

their ministrations, is unquestioned. The blot upon our escutcheon has been the flight of the idle society woman to Cape Town, there to air her *chiffons* and "glitters," and, in an absurd travesty of a nurse's uniform liberally adorned with jewels, to pose as a Nursing Sister!

This class of woman—idle, vicious, parasitical—is our greatest enemy at home; in the tragic atmosphere of war she is an abomination; whilst pandering to the vanity and lusts of men for a *quid pro quo* she poisons the well-springs of his innermost nature, out of which an insolent contempt for all things female sprouts; or how is it that all the motherhood and love which good women have poured out like water, in their devotion to husband and man-child, leaves us now on the threshold of the twentieth century—disfranchised—sport even for fools.

Messrs. Garrould, of Edgware Road, have recently received orders to supply the nurses leaving this country for South Africa with their outfits. Although all the uniforms had to be specially made to measurements in a very short time, Messrs. Garrould carried out the order to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Surgeon Captain Fenwick, of the New Zealand Mounted Rifles, always full of good stories, writes amusingly of war affairs in the *Church Times*. Coming down country with the wounded, he says:—

"At one siding one sorrowful Tommy audaciously inquired how long we were to wait. 'How long?' shouts the contemptuous signalman. 'Who are you? You ain't the mail, nor wounded, nor horses, nor food. What's your hurry? You are only a blooming set of enterics.' That was our description. 517 extra down sick, we were entered in the way-bill, and for the sick there is no sympathy."

"If I'd 'ad a blooming bullet through the cawf of my leg, grumbled a skeleton, 'I'd 'ave gone down in an hospital train and been fed and nursed by ladies, but being only nearly dead with enterics, I ain't worth looking at."

Dentists are badly wanted at the front, says the *Globe*, as the tough diet of a campaign has played havoc with our gallant soldiers' teeth. The cry of Tommy with his hand to his aching cheek is, "My teeth are going, and nobody stops them." This should draw the patriotic dentist.

A field hospital and several surgeons have been sent from Vladivostock to Port Arthur, and the Russian Red Cross Society resolved last Saturday to dispatch a detachment of surgeons and nurses to the scene of the outbreak in China.

Nursing Echoes.

* * *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



WE are glad to note that, when speaking at Southport last week, on behalf of the District Nursing Society, that Sir George Pilkington, M.P., said that there had been some scandals in connection with the nursing in South Africa, not only through the lack of the necessary means and appliances in some parts of the field of operations, but also through a number of persons masquerading as nurses who knew no more about nursing and were no more qualified to act as nurses than the chair near which he was standing. He was very pleased to learn that the Nursing Congress, which had just finished its sittings in London, had taken a step in favour of the registration of all trained nurses, so that the sick and suffering poor might be able to depend upon securing trained and competent nurses in their time of trouble, in the place of those large numbers who had no special qualification for the duties they undertook to discharge. Sir George Pilkington was one of the few members in the House who grasped the dangers of the now defunct Midwives' Bill.

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 WRITING in the *Weekly Sun* last week, Mrs. Fenwick Miller devotes half a column to nursing affairs, for which we thank her. Anything which comes from her able pen is eagerly read by thoughtful women, her liberal experience and views of life making her opinions very sound and valuable.

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 IN reference to the Matrons' Council Conference she writes:—

"THE annual conference was held in London on July 5th and 6th, and the Matrons considered such subjects as Poor Law Nursing, the Nursing of the Sick at Sea, and the proper celebration by Trained Nurses, of the New Century. The two subjects most interesting to the general public that they discussed were "The Reasons for the Registration of Trained Nurses," and "The Necessity for a Nursing Department in all Government Offices dealing with the Care of the

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