

for enteric patients but only fourteen of these were required (applause), evidence of the soundness of the policy of inoculating men and nurses with anti-typhoid serum. During this time in France, Miss Paterson had experience of work in a casualty clearing station, and had a tale to tell of a spy on the occasion of the King's first visit to France.

An almost incredible tale of brutality—did we not by this time know the psychology of the German—is that of a blacksmith. On the occasion of a German advance he was in his smithy, having been shoeing French horses. He was ordered by a German officer to shoe German horses, and did so. His job accomplished, the officer asked his charge. The man named it, and put out his hand for the money, when the officer drew his sword and promptly struck off his hand.

Miss Paterson remarked that the arrival of the Canadian Nurses in 1915 was an excellent thing for the home nurses. If they had an eight hours day, good pay, and good social position, why not our own?

The speaker described a voyage from Southampton to Salonika, including a visit to Pompeii. This was paid at a time when nurses were greatly needed at Basra, and they all thought they were on their way there. They were not, however, allowed to proceed, because they did not belong to the Indian Army, so they explored the ruins of Pompeii while the wounded waited in Basra.

#### WITH THE RUSSIAN WOUNDED.

Miss M. E. Feild, who has only recently arrived in this country, having left Petrograd by the last available train, gave an interesting description of her war nursing experience in Russia. There are, she said, two sets of military hospitals in Russia. Those under the Red Cross, which are very rich, which it is the fashionable thing to belong to, and where grand duchesses and other society people nurse; and the real military hospitals, the money in support of which comes from the Army, which are very poor and have bad doctors, bad nurses, nothing at all. It was in one of these, and for the reason of their poverty, that she elected to work. The hospital was supposed to receive 500 cadets, and the women nurses consisted of a—so to speak—Matron and four nurses. Every fourth day they were on for thirty-six hours, half the time all alone, in charge of the whole hospital.

In England, she said, we had doctors and nurses; in Russia there were doctors, nurses, and Felshars (who did a certain amount of medical work), and it seemed to be the ambition of the nurses to become Felsharines.

Miss Feild concluded by telling her audience that an Englishman had taught the Russians in the fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul to say "Are we downhearted? No!"; and this slogan was now engraved on the walls of one of the cells there.

#### IN FRANCE AND BELGIUM.

Miss E. M. Cancellor related her experiences both in France and Belgium. She first offered her services to our own War Office, but it had no use for them. Later she received a telegram asking her to go to a small hospital in France for urgent cases—the Urgency Cases Hospital at Bar-le-Duc—afterwards moved to Revigny.

She bore warm testimony to the good work done by the Society of Friends in the Maternity Hospital for Women and Babies at Cha'ons, where expectant mothers were taken in with their children. District nurses also did good work in the ruined villages where quite good-class French people were accommodated in buildings where floor space was chalked off for each family.

Miss Cancellor told how, on one occasion, near Revigny, she went with others to see the holes which had been made by German bombs. They met a party of men carrying a bomb who enquired "Would mother like to hold the bomb"? (They always called her mother, she supposed on account of her grey hair.) She thought it was up to an Englishwoman to reply in the affirmative. But as she did not know whether the bomb was a live one or not, she was very glad to return it.

She then related her experiences at the hospital at La Panne in charge of Dr. Depage, which has already been described in this Journal. The staff, she said, consisted of fully-trained and partially trained English nurses, the Belgian equivalent of V.A.D.'s, French, Russian, and Danish nurses. Everybody was equal. On one occasion a doctor asked for a certain nurse to be placed in charge of his ward, and when the Matron objected that she had no experience, she received the reply that he liked the colour of her eyes!

Miss Cancellor contrasted the attitude of the nurse in England who wished to get "to the front," and insisted that she did not mind *what* she did or put up with if she only got there, and the frame of mind of the same nurse when asked to share a bedroom with a girl she did not like.

She told how at La Panne they were within easy reach of the German gas, and were all supplied with gas masks. On one occasion the alarm went, and she found that a nurse in the Home, where she was in charge, had not got her mask, which she was always supposed to carry. She herself was English, was in charge, and was double the age of the girl in question, so she made her put on her own mask, wrapping a towel impregnated with an antidote round her own mouth. The Night watchman came round, and exclaiming "Mother, where is your mask?" promptly informed her that she was fined five francs!

#### CONCLUSION.

In her concluding words Miss Marsters said that the medical practitioners and nurses who had gone abroad had gone through a great deal, but those who stayed at home had also worked extremely hard. She had had the opportunity of active service, but she did not think it right to leave the poor.

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