coaling or being cleaned, there has so far been no place where the tired nurse, who has neither home nor friends in the town, can go for a rest, except the public library. Now a pleasant quarter has been arranged at the White Tea Rooms, in the High Street, where nurses may find a quiet room where they can rest, write letters, and make appointments. Towards the rent, furnishing, and running expenses of this room funds are needed, which will be gladly received and acknowledged.

A strictly informal reception was held on January 5th at Netley Hospital in honour of the Relief Corps, consisting of two medical officers, secretary, interpreter, and 22 trained nurses, which the Japan Red Cross Society placed at the disposal of the War Office in January last year. The members of the mission, the Matrons of which, Miss Y. Yamamoto, and Miss S. Kiyooka, were recently decorated by the King with the Royal Red Cross, have now returned to Japan.

It was reported at the annual meeting of the contributors to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, that since the commencement of the War 61 nurses have been directly supplied to the War Office by the Infirmary, instead of 30, which was the number guaranteed.



THE ROYAL RED CROSS, REVERSE.

In addition to these, a large number of former nurses of the Royal Infirmary are now serving in military hospitals. A complete roll of honour has been compiled, and contains 252 names. Of these 170 are on foreign service and 82 in home hospitals.

The General commanding the troops in Egypt on January 5th inaugurated the Empire Nurses' Home, Cairo, and in the course of his speech paid a tribute to the devotion of the nurses in Egypt, and mentioned with regret the death of Miss Hughes, a victim of the *Persia*, on her way out as superintendent of the home, and in whose favour an exception was made from a recent regulation forbidding women to come to Egypt. The home is intended as a place for the recreation of the nurses.



