

of France should be so bitterly humiliated by the advent of the Empress of a semi-barbarous country who is accorded her place in the National Constitution; the wife, meanwhile, of the President of Europe's greatest Republic being denied "any official dignity." We can but hope that this circumstance will do something to awaken Frenchwomen to their present position, and that they will unite and demand for themselves that legal status without which a Republican Constitution merely merits the contempt accorded it by the Royalist organ the *Gazette de France*. Under the circumstances, it would be a gracious act upon the part of the Empress of Russia, to signify her wish that Madame Faure should occupy the same carriage as herself in attending all official fêtes during her visit to Paris.

On Saturday, the 19th of September, the International Congress for Women's Work will be held in Berlin. This is the first attempt made in Germany to hold a woman's congress in order to discuss their social position and compare the results of their work with those achieved by the women of other nations. Our German sisters have our warmest good wishes for their success.

Dr. Pauline Schiff is one of the leading spirits of a new organisation just started at Milan under the title of the "League for the Protection of Women's Interests," its object being "to concentrate the attention of women upon the legal and social disadvantages under which they labour, with the view of obtaining united and well-organised support for any efforts which may from time to time seem likely to be successful in improving the situation."

At the last meeting of the United Kingdom Branch of the Countess of Dufferin Fund, the Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava presiding, it was unanimously agreed, in acknowledging the generous donations received from the Corporation and many City companies, to found two scholarships, tenable for two years, to enable resident medical women of India to come to England to take their higher medical qualifications, and that they should be called the "City of London Scholarships."

The British Medical Journal says:—"When Miss Hamilton, M.D., the private physician of the Ameer of Afghanistan, was here last summer in the suite of the Shahzada, she obtained the model of a stable for calves which are used for the purposes of obtaining calf lymph for vaccination. On her return to Cabul she showed it to the Ameer, and explained to him the principles and methods of vaccination from the calf. It seems that Afghanistan is every spring visited by an outbreak of virulent small-pox, in which no less than one-fifth of the children are killed. The Ameer, who is a ruler of great sagacity and shrewd common sense, was so impressed by the fact of the protection obtained by vaccination that he has publicly announced his intention of establishing calf lymph vaccine stations, and has asked his subjects to give him their aid and co-operation in making the vaccination of children universal. As Miss Hamilton is the only European physician in Afghanistan, to her will fall the great task of introducing vaccinations into that country, and of establishing calf-vaccine stations.

The Ameer has already given orders for two stables to be built. Miss Hamilton has also established a Dispensary at Cabul, which is attended every day by from 350 to 450 patients. In this she is assisted by a trained Nurse, whom the Ameer allowed her to take back with her. This Nurse and a Pathan compounder form her staff. The patients are roughly divided by a guard of soldiers into eye cases, wounds, and diseases. The eye cases are mostly cataracts, soft and hard. These Miss Hamilton takes into her own house after operation. The workshops of the Ameer provide a plentiful crop of accident cases. The work is very hard, but it must be a great gratification to Miss Hamilton to be the means of introducing calf-lymph vaccination into Afghanistan, and we congratulate this intrepid woman on her achievement." And to think that it is not yet thirty years since women medical students were pelted in the public streets with rotten eggs, in this so-called civilised community.

A Book of the Week.

"IN SCARLET AND GREY."*

BOOKS about soldiers are generally more or less attractive to women. There is something about the aspect and characteristics of military men that captivates their attention, and, from the typical nurse maid, who gazes open-mouthed at the Horse-Guard sentry, to the fair lady in her boudoir, listening affably to the blandishments of her be-medalled military acquaintance, the sex has shown themselves as a whole interested and attracted by the army. The lines of my life have been almost entirely cast among literary, scientific, and political people, and therefore I am especially fond of reading about soldiers, for, they and their lives being shrouded from actual experience, they have in consequence an extra and especial attraction for imagination. "In Scarlet and Grey," as the collection of tales by Mrs. Henniker is called, are considerably above, in merit, the average stories of military life that are published every year. There is undoubted distinction about them, and, moreover, they are written in beautiful English, and are commendably free from the swear-words with which so many feminine writers garnish their tales of mess, barrack, and camp life. "The Colour-Sergeant" is the name of the first tale, which commences in a well-described bazaar for the widows and orphans of military men, and ends in the ward of a Hospital.

The second story, "Bad and Worthless," is a painful, most probably all too true record, but is not equal in artistic merit to "A Successful Intrusion." This is a very clever little tale, and it is admirably told. Short as it is, the characters in its pages are most subtly depicted, and entirely sustain Mrs. Henniker's reputation as an exceptionally brilliant writer of short stories "A Vicar's History," "The Startled Fawn," and "In the Infirmary," though by no means devoid of merit, never rise to the level of this admirable short story, which relates how a stray traveller succeeded in joining a conducted party of English tourists, and visited with

* "In Scarlet and Grey," Stories of Soldiers and others, by Florence Henniker; and "The Spectre of the Real," by Thomas Hardy and Florence Henniker, 3s. 6d. net. (John Lane, 1896).

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