

cases where the salary might prove to be a difficulty, the wanted amount could perhaps be provided by means of co-operation or from the community. District Nursing, proceeding from the Dutch band of Protestants and based on the lines of your Queen's Jubilee Institute, is going on very well now in several places, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Zavelle, Deventer. Though still in the initial stage, the work may rejoice in a continually increasing progress and in the effectual support and recommendation from medical men.

I will not finish this letter without mentioning with a single word the Dutch Association for the Treatment of the Sick, a society that may glory in the warm interest of our transatlantic sisters. The following Nursing Institutions have adopted the principles of the "Band," concerning the examinations to which candidate Nurses must submit themselves in order to obtain the longed-for certificate: the White Cross, the Society for Sick-Nursing at Utrecht, the Private Hospital (Burgerziekenhuis) at Amsterdam, the City Hospital of Rotterdam, the Sophia Children's Hospital at Rotterdam, the Rotterdam Sanatory, the St. Elizabeth or Great Hospital at Haarlem, the House of Deaconesses at Leenwarden, the Hospital of Harlingen. The two City Hospitals of Amsterdam, the "Binnen-Gasthuis" and the "Wilhelmina-Gasthuis," do not give their own certificate, the probationers who have received their training there must pass the examination of the White Cross.

Next time I hope to be able to give an account of the General Meeting of the above-named Association, which most probably is soon to be held.

HOLLANDIA.

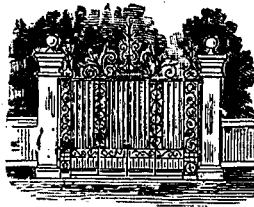
Amsterdam,  
May, 1896.

## Inventions, Preparations, &c.

### A HAIR FASTENER.

A NOVEL invention, which will be especially welcome to Nurses, is the new Ita Hair Fastener, because it will reduce the labour occasioned especially to private Nurses in attending to the hair of their women patients. It consists of a narrow silk band, through which runs a cord, which is attached at the end to a small ball, by means of which the band is easily tightened up, and thus the hair can be tied back. The bands, moreover, being made in all colours, can accurately match the colour of the hair, and is therefore invisible when in use. The damage done to the hair by the tapes or strings usually employed is often very great; and a further advantage of the invention in question is that, as it exerts no injurious pressure, the hairs are not broken and split, and the unsightly appearance caused by these is therefore prevented. The Fastener only costs 6d., and can be obtained through any hairdresser or draper, or direct for 7d. in stamps, from the manufacturers, the Patent Hair Fastener Company, Aston, Birmingham.

## Outside the Gates.



ON Saturday, the 20th, the Queen entered on the sixtieth year of her reign, and if she lives after September 25th next she will have beaten "the record reign" of George III. Everyone must hope that she will live for many more years, as her reign

has been wonderfully wise and constitutional. It is expected that the sixtieth anniversary of the accession will be made a day of national observance and rejoicing.

There is no question but that the great strike now going on in St. Petersburg, where over 40,000 factory workers are "out," has a deep political significance. The strike ostensibly arose from the fact that the police and employers forced the workers to take a three days' holiday during the Coronation fêtes. They naturally expected to be paid for these enforced days of idleness, but this just demand is refused by the employers. But the strike in reality goes deeper than this, and the public entry of the Czar and Czarina into St. Petersburg has been delayed owing to the disturbed state of affairs. The strike is being conducted on peaceable and orderly lines, but the strikers reasonably demand the reduction of the working day from fourteen to twelve hours, more time for the mid-day meal, and better payment.

The condition of affairs in Rhodesia has not been exaggerated, and it seems as if we have before us a long and rather weary business in bringing both the Matabele and the Mashonas to a reasonable condition of subjection. It is being found necessary to send more Imperial troops to the scene of action, as several hitherto friendly Chiefs have risen in rebellion and taken action against us.

The latest report from Mashona tells of a gallant rescue of a party of women and children by a patrol of twenty-three men. The women and children were being brought to Salisbury in a mule waggon from Mazoe. The natives attacked the escort in great force, and day and night made repeated onslaughts upon the little party. The men fought with the courage of desperation, and lost seven men killed and four wounded. All the mules were killed and fourteen of the horses during the fight, in which the shooting of the rebels was very good.

The Conservative Government has placed itself in an awkward situation, resulting in the absolute withdrawal of their much-vaunted Education Bill. Mr. Balfour was absolutely pathetic when he spoke in the House of the drawbacks and disadvantages to a Party of having a majority of 150. Few women will be found to regret the collapse of a Bill which treated them as ciphers, and "of no account," on a subject which women understand perhaps above all other subjects—the rearing and educating of the children of the country. No Bill which ignored the "mother half" of the community on such a question as education had a right to success, and its ignominious collapse may serve as a warning to the Government to introduce no more retrograde measures.

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