

THE *Zanzibar and East African Gazette* speaks in high praise of the Nursing and care of the wounded after the bombardment of the Palace. It says: "For the accommodation of the wounded a special military Hospital had been erected, and St. Joseph's Hospital and the Universities' Mission Hospital were available. The Matron of the latter, Miss Brewerton, returned from the ship as soon as possible after the bombardment, and with her staff, both there and elsewhere, rendered such admirable services as to win the loud praises of the surgeons, and to be deserving of some special recognition. Not merely devotion to their task, but most marked ability in the performance of work assigned to them, has been characteristic of the part they have taken in rendering help to the wounded and dying. The Sisters of St. Joseph, too, with Madame Chevalier, were indefatigable in their praiseworthy efforts to do the utmost they could."

It is said by those present that the maimed and dismembered bodies lying around the streets presented one of the most gruesome sights that could well be imagined; there were about 500 killed and wounded, so that the Nurses in doing their brave work had the utmost need for steady nerves and stalwart courage. But there were no signs of flinching; all was done with the most perfect devotion to duty and a fine self-forgetfulness.

THERE has been an interesting correspondence going on in the *Melbourne Age* as to the great controversy arising from the "eight-hours' day for Nurses." One Nurse correspondent states that "one gentleman loudest on the eight-hours' question shamefully overworked a Private Nurse," and she thinks the hours of Private Nurses need curtailing more than do those of the Hospital worker. Another Nurse, who worked for many years under the Metropolitan Asylums' Board in London, states that in Private Nurses' Institutions in Melbourne, Nurses coming straight from infectious cases are sent next day—without disinfection of any kind—to ordinary medical and surgical cases. She thinks this a more important question to be dealt with than is the eight-hours' day.

In both these cases, the Nurses are clearly illogical. Because Private Nurses are over-worked is no possible reason that Hospital Nurses should not have their hours made shorter. And there is no connection between neglect of disinfecting precautions in Nursing Institutes and the question of a "legal work-day."

Several other Nurses draw attention to what is a good point, namely, that the outcome of the public attention which has been called to the overwork of Hospital workers is bearing good fruit in extension of holidays and times-off. There seems to be an agreement that it is only the help she has received from the press and the public which has enabled Miss Farquharson, the much-respected Matron of the Melbourne Hospital, to bring about the reform in the Nurses' working hours, which she has long aimed at.

WE remarked in our issue of October 3rd, that Nurses were no longer a negligible quantity in Victoria, because women are within reasonable distance of enfranchisement in the Australian Colonies. On Friday last news came from Melbourne that the Legislative Assembly, after an all-night sitting, has passed the second reading of the Constitution Amendment Bill, establishing female suffrage, and the principle of one man one vote. This is splendid news.

THE *Trained Nurse* gives a graphic account of the lively way the Queen's birthday was celebrated by the Nurses of the Johns Hopkins' Hospital, at Baltimore. It says: "Among the Johns Hopkins' Nurses are quite a number of Canadians, and every year these British subjects celebrate the birthday of Queen Victoria. This spring the Britishers invited the American Nurses to a fancy dress mask ball in honour of that event. No men were bidden to this function; hence no masculine presence interfered with liberty of choice in the matter of costumes. The probationary mind is apt to suffer a severe shock at the first sight of one's dignified head Nurse arrayed in the knee trousers and other paraphernalia of 'Jack,' the well-known friend of the equally famous 'Jill.'"

From the English point of view the idea of a "Staff-Nurse" dressed—not in the partly feminine "divided" skirt, but in the real dual garment is somewhat electrifying. We imagine the Committee of one of our large Training Schools might have something to say on the subject were any of its Head Nurses to so celebrate the Queen's birthday. No enthusiasm of loyalty would be sufficient to excuse this method of showing it. And yet we know from the Code of Ethics framed by the Johns Hopkins' Nurses that they have the highest ideal of their profession. But American social customs differ from ours.

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 You can tell it by its Dainty Fragrance.

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