

is surely patriotism in looking after the sick at home as well as in caring for those at the seat of war.

MISS MARY KINGSLEY'S COLONIAL POLICY.

MISS MARY H. KINGSLEY, whose views on all that concerns West Africa are always worth listening to, delivered a lecture on Monday last at the Imperial Institute on "West Africa from an Ethnological Point of View." In the course of her lecture Miss Kingsley said that Mr. Chamberlain was the first statesman who had recognised the great drain caused by the high death-rate among Europeans, and had set about remedying it in a practical way by establishing a School for the Study of Tropical Diseases in London. The Colonial Secretary had done this from humane sympathy, and his action in this matter had marked him out as a true statesman. Miss Kingsley further said that there were two ideals with respect to our government of West Africa. One was to give the people self government when they were fit for it. At present they were not fit, but the pure negro could be made as loyal and devoted to England as the man in the street here, provided we did not make the mistake of giving him an agrarian grievance. So long as he was treated as a free man we should keep him loyal. Further we must keep faith with him and not promise him anything we could not give him. The other policy we could pursue in West Africa was a kind of suzerainty, but we had neither any right nor any use for it in tropical Africa. These are words of wisdom, as all those who have lived in Africa will recognise. The trust of the African, once gained, is most thorough, but the influence of any person who does him an injustice is gone for ever. Not the least touching characteristic of Africans is their devotion to "Queenie," the great Empress whom they only know by hearsay, but whose picture is prized, and whose name is cherished by many.

MEDICAL CITIZENS.

It is notorious that Marylebone is one of the worst lighted, the worst paved, the most insanitary, and one of the most expensively conducted parishes in the whole of London. We therefore note with pleasure that Dr. Fletcher Little has been sufficiently public-spirited to consent to act on the Vestry, and is grappling with some of the abuses complained of. It is time that some one undertook this

duty, otherwise a public inquiry into the lavish expenditure of funds must have become inevitable, for during the last ten years the rates of this parish have nearly doubled, while resulting compensation is not apparent. The unsatisfactory conditions which prevail in Marylebone are no doubt due to a great extent to the fact that medical men are too busy and indifferent to realise their obligations as citizens, and it is therefore extremely difficult to rouse in them any enthusiasm on local matters. We hope that Dr. Fletcher Little will be able to enlist the sympathies of some of his medical colleagues to take an active interest in municipal affairs, as their help would be most valuable. The matter of efficient street cleansing is one which must appeal not only to the parishioners of Marylebone, but to all citizens of London, for dirty streets and pavements are not only inconvenient, but a danger to the public health.

THE PRIMATE ON TEMPERANCE.

THE utterances of the veteran Archbishop of Canterbury on the subject of Temperance Reform are always entitled to respect. For one thing, he is a splendid example of the health-giving properties of cold water, and secondly, he has proved the sincerity of his convictions, for, as Bishop of Exeter, he endured a hail of rotten eggs, on account of his adherence to principles which in those days were not common. On Monday last, the Archbishop, speaking at the annual festival of the London United Temperance Council, held at Queen's Hall, Langham Place, urged united and concentrated effort on the part of temperance reformers in order to achieve their ends. The report of the Licensing Commission was better than might have been expected, but temperance reformers should stand by the minority report. There was, however, small chance of getting the Government to support this, and without their support it would be a hard battle. They must, therefore, mark out the line most likely to lead to success. With this end in view he urged that the Sunday closing measure should be pressed forward. Many persons who did not care much about temperance approved of Sunday closing, and recognized that there was no inclination to give it up where once it had been adopted. He thought they would be more likely to win on this line than on any other. Then, when they had won that victory, they must not sit still, but must say, "Now is the time to go on." This is sound advice.

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