

Annotations.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S COURT.

Two blocks of Queen Alexandra's Court, the new homes for officers' widows and daughters at Wimbledon, are now partly occupied, a number of ladies who have been allotted apartments having recently taken up their residence there. The homes have been built by the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, and the Queen, after whom they are named, contributed £5,000 out of Her Majesty's War Fund towards the cost, and also devoted to that purpose a sum of £10,000 which had been given by an Australian gentleman for use as Her Majesty thought proper. It is expected that the four blocks, to accommodate sixty families, will be completed next summer, when in all probability they will be formally opened by the Queen in person.

THE FRENCH DOCTORS IN LONDON.

We are glad to learn that the distinguished French doctors who have been paying a visit to their London colleagues this week have been afforded the opportunity of examining into the merits of the English system of nurse-training in the principal London hospitals, and have been much impressed with the efficiency of British nurses. Comparing them with those in France, one of the visitors waxed enthusiastic. "It is a profession with you," he said, "the care of the sick. We have our sick nurses, of course; they give the medicine, they give the food, they watch the patient, but here your nurses can read symptoms; they take as much interest in the case as the doctor does. What a help this is to the doctor!" The visitors were also delighted with the Nurses' Home at Guy's Hospital.

The visit of French doctors to this country is opportune in regard to nursing progress. For some time past progressive physicians in France have been striving to introduce better methods of nursing into the Paris schools, and they can scarcely fail to be impressed with the advantage of the system of training under skilled superintendents of nursing which has been demonstrated to them in this country.

INTERNATIONAL PEACE.

Those, and they are an increasing number, who regard war as a relic of barbarism and consider that no nations can claim to be entirely civilised which settle their differences by force of arms will welcome the news that the International Peace Congress decided at Boston

last week to call the attention of the Powers to the plan of the Danish Peace Society for organising the nations into a positive peace-making union with The Hague as tribunal.

Mr. Carnegie, whose interest in international peace is well known, wrote to the Congress regretting his inability to be present, and expressing the opinion that if Great Britain, France, Germany, and the United States, with such other minor States as would be certain to join them, were to determine to prevent appeals to war, and, if defied, to enforce a peaceful settlement and to deal rigorously with the first offender, war would at one fell swoop be banished from the earth. He suggested that a committee be formed to consider the question.

It is inconceivable that war should longer be allowed to continue to devastate civilised nations. From the financial standpoint it is pure waste of money for parents to deny themselves to give their sons expensive educations and then to send the cultured and finished product to be mown down by the most scientific guns that can be devised, or to be blown into eternity by submarine mines.

War is wasteful, cruel, and wicked, and should be unknown between civilised nations.

SCIENCE AND RELIGION

Sir Oliver Lodge, Principal of Birmingham University, speaking last week at the Christian Conference in Liverpool, once more demonstrated the truth of Bacon's axiom, "A little philosophy inclineth a man's mind to atheism, but depth in philosophy bringeth men's minds about to religion."

After an exhaustive survey of the latest discoveries of science, the speaker said he failed to find any antagonism between the developments of science and the claims of religion. Miracles lay all around us, only they were not miraculous. Prayer was a means of communication as natural and as simple as speech. Once realise that you were not stranded or isolated in a foreign universe, but were part of a great orderly and mutually helpful cosmos, and your power of free communication, communion, and petition would be as easy and natural as converse with human friends.

Those who were privileged to know the late Sir William Roberts-Auston, a most brilliant man of science, could not fail to realise that the religious faith, which was so conspicuous a side of his character, was strengthened and confirmed by his clear grasp of scientific facts.

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