

communication between the colon and stomach was seen. This communication was cut, and the opening in the stomach and colon was stitched. The coating of colon and its appendices epiploicæ were all inflamed. Then a part of the omentum was stitched to the serous coat anteriorly to the colon. The bleeding points were ligatured, and the viscera and the wound were bathed with normal saline solution. The abdominal wall was closed, and a cigarette drainage tube was inserted. The wound was sutured, antiseptic dressing applied, and bandaged. The stick was as thick as a lead pencil, gradually becoming thinner at one end. It had a few thorns on it. The patient was kept in Fowler's position for ten days. Nutrient enema four-hourly for three days, sips of barley water. On the fourth day small feeds. Slight suppuration of the wound, which was to be expected. Improved gradually, and was discharged on the twenty-ninth day as cured. This is a rare case. A similar case occurred years ago, some time, I believe, in 1887.

A. M. BURKE.

J. J. Hospital, Bombay.

AN AMBULANCE UNIT IN ITALY.

Miss Swift has recently returned from Italy, where she has been visiting No. 1 Red Cross Hospital, Villa Trento, San Giovanni de Manzano, an old 17th century residence kindly lent by the Conte di Trento. It is No. 1 Ambulance Unit to Italy, sent out by the Joint War Committee. It is equipped as a field hospital, and has accommodation for 150 beds.

At the outbreak of war the hospital was only twelve miles from the firing-line, and up to September last 2,596 patients had been treated. There is also an out-patients' department. The patients are, of course, Italians, and they much appreciate all the care and good nursing which they receive from the British Sisters. To receive such skilled attention has possibly never been their experience on any previous occasion.

The hospital is well equipped with an operating theatre, X-ray room, isolation block, and every convenience. The staff consists of one physician, two surgeons, one Matron, and three Sisters. A number of V.A.D.'s act as assistant nurses and probationers.

While in Rome, Miss Swift was received by the Queen of Italy, and visited her hospital at the Quirinal. She was also received by the Duchess d'Aosta in the war zone. Her Royal Highness is at the head of the V.A.D. in Italy. Rest stations and trains for conveying the wounded were also visited.

NURSING AND THE WAR.

The King has decorated the following ladies with the Royal Red Cross (second class):—Sister Myra Goodeve, Canadian Army Nursing Service, and Nurse Charlotte Macdonald, Nursing Staff of Civil Hospitals.

Warm congratulations to the President of the International Council of Trained Nurses, Mrs. Henny Tscherning, who is also President of the Danish Council of Nurses, upon whom the Cross of the Legion of Honour has been conferred by the French Government. Mrs. Tscherning is a Danish lady, the wife of the Professor of Ophthalmology in the University of Copenhagen, and this very great honour has been conferred upon her for her work in aid of the French wounded. On August 10th, 1914, she formed, with her husband, a Danish committee, which sent nurses to La Panne in Belgium. In April, 1915, she joined her husband at Tréport, where he had founded a Danish hospital. At the end of the summer of 1915 this hospital was removed to Paris, where the French Government placed at its disposal a fine building in the middle of the Bois de Boulogne with accommodation for a hundred wounded.

We have reported the fine equipment of this hospital, and the splendid work of the Danish nurses under the direction of Mrs. Tscherning. We feel sure the International Council will rejoice at the just recognition of devoted care of the sick and wounded, wherever such recognition is deserved and bestowed.

A correspondent writes:—

I am matron of a small sanatorium (open air) situated on a hill about a mile from the town of —, which we overlook. This is a small tin temporary building, built on the ground floor. On a certain night our lights were lowered; having warned the patients (men) I was soon, gaily in my ignorance, in bed and asleep. I remembered hearing a lot of motors and commotion in the road, but took no notice of it. At 11.30 p.m. a blinding flash of light awoke me, and then guns beginning to fire. I could only think the Germans were over us and firing at us. The "pro" rushed to my room and informed me "they were here." I slipped into thick shoes and dressing-gown and groped my way on the corridor to the maids' bedroom, whom I found both terrified. I put them in the kitchen and then made my way to one of the wards. The patients all said they were "all right," and I learnt from a soldier patient the guns were in the road by our side (no wonder it felt as if we were the target!). I then made my way to the other ward, and then the first bomb dropped (never shall I forget the noise and the vibration). The housemaid rushed to me and said the kitchen was quite blown in and then half-fainted. The cook, being rather fat, was not quite so nimble, but she arrived without shoes or stockings. We heard the men at the guns say "straight overhead," and then followed such

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