

NIGHTINGALEIANA.

"Tudor Green," by W. B. Maxwell will, we feel sure, be read with interest by numbers of nurses. It is a record of lives of real people typically middle class—who are vitally important in the make up of any nation as they silently bear the burden of taxation, without consideration, or appreciation by the average politician. Nothing romantic on the surface of the lives of people who reside at "Tudor Green."!

Amongst these average people are a mistress and her maid. They walk out together.

"They went on to the open Green beyond the small courtyard, and after looking back at the archway with the room in which Queen Elizabeth was supposed to have died (in Richmond Palace) took a path across the Green.

Edith (the maid) shivered. "I wouldn't have liked to be that old woman."

"What old woman?"

"Queen Elizabeth."

"Oh! I see." France (the mistress) laughed.

"What character in history would you have liked to be?"

"Queen Mary of Scots," said Edith unhesitatingly, "with all the men in love with me."

"But you'd have had your head chopped off."

"I shouldn't have liked that part of it," said Edith with another shiver. "And you, Miss?"

"Joan of Arc—or perhaps Florence Nightingale."

"Nightingale," Edith murmured doubtfully. She was baffled. She had never heard of the "lady with the lamp."

We are also baffled when we realise how typical of her class is the ignorance of "Edith"!

ONE OF THE TRULY GREAT.

In "What I left Unsaid," by Daisy, Princess of Pless, a third Volume of Memoirs just issued, we catch a glimpse of Florence Nightingale on two pages. "Daisy" is sceptical of the greatness of many prominent persons in the nineteenth century—she, however, includes Florence Nightingale in the limited list of the truly great.

Toward the end of this enlightening work the Authoress touches ironically on "the Victorians."

Insular idiosyncrasies come in for sly digs, as to places and persons—Mrs. Grundy, Tate and Brady, Barnum and Bailey, Moody and Sankey, Kruger, Cecil Rhodes, Livingstone and Henry Stanley—the two latter having actually spoken in deepest Africa "without introduction." "This, however, though bad enough, was not quite so shocking as the affair of the eccentric Miss Nightingale (it was before people began dropping her prefix), who went off uninvited (this is an error) to the Crimea—wrote angry letters to no less a person than the Honourable Sidney Herbert at the War Office, while all the time mixing in an unseemly, indeed dangerous, manner with unmarried soldiers. It was even said that without, so to speak, averting hereyes, she held aloft a lighted candle while doctors dressed wounds on parts of the male body (such as stomachs)—that no unmarried female was supposed to know anything at all about—much less look at!"

Those of us who trained in the Victorian age know well how shocked were many "refined females" at the lack of delicacy upon our part in coming into touch with the naked truth!

HELP FOR MAN AND BEAST IN ABYSSINIA.

It is with special interest and pleasure that we publish the following letter from the Duchess of Hamilton and Brandon. (1) Because we are in full sympathy with trained women nurses (stalwarts of course) following the flag on every battlefield; and (2) because the unit she is helping to promote is to include a qualified veterinary surgeon and veterinary equipment, as the sufferings of the animals must surpass imagination.

AID FOR ETHIOPIAN WOUNDED,

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—The British public, quite apart from any question of partiality towards either contestant in the present East African tragedy, are deeply concerned about the sorry plight of the Abyssinian wounded, both military and civilian. The undeniable shortage of skilled surgical aid, both in field and base hospitals, is in a measure due to the complete absence of trained women nurses. The British Red Cross have been unwilling to assume the responsibility of sending out women nurses under their aegis, and, while it is not difficult to appreciate their point of view, the lack of skilled aid for the wounded, especially feminine aid, is producing heartrending suffering that might be avoided. Lady Decies, who rendered valuable services to our own wounded during the War as a Red Cross nurse, has formed a small voluntary unit of skilled women surgical nurses, and the Emperor has gratefully accepted her offer to bring them to his country, where they will serve with the Ethiopian Red Cross under the Empress and Lady Barton, wife of the British Minister. Their arrival is now most eagerly awaited.

For the purpose of equipping and transporting the Lady Decies unit a fund is being created out of donations from the sympathetic public, and I have the honour to be chairman of the fund. I feel that the existence of the fund and its objects are matters worthy of the notice of the public, and I write hoping that you may draw the attention of your readers to it. We have succeeded in raising £200 towards the £2,000 minimum required to enable the unit to leave England, but further sums are most urgently needed. I would gratefully acknowledge any donations towards completing the balance. Lady Decies and her band of nurses are ready to start as soon as the fund is complete.

The sufferings of the animals must surpass imagination, and I am glad to say that the unit will include a qualified veterinary surgeon and will take out veterinary equipment, including humane killers. The Animal Defence Society has opened a subscription list for this purpose.

I am, &c.,

NINA HAMILTON AND BRANDON,

Lynsted, 25, St. Edmund's Terrace, Regent's Park, N.W.8.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is also appealing in the press for funds to mitigate the suffering of animals in Abyssinia—the Appeal being signed by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Chairman (Mr. Robert Gower), and others. They state:—

"There may be different opinions as to the causes of the war in Abyssinia, but concerning one matter there can be no question. In this war animals are enduring terrible sufferings, some of which can well be prevented, or, at all events, bettered. Unlike Italy, Abyssinia has no veterinary service, no hospital of any kind for animals, and no means of removing sick and wounded animals from the battlefield. In many cases, wounded horses and other animals are left to starve and, after a long period of agony, die."

The Society is endeavouring to remedy these conditions by sending out, in the first place, a veterinary unit with a fully equipped hospital capable of accommodating

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