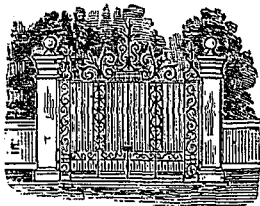


portion of Nurses enter into the spirit of their calling, if one is to judge of the inner woman from the manner in which she wears the distinctive dress of the profession. A cap, of which the original intention is lost in a cloud of hair; the bonnet is nowhere to be seen, so has to be advertised by white (?) muslin, and a pennon streamer. The dress may be plain, and the apron nice, but why wear the apron in the street? the cloak should there do its work and cover up the dress. How often one passes a "Nurse" in the street with a feeling of thankfulness that one is not condemned to the care of such an harmonious person! and yet it is not the fault of uniform, for the trim monotony of a properly worn Nurse's dress is most restful to the eye. The sad fact is, that these women have not thought sufficiently and wisely about their dress, have not cultivated a sense of fitness, and are either still so faulty in aim and character, that they are unworthy of the uniform their individuality distorts, or they are too shallow in their thinking to see the beauty and fitness of things as they ought to be. The greater proportion of Nurses wear outdoor uniform from choice, and none should allow their natural tone of adornment, or their vanity, to blind them to the responsibility they thereby incur. Everyone who wears it in an unsuitable manner, and whose behaviour is not quiet and restrained, in harmony with the work she has undertaken, brings discredit on all her professional Sisters by lowering the tone of the profession in her own person. In ordinary dress, she has no special character to support, but the moment she dons the distinctive bonnet and cloak, which proclaim, "I am a Nurse," she challenges criticism. Only by a real uniformity between her work, and the expression of her personality in her dress, can she hope to disarm it, and pass on respected and protected.

E. J. R. LANDALE.

— Outside the Gates. —

WOMEN.



MR. SHAW LEFEVRE'S answer in the House of Commons, to a question as to the advisability of women Inspectors being appointed to supervise Asylums and Institutions for Children, was by no means satisfactory. The recent revelations of the cruelties practised upon little children in Institutions, ironically called "Homes" and Asylums, render the appointment of women Inspectors a stirring public question. Under a woman's supervision, it would have been impossible for little children to have undergone

"basket-drill," whippings with nettles—or for infants to be kept for hours without other water than that supplied by muddy pools, and from even more contaminated sources.

A belt is being largely advertised and recommended by many ladies' papers, as possessing the power of reducing the size of the waist by two inches. A fashion paper says "this will remove the necessity of tight-lacing," because the belt, by destroying the oval form of the waist, and making it appear round, reduces its apparent size. Nurses should be the pioneers of all that is natural, beautiful and artistic. And they will know better than most women, that a deviation from the oval in woman's waist is a horrible departure from nature, and is inartistic in the extreme. One often finds oneself devoutly hoping that men never turn the pages of a fashionable woman's paper and see the hideous artificialities there portrayed; artificialities which place more obstacles in the way of woman's best progress than even legal disabilities can ever do.

It is encouraging to learn from recent statistics that marriages are not only being made in heaven, but that they are increasing on earth. There has not been for many years so flourishing a wedding season as the present. No doubt the furnishers of "marriage feasts," are prospering accordingly. On the other hand, one learns with sorrow, that the undertaking business is in a bad way. A pitiful tale was recently told by a bankrupt undertaker. "I assure you, my Lord," he said "there is nothing doing in the trade." And to this dearth of funerals, he attributed his inability to pay his creditors a fair dividend. His pathetic representations so worked upon the sympathies of the Judge, that the affair was adjourned in the hope that "business would look up."

Notes on Art.

THE BAYEUX TAPESTRY AND BOSHAM CHURCH.

THE holiday season has now fairly begun, and readers of these notes may find themselves, as the writer does at present, in one of the out-of-the-way corners of England. The prominent object at the moment is a very old church which suggests certain reflections as it is a very striking landmark in English history though its existence is little known.

We would therefore ask the reader to remember the reproduction of the celebrated Bayeux Tapestry which is to be seen in the South Kensington Museum. It represents a roll of linen cloth, preserved at Bayeux, in Normandy, and is 210 feet long by some twenty inches in width. Each year, on St. John's day, it is hung round the nave of the Cathedral at Bayeux. It is said to have been worked by Matilda, the wife of William the Conqueror, and relates to the Conquest of England, and it is believed to have been presented by

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