

fore delighted that her work in Belgium has been rewarded with the Star of Mons, a greatly coveted distinction, given to those nurses who worked with the Expeditionary Force, and under the British Red Cross Society, and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem during the first three months of the war.

Hearty congratulations to Miss Edla Wortabet, who is also amongst those who are to receive the Star. She went out under the Order of St. John of Jerusalem to Calais in the early days of the war, and did valuable organising work there, though

fixed at 28 days. V.A.D. members and military probationers will be granted leave as follows, provided their service is continuous:—During the first six months, seven days; during the second six months, 14 days; during the third and subsequent periods of six months, 14 days. This leave should be taken as and when the exigencies of the service permit.

The question of leave, together with other things concerning nurses, to which exception has been taken, has recently been discussed at some length in the columns of *The Times*. The subject was first raised in a letter in that journal last month



MISS BEATRICE CUTLER.
"Star of Mons."

later she transferred her services to French Hospitals.

NEW ARMY INSTRUCTION.

An Army Council Instruction has been issued dealing with the question of leave to members of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, the Territorial Force Nursing Service Reserve, Assistant Nurses, and Voluntary Aid Detachments.

The Instruction states that whenever possible leave up to the maximum of the regulation scale should be given, namely:—Matrons, 42 days; Sisters, 35 days; and Staff Nurses, 28 days. The maximum annual leave of assistant nurses has been

from "A Mere Man," who wrote of the "disgracefully long periods of service" demanded of nurses without leave. In the correspondence which followed, contributed almost entirely by nurses, ex-nurses or their relatives, opinions of considerable divergence were expressed. Some writers, on the one hand, accorded their hearty support to the case put forward by "A Mere Man"—one described his statements as "absolutely fair and, if anything, too moderate"; others seemed to resent the suggestion that the women who were doing such valuable work at home and abroad were in the slightest degree discontented with their lot and that they were not ready gladly to sacrifice everything to their sense of duty.

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