

with the hot water. What a dull day we should go down to! What a sudden drop in all interests and excitements! No jolly fighting "Dailies," no scandal, no "markets," no "horrible accidents," no superb "exploitations," no nothing—with any spice in it—in fact, nothing to do, nowhere to go, not a soul one would care to pass the time of day to, nothing to talk about. Good Heavens! The imagination retires cowed and broken before the ghastly blank. No wonder we all instinctively do our best to stave off the occurrence!

There are Idealists who have held that the world would witness one huge war and after that—no more—even, say they as it might be the present disruption, yet it is doubtful if the close of the 20th century will be any nearer to universal peace than its beginning is.

It will have done enough if it has gone forward with the impetus given it by the last quarter of the nineteenth century, nor may it turn a glance backward until it can be done safely from heights that one scarcely dare dream of now, however firm the belief that they will be won eventually.

God speed the new century!

WOMEN.

The Women's Suffrage cause has lost a good friend in Mr. Costelloe, whose death is much to be deplored, for just now women cannot afford to lose one of their supporters. We are glad to see that Miss Leigh Browne, the Hon. Secretary of the Women's Local Government Society, has written to the *Daily Chronicle*, drawing attention to Mr. Costelloe's services to the woman cause. She says his kindness and help to efforts to secure freedom and political justice for women was unbounded, and the Women's Local Government Society have lost in him a wise councillor and generous friend, whose place it will be hard to fill. It is well that women should remember their friends.

On Tuesday, the 26th December, the Norwood branch of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, under the presidency of Mrs. Tritton, gave, in the West Norwood Schoolroom, a special "Christmas Tree" and entertainment to the wives and children of the men away in the South African war. After a short grace the guests sat down to a sumptuous tea, and at its conclusion were presented with gifts of clothing, in addition to the quantities of toys provided, principally through the exertions of Mrs. Colegrave. This society seems to be doing much good work in aiding the more discriminating distribution of the war funds, being able to take the cases so much more in detail than is possible in the more crowded centres.

The Shop Seats Act comes into operation with the New Year. Briefly, it is enacted that in all rooms of a shop, or other premises where goods are retailed to the public, and where female assistants are employed for that purpose, the employer shall provide seats behind the counter, or in such other position as may be suitable, and such seats shall be in the proportion of not less than one to every three female assistants. Public-houses and refreshment-rooms are included in the Act, and failure to comply with it carries penalties of from £3 to £5.

The correspondent of a contemporary who visited some of the drapery establishments in Oxford Street, last Monday, with a view to obtaining information as

to the working of the new law writes: "At last I came to the first 'seat' reposing flat against the wall. 'A seat?' I exclaimed, 'will you sit on it?' 'No fear,' said a heavy girl near me, 'We shan't use them at all, I don't think.' Besides, how do you think that I could sit down there? What a fool I should look. They're merely put there to keep the letter of the law." If this is the case then the spirit as well as the letter of the law must be enforced.

The Walsall Literary Institute, one of the largest institutions of its kind in Great Britain, has unanimously elected Miss Marie Corelli as its president—a post which has in the past been held by Sir Robert Ball, Sir John Lubbock, and other men of literary and scientific repute. Miss Corelli has been left free to choose the subject of her presidential address.

Women are moving on in Chicago we hear of women doctors, lawyers, dentists, professors, journalists, preachers and architects. On the other hand there are men milliners, dressmakers, nurses, and launderers, and men are about to undertake general housework. The equality of the sexes seems within measurable distance in the far west.

Dr. Seaver, of Yale University, has raised a storm by publishing statistics of an anthropological examination of the Wellesley and Oberlin Colleges. The conclusion he has arrived at is that the Western girls have bigger lungs, necks, chests and hips than the Eastern. The latter are taller and thinner than the Western and have bigger feet. This last statement has caused an immense sensation, and the women of Boston have drawn up a memorial demanding Dr. Seaver's deposition.

The American College for Women at Constantinople is the only institution which offers an advanced education to the women of all the nationalities of the East. Its students come from an area extending from Bulgaria, Roumania, and Russia on the north, to Egypt on the south, and from the Tigris and Euphrates Valleys on the east to Athens on the west. The College began its career in 1871. It has a charter obtained from the State of Massachusetts, and an Imperial *irade* from the Sultan of Turkey. Since its foundation as an educational institution over a hundred and twenty women have been graduated—the first women college graduates of the East. Many of these occupy positions of honour and influence in different parts of the world. The graduates form a strong Alumnae Association, and interest themselves practically in the progress of the College. The language of the College is English. Other languages taught are French, German, Latin, ancient and modern Greek, Turkish, ancient and modern Armenian, Bulgarian, and Slavic. The standard of scholarship has been constantly raised, until the diploma of the College is now recognised by some of the leading universities of Europe. The President, Dr. Mary Mills Patrick, has an intimate acquaintance with American and European methods of instruction. She is now studying the latest methods of American colleges, in order to adapt them to the needs of the Orient. The constantly increasing number of students is creating a pressing demand for better equipment; the present buildings are quite inadequate. Half a million of dollars is needed to put the College on a satisfactory basis.

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