

**THE EDITH CAVELL NURSE FROM
MASSACHUSETTS: A RECORD OF ONE
YEAR'S PERSONAL
SERVICE WITH THE BRITISH
EXPEDITIONARY FORCE IN FRANCE,
BOULOGNE - THE SOMME, 1916- 1917**

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The Edith Cavell Nurse from Massachusetts: A Record of One Year's Personal Service with the British Expeditionary Force in France, Boulogne - the Somme, 1916- 1917 by Alice L. F. Fitzgerald

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ALICE L. F. FITZGERALD

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Mr J. R. Bailey.

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Publisher

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BOULOGNE — THE SOMME
1916-1917



WITH AN ACCOUNT
OF THE IMPRISONMENT, TRIAL, AND DEATH
OF EDITH CAVELL

W. A. BUTTERFIELD
69 BROMFIELD ST.
BOSTON

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THE EDITH CAVELL NURSE

FROM

MASSACHUSETTS

“**E**DITH CAVELL'S story is of a singular beauty. With solicitude for her enemy's women, the German pupil-nurses in her training school at Brussels, she protected them from possible unkindness at the hands of the outraged Belgians, by herself taking them, at the beginning of the war, to the borders of their own land. And back at Brussels she nursed her enemy's wounded.

“At her trial, she made no specious defence. With unclouded soul, she consented to her own death by giving the court the truth — that she had indeed helped her countrymen and the men of Belgium, her adopted home. For these friends she laid down her life. Is there greater love than this?

THE EDITH CAVELL NURSE

"After three weeks of solitary confinement, she said that she had found in prison kindness and peace of soul. For the enemy who first attempted to deceive our American representative, and then set aside his touching prayer, and that of the Spanish ambassador, for even a brief delay — for this enemy she had no condemnation. 'We must have,' she said, 'no hatred or bitterness.'

"As far as may be in her spirit, and believing that her execution struck at the heart of Christianity and of chivalry — we, American citizens, have asked the English director of military surgery to accept, for the rest of the war, the services of the Edith Cavell Memorial Nurse from Massachusetts. The offer, though unconditional, is made in the hope that it may be this nurse's high fortune to serve not only the Allies' heroic wounded but their prisoners."

The foregoing statement, published one year ago, had its origin in a memorial service, in honor of Edith Cavell, held in Steinert Hall, Boston, December 11, 1915.

FROM MASSACHUSETTS

Professor George Herbert Palmer presided, and Mrs. Jessie D. Hodder, Fred B. Lund, M.D., and the Rev. Samuel McChord Crothers spoke. It was then decided that an "Edith Cavell Nurse from Massachusetts" should be offered to the English Government to serve, with the British Expeditionary force in France, for the duration of the war.

The raising of the necessary funds and the far more difficult task of choosing a nurse whose spirit and capacity would fit her for her task, was entrusted to this committee. Money sufficient for salary and expenses for one year was promptly subscribed, and a nurse of exceptional attainments and personal distinction was discovered. Miss Alice L. F. Fitzgerald, the nurse in question, is fortunate in her previous experience. After graduating from the

THE EDITH CAVELL NURSE

Johns Hopkins School, she superintended two training schools for nurses, became head of the operating room at the Bellevue Hospital, New York, and later worked with the Italian Red Cross for the Messina earthquake sufferers. For her devotion in that service she was decorated by the Italian Government.

Miss Fitzgerald's services in memory of Edith Cavell were accepted by the British Government. She has just completed her first year of work for the wounded, British, Colonial, and German, on the English front in France.

WILLIAM ROSCOE THAYER

PHILIP CABOT

ROSALIND HUIDEKOPER GREENE

HENRY COPLEY GREENE

WILLIAM ERNEST HOOKING

Edith Cavell Committee