

NURSING AND THE WAR.

The beautiful picture of Australia bending over a fallen son is from a design for a medal to commemorate the Anzacs who fell at Gallipoli, by Miss Dora Ohlfsen, the Australian sculptress. These medallions are being sold for Australian Charities, and will, we feel sure, be eagerly secured by Australian Nurses in memory of their dead heroes. The Eternal Remembrance will be treasured by their children and children's children.

THE ROYAL RED CROSS.

On Saturday, February 16th, the following members of the Nursing Profession had the honour of being received by the King at Buckingham Palace, when His Majesty decorated them as follows:

BAR TO THE ROYAL RED CROSS (FIRST CLASS.)

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service.—Matron-in-Chief Ethel Becher. Principal Matrons Jane Hoadley, Annie Beads more Smith, and Mary Sutton (retired). Territorial Force Nursing Service.—Matron-in-Chief Sidney Browne.

FIRST CLASS.

Civil Nursing Service.—Matron Geraldine Matthews. British Red Cross Society.—Matron Lorna Wood.

SECOND CLASS.

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service.—Matron Agnes Pagan. Voluntary Aid Detachment.—Mrs. Louisa Acton.

The recipients were subsequently received at Marlborough House by Queen Alexandra.

An appeal on behalf of the destitute Montenegrins issued by the Montenegrin Red Cross and Relief Fund, must command the sympathy of nurses.

The Earl of Mount Edgcumbe has offered Winter Villa, Stonehouse, Plymouth, to the Admiralty, who have accepted the offer. The necessary alterations are now being made to adapt the house as a hostel for V.A.D. nurses at the Royal Naval Hospital. There will be accommodation for about sixty workers.

We received the following letter from a Matron in a Canadian Province last week:—

DEAR MADAM,—If you are not the proper person from whom to get information on the following question please pass it on. There are at present two young women in _____ who have spent two years in England and France as V.A.D.s. One wishes to enter this hospital to train as a nurse, but she *demand*s one year to be allowed her for her two years' service abroad. She states they are doing so in London hospitals. Please let me know what they are doing, and if there is any other information you can give me relative to this question I shall be obliged to you. Thanking you in advance for your courtesy, etc. _____

It will be remembered that when we wrote to Miss Mackintosh, the Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital and Convener of the Meeting recently held in London to consider preferential treatment for V.A.D.s, that we were informed that the deliberations and conclusions were confidential, so that the Nursing Profession at large has been kept in the dark as to the decisions of the Matrons in this connection. A little bird whispers, however, that the Matrons, with the exception of a little coterie of "Londoners," were firmly deter-



THE ETERNAL REMEMBRANCE.

mined to maintain the three years' term of training for all probationers—V.A.D.s and others. Where a fourth year of service has been added it was thought that perhaps that might be conceded, to balance war work. The Matrons have no intention of depriving the hospitals of the skilled service obtainable under the four years' course, but should they yield to social pressure in this particular, as they have done in giving short term training to hundreds of society war nurses, the long term drudge obtainable in the past will make herself scarce, which is the silver lining to that cloud. We have always maintained that a three years' term before certification and registration is a sufficient time for a well-educated girl (after systematic preliminary teaching) to give in exchange for her training in hospital, which is, and always must be, of an arduous nature. Let V.A.D.s comply with this term and all will be well.

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