

never come to Chile," she said, "*never*," the priests will never allow that."

"I am afraid they won't be able to do much," I replied.

"Oh; but they will," she answered. "They can do everything. Listen! I will tell you what they did years ago, when the great sickness came to Chile for the sins of the people and the anger of Heaven."

(She was alluding to the epidemic of small-pox in 1889.)

"The people," she continued, "died and died and died. The hospitals had no room for them, and the houses of families were houses of death. Everywhere were tears and fear and horror, but the priests did not stay the sickness, for they said: 'It is a punishment, sent by God for the insolence of unbelief and the pride of the people.'

"At last it was enough. The priests said: 'There shall be no more of the plague.'

"So one day there was a great procession with banners and saints and incense. Thousands of people followed praying, and all went to the sea-shore.

"Then there was a great service. All went down on their knees, while the officiating priest invoked the saints, and laid a curse upon the plague and *banished it from the land into the sea.*"

"There it fell upon the fishes."

"Poor fishes!" I ventured to put in.

But she took no notice and continued "The priest told the people, that now the plague was over on land—but for *a year*—the year it should have stayed but for the invocation, the plague would be in the sea, and all the fishes unclean.

"So no one ate fishes for a year."

"And the plague was really over?"

"There was no other death from it—it had been banished into the sea. There it remained for a year."

"And so you are not afraid of the plague coming to Chile, this new plague I mean."

"It will not come, the priests will prevent it."

Her voice had so much of confidence and calm in it, that I gave no answer. I realized that the comfort of a strong faith might be worth more than reason, and a wisdom underlie the cultivation of superstition that so-called common-sense could not replace.

LINA MOLLETT.

For Private Practice.

THE Nurses' Report Book, for day and night, arranged for three weeks, by Miss C. M. Löhr, Matron of the Cottage Hospital, Potters Bar, continues to be appreciated as is evidenced by the fact that it is now in its third edition. Miss Mary Shirley, the Lady Superintendent of the Staffordshire Institution for Nurses, who has a wide experience of the needs of private nurses, expresses great appreciation of it, and says that the nurses of the Staffordshire Institute use it continually, and many of the doctors ask for it at once if a nurse does not happen to have hers in use. So many private nurses need a book of this sort, that they will be glad to know that this can be obtained from Miss Löhr, price 6d. each, or 5s. a dozen.

The Spring Show.

AT MESSRS. DEBENHAM & FREEBODY'S.

NURSES whose wardrobes need replenishing are always sure of finding at Messrs. Debenham and Freebody's, in Wigmore Street, something which is both in good taste and which may be relied upon to wear well. A charming cloak is the Princess, at 47s. 6d., which is made in all colours in alpaca, and is waterproof, while the Victoria bonnet, a close-fitting shape in fine straw, either black or blue, and trimmed with rain-proof ribbon or velvet, must commend itself to all, alike on the score of becomingness and of its price which is only 7s. Amongst the many pretty things on view at this establishment we noticed a dressing-gown, which should be a great favourite with nurses. It is named the "Durable," and is made in red or peacock blue flannel, the bodice and sleeves being lined with nun's veiling. There is a Wateau pleat down the back, and the neck is finished with a sailor collar trimmed with embroidery of the same colour. The price to nurses is 26s. 6d. In the same department are flannel-ette night-dresses from 5s. 9d., one at 7s. 6d. being trimmed with embroidery. In the hoisery department are to be seen combinations of Indian cashmere, an ideal dove-coloured material, delightfully soft, and warranted unshrinkable. Also extremely nice stockings, the Llama, at 1s. 11d. the pair, or 10s. 6½d. the half-dozen; a nicer stocking for everyday wear could scarcely be found. Those nurses whose duties necessitate travelling, will find a selection of travelling rugs at 12s. 6d. and £1 1s. 0d.

AT MESSRS. GARROULD'S.

Private nurses whose work takes them out of London cannot do better than write to Messrs. Garrould, 150, Edgware Road, for their new Red Cross illustrated catalogue and for patterns of materials. They will then have no difficulty in ordering what they need by post, the only difficulty will be in making a selection among so many attractive things.

As might be expected in such an up-to-date firm, the outfit of the Army Reserve nurse is on view, and many of the Reserve nurses have obtained their equipment here. The grey dresses are made of Denrick all-wool beige, a material which neither shrinks nor loses colour in washing, and which costs 13s. 6d. for the full dress length. The caps are of the handkerchief shape which is easily washed. Nurses who are suddenly ordered to South Africa will find a great convenience in obtaining their outfit from a firm who have

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