

CLARA BARTON SAYS SHE WON'T RETIRE

Complete Statement of the Internal Strife in the Red Cross.

(Journal Special Service.)

WASHINGTON, April 8.—Internal dissensions, it might seem, threaten the life of the American National Red Cross. Persons who have been connected with the society, and have contributed both time and money for furthering the noble work for which it was organized, do not hesitate when discussing in private to declare that if the Red Cross is not re-constructed and conducted on strictly business principles that it must of necessity go to the wall. Those who make this declaration do not do so with malice, on the contrary, with sorrow.

It is a well authenticated fact that a strong movement has been inaugurated to induce Miss Clara Barton, who has been president of the society since its organization in 1881, to retire from the active direction of its affairs and accept the position of honorary president for life, with an annuity. In this connection the name of Rear Admiral William K. Van Rye, has been mentioned as Miss Barton's successor. Admiral Van Rye admits that friends have spoken to him concerning his being a candidate for the presidency, but says he has made no reply to them.

Denies She Will Retire.
Miss Barton lives in the Antoinette apartments, 49 East Fifty-eighth street, New York. To a representative of the New York Press, who called on her Saturday night, Miss Barton denied a story telegraphed from this city that she is to be deposed.

"I have been too long before the American people," she said, "I have served them too faithfully and too unselfishly to feel myself at this day under obligation to sit down to an interview in my own defense. The charges that are made I know nothing of. There is no truth in them, and that from me should be sufficient for the American public."

There is apparently no hope of a settlement of the differences until Congress shall have investigated the charges of those who declare they are anxious only for a practical business management of the Red Cross.

A voluminous document, bearing the signatures of Walter P. Phillips, chairman, and Samuel M. Jarvis and J. B. Hubbell, has been filed with the constitution as to give her absolute power over the society.

Committee's Reply.

The reply, in part, says: "We find nothing in this opposition except malice, resentment and the jealousy of a few people whose ambition has been thwarted. The effort to secure the action of the President to decline giving his advice, or permit his cabinet to do so in case of emergency requiring Red Cross activity, is of itself sufficient to condemn this whole business."

The Red Cross activity of the memorialists they have been very careful to point out and to keep from the official knowledge of the President. They knew previous to the meeting that the proxies were being collected, and evidently anticipated the general purpose of the majority. To counteract this they had prepared a list of 50 or more new members, most of them citizens of Washington, which they most earnestly tried, through the directors' meeting to seat and thereby hold control, adopting the most ancient and modern methods of corruption practiced in political primaries. Fortunately they were defeated in the accomplishment of this purpose.

"Again, it is to be supposed that the majority responsible for the new by-laws had any intention to evade their responsibility to the government when they provided that the President and his cabinet should be recognized as a board of consultation to advise in questions of national and international character and importance, nor does it appear that there is any valid reason why the said officers of the government cannot consistently act in such a relation as always heretofore, only upon the assumption that the organization as now organized is not deemed worthy of confidence and recognition."

John W. Foster's Letter.
Embodied in the reply is the following letter from Mr. John W. Foster, former Secretary of State, and a member of the Red Cross:

"Washington, Feb. 18, 1903.
"Dear Mrs. Logan: I return herewith the letter from Miss Barton which you were kind enough to send me with yours of yesterday."

"In answer to your inquiry, I would beg to say that we have canvassed the matter of a proper person to succeed Miss Barton as president (she accepts the place of honorary president), and the best fitted person for the position seems to be Admiral Van Rye. He has had some experience in Red Cross work, his medical training would be useful, and it is presumed he would be acceptable to Miss Barton. He is retired—has leisure, and it is thought can be induced to take the place if a harmonious arrangement of Red Cross affairs could be secured."

"As to the annuity: Five or six responsible gentlemen, such as Messrs. Bell, Glover and others, would sign a letter guaranteeing to Miss Barton for the first year an annuity of \$2,500, and pledging themselves to have set on foot a movement to raise a Red Cross fund, within a year, out of which should be paid to Miss Barton a similar annuity during her life."

"As to the memorial to Congress: On inquiry we are told by Mr. Gillette of the foreign affairs committee of the House, through whom the memorial was presented, that there is no method by which it can be withdrawn, as it has already been printed and circulated. All that can be done is to agree that the signers of the memorial will not press it further nor ask Congress to take action respecting it. Some of us who are now most active in making peace and securing Miss Barton an annuity are signers of the memorial, and we believe that it is a fair and truthful statement of facts. All that Miss Barton can expect us to do is to desist from further action concerning it."

"The foregoing, I think, covers all your inquiries. I hope the propositions will commend themselves to you and that you will use your influence with Miss Barton to accept them. They are honorable to her, will secure her peace of mind and a comfortable retirement after the labors of a long life. Cer-

tainly no true friend of hers can desire the present unsatisfactory state of affairs to continue. Very truly,
"JOHN W. FOSTER."

Miss Boardman's Letter.

"While these propositions were being communicated to the parties who were responsible for the action complained of," the reply continues, "and evidently prompted by impatience because of the delay, the following communication was received:

"Washington, D. C.,
"1801 P Street, Feb. 20, 1903.
"Dear Mrs. Logan: I know you will use all your influence to have her accept the position of honorary president for life, with an annuity. We can do nothing about getting to work toward the raising of the Red Cross fund until we have some reliable, well-known man as active president, for the persons on whom we must depend for a fund will not contribute a penny under present conditions."

"People are continually urging that a complete and rigid investigation be made of Red Cross expenditures and methods, beginning with the Johnstown disaster, the Armenian atrocities, Russian famine, Sea Islands, etc.; but we do not want to have to do this, and will not if Miss Barton, in the true interest of the Red Cross and in the true interest of her own name and fame, will consent to take the dignified position of honorary president."

