

Clara Barton, on "The Aim and Objects of the Red Cross Society"; Miss Frances E. Willard, president of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, on "Women and Temperance"; Mrs. J. R. Barney, on "The Necessity of Police Matrons." Then it will be interesting to nurses to hear that Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, president of the Association for the Advancement of Women, gave a graphic account of the "Power of Organization," and what it has already accomplished for women. Certainly the enormous improvements made of late years in ward and domestic management in hospitals by women, and—to take the latest example—the powers of organization shown by the managers of the British Nurses' Association, show that nurses in the old country are at least not behind members of the sex on the other side of the "Herring Pond." Mrs. Ormiston Chant, who—unless one is misinformed—used to be a sister at the London Hospital, was present as a delegate of the National Society for Woman's Suffrage, and explained how efforts were being made to establish by public opinion but one law of morality for men and women. Finally, the American members of the Congress passed the following resolution, which must appeal to the best sympathies of women all over the world: "We, the women of the United States, sincerely believing that the best good of our homes and nation will be advanced by our greater union of thought, sympathy, and purpose; and that an organized movement of women will best conserve the highest good of the family and the State; do hereby band ourselves together in a confederation of workers committed to the overthrow of all forms of ignorance and injustice, and of the application of the golden rule to society, custom, and law."

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**WOMEN AS ADVOCATES OF PEACE.**—A very successful drawing room meeting of the Women's Committee of the International Peace Association was held at the residence of Mrs. W. Leatham Bright last week. The hostess took the chair, and Mrs. Oscar Wilde opened the discussion. She admitted that the time had not yet come for universal peace, but pointed out that women could do much in training up children in the love of peace. She deprecated, for example, the use of military toys for children. —Miss Balfour, who followed, said that in that morning's paper she had read no less than nine rumours of war, and, attributing this state of things to the governing classes, the military class, and the Press, contended that the remedy was to be found in the democracy of the future—the children.—Miss Bowles contrasted the scarcity of soldiers in the streets in the United States, with their conspicuousness in our own.—Mrs. Costello advocated the extension of philanthropy in various forms as a means of suppressing war.

**PEDANTRY IN GIRLS' SCHOOLS.**—In the *Nineteenth Century* for this month Miss Dorothea Beale, Principal of the Ladies' College at Cheltenham, continues the subject opened by Miss Sewell's article on the above subject. Miss Beale gives an interesting account of the objections raised to the higher education of women when she first went to Cheltenham, for she writes that then "only modern languages were taught; no science—no mathematics." She began her innovations little by little, and "under the name of physical geography was able to teach a great deal." Gradually the tide turned, and ladies' colleges began to spring up like mushrooms everywhere, and Miss Beale felt that they "were becoming popular," when a brass plate on a suburban house announced classes on the "*principal (sic)* of Cheltenham College." Miss Beale, from her position and attainments, naturally places mental culture very highly, and would not have women "educated for the home by learning cookery and needlework and arithmetic enough for accounts." "These home arts," she says, "are easily acquired by those whose minds are well trained, and the place for them to be learned is home. But can it be possible that such things can compare in importance with studies to which Miss Sewell does not even allude—elementary physiology and the laws of health?" All this, and all Miss Beale says, is very true; but there is no use in a hard mutter-of-fact world like this ignoring one great fact. Thousands of women are quite unable to cope with the mental difficulties of high education. And as these women marry, surely it is better for her to learn some simple, useful homely knowledge, than to be driven to the verge of idiocy by patient attempts to grapple with "geometry," or even "physiological geography." Thousands of girls who could never make sense of Newton's laws might make excellent nurses, and certainly a woman for whose poor little head no earthly power could make history or geography anything but confused jumbles of stupid dates and names might learn with advantage how to choose a joint of meat or fowl or fish for her husband's dinner, and to know how the same should be cooked when they were sent home.

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**AMUSEMENTS FOR NURSES.**—A series of lectures are now being given at Lady Ripon's, 1, Carlton Gardens, S.W. On Friday, the 27th inst., Mrs. Ayrton speaks on "Women and Science"; on May 4th, Mrs. Costelloe, on the "Women of America"; and May 11th, Miss Amelia B. Edwards, on the "Social and Political Position of Women in Ancient Egypt." They are given in aid of the St. Ursula Association, and tickets can be obtained from Miss De Morgan, 30, Cheyne Road, Chelsea. Mr. Samuel Brandram is reciting every Saturday afternoon at the Steinway Hall, Lower Seymour Street, Portman Square.

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