

circumstances. And as they are prepared to go forth in this spirit we fear not to send them, and we are confident that we shall not appeal in vain to their countrymen and countrywomen to supply the Victorian Order with adequate means to equip them fully."

THE plan, as it is at present contemplated, is for the nurses to be accompanied by a detachment of Canadian troops all the way to Fort Selkirk, the probable capital of the district, and there to make their headquarters. It will be left to the lady superintendent to decide how best to make the work of the nurses most effective under the medical men on the spot, and these ladies all having experience will be able further to develop the work if found necessary, and if funds are forthcoming.

ANOTHER interesting member of the same party will be the American lady journalist, who has done such good work under the name of Faith Fenton, and who has pluckily volunteered to accompany the nurses, for the purpose of stating "the case of the Klondyke" from the woman's point of view. Lady Aberdeen and her Order of Nurses may well be satisfied with the work they are doing, and everyone will wish the five plucky women who are travelling under the protection of the Canadian Government to the Klondyke all the success they deserve.

BUT the inevitable word of warning has been sounded by Mr. James Christie, one of the pioneers of Klondyke, in the Canadian press. Mr. Christie takes considerable interest in the proposal to send a staff of trained nurses into the great gold preserve. He says, however, that a cruel, in fact fatal, mistake will be made if the intention to send out women nurses is carried out. Women, Mr. Christie says, are utterly unfit to fight the battle out there. People in the east have not the least conception of the hardships that have to be endured by those who succeed in reaching the country, not to speak of the horrors of the trail leading to it. The route into the country by way of the mouth of the Yukon is certainly the easiest, but even that route entails the greatest hardship upon all attempting it. It might be set down at once as impossible for women to get into the Yukon by the passes. A party of Sisters of Charity who left over a year ago have not reached Dawson City yet. Some women might succeed in withstanding the fatigues of the trail, but it would be very few, and only those accustomed to hardship.

MR. CHRISTIE says that it would be a great deal more sensible to send out some trained male nurses to attend "the boys who fall by the way," than to banish women of refinement to scenes of

hardship where their services would be of very little use, even if they could endure the privations.

"THE refining influences of women I gladly admit," remarked Mr. Christie, "but you must consider the conditions which prevail in the country. Apart from the natural rigors of the climate, etc., there are the rugged social conditions to be considered. Men of all kinds are congregating there from the four quarters of the world, and they are free from the social restraint to which they have been accustomed. There are a few women, it is true, in the Yukon. Some of them were attracted out there by the spirit of adventure, the rest were tempted to brave the dangers of the country by the hunger for gain. The social conditions which prevail can consequently be guessed. Life in the Yukon might be worse than death for women nurses."

ALL the same, we opine that the trained nurse will turn up, even in far Alaska, if there is work for her to do.

It is stated by a contemporary that Englishmen in Bombay are met upon taking their morning-ride by the unaccustomed spectacle of English nurses on their way home from night duty under the escort of an armed guard. Our contemporary thinks that when the nurses have to pass through the streets with loaded rifles behind them their mission should come to an abrupt end. But this view we cannot endorse, nor do we believe that the nurses themselves would do so. That they ought to take all reasonable precautions is certain, but that so long as the need for their services exists their mission remains, will, we believe, be the unanimous opinion of those members of the nursing profession who are serving under the Indian Government at the present crisis.

THE *British Medical Journal* reports the sad death of Miss Elcueff, at the age of twenty-six, at one time an extern of the Paris hospitals, and who afterwards received the degree of Doctor of Medicine at Moscow. She had been appointed physician to the Asylum for Poor Children at Nijni-Novgorod. Recently a prematurely born child admitted to that institution died, and its death was attributed to burns caused by hot flannels in which it had been wrapped to keep it warm. Believing the child's death to be due to her own carelessness, Miss Elcueff put an end to her life. The post-mortem examination showed that the child had died, not in consequence of the burns, but from malnutrition.

JUST now Russian affairs are greatly discussed, and the picture of the Princess Shachovskoy and

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