

years ago, Miss Brewerton's services were transferred to the Zanzibar Government, to the great loss of the U.M.C.A.; and in the Government Hospital she has had charge of sick and wounded soldiers during the present war in British East Africa. The Second Class Red Cross, which has frequently been awarded to V.A.D.s and to probationers in Home Hospitals, seems an inadequate recognition of the fine services extending over a quarter-of-a-century in an unhealthy tropical climate, including such episodes as we have described.

The sixth clause of the Royal Warrant under which the Royal Red Cross is awarded, has been amended to read as follows: "Recipients of the Second Class of the Decoration shall be eligible for advancement to the First Class as vacancies may arise, and on such advancement the Cross shall be returned to the office of the Secretary of State for War." Let us hope, therefore, that it may not be long before this advancement takes place in the case of Miss Brewerton, who, by her life of devotion to the sick and her splendid moral courage—a much rarer virtue than the physical courage of which she possesses a full share—has won the respect of Government officials, residents, and both black and white population in the Island of Zanzibar, and on the mainland.

Miss Carrie M. Hall has been appointed Chief Nurse in this country under the American Red Cross Nursing Service at its headquarters in 40, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W. Miss Hall, it will be remembered came from America a year ago as Superintendent of the Harvard Unit (No. 11 General Hospital, B.E.F.). Her work as Superintendent of Nurses at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Boston, was the subject of an interesting article in this Journal by Miss Beatrice Kent, after her visit to the United States in 1915 as the delegate of the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland to the Meeting of the International Council of Trained Nurses in San Francisco.

Miss Julia Stimson, Superintendent of the St. Louis Unit (No. 9 General Hospital, B.E.F.) has been appointed Chief Nurse of the American Red Cross Nursing Service in France. These appointments will make for good organisation and smooth working of the personnel of the American Red Cross Nursing Service overseas, which now numbers thousands of nurses.

COMFORTS DAY.

Princess Arthur of Connaught was Patron, and Viscountess French President of the "Comforts Day," organised by the Women's Auxiliary Force and held on Tuesday last, for our soldiers and sailors. Business at the various depôts was brisk and a good result is anticipated.

FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

THE TRUE ENTENTE.

A Sister writes:—"After what we went through at F—— last year, I feel I could now face anything. We are all very busy, and have two English officers in my service; when they arrived, very ill, and suffering both mentally and physically, as they had just come from the big push, they were glad to find someone to welcome them who could speak in their own language, as neither of them could speak French. I was much touched yesterday with a little incident. A French sous officier, who was up for the first time, and allowed out for an hour, returned with a few pansies, which he placed in an empty medicine bottle and put it on the table between the beds of our two English boys. I thought it so kind of him, such an action required no words, the flowers conveyed their own sweet message. All the French people admire our soldiers so much."

ILS NE PASSERONT PAS.

Another Sister says:—"When the rapid German advance took place, of course there was great anxiety for some days, but we have absolute confidence in our soldiers, 'ils ne passeront pas.' How I love to hear the French soldiers repeat this sentence. Covered with mud and blood, worn out with fatigue, having suffered all the horrors and discomforts of trench life, when I express sympathy, and help one of these worn-out men—'yes, it is hard'—he replies, 'mais ils ne passeront pas.' It makes one long to be a man. Who wants rewards? Not I. It has been the greatest honour to be allowed to give the 'fameux poilus' my services during these years, to work for them is sufficient recompense for me. We have had our trials, but nothing, I feel sure, to what some of our Sisters have suffered. For instance, we had 900 mad women installed in our hospital during nine days! Their asylum had been bombarded somewhere in the north and destroyed. I leave it to your imagination to picture this evacuation. Poor, poor things! I believe they were travelling during a whole week before arriving here. There were several devoted nuns with them, and attendants—all indeed had our sympathy."

Two Sisters who have been sent close to the fighting line say: "We were well used to the sound of the guns at S—— and M——, but we have never heard anything to equal the terrible cannonade we hear nightly here! For hours on end the windows rattle and the foundations of the houses seem to tremble." The splendid "nerve" of the trained nurse has been one of the glories of the war.

We desire to draw attention to the important announcement on page i of our advertisement supplement of a course of free lectures on Venereal Diseases, at St. Paul's Hospital, Red Lion Square, W.C.

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