"Mr. Foster, Mr. Glover, Mr. Charles Bell, Mr. Walsh and my father will act as guarantors of the annuity for the first year, until we can get things better straightened out. So you see we are anxious to do all we can to bring about a settlement of the matter, and avoid further investigation and trouble."

"With affectionate regard, and hoping that you may be well soon.
"Yours cordially,
"MABEL T. BOARDMAN."

"P. S.—I was surprised to learn that, though Miss Barton was not able to come here before she was able to go to Boston, which caused the gentlemen who had planned to meet her here some amazement."

Will Not Consider Propositions.

"Naturally, Miss Barton has been at a loss how to consider such remarkable propositions, and especially as the first was understood to have the sanction of the President. She has never been a

she were so disposed. It is recognized that it is in the power of the President to discredit the Red Cross Society under its present officers, and to withdraw the governmental sanction whereby it acts in co-operation with the international society. It certainly appears to this committee that he will hesitate to do so after having heard all the evidence.

"It is urged that through age and years of arduous service Miss Barton is no longer capable of conducting the work of the Red Cross. This could, perhaps, find credence among those to whom Miss Barton is not personally known, but it is to her friends most exasperating. At no time in her life has Miss Barton been in sounder bodily and mental health, better able to continue the work to which her life is devoted and for which her years of experience and natural endowments have pre-eminently fitted her. Moreover, the nation's confidence in Miss Barton's, and no hand can better guide its Red Cross work than hers."

May Be Asked to Annul Charter.

The National Red Cross Association is chartered by Congress. If some arrangement cannot be made for an adjustment Congress, will probably be asked at the next session to annul the charter or amend it.

Friends of Miss Barton who have stood by her loyally for years and who are still admirers of her noble work are anxious for her to give up the active management of the association.

While there are many who criticize the management of the affairs of the Red Cross none casts the slightest aspersion upon Miss Barton. It is at some of those associated with her that criticism is directed, especially for their failure to account for funds expended. Mr. J. W. Flather, treasurer of the Red Cross, resigned because money was expended without his knowledge or without an accounting.

It was understood today that a committee of three had been appointed to confer with Miss Barton and take steps for a reorganization of the Red Cross, but this could not be verified.

Bulletin No. 1.

Local members of the Red Cross to-day received copies of what was headed "Bulletin No. 1" and signed by Walter P. Phillips, chairman of the executive committee. After reciting that "the appended letters are self-explanatory," the letter of Miss Boardman, as printed above, is given in this follows:

"New York, March 13, 1903.
"Miss Mabel T. Boardman, Washington, D. C.:
"Dear Madam: The executive committee of the American National Red Cross, at a meeting held at 49 East Fifty-eighth street, New York, on Thursday, March 12, present, Messrs. Jarvis, Atwater and Phillips, the last named in the chair, duly considered your letter dated February 20, 1903, addressed to Mrs. John A. Logan, and it was decided that it constituted an attack upon the president of the Red Cross, whom we count it an honor to love and hold in high esteem, and it was therefore voted to suspend you from active membership, pending the preparation of a report on your case, to be made to the full membership of the American National Red Cross, our con-

templated action looking to your ultimate expulsion from the organization.

"Very respectfully,
"WALTER P. PHILLIPS,
"Chairman Executive Committee."

"It is the fact that Miss Boardman caused her name to be appended to the new act of incorporation in 1900, before she was elected to membership in the Red Cross organization. This was done to the exclusion of many of the original members, including Mrs. George Keenan, Mrs. Walter P. Phillips, Dr. Lucy Hall Brown, Mrs. Henry V. Lynton, Mrs. F. V. McGraw, Gen. E. W. Whitaker and Mr. A. O. Bunnell—all of them among Miss Barton's staunchest friends and adherents. Very respectfully,
"WALTER P. PHILLIPS,
"Chairman Executive Committee."

Preferred Stock Ousted Goods.
Allen & Lewis' Best Brand.

REFORM SCHOOL ANNEX

(Journal Special Service.)

SALEM, April 8.—The building of the new industrial wing of the State Reform School will commence about May 1. The plans designed by Architect Daniel Lewis are complete. The new structure will be larger than the old. From the state prison the builders will secure the brick to be used in the building.

Threat of an Investigation.

"As to the threat of an investigation, if there is cause for any, Miss Barton cannot assert that it shall be suppressed by any act of hers. This committee suggests that such an investigation is undertaken it ought in reason to go back beyond the Johnstown disaster, even to the beginning, and that it shall comprehensively cover the entire record of the Red Cross, treaty and all, under her management."

"While every right-minded person will deplore the mental suffering, anxiety and personal humiliation inflicted upon one of the noblest women that has ever lived, it cannot be supposed that she will abandon her life work on such a demand as this, or that she will retire from the office to which she has been almost unanimously elected while under fire, nor would her friends permit it if

MYSTERIOUS STEAMER ARROW MAKES INITIAL SPEED TEST ON RIVER

Amid the cheering of crowds on both sides of the river and the whistling of passing steamers, the mysterious Arrow made her initial trip down stream to the coal bunkers this morning.

The showing made by the boat on the run satisfied her owners that everything would work all right on the final trial trip, which will be held within a few days.

The distance to the bunkers was covered in a few minutes. During one stretch of the journey the gay little steamer made a sport that will put her in the 20-mile class.

Captain William R. Thomas, an old river man, was at the Arrow's helm on the first trip, and will take entire charge of the new boat when it is put on its regular run—the destination of which has not as yet been made public. The Arrow will take another short trip this afternoon.

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