

longing and impotent loneliness. Where you heard no news.

"And then at the end of a week of it . . . the Zouaves. At six in the morning on the ninth day of September.

"Qu'ils sont gentils nos soldats."

The volume gives not only the account of the brief agony of this city, but also its history, which dates back to very early times.

"It is known to-day rather for what it has suffered than for anything its sons have achieved. Yet if you go back a thousand years you may hit on the name of a forgotten Count Bernard, who, forgotten as he is, was lord and ruler of Senlis and a man of importance in his day." The book is profusely illustrated and is well worth perusal. It should help all who read it, like the French, to "harden their hearts" and face any and every sacrifice that will be a help to prevent our own beloved towns and villages from being brought under the heel of the Hun. It should also help us to realize the martyrdom of the lands where the hoof of the Hun has trod.

THE AMERICANS IN FRANCE.

THE LABOURER IS WORTHY OF HIS HIRE.

Now that Englishwomen have at last the privilege of the vote, I hope most sincerely that the question they will at once settle is the question of women's salaries. I hope, too, that those who are to take the lead in settling this all-important question will be women, who know what it means to keep themselves entirely—not women who have had, all their professional career, fathers or husbands to foot their bills. One of the reasons why professional working women have had so much difficulty in making headway is that those women who live at home are content with very small salaries—salaries which are little more than pocket money—and this makes it terribly hard for the real breadwinner, for her who has only her own efforts to rely on.

This the Americans have well understood, and one of the things which have most astonished the French, now they have grown accustomed to their splendid system of drainage, is the high salaries. One of Dr. Hamilton's nurses was offered a post by the American Red Cross, and when they saw her qualifications they at once offered the high inclusive salary which is the usual fee given to American nurses when travelling. This seemed to her so extraordinary that she concluded it was not serious, and did not return to accept the appointment, which was given to a woman with much less brilliant qualifications.

There are many such women who think the Americans will have to be told politely that when they engage French nurses they must not offer them salaries of £20 a month. It will be too hard for these nurses when the war is over to return to their very low wages. But the Americans them-

selves think it would be a great mistake not to pay the French on the same scale as their own nurses. When once Americans are back in their own country Frenchwomen will agitate for higher wages, and even though it is unlikely the French will give them the salaries to which they have been accustomed by the Americans, they certainly will be higher.

The Americans in France are busy organising district nursing in the big towns. Each town has six trained nurses and they in their turn have under their orders six workers who are to be trained as Hygiene Visitors. They are, of course, not district nurses, but that will come in time, and as the old proverb has it, "Rome was not built in one day."

Mlle. Guital, Dr. Hamilton's nurse, chosen by the Americans as one of the nurses to train the French, writes:—

"We began our work by making visits in the different children's hospitals, and next week we are to begin the practical classes for the pupils, preceded by practical classes for us *monitrices* by the American doctors. For they wish—and rightly so—that all of us teach in the same manner. The French doctors have refused to allow the lessons to be given in their hospitals, so the practical lessons will be given in the American hospital. In two months, under our supervision, the visits to the patients' houses, and every day these visits will take place."

What a privilege for the Americans to be allowed to do this work! We cannot help congratulating them on their splendid success. To save France we would give our lives. The Americans are helping them to help themselves—the highest and noblest and only admissible form of charity.

G. E.

QUEEN'S SUPERINTENDENTS IN CONFERENCE.

An afternoon conference of Northern Queen's Superintendents was held at the Nurses' Home, Sheffield, on May 15th, when Miss Amy Hughes presided over a large representative gathering.

Miss Drysdale (Liverpool) acting as Secretary, read a most interesting report of the last conference held three years ago. A beautiful letter also was read from Miss Gillie, who is lying seriously ill.

Miss Hancox, in a few words of welcome to those present, introduced Miss Peterkin (General Superintendent) London, and then the conference began with a discussion on what Miss Hughes termed a burning question—that of the shortage of nurses.

Then followed the question of salaries, the nursing of measles and other infectious illnesses, the Ministry of Health, infant welfare centres, midwifery and monthly nursing, and other interesting subjects, all present taking part in the discussions.

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