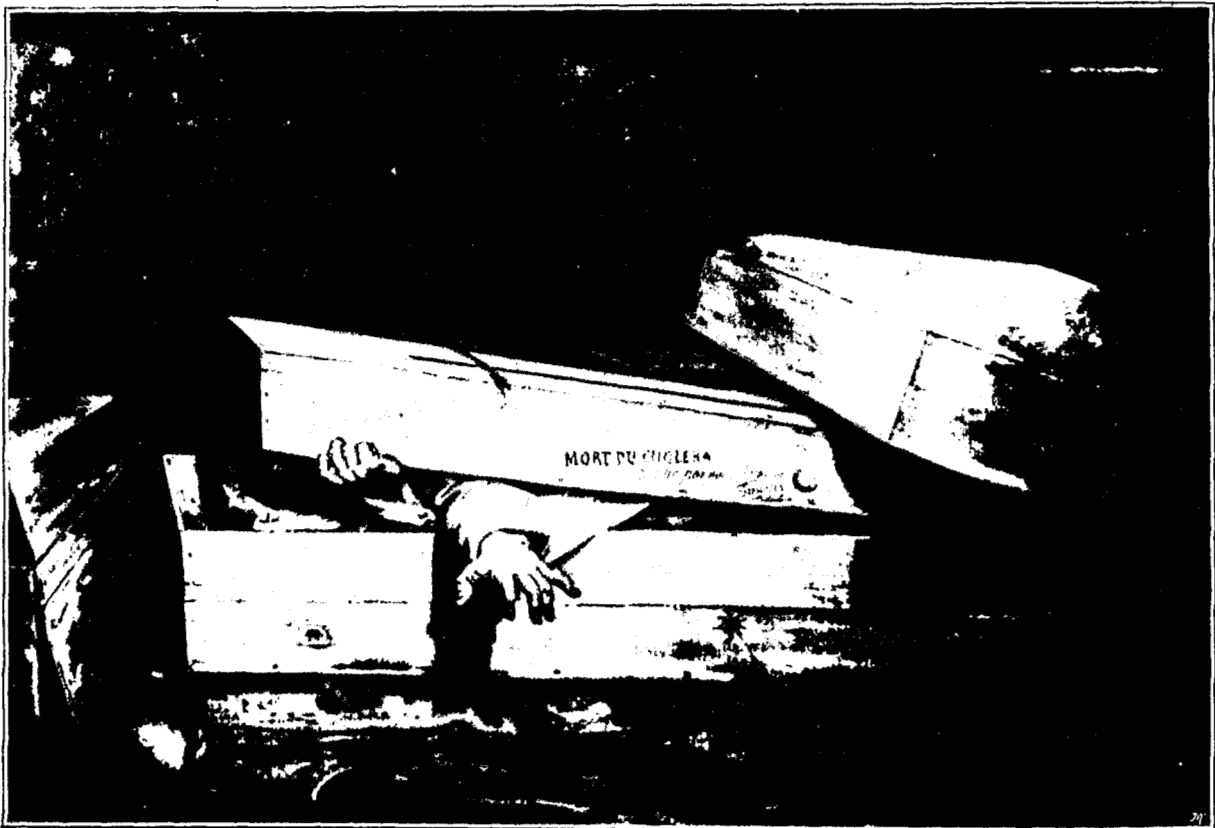


that he should give his works for ever to Belgium. It is inevitable that pictures painted by a man of such a type should be out of the common, and they are, many of them, as weird and horrible, as others are beautiful. If the subject is a terrible one, the painting is absolutely true in every detail. Nothing is softened down, nothing omitted in order to lessen its horror. Visitors to the Museum will not soon forget the picture entitled "Buried Alive," which is reproduced in this issue of the NURSING RECORD, or another of a mother, who having become insane from hunger, has destroyed her child, and is cooking its limbs in a pot over a meagre fire. It is said, by those who knew him, that in the cholera epidemic which occurred in Brussels some thirty years ago, Wiertz gave personal

There are various hospitals in Brussels, the most important being the Hospital of St. John. It is distinctly in advance of the General Hospitals at Bruges and Ghent—the wards being large and airy, and the female wards are more home-like and cheery than is usual in Belgium. There are tables up the centre of the wards, and flowers and plants take away from the desolate bareness which seems usual in hospital wards in this country. The Hospital is nursed by Sisters, and I was told in Brussels that the patients were well cared for, but I scarcely think the nursing was up to a modern standard. I must not forget to mention the statue of Godfrey de Bouillon, the hero of the Crusades, which occupies a prominent position in the Place Royale. The Park close by is a popular



BURIED ALIVE. BY WIERTZ.

From a Picture in the Musée Wiertz, Brussels.

service in helping to remove and bury the dead, and that "Buried Alive" was painted from what he actually saw at that time, and that the remembrance of the unfortunate man depicted in it, and the horror of his position, nearly turned Wiertz' sensitive brain.

One of the most ambitious, as well as the most remarkable, of these pictures is that of "The Greeks and Trojans contending for the body of Patroclus." The canvas is 30 feet high and 20 feet wide, and the difficult subject is depicted with the utmost genius. Space does not permit me to refer to more of the pictures, but the true art lover may rest assured that if he is at present unacquainted with the Wiertz Museum there is a rare treat in store for him when he visits it.

promenade, but the most beautiful place in the environs is without doubt the Bois de la Cambre, part of the Forest of Soignes. It would be difficult to find, even in the depths of the country a more beautiful wood than this which is within easy reach of all the citizens of Brussels.

Waterloo, of course everybody who goes to Brussels visits. I was the exception which proves the rule. Having little time at my disposal, and being told that a visit there would be eminently unsatisfactory I preferred to keep my ideals, and left those who would to buy the buttons, bones, and other "relics" which are sown on the battle field at the beginning of every season.

(To be continued.)

M. B.

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