

Annotations.

THE FIELD FORCE FUND.

Her Majesty the Queen has graciously accorded her patronage to the *Morning Post* Field Force Fund, and in a letter to Lady Charles Bentinck commands it to be stated that "she is very pleased to give her patronage to the Field Force Fund for sending Christmas gifts to the soldiers, and her Majesty wishes the scheme every success."

AN AMERICAN OPINION OF THE CONGRESS DELEGATES.

Miss L. L. Dock, the Hon. Secretary of the American Society of Superintendents, writes of the Congress: "We have had the most delightful time, and are still having it in 'toting' our visitors about—in other words, showing them all that they have time to see. We have certainly had the most charming and characteristic set of delegates. I do not believe any Congress anywhere ever had more interesting foreign delegates than we have proudly displayed to our friends and neighbours. Each has a most attractive and fine personality, and all are so different. Miss Stewart so strong, broad, and genial; Miss Arkle keen, military, and a skilled globe-trotter; dear Miss Louisa Stevenson of Edinburgh with her sweet ways and so much wisdom and kindness. The Matrons' Council has our warm thanks for sending Miss Mollett. She is a heart-crusher of formidable prowess, then Miss Wood, sterling, of sturdy integrity and sincere all the way through, and Miss Hughes, so fine and earnest. The great disappointment of the Congress was that Mrs. Strong, of Glasgow, to whom we became much attached, was taken ill in Philadelphia, and was unable to come to Buffalo, and further that Miss Nutting and Miss Maxwell were missing on our side. They would both have enjoyed it to the full.

"Sisters Cartwright and Waind won the affection of their American cousins, and will henceforth be looked upon as members of our associations.

"Miss McGahey and Miss Blomfield we specially prized, partly because they had come so far, partly for their own gentle charm, and because it is so delightful to find that although on the other side of the earth they are at one with us in interests and activities.

"Miss Macleod we do not call a foreign delegate, although she is from Canada (I hope that will not make the lion growl), and so our

Honorary President completes the list, Mrs. Fenwick, brilliant as always, saying everything as well as it could be said, and with the same unwearied energy."

It is good to know that our delegates are so much appreciated.

STREET NOISES.

The Social Reform Section of the National Thrift Society, 1, Finsbury Circus, E.C., is presenting a petition to the London County Council, and the Lord Mayor and Corporation of the City of London with regard to street noises and the shouting of newspapers, in which they state that a very large number of the inhabitants and residents of London, and the surrounding districts suffer considerable annoyance, inconvenience, and loss of time from the loud and oft repeated street noises and street cries in the public thoroughfares by vendors of articles for sale, and especially by vendors of certain newspapers, and whereas other towns and cities in the United Kingdom have found it necessary to adopt Police Regulations and Bye-Laws for the suppression of harsh and discordant street noises, this petition of adult inhabitants and residents of London and its vicinity is presented to the London County Council (or to the Lord Mayor and Corporation of the City of London) for the purpose of requesting the members thereof to take this matter into their consideration, and to frame and put into force, such further Regulations and Bye-Laws for the suppression of this nuisance as may seem to them desirable.

At present the Bye-Law existing on this subject is one which can only be enforced by the "inhabitants of the neighbourhood" in which the annoyance takes place, and the petitioners are anxious for the adoption of a new Bye-Law authorising the police to act either upon their own initiative, or at the request of any passer by, whether resident in the neighbourhood or otherwise. They point to the regulations in force in the City of Liverpool, and to a greater extent in the City of Berlin, as examples of regulations which would tend to the better government of London. Those, and they are many, upon whose nerves the raucous voices of street vendors and others jangle and rasp, will wish all success to the petitioners. In these days of nerve exhaustion and over-strain the unnecessary street noises are often the proverbial last straw.

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