

stitution. They held that their subscriptions entitled them to this honourable distinction, more than the fifteen years' labour of the blind woman to whose initiative the library was due. Pressure was brought to bear upon Miss Arnold through Gardner's Trust for the Blind, from whose funds a small grant of £25 was once made towards the support of the library in Belsize Road.

As a result, this poor old blind lady of seventy was compelled to resign her post of manageress of the institution, and to leave the rooms she had occupied above the library for more than fifteen years.

She retired to the residence of her only sister, heartbroken at the treatment which her charitable patronesses had meted out to her because she was described as the "foundress" of an institution instead of themselves. A gentleman, representing these ladies, even went so far as to call at the *Daily Mail* office to obtain the publication of a contradiction of the statement that the library was founded by Miss Arnold. In this, however, he was unsuccessful.

Our contemporary is to be congratulated that the mission of this gentleman was a futile one. The snöbbery *in excelsis* which holds that hard cash is entitled to greater honour than the brain that conceived, and the hand that carried out, the philanthropic scheme is inexpressibly contemptible. That such a suggestion could ever have been made is perhaps the greatest proof which could be afforded of the extent to which the greed of gold, and the worship of the golden image, has permeated this nation.

Miss Arnold's friends attribute her sudden death to grief at the way in which her labour of love was compulsorily terminated—in other words to a broken heart. There is, we imagine, no doubt that such was the case; and if so, when things are seen in their true proportion, who will be held to be the more guilty—the man who commits a murder for which he afterwards pays the full penalty of the law, or the sleek and self-satisfied philanthropists, who, with weapons more impalpable, but none the less deadly, as surely commit murder when they kill a woman with cruelty?

As one reads the story of persecution on the one side, and of bitter heartbreak on the other, one cannot but rejoice that the kindly hand of death has been held out to the aid of this unfortunate old lady in her extremity. Her work was done, and we may hope that she now "sees of the travail of her soul and is satisfied."

## Annotations.

### WELL MERITED HONOURS.

THE King of the Hellenes has bestowed upon the English medical men who worked in the recent war, in connection with the *Daily Chronicle* National Fund for the Greek wounded, "La Croix d'Officier de l'ordre Royal du Sauveur."

The design of the Order is most artistic, being a white cross, surmounted by a gold crown. In the centre of the cross is a medallion bearing on the front the head of the Saviour and at the back a smaller cross. The medallion is surrounded by a wreath of oak leaves. The Order is suspended by a blue and white ribbon, the Greek colours.

We warmly congratulate Dr. Abbott, Mr. Samuel Osborn, Mr. Fox-Symons, Mr. Henry J. Davis, and Mr. Moffat upon this well merited honour.

### A JUST CAUSE FOR COMPLAINT.

THE action brought against Mr. Walshe, the manager of the Male Nurses' (Temperance) Co-operation, 10, Thayer Street, W., by Mr. David Parr, a male nurse, for libel and slander, has naturally occasioned considerable interest in nursing circles. The action of the plaintiff fell through, as the Lord Chief Justice pointed out that he had no case. It was clear that no imputation was intended to be made on Mr. Parr, as Mr. Walshe did not know he was in any way connected with the Association in Great Marylebone Street. We are entirely in sympathy with Mr. Walshe in this matter, and we think that it is high time that some ethics as to honourable behaviour should be laid down, and considered binding, with regard to the relations of one nursing co-operation to another. Taking into consideration the tactics employed by Miss Ethelred Jackson, in connection with certain medical men, in the formation of the Society of Chartered Nurses, it is not altogether surprising if similar tactics are employed by those who presumably start a co-operation as a private speculation, but they are none the less reprehensible.

The facts of the case of Parr *v.* Walshe are stated to be that Mr. Walshe carried on the business of the Male Nurses' (Temperance) Co-operation at 8, Great Marylebone Street, and in August, 1896, removed to Thayer Street. The new occupants in Marylebone Street styled the premises the Nurses' Institution, and Mr. Walshe had reason to complain that letters

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