

been organized on the same popular lines. If the funds for the supply of the necessary medical and nursing service for our soldiers were provided by Government, then it would be legitimate that the arrangements should be made by a small committee in connection with the War Office; but, as public benevolence is requisitioned, it is only fitting that the necessary organization should be carried out by a committee representative of the contributors. In our opinion this would be a much more popular method of dealing with the question than the present one of asking for contributions to be disbursed at the absolute discretion of the Central British Red Cross Committee. We have, on former occasions, remarked that the Britisher is a self-governing animal, and likes to have a voice in the disposal of national funds. In strong contrast are the methods of the American women. They have formed their own committee for raising the necessary funds—£30,000 being the sum which they consider necessary to carry out their scheme—and this committee is arranging all the necessary details from the equipment of the ship to the selection of nurses.

They will assuredly have the gratitude of British women for their kindly feeling and sympathy to our sick soldiers; and we English women may well note for our own guidance in the future the capable methods of work adopted by the Americans. They do not only collect £30,000; they give personal service, time, and trouble to organize their own scheme, and its success is, we believe therefore, a foregone conclusion.

“O Englishmen! in hope and creed
In blood and tongue our brothers!
We too are heirs of Runnymede;
And Shakespeare's fame and Cromwell's deed
Are not alone our mother's.

‘Thicker than water’ in one rill
Through centuries of story
Our Saxon blood has flowed, and still
We share with you its good and ill,
The shadow and the glory.

Joint heirs and kinfolk, leagues of wave
Nor length of years can part us:
Your right is ours to shrine and grave,
The common freehold of the brave,
The gift of saints and martyrs.”

JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER.

Annotations.

THE PRIMATE ON PROGRESS.

THE Archbishop of Canterbury is one of those who by his proved sincerity of purpose, his large-heartedness, and his ripe wisdom always commands respect; and, moreover, he always has something to say which is worth listening to when he speaks in public. His speech last week on distributing the prizes gained by the students of the St. George's Hospital Medical School is no exception to this rule. His Grace said he was very much indebted to the medical profession, as he doubted whether without its services he would have been there at all. He, however, reserved to himself the rights of a free Englishman and did not always implicitly obey his medical man. He appealed to those who were studying medicine to make their studies worthy of the profession to which they aspired. The progress of medicine was now most rapid, and probably the heights to which it would one day attain were at present only indicated. That was the profession to which they were called, and of which they were to make themselves worthy. They could not have a higher call than that of constantly bestowing relief from pain upon their fellow creatures. He also urged upon his hearers that God had called them to a profession in which study was of the very first importance. They must keep this up all their lives. The man who stood still in his profession was beginning to go back and lose ground.

THE HOSPITAL SATURDAY FUND.

THERE was a crowded attendance at the twenty-fourth annual meeting of the Hospital Saturday Fund, held at the Mansion House on Saturday last. Sir Henry E. Knight presided, in the absence of the Lord Mayor. A satisfactory balance-sheet was presented, there being an appreciable balance in hand after all the liabilities had been defrayed. The following resolution was proposed by Archdeacon Sinclair, seconded by Sir Savile Crossley, and carried:

“That this meeting, recognising the interest which the workers of the metropolis are taking in the medical charities of London, confidently appeals to the working classes through the Hospital Saturday Fund for continued and increased support in order to obviate any loss to the Fund by the discontinuance of the Ladies' Street Collection, and to enable the Fund to still further extend its beneficial work.”

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