

"He was always hanging around on the lookout for something to report to the German guards, and was not more particular than most of his fellow countrymen as to the truth, when a lie would serve his purpose better; altogether he could not be regarded as a desirable companion for Englishmen, and the Commandant was requested to furnish him with separate quarters, a request which the 'naturalised gentleman' himself was ready to support, as he found himself so cordially disliked at last that he rather feared some personal violence on the part of certain of his fellow prisoners.

"The term of imprisonment at Tabora was an unpleasant experience, but with the arrival of two of the English Mission Nurses an improvement took place. Up to this time the medical arrangements had been of the very crudest and most unsatisfactory kind. There was a great deal of malaria, and other complaints, and men who were ill got neither medical attention, nor medicine, except at the whim of the guards, who sometimes even refused quinine to those who were suffering badly. With the arrival of the nurses, things began to improve; some care was taken of those who were attacked by fever, drugs were of course given out to those who needed them, and, after a time, a small supply of milk, &c., which was abundant in the neighbourhood, was allowed for the more serious cases. The improvement was, of course due to the nurses, who worked hard both to do what they could under most difficult conditions, and to secure little privileges, such as food, &c., for the sick men who most needed them. After a time, when the camp became full of prisoners, a civilian doctor, who was practising in Tabora, was appointed to the medical charge of the camp, and he did his utmost for all his patients, and his care for the sick caused him to be somewhat suspected by his own countrymen."

What treatment was endured by some prisoners may be judged from the description of the journey of some moved from Bugiri to Tabora camp. "They were mostly missionaries, of whom a large proportion were ladies, and included a few married planters and others. Their journey had been a horrible one; after having been ordered to leave Bugiri at half-an-hour's notice, and hurried thence to the railway, they were placed for the night in the goods shed at the station, and kept there until late on in the following afternoon—men, women, and over forty natives all huddled together in the same shed! I refrain from attempting to describe in detail the happenings of that night and of the day that followed it."

Later when some of the conditions of life began to change for the better for the prisoners, with the prospect of the victory of the British arms, a certain amount of liberty on parole was offered to the ladies. "After some of the experiences through which they had passed they were not willing to go without some proper protection being assured to them, such as they would feel guaranteed to them by the presence

of some of their male fellow-countrymen." Eventually this was arranged. M. B.

WAR MEDALS AND RIBANDS.

The War Office announces that the riband of the Victory Medal may now be worn by all ranks who are entitled to the award of the medal. A preliminary issue of two inches of the riband will be made to each individual entitled to the medal. The stars and medals approved for service during the war, and also their ribands, will be worn in the following order: 1914 Star, 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Mercantile Marine War Medal, Victory Medal.

The riband of the Victory Medal will be red in the centre, with green and violet on each side, shaded to form the colours of two rainbows.

A CHARTERED SOCIETY OF MASSAGE.

A petition to His Majesty in Council has been presented recently to the Board of Trade, begging that a Charter may be granted to a society to be known henceforward as the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics. The object of the proposed society is to unite the older Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses, founded in 1894 and incorporated in 1900, with the more recent foundation of the Institute of Massage and Remedial Gymnastics, which was founded in 1916.

TO HELP POLAND.

Friends will be pleased to learn that Miss Jentie Paterson writes from South Poland, that she has had a very interesting time with the Polish Unit, and to judge from a characteristic communication forwarded for publication in this journal, we gather, that to make any impression on the afterwar sanitary condition of Poland, is going to be a herculean task for someone. The Americans are going to help. Look out for Miss Paterson's article next week.

CUT OFF THE WASTE.

The American Social Hygiene Association, New York, puts the following questions:—"If prostitutes in the United States, who do no productive work, are receiving 164,250,000 dollars, or (as many people think) three times that much, of the national income each year, is it not worth while to cut off that waste?"

"If, at least, 15 per cent. of the insane, who, in the State of New York, cost the tax-payers one-sixth of the total taxes to support, are insane because they acquired syphilis, would it not be sensible to stop the spread of syphilis?"

The Department of Public Health of the Association considers that it is, and that if people knew the facts: if they realised the price paid for allowing commercialised prostitution to exist, action would go on. The Association proposes, therefore, to do what it can to make the facts known and to continue the fight.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)