

selected in return for their social services. We observe, however, that the Colonial Press is entirely in sympathy with our views on the Nurse Fraud, and quote the *Melbourne Argus* in support of our protest.

"South Africa is a fine field for the adventuress. Some pleasing revelations are coming out about sundry of the so-called nurses, who are trooping to the Cape. The papers say that at present any woman, providing she can obtain the command of a hundred pounds or so, can seemingly go to the Cape, wear some sort of a uniform, and call herself a nurse. London has had a grand clearance of some ladies, who, if they had remained behind, would have had to face debt and other unpleasantness. It is a lamentable state of things that these self-seeking frauds should be able to masquerade as nurses, and throw discredit on a profession full of noble-hearted unselfish members. Then the social advertiser is reaping a rich harvest by posing as a "patriotic" writer of stories and ballads, which she buys from a "ghost," and an underpaid ghost at that. Frauds of this character are soon found out, but the society adventuresses, the so-called patriotic actresses, and the sham nurses who are everywhere imposing upon the credulity of the public, and who are merely furthering their own selfish ends at the expense of patriotism, are a distinct cause of danger to society at large."

THE SNUB DIRECT.

Sir Alfred Milner has sent the following telegram to Mr. Chamberlain:—

"The number of visitors to South Africa is constantly increasing, and includes many, especially ladies, who seem to have no particular call of duty or business. I am sure this would not be the case if it was realised at home that visitors who, at ordinary times, would be most welcome may, under existing circumstances, be a source of serious inconvenience, interfering with the work of military and civil officers and putting a strain on our limited means of accommodation which are urgently required for those who have duties to perform here or who are invalided from the front. The considerable increase in the expense of living, at all times very high, which is caused by the excessive influx of visitors is a hardship on persons of the latter class who may not be in possession of large means. I think that many whose coming here is prompted by nothing more than a general interest in the war would elect to stay at home if they knew

that their presence was a hindrance rather than a help. For persons travelling merely for health and recreation, and above all for ladies so travelling, no place could be less suitable at the present moment than South Africa.

"Field Marshal Commander-in-Chief, to whom I have submitted this message, authorises me to add that he fully concurs in the views expressed in it."

OUR LOSSES IN THE WAR.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

THE War Office has issued a further revised statement of the casualties in the Field Force, South Africa, reported during the week ended April 7, 1900, and total casualties reported since the beginning of the war, up to and including that week. From this it appears that during the week the following losses were sustained:—Died of disease, 3 officers, 167 non-commissioned officers and men; accidental deaths, 3 non-commissioned officers and men; invalids sent home, 38 officers, 479 non-commissioned officers and men.

The grand total of casualties from all causes up to April 7 is 18,653, divided as follows, the deaths from wounds being deducted from the total of wounded:—

Officers killed	211	
Officers died of wounds	48	
Officers died of disease	47	
Officers died of accidents	3	
Non-commissioned officers and men killed	1,960	
Non-commissioned officers and men died of wounds	465	
Non-commissioned officers and men died of disease	1,485	
Non-commissioned officers and men died of accidents	34	
Total deaths	4,253	
Officers wounded	627	
Non-commissioned officers and men wounded	9,883	
Total wounded	10,510	
Officers missing and prisoners	168	
Non-commissioned officers and men missing and prisoners	3,722	
	3,890	
Grand total	18,653	

To these, however, must be added 29 officers and 1,828 men who have been invalided home sick (as distinct from wounded).

The proportion of deaths from disease again shows a marked increase. It amounts to a fraction over 36 per cent. this week, as against 33.8 last week. The proportion of deaths from wounds has also gone up slightly, being now 5.1 per cent. of the total injured.

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