

S. A. Villiers (Vice-President) will be "At Home" to Fellows and Members at the West End Hospital on Saturday, June 28th, from 4-6.30 p.m. The Hospital has a beautiful garden, and there will be opportunity for tennis, so will players take their racquets. If the weather is fine this will, we feel sure, be a most attractive feature of the "At Home." Tickets of invitation may be obtained from the Secretary, B.C.N., 39, Portland Place, W.

#### THE RETIRING MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

We have pleasure in presenting in this issue a portrait of Miss Emily J. Haswell, S.R.N., M.B.C.N., the Member of the Council who retires this year after having served upon it for four years.

Miss Haswell, who is a Local Consul of the College, has seen service in many countries. In the Balkan War she served in Turkey (British Red Crescent Society), in the Great War with the Belgian Red Cross (Star of Mons) and with the French Flag Nursing Corps in France, where she held the position of Matron of the Corps, working under the British Committee of the French Red Cross and the French War Office.

#### A MAY RAMBLE. JUST ENGLAND.

Sharp at 9 a.m. on May 22nd, the now famous yellow motor coach, handled by its expert and amiable driver, picked up a happy group of members of the British College of Nurses at 39, Portland Place, W., filled up the 24 seats at Queen's Gate, and then away through many miles of this our England.

England in May! A garden of fluttering leaves, of bloom and blossoms, lush grasses, dewy meads, carpets of buttercups, hedges and ditches shimmering with hare parsley and other lacy delights. Our far objective was Embley Park on the edge of the New Forest, *il paradiso terrestre*—celebrated as one of the most exquisite gardens in the world—where the natural lie of the land has been cunningly adapted and adorned—art and nature uniting to evolve a rare and beautiful vision.

On Surrey heights above the Devil's Punch Bowl we turned off the beaten track, and came to a standstill at the call of the inner man. Here a fresh wind sporting over miles of free and common land we found vastly refreshing. King Sol was a little sulky, but as we love a pearly day, we enjoyed its misty beauty, and affected not to miss his shafts of gold. As we passed out of Surrey into Hants, rural England in full beauty flashed by. Arcades of transparent beeches overhead, emerald sward, gentle Alderneys chewing the cud, stately lodge gates, parks, rose red mansions, dinky thatched cottages half hidden in flowers, and children, chicks, birds and bow-wows.

Just England.

What words can do it justice. Not mine.

We came presently to little old unspoiled Romsey—set about by meadows, through which the "Silver Test" flows towards the sea. The massive grey Abbey, built in Norman times—a magnificent pile—dominates the place. Time permits only a brief and tantalising visit to this noble Church. We take a peep at King John's Hunting Box A.D. 1200, and then we make a pilgrimage to the grave of our Master Builder in East Wellow Churchyard—a place so rural, so still, so green and flowery, open to fresh winds and changing skies—a place so much sweeter in which to abide until angelic trumpets sound than in any vault of stone. A visit to the ancient little church where Florence Nightingale worshipped and no doubt prayed for patience.

Then we come to Embley Park and are made most welcome by our kind host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Crosfield, in surroundings beyond description beautiful. Even King

Sol is now all smiles and dimples—flooding the demesne with light.

Embley is famous for its stately trees, shrubs, flowers and perfect lawns. In the end of May the gardens are in great perfection, and the show of rhododendrons, azaleas, primulas, lillies and forget-me-nots, combine to create a paradise indeed.

An expert and artistic horticulturist like our host could alone describe their rarity and value, but their ethereal beauty was apparent to every eye. Here we were shown countless varieties of rhododendron (alas! we are not sufficiently expert to describe them by name), but splendidly grown trees bearing many flowered trusses of blooms in all shades—some we believe, the celebrated "Embley Pink" deeper in colour on the reverse of the petals, which recently received awards at the Chelsea Show.

We fell in love with the dwarf species brought from Asia, from China, Tibet, Japan—where we learn the "roof of the world is thatched with minute rhododendrons as our northern moors are covered with ling." One prolific species of an exquisite pink, bordered beds of splendidly grown shrubs weighted with bloom, white, pink, rose and yellow in many shades—a feast of colour indeed.

The sun flooded the glades, and beyond through shadowy vistas came in view "the world's most purple rim."

We returned to the beautiful house to be shown Florence Nightingale's bedroom—and gaze on the scene on which her eyes must so often have rested—to be shown the spacious rooms, so full of artistic treasures, and to be most hospitably entertained at tea. To Mr. and Mrs. Crosfield we owe a debt of gratitude for a perfect day—long to be enshrined in memory.

E.G.F.

#### THE KING'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS FOR NURSES.

##### ROYAL RED CROSS.

###### First Class.

PHILLIPS, Miss AGATHA MARY, A.R.R.C., Principal Matron, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, in recognition of the exceptional devotion to duty displayed by her in Military Hospitals.

##### PRINCESS MARY'S R.A.F. NURSING SERVICE.

###### Royal Red Cross (First Class).

WATT, Miss KATHERINE CHRISTIE, Matron, Princess Mary's R.A.F. Nursing Service, in recognition of exceptional devotion and competency displayed in Royal Air Force Hospitals at home and in Iraq.

###### Royal Red Cross (Second Class).

HUNTER, Miss ESTHER WILSON, Sister, Princess Mary's R.A.F. Nursing Service, in recognition of special devotion and competency in the performance of nursing duties in the Palestine General Hospital, Sarafand.

##### ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

###### C.B.E. (Military Division).

WALKER, Miss WILHELMINE, R.R.C., Chief Principal Matron, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service.

###### O.B.E. (Civil Division).

MACMANUS, Miss EMILY, Matron of Guy's Hospital.

###### M.B.E. (Civil Division).

WYATT, Miss ELIZABETH MARY, County Superintendent, East Sussex County Nursing Federation.

##### INDIAN AWARD.

###### O.B.E. (Civil Division).

MACPHAIL, Miss ALEXANDRINA MATILDA, Superintendent, Rainy Hospital, Madras.

Miss Amy Johnson has been awarded a C.B.E., in recognition of her outstanding flight to Australia.

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