

## THE GREEK NURSING UNIT.

### OFFICIAL THANKS.

His Excellency M. A. Rizo-Rangabé, the Minister for Greece in London, upon hearing of the return of the six Sisters of the Greek Nursing Unit, wrote a charming letter to Sister Cartwright, of the R.N.S., from which we quote:—

"I know of what wonderful assistance the English Nursing Sisters have been to the Greek Army and hospitals, and I would like them to realise that they have earned our eternal gratitude for their care and solicitude."

The Sisters who have very agreeable memories of the kindness shown them in Greece and Asia Minor, desired that an expression of gratitude should be conveyed to M. Rizo-Rangabé, whose kindness throughout has been of inestimable assistance to them.

### AN INTERESTING EXPERIENCE.

The return of six members of the Greek Nursing Unit to this country gave the opportunity of hearing something at first hand of their experiences. They are Sisters Catherine Evans, Browne, Baxter, and Oakley Williams, who worked both at Smyrna and Dorileon, the old name for Eski-Chehir (receiving, as we reported last week the thanks of the Commander-in-Chief of the Greek Army and the Director-in-Chief of Medical Services in Asia Minor for their services), and Sisters Nunn and Post, who were at the First Military Hospital at Athens. Sisters Bellamy and Dumvill are remaining at the Maraslion Hospital until this is closed. All the Sisters are delighted with their experience, the pleasure of travel, the kindness they have received on all sides, and the joy of helping to alleviate the sufferings and further the restoration to health of the brave Greek soldiers, all combined to make their eight months' service an unforgettable episode in their nursing careers.

Sister Nunn relates that the First Military Hospital, built on a rock at the foot of the Acropolis, is a magnificent hospital of 300 beds, all for surgical cases. When the fighting was going on the cases were nearly all very acute. Later they also had cases evacuated from the front. During the eight months the Sisters were there the Matron was first a Greek lady, trained in the United States of America, and afterwards Mrs. Endall (Miss Parsons), who did such good service in the Græco-Turkish War in 1897, and was afterwards Matron of the Children's Hospital in Athens.

Sister Post had charge of the Theatre at the First Military Hospital, and Sister Nunn of a ward of 36 beds where she had Greek orderlies working under her. She found them very useful and adaptable. Sister Nunn secured fresh bedsteads and mattresses for her patients, curiously enough from stores disposed of by the British authorities after the war, as well as other equipment.

The administrative work of the hospital is in the hands of the Director, but the Sisters came most into contact with the Sous-Director—Captain

Apostleopolus—who had studied medicine in France and Germany, and spoke fluent English. This the Sisters greatly appreciated, though they soon began to pick up Greek words of use to them in their work. It is significant of life in the East that the first two words they learnt were the Greek for "to-morrow" and "never mind."

The majority of patients received were cases of gunshot wounds, and a few caused by shrapnel, compound fractures of the arm, and a great many septic injuries to the knee joint, most of which cleared up very well. Later, when the pressure on the beds was not so great, cases of hernia and aneurism requiring surgical treatment were attended to.

The Sisters greatly appreciated the faith reposed in them by both doctors and patients, who showed absolute trust in them. The Greek nurses also showed them every kindness.

At the Maraslion Hospital where Sister Bellamy and Sister Dumvill are working, and which is a College turned into a hospital, there are 200 beds. The Red Cross Hospital is nursed by Greek Military Nurses.

The principal recreations of the Sisters, when time permitted in summer (as on half-days) were boating and bathing from the boat, then back again for a picnic tea on the beach. Their meals were served principally on the roof of the hospital overlooking the Acropolis.

Shopping was a great interest, and a little English, French and Greek proved a suitable medium of conversation.

Miss Nunn was much interested in an exhibition at the Lyceum Club in Athens of paintings and models of all the different national costumes. Each island has a costume of its own, and the people also have different characteristics.

Of much interest also was the Marble Mountain, where quarrying is still going on, though in different quarries, of the same marble of which the Acropolis is built. The Plain of Marathon was another historical spot visited, and on the road to Corinth are still to be seen the ruts made by chariot-wheels.

## TEMPORARY NURSES FOR INDIA.

The Secretary of State for India makes the following announcement:—

Nurses are required immediately for temporary service in the grade of Staff Nurse, with British troops in India. Applicants should be fully trained nurses between the ages of 27 and 35. Midwifery qualifications, *i.e.*, a certificate of the Central Midwives' Board, and further practical experience in midwifery of at least one year are required, and the contract will include liability to serve in hospitals where the families of European troops receive treatment.

Pay will be at the rate of Rs. 250 per mensem. Engagement will be for six months, extensible at the option of the Government of India to one year. Selected candidates (if below the age of 32 on appointment) may be considered on termina-

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