took Paris without a shot, and entered the Tuileries. Britain did not accept the choice of the French nation, however, and Waterloo was the result. After that Napoleon gave himself up as the voluntary guest of England, and then began the longdrawn-out agony on St. Helena borne with a dignity and courage which must exalt the

memory of Napoleon for all time.

MR. GRAHAM BENNETT, whose grandfather was an officer in the East India Company, and in the British garrison at St. Helena during Napoleon's detention, showed some interesting Napoleonic relics. One of those was a piece of mahogany taken from Napoleon's coffin when his body was brought back to France. The coffin had been made from the dining room table of Captain Bennett. Another interesting relic was a remnant of the pall which covered the coffin when it was taken to France. A tricolour flag was not available then, and the aunts of the speaker managed to find some red white and blue materials and made one to cover the coffin.

The speeches terminated at six o'clock, the hour of Napoleon's death, when the audience stood in silence for a minute as an act of homage to the memory of the Great Napoleon.

## MISS CATTELL "AT HOME."

Members of the Royal British Nurses' Association are discovering, increasingly, the value and uses of their beautiful Club. On Tuesday last Miss Alice Cattell, Member of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales gave a delightful "At Home," at 194, Queen's Gate. Tea, followed by delectable ices, was served in the dining-room with the folding-doors set wide, and the spring sunshine streamed in through the stately windows lighting up the beautiful blue curtains, in conjunction with which the mauve flowers on the table, formed a satisfying harmony of colour which would surely win the approval of the most critical exponent of its psychology.

In the drawing-room there was eager conversation on burning topics of professional interest, and beautiful music; here also were quantities of lovely flowers—a feast of colour and beauty.

Miss Jeanette Smith, accompanied by Miss Vincent, charmed her audience with her lovely voice.

Her many friends are indebted to Miss Cattell—most genial and kindliest of hostesses—for a very pleasant afternoon.

### LECTURE.

Members are reminded of the lecture on the "Psychology of Colour," which is to be given by Mr. Norton on Saturday, 27th inst., at 4.30 p.m. It should prove interesting to nurses, especially as Mr. Norton has very new ideas as to the farreaching effects of colour on the mind. Tea and ices will be served for those who wish for them at 4.0 o'clock.

# GIFTS TO THE CLUB.

Miss Bylett, cream; Mrs. Collett, flowers; Miss Collins, flowers; Miss Cutler, flowers; Miss Gilligan, flowers and butter; Miss Lilliecrap, flowers; Miss Tait, flowers and cake.

### AN R.B.N.A. PICNIC.

It is proposed that, early in June, we should have a picnic in some part of the beautiful country which surrounds London. We shall be very glad to have any suggestions from Members in connection with this, and also to receive notice from those who would wish to attend. It is considered that it would be well to choose some afternoon during the week as the trains and 'buses are apt to be crowded on Saturday.

### ENGAGEMENT.

We have just received news of the engagement of Miss Agnes E. Cox, M.R.B.N.A., to Mr. Treble. Miss Cox is an enthusiastic Member of the Corporation whom it gave us great pleasure to meet when she paid a visit to the Club last summer. We all unite in offering to her and her fiancé our warmest good wishes.

#### CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We remind our members that many annual subscriptions to the Club fall due this month and we shall be very glad if those are paid promptly in order to avoid the expense and loss of time which arise from the necessity for having to send out numerous reminders.

It is now close upon twelve months since the Club was opened, and the Association has every reason to congratulate itself upon the success of its enterprise. That it has required care, thought and plenty of hard work to carry it through the first year is not to be denied. There were heavy initial costs and, added to those, we have had tomeet an account for some hundreds of pounds to make good a disaster which happened to one of the heavy stone balconies soon after we took possession of 194, Queen's Gate. It is a recognised fact, however, that the first two years, in such an enterprise as that we have entered upon, are invariably the most difficult and there is every reason to look forward with confidence to the future. But at the same time, we would urge members of the Association, who have not yet joined the Club, to do so as soon as possible, for the possibilities of the future depend to a very great extent indeed upon the numbers of nurses who join, and surely each member who can should take some share in maintaining the beautiful headquarters and Club of their Association.

May is the anniversary month of that in which Her Royal Highness the President declared the Club open, and we shall be so very glad if members living in the country will repeat their kindness of last year by sending to the Club birthday presents in the shape of flowers. We are indeed most grateful to those, both in town and country, who have seen to it that all through the year we have never been without those beautiful "writings of the Gods" in our new "home from home."

ISABEL MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.

previous page next page