

NURSING AND THE WAR.

His Majesty the King, on Saturday last, decorated the following nurses with the Royal Red Cross (Second Class):—Sister A'druenna Tupper, Canadian Nursing Service; Nurse Dora André, Staff of Military and War Hospitals; and Nurse Emma Waddington, Staff of Military and War Hospitals.

The Ladies' Committee of the Order of St. John are very proud of the Brigade Hospital at Etaples, over which the banner of the Order floats, and which has done such fine work in caring for our sick and wounded in France. Last year, the Committee proved their appreciation of the work of the Nursing and Medical Staffs, and their interest in the patients, by sending charming gifts to them all. This year, the same graceful recognition will be repeated. The Sisters and nurses are to have the charming silver buckle with the Arms of the Order, which gave so much pleasure last year; and those still on the staff who have the buckle will, this year, receive safety-pin brooches with the Arms of the Order. The medical officers will each receive a silver pencil; and the orderlies, upon the suggestion of the Commanding Officer, are to have a very special Christmas dinner. Each patient will receive a small gift. The total cost of the gifts will amount to £65, and we learn from Lady Perrott that the Committee have at once found the finances, which proves that the Brigade members at home are thinking of the splendid staff and patients at Etaples, and rejoicing in their labours.

Miss Mabel Thurston, Matron-in-Chief, New Zealand Expeditionary Force, and, since June last,

Matron of No. 2 New Zealand General Hospital, Walton-on-Thames, was trained and certificated at the Wellington Hospital, New Zealand, and is registered under the Nurses' Registration Act in the Dominion. After registration, she held the position of Sister in her training school for a year, and in the hospital at Palmerston North for some months. Her next post was that of Matron of the General Hospital, Greymouth, on the west coast of New Zealand, and in 1908 she was appointed Lady Superintendent of Christchurch Hospital, with charge, in addition, of its dependent

institutions in North Canterbury, under the North Canterbury Hospital and Charitable Aid Board, the Committee of which granted her leave of absence last April to take up her present post until the termination of the war.

Miss Thurston, who is a member of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, has had a distinguished nursing career. In 1906, she was appointed a member of the Examining Board for the Nurses' State Examination in New Zealand. She has also been a member of the New Zealand Trained Nurses' Association since 1908, President of its Canterbury Branch since 1914, and of its Central Council since 1915, and Honorary Matron of the New Zealand Army Nursing Service for the Canterbury District since 1914.

It was a great pleasure to her colleagues that Miss

Thurston was present at the recent meeting of the Matrons' Council at the Hammersmith Infirmary, and that they were thus able to make the personal acquaintance of one of their members whose good work was well known to them by repute.

The Queen of Italy, who, during the first fortnight of October visited the various field hospitals on the Julian front, has resumed her visits to the



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