

as the fund is primarily opened for the benefit of the appeal by the Duke of Cambridge. Contributions may be sent to the Secretary's office at the Mansion House, or to the Bank of England, to the credit of "The Transvaal War Fund."

THE COLONIAL NURSING ASSOCIATION.

MISS M. H. KINGSLEY, of West African fame, has always, when she speaks, something worth hearing to say, and says it in a most effective manner. Her letter, in the *British Empire Review* for the present month appealing for support for the Colonial Nursing Association is the last instance. She describes graphically England's greatest enemy in the tropics—King Death. "If you but realized how terribly strong he is there," she says, "how he not only kills men, but tortures them; if you but realized how very heavy a tribute in white men's lives he levies in West Africa—one in every five of all who go there he takes for ever, or flings back to life a wretched and broken man; if you all realized the value of those lives of Englishmen, the value of their work to England as a nation among nations, you would forgive me for bothering you for subscriptions." After describing the effort now being made to fight the scourge of malaria on scientific grounds, Miss Kingsley practically remarks, "We must not sit quietly still, twiddling our thumbs waiting for science's new weapons and neglecting the use of our old weapons against malaria. For men are dying—dying now in the tropics; men that need not die if we did our best for them, even our best as it is to-day. Of all the means we can command now to save those men's lives, one of the most effective is good trained scientific nursing. Therefore I plead with you to support the Colonial Nursing Association—an expert organization to provide trained nurses, and send them out to those battle fields where the fight against tropical disease is at its hardest."

There is no doubt as to the reality of Miss Kingsley's claim that many lives which are now lost in the tropics might be saved by good nursing. Patients suffering from malaria need not only nurses, but the very best that the profession can produce, for in no disease is more assiduous nursing care needed, in none is the patient more likely to slip away if constant, unremitting, and most skilful attention is not bestowed. The work of the Colonial Nursing

Association is a noble one, and deserves support. It is noticeable that, as in so many instances it owes its inception to a woman, Mrs. Francis Piggott, who is to be congratulated on the result so far obtained by her labours. But the field is large, and the opportunities only limited by the funds at the disposal of the Committee. We hope therefore that Miss Kingsley's appeal will meet with the response which it merits.

"THE NURSING DIRECTORY."

By this time, all those nurses whose names are inserted in the "Nursing Directory," issued under the authority of the Matrons' Council, have received the forms for the ensuing year, with the request that they will correct the slip concerning their career. We, therefore, take this opportunity of reminding them that the form should be returned as soon as possible, and to explain to them the advantages of placing their names upon this Directory. In the first place, it is issued under professional control, the "Directory" Sub-Committee appointed by the Matrons' Council carefully considering all applications, and, in the second place, it is the only "Directory" which requires that all nurses, for their names to be eligible for insertion, must hold the three years' certificate of their training school, which must be a general hospital or infirmary of at least 100 beds. This regulation ensures that only nurses with a sound professional training shall be placed upon the "Directory," and it is obvious that it is to the advantage of nurses to have their names in a publication where this standard is enforced. Medical practitioners, we feel sure, would strongly object to placing their names on a Directory in common with those of persons who have received some small amount of training, but who are not qualified, or recognized by the profession, and the same should hold good of nurses. It is only by maintaining this position that the prestige of the profession can be raised or even preserved.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPATHY.

WE print "A Letter from Holland" this week, giving news of what is being done to help their brave kinsmen in South Africa. We know full well how tenderly our Army Sisters will care for the wounded foe, should the chances of war give them an opportunity of proving that nursing has no nationality.

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