

sister—sister by right of dignity and by right of bereavement.”

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PROFESSOR GOLDWIN SMITH's letter to a member of the English Parliament has brought the subject of Female Suffrage once more to the front. He protests most earnestly against the support of the Conservative party being given to this extension of the franchise. He dreads the introduction of “the emotions of women,” and fears that they will find their outcome in legislation which he would not approve. Mrs. Fawcett—a true leader of women—has written an exhaustive reply to the Professor's objections, in which she says :—“What we know of our countrywomen encourages the hope that their devotion to home, their knowledge of domestic interests, and the supreme importance to themselves personally, and to the children under their care, of the maintenance of law and order, would introduce an element into the representation of this country that would exercise a beneficial influence on all parties.” The Professor apparently views with suspicion the movement that has been taking place in India for bettering the condition of the native women, and he thinks it not improbable that the “enfranchised women” might “commence a political crusade against the Hindoo Zenanas, which would set Hindostan on fire.” “We can appeal,” replies Mrs. Fawcett, “in this instance once more to facts, to justify the hope that our future will not belie our past. The work of English women in India crystallises round the names of Mary Carpenter and Lady Dufferin, and the hundreds of little known, but not less devoted women, who have given up their lives in order to lift up, even by a little, the lot of women in India. The touching affection and reverence felt by native women in India for English women who have been thus their friends, so far from being likely to lead to consequences which would ‘set Hindostan on fire,’ would surely not be without political value if periods of storm and stress should arise for our Indian Empire.”

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LADY LANSDOWNE has accepted the office of president of the Marchioness of Dufferin's Fund in aid of the women of India, and has been presented with an address of welcome from the native ladies. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the great work of mitigating their sufferings will continue to flourish. Very properly the bulk of the money collected has been invested, and the teachers, Doctors, and Nurses are supported out of the annual interest. The money has mostly been raised in India, by public subscriptions among the Indian nobles and well-to-do classes. But England has contributed more than £3,000.

Out of this sum £1,000 has been spent in England, mainly for passages and outfit of lady Doctors ; the rest has been transmitted to India. Altogether the subscriptions have reached the large total of seven lakhs, or, at the present rate of exchange, £50,000.

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AN interesting pamphlet has lately been published in Paris, which gives a full list of the women who have been awarded the red ribbon of the Legion of Honour. The first *décoré* was Virginie Ghesquière, who disguised herself as a soldier in order to take the place of a brother who was too delicate for the hardships of war. She fought bravely at Austerlitz and Jena, and it was not until she was wounded that her sex was discovered. A Sister of Charity, Sœur Marthe, and a *cantinière* of the name of Perrot, afterwards won the honour for their good deeds and courage. More recent names upon the list include Rosa Bonheur, our own countrywoman, Lady Pigot, for ambulance work in the Franco-German war, and Mme. Dieulafoy, the courageous wife of the African explorer.

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THE *British Medical Journal* publishes the following suggestions for the amendment of the Infant Life Protection Act, and after the report last week of the sad death of Rose Brown, aged eight months, literally from starvation, it is high time that they should be adopted by the Home Secretary :—“(1) That the keeper of one or more infants under five years of age for hire or reward, or who shall adopt an infant under five years of age for a monetary consideration, must apply to the sanitary authority to be registered. (2) That if any child under five years of age taken to nurse or to be adopted, shall have its life insured in any assurance company, notice must be given to the assurance company that the child is at nurse or is adopted, and full particulars of the assurance company insuring the child and premium paid, and the amount for which it is insured, must be given in writing to the sanitary authority to be entered in the register. (3) That where two or more adults living together keep infants for hire or reward, or if not living together have an interest or share in the hire or reward, they should be severally registered. (4) That so long as a person is registered, he shall notify the sanitary authority of any change of residence, and shall return the register on the 31st December in each year to the sanitary authority, and the sanitary authority within fourteen days after making proper inquiries, and being satisfied that the person's conduct is satisfactory, shall issue a fresh register. (5) That day nurseries or *creches* should be registered, and their sanitary condition may be ascertained by occasional visits of the officers of the sanitary

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