

and have been translated into Turkish, Persian and Hindustani. They were afterwards published as "An Englishwoman in a Turkish Harem"; and she is one of very few foreign women to whom has been given the Grand Order of the Chevakat (1st Class) in diamonds, by the Sultan of Turkey; and more's the pity that our Foreign Office potentates have not in recent years taken the trouble to live intimately with the people in the near East—as the politic emissaries of the Kaiser have done. We want more women in diplomacy.

Miss Ellison was on her way to Persia, *via* Germany, where she was to write up the mental and material attitude and progress of German women, when the war broke out. We know how all her affections were bound up in France; how sincere was her grief when she witnessed the terrible sufferings of that heroic French Army in the early days of the war; how she offered her services to France and was entrusted with a really wonderful mission to come to England, enlist sympathy and support, and how greatly daring she returned there with the first little band of nurses in September, 1914—(luckily Miss Haswell was amongst them)—and in the face of opposition at home and difficulties untold, surmounted mountains of prejudice and jealousy and established the French Flag Nursing Corps with success. The success of this mission has resulted largely from the character of the lady who inaugurated it. A highly educated cosmopolitan—very handsome and gracious—with a sweet and gentle disposition combined with fighting force—Miss Grace Ellison is beloved and admired by all the Sisters whose best interests she has always at heart; and her tact in rendering to Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's, and carefully recognizing the professional supremacy of the trained nurse in her own domain, has gained for the *Directrice Générale* of the F.F.N.C. admiration

and loyalty. Many are the letters received during the past year of appreciation from medical officers, and of gratitude from patients.

Just before leaving France on the business of the Corps, Miss Ellison received the following letter from M. Justin Godard, Under Secretary for State, which is naturally very gratifying to her and all who have been associated with her in the work.

DEAR MISS ELLISON,—At the moment when you are starting for England (the object of your

journey being another proof of your devoted activity to my country) to confer directly with Mrs. Fenwick, President of the National Council of Nurses of England and Ireland, I should like to express to you and to ask you to express, not only to this eminent lady but to all who have helped you in your efforts since the beginning of the war, the deep gratitude of the French Army Medical Service towards the British nurses who have come at your call to help us in our hard work.

The nurses of the "French Flag Nursing Corps" are considered by the doctors of our army as assistants of the first rank and their presence in France, in a number the insufficiency of which we regret, is one of the most touching evidences of the sympathy of the English nation

towards our country. I hope soon, as you know, to prove to them, by giving them decorations, the value that we attach to their skilful and devoted help.

(Signed) JUSTIN GODARD.
Under Secretary of State,
French Army Medical Service.

COMFORTS FOR FRENCH SICK AND WOUNDED.

A Sister writes from Bourbourg to the Hon. Treasurer:—

DEAR MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK,—Thank you so very much for the two lovely bales, full of good



MISS GRACE ELLISON.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)