

nation could not exhibit at Paris, owing to the command of the Emperor, but unstinted funds were placed at the disposal of the Commissioners for the exhibit in Chicago. So, naturally, they made the very best show. They placed each section in the hands of experts, and, in consequence, each section was as near perfection as possible. In Germany, every department of the great show was personally superintended by the best men. The greatest care was taken, and the very best thought given to each exhibit. Miss Kenealy had mentioned American women, and she could but corroborate what she had said about their superficiality. But Miss Kenealy had omitted to grant to them that most wonderful quality lacking in English women—the power of expressing their thoughts in words. At the congresses she was lost in admiration at their power of expressing themselves on any subject. She preferred the practical qualities of English women, and, being an intense Britisher, could never allow that the women of any other country could excel our own. But it was only of late years that admiration for women's work had been shown here. What had struck her most, in the great American Republic, was the contempt of all classes for labour. They did not do work from any love or admiration for it, but because they were obliged. All who were not obliged did not work. In speaking of the American Hospitals, she must say they were the most magnificent she had ever seen. Miss Kenealy did not mention the model Military Hospitals, erected in the World's Fair Grounds, with which she was greatly struck, especially with the exceeding intelligence of the orderlies. Also with the models of invalid trains and ships. In America they seemed to have all the most modern improvements in regard to transport in time of war. With regard to the water, she thought that the warnings in this country as to its insanitary condition were not entirely thrown away.

Mrs. CRAWFORD said that her experiences were not so amusing as Miss Kenealy's. Her work in the Art and Manufactures section was of considerable importance, and she was extremely interested in it. Where the interests of great commercial firms were at stake, they were very much watched, and their verdicts could be appealed against. Her work was chiefly in the Japanese section. The Japanese had a superb exhibit. It was difficult to avoid giving too many awards. There were two specimens of quite new *cloisonné*. The work of the women judges was very valuable in cases of modest merit which might otherwise have been overlooked.

Mrs. BEDFORD FENWICK said the pains taken by the women judges selected in England were much appreciated. The World's Fair was the most magnificent exhibition ever seen. It had its faults, chiefly through want of organisation, but the result was the most magnificent which they had ever seen or probably ever would see in the present generation.

Miss DE PLEDGE feared that what she had to say would not meet with the approval of the American part of the audience. She had seen a good deal there that had made her rejoice she was a Britisher, and nothing would ever tempt her across again. Miss de Pledge then gave a lively account of her arrival in

New York, of her sending a telegram which never reached its destination, of the discomforts of the train in which she journeyed to Chicago. On this point she said she would have preferred the third-class carriages on the Great Northern, and firmly rejected Miss Kenealy's suggestion that she had travelled on a freight train. She also added that she did not think she had ever spent such an uncomfortable night as on a Pullman Car. With regard to the hygiene of the Fair, a great deal was done that way towards the latter part of the time, as she had seen in the *Chicago Tribune*. There was no doubt that American women were superficial, but had marvellous powers of expressing themselves. They were always able to clothe their ideas in eloquent language, and some were extremely clever. She could not say that she was a great lover of the American nation: she liked home comforts, which she never got there. No one could ever get their boots cleaned. (Laughter.)

The debate then became more conversational, Miss KENEALY remarking that what most struck her in Miss de Pledge's speech was that she should have believed what she saw in the *Chicago Tribune*. No one could believe what was said in an American newspaper. They sometimes could believe the English newspapers, but, then, they were not interesting; the American papers were interesting, but one could not always rely upon their veracity.

Mrs. B. FENWICK said that in the whole Exhibition the only section quite in order and decorated by the 1st of May for President Cleveland to walk through was the British Women's department. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRWOMAN then proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Kenealy, which was carried by acclamation, and with a similar compliment to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick the meeting concluded.

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## Nursing Echoes.

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\* \* \* *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.*

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It will please those amongst our readers who know and appreciate the Nurses' Home of Rest at 12, Sussex Square, Brighton, to hear that the Concert, so kindly organized by Mrs. FREDERICK BEER on the 21st instant, was a great success, and that Mrs. BEER has been able to hand over £50 to the funds, which, with a further generous subscription from Mrs. BEER, will do much to make up the deficit which accrues on each year's work.

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