

quite as flushed with the joys of success as with exercise. With their white tights and dark-blue sashes they gave us not only an interesting, but a picturesque performance it is not easy to forget.

In this same hall the Medical Congress holds its conferences, which are probably of more direct value to Chili than the entire hygienic exhibition, round which it centres.

From far and near men of science have made it the scene of their discussion, and many valuable suggestions and discoveries have been discoursed on here.

Many of the best came from Chilians, for Chilians make good doctors, a large number of whom have studied in Europe.

Unfortunately there has, hitherto, been all too much need of these most unselfish members of society; for Santiago, with broad streets and handsome buildings, shady avenues and pleasant squares, 1,500 feet above the level of the sea, between the Cordillera and the ocean-breezes, designed by nature for one of the healthiest cities in the world is—thanks to man's blunders in barbarous drainage and contaminated water—one of the least hygienic.

The death-rate is considerably higher than the birth-rate; typhoid and epidemics are the order of the day, while the general mortality among infants is simply appalling.

When a baby of the lower classes dies, its relatives accept the event as a token of divine favour.

"God took the Angelito (little angel) to heaven, because he loved him so," is their watch-word, and they celebrate funeral festivities with unselfish gratitude for the departed baby's good fortune.

I say "unselfish," for the Chilians are really affectionate and over-indulgent parents, though a picnic party on the new-made grave of a little child would not give an outsider that impression.

"Yes," said a kindly-looking woman to a friend of mine who was admiring her little girl, "she is a good child, but," she added almost regretfully, "God did not love her, poor thing, as much as He did her brothers. They are all six little angels, happy in Heaven, much better off than she is." And she sighed.

It is pathetic to see these people of a sunny land of plenty, a land where literally milk and honey flow, and fruit and bread are plentiful, where there is space for hope and life, courting death for their children.

But it seems brighter days are dawning for Chili and Chili's little ones.

Not only will the sanitary arrangements of Santiago be completely overhauled by government within a very short period, but laws prohibiting the sale of unwholesome food will be enforced, the dwelling houses controlled and the "great unwashed" no longer allowed to make centres of infection of themselves in the sweet name of liberty, nor to keep phthisical cows for the benefit of babies. Sanitary houses for workmen will be built, and it is to be hoped that vaccination will be peremptory, and the great curses of Chili banished from the sunny land, and that many other hygienic laws, which have hitherto been suggestions rather than rules, will be enforced.

Directly or indirectly these improvements will be due to the hygienic exhibition, and, above all, to the Medical Congress, a body of men, who here, as elsewhere, are the least egotistical of human beings, narrowing their own field of labour without a pang in the service of preventive hygiene and humanity.

Where to get Dainty Clothing.

AT MESSRS. DEBENHAM & FREEBODY,
WIGMORE STREET.

As the season comes round, which reveals deficiencies in garments which have passed muster through dark winter days, the question arises, where shall our wardrobes be replenished. Nurses cannot do better than pay a visit to Messrs. Debenham and Freebody's in Wigmore-street, where a tempting array of new spring cambrics, and zephyrs, and Oxford cloths, in pretty shades and fast colours, are offered for their inspection, from 7½d. a yard. Here are also to be seen hem-stitched aprons, in cambric or linen, from 2s. 11d. each, and various pretty designs in hem-stitched bonnet strings. With regard to under-clothing, stockings are always things of which nurses need an unusually large supply, as they are so much upon their feet. An excellent line of wide-ribbed llama woollen hose, soft and durable, fast dye, in all sizes, at 1s. 11d. per pair, or 10s. 6d. per half-dozen, are obtainable from this firm. We can speak from experience of these stockings having proved that they wear excellently, and have all the qualities claimed for them. For those who prefer a finer stocking, the black "vicuna" woollen hose, very soft, at 2s. per pair, or 11s. 6d. the half-dozen, are to be recommended. Nurses going abroad will be glad to know of the Anglo-Indian gauze underwear, which may be obtained here. In a silk and wool mixture, guaranteed unshrinkable, vests are supplied from 5s. 9d., and combinations from 10s. 6d. In porous and unshrinkable Scotch gauze merino, vests are obtainable from 3s. 3d., and combinations from 5s. 6d., while other varieties for home wear are to be had at most moderate prices. Travelling requisites of every description, suitable for home and foreign travel, (travellers to Buffalo please note), are to be seen here, comprising steamer trunks, overland cases, bonnet cases, and bags of all kinds. Of special value is a useful dressing case, fitted in silver and ivory at 6 guineas. The Scotch wool travelling rugs, from 15s. 6d. to 21s. are admirable. Nurses should also note that perfect fitting flannel shirts, tailor made to order, are supplied at 10s. 6d., 12s. 6d., and 15s. 6d., or they are to be had ready made. Lastly, who can enter Messrs. Debenham and Freebody's establishment without pausing to examine the table near the principal entrance on which are exhibited a profusion of dainty knicknacks, the pretty beads, buckles, brooches, etc., which are dear to the heart of the well-dressed woman, and are the oddments which give the finishing touches to a gown? Not the writer of these notes.

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