

"It is not strength, but knack that is needed." Fraulein loves her work, as she says enthusiastically, and rejoices in her many grateful patients; but unless with a decided taste for Medical and Surgical work, I can hardly recommend the profession, for it is no easy life, no holiday existence. Another thing against it is the costly and long training necessary, especially for the English diploma.

THE Committee of the National Dental Hospital and College, at 149, Great Portland Street, W., passed two years ago the resolution that ladies be permitted to receive instruction in Dental Surgery. Six ladies have already availed themselves of the permission, but only one has taken the full course yet, and she has "Set up in practice in the metropolis. Another, after a preliminary twelvemonth here, is going to America to qualify." Thus says the Dean of the College, who does not think as well as does Fraulein of the prospects of lady dentists, and who strongly advises any contemplating taking up the work as a profession "to take also the L.R.C.P. and F.R.C.S.E., to gain the confidence of her patients." The costs in fees, including mechanical apprenticeship, would amount to over £200, he adds—nearer £300 by far, I expect. The dental examinations are very "stiff," to use a technical expression.

THE mechanical apprenticeships, which are generally for two years, are for the learning how to make teeth (artificial, not real ones), and this apprenticeship must be gone through before the surgical side of the dental question can be entered upon. A premium is always asked, differing according to the standing of the dentist under whom the pupil is placed. Many young ladies only go through this apprenticeship, after emerging from which they can generally obtain from fifteen shillings to £1 a week for working at the manufacture of artificial teeth, but even this market is getting overstocked.

FRAULEIN VON OERTZEN has led an eventful life. She is of high birth. For many years she was a deaconess at the Berlin Home, and is therefore much interested in the subject of our English Nurses and of nursing generally. She has often been "under fire," as the soldiers say, for she was Ambulance Nurse during the campaigns of 1864, 1866, and also during the famous Franco-German war of 1870-71, when she went with the German army even to Versailles. "It must have been a terrible war," I say, but she answers quickly, "No worse than the Austria-Prussian one; that

was sharp, if short." Then she showed me her medals, five in number (one for each of the campaigns), and two crosses (one a dainty gilt one, with simply the date 1870 inscribed; the other the Augustan cross, corresponding for the Nurses to the iron cross received by the soldiers of the victorious army—of this she is justly proud). It was not till after these campaigns she crossed the waters to study dentistry in a language not her own, but of which she now is perfectly the mistress. It is now nearly five years since she settled in England. Her address is Argyll Lodge, Gloucester Terrace, Onslow Square, South Kensington.

"THE Women of Turkey and their Folk Lore" is the title of a new book by Miss L. Garnett, dealing with a subject interesting, because an almost unknown quantity at present, to most of us English. It ought therefore to be very welcome to those who wish to enlarge their ideas on things in general and the women of other lands in particular. I myself think there is always a peculiar charm in such a study; it reminds us of what we might have been under other circumstances. Besides, is there not always a bond of sympathy in every true woman's heart for other women, a "touch of nature" which "makes the world kin."

MOST people think of S. Africa as the Wild South—an uncivilized, awful place. But to Johannesburg hies Mrs. Elizabeth Hodge, having been appointed as Head Mistress of S. Mary's College, Johannesburg. This clever lady, it will be remembered, took a second in Greats and first in "Mods." at Oxford some few years ago. Evidently the inhabitants of the "golden city," as it is called, because of its sudden upspringing owing to the discovery of gold, &c., in S. Africa, believe as fully in the advantages of education as do the savants of the West, or they would not have made it worth the while of this clever lady to come over to them.

A FIRM of Boston publishers is about to bring out three songs by Mrs. Ormiston Chant, of two of which the words as well as the music are her own, whilst the third is her charming setting to music of the poet Shelley's most beautiful creation, even his famous ode to the skylark, beginning—

"Hail to thee, blithe spirit!—  
Bird thou never wert—  
That from heaven, or near it,  
Pourest thy full heart,  
In profuse strains of unpremeditated art."

VEVA KARSLAND.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)