

**"To have a body rich in health,
Is to possess the greatest wealth."**



**"The richest in flesh-forming and energy-producing constituents.
There is No Better Food."**

Dr. ANDREW WILSON, F.R.S.E., &c.

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"QUI NON
PROFICIT DEFICIT."

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Editorial.

STELLENBOSCHED.

IN the early days of the present war an officer was removed from his command of the 9th Lancers for refusing to charge at Belmont when his horses were too tired to work, and was subsequently appointed Military Governor of Stellenbosch. "The English language in consequence," says Mr. Freemantle, in his most illuminating book. "A Doctor in Khaki" "has been enriched by the verb 'to