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Editorial.

FOLLOWING THE FLAG.

THE news of the surrender of Pretoria without resistance has caused rejoicing throughout the whole of the British Empire, and, with the entry of Lord Roberts into the capital of the Transvaal, we may hope that the horrors of the war are now at an end and that, in the future, the better administration of the country and the openings for British enterprise, may be some compensation for the many thousand lives laid down, and the millions of money spent in asserting our supremacy.

There is no doubt that when peace is once more established in South Africa and the Government is conducted on an enlightened basis, hitherto unknown, there will be many opportunities for traders and agriculturalists. New towns will spring up, and with new centres of civilization will come its needs also. It follows that hospitals as well as other public buildings will be built, and that there will be in consequence a demand for the services of trained nurses, both in these institutions and also as private nurses amongst the well to do, and in scattered districts.

It is the pride of the nurses of this country that wherever the British flag flies there the need of their services is felt, and these are, as a

rule, requisitioned. To the honour of the British nurse be it said, she is always ready to follow the flag wheresoever it may lead her. She claims her right, in fact, to assist in the Empire-making which falls to the share of this country in the expansion of its borders, and in maintaining the rights of its subjects. In doing so she renders valuable service, for the efficient nursing of the sick is of inestimable benefit to any community, and it has in this country attained a degree of excellence unexcelled, even if it is equalled, in any other. In all pioneer work it is important that it should be organized on the best lines, that the foundations should be "well and truly laid," and it is pleasant to think that after all the slaughter of the past six months happier days are in store for the Transvaal, and that not the least of the benefits brought to it by British rule will be the health and healing which follow in the wake of the trained nurse.

Lastly, we may hope that now that no less than £100,000,000 of money have been expended in securing to British tax-payers in the Transvaal the right to share in the government of the country, our Government will turn its attention to removing from the women Uitlanders at home the indignity and degradation which they now suffer from disfranchisement.

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