

water. Water cannot be kept clean in tents into which wind and dust constantly are blown. The quality of the meat supplied to the camp might with safety be improved."

Dr. Beecher also says:—"Most of the nurses have had no proper training, and hence nursing is not as it should be. This branch ought to be improved."

We are glad that this reproach has to some extent been removed, as we reported recently forty nurses have been sent out by the Colonial Office to work in the Concentration Camps.

The objection of many of the Boers to go into hospital appears based on the misconceptions that they have to pay for treatment there, and that they will be starved. They have heard of the diet of the enteric patients, and imagine that all are fed in the same way.

A prejudice also prevails amongst many of the Boer women against going to the Maternity Marquee. This is not surprising when we consider how many artizan women in this country prefer to remain at home for their confinements to being nursed in the best managed maternity hospitals. Nevertheless the prejudice is greatly to be regretted, and accounts to a considerable extent for the high mortality in childbirth.

It will thus be gathered that the administration of these camps is no easy task.

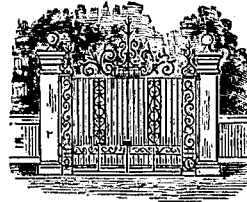
No Sex in Medicine.

The appointment of a lady as junior House Surgeon at the General Infirmary, Macclesfield, has been followed by the resignation of the Hon. Medical Staff. Why? Medical women are required to undergo the same tests before qualification as medical men, and to raise an objection on the ground of sex is obviously unjust and impolitic. There is no sex in medicine and nursing; if once this element were introduced, many of the duties which devolve upon medical men with regard to women patients, and upon nurses with regard to male patients, would be intolerable. In point of fact and practice neither one nor the other find any difficulty in the performance of necessary duties just because the sex question is eliminated. In the same way, though the work of medical women lies as a rule principally amongst women and children there is absolutely no reason why a woman house surgeon should not attend to male patients any more than reason exists against the treatment of female patients by medical men. Medical men who object to the appointment of women to house appointments will do well to reflect that the argument upon which their objection is based tells both ways.

Miss Murdoch Clarke, the newly appointed house surgeon, began her duties on Friday last. It appears to us that a vital principle is involved in this matter, and though her position will be a difficult one we hope she will quietly and decidedly demonstrate her right to retain the post to which she has been appointed. The time is opportune for a declaration on the part of leading medical women as to the holding of house appointments by qualified ladies. Meanwhile the late Hon. Medical Staff have scarcely strengthened their position by referring the governors for further information to the remarks of a pseudo-medical paper edited by the lay Chairman of the much criticized Welsbach Company.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



The King has given instructions that the insignia of the Order of the Garter belonging to the late Queen shall remain in the Tower "for ever," and the case containing these ornaments will therefore remain on view with the Crown jewels in the Wakefield Tower. It

will be remembered that the Garter insignia of the late Sovereign were carried through London on the coffin in the funeral procession, and almost immediately afterwards they were placed for safe keeping in the Tower. As Queen Alexandra, like the King, is now a Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, and possesses her own insignia, Queen Victoria's insignia will henceforth be regarded as the official specimen of the Garter Order now on view for public inspection.

Brock's design for the Victoria Memorial in the Mall is a reminder of how few are the women who have been immortalised in marble or brass. There are statues of the Virgin and St. Ursula, but outside the patron saints the number is remarkably small. In Westminster Abbey there is the exquisite tomb to Sidney's sister, Pembroke's mother," and Christ Church contains the Shelley monument, which includes the figure of Mary Godwin. Outside St. Paul's is the Queen Anne statue with her Majesty scornfully turning her back on the Cathedral, and giving rise, as the *Ladies' Magazine* recalls, to the old couplet:

Queen Anne, Queen Anne, she's left in the lurch,
Her face to the tavern, her back to the church.

The present statue, of course, is a replica of the 1712 memorial, and was unveiled in 1886. There is also a fine Queen Anne statue in Queen Square, Bloomsbury. In England only two statues have been erected to actresses—Helen Faucit's at Stratford, and Mrs. Siddons's in Paddington, unveiled by Irving four years ago. One other London statue is worth noting—the statue of Boadicea. It is eighteen hundred years since her tragic death, and it has made no public appearance yet. Until a few months ago a casting stood on the Embankment at Westminster. Thornycroft's original, which was begun more than thirty years ago, has been cast in brass by the L.C.C., and will be set up on that much-discussed and vacant pedestal next year.

The Ceramic and Art Collectors Society, a new and cosy little coterie of persons who are fortunate enough to possess "antiques" ceramic and otherwise—had a delightful reception last week, at the residence of Miss Samuda, 32, Albion Street, Hyde Park, the Hon. Secretary, a perfect "gem" of a house, which is crammed with lovely porcelain, fine old prints, antique furniture and other delights. The hostess, *artiste* to her finger tips, had prepared an able paper on "Chelsea China," which was read by Col the Hon. W. Le Poer Trench, and many specimens of this beautiful porcelain were on view. Mr. Frank Freeth, the envied of all who admire English Pottery of the 18th Century, and President of the "Collectors,"

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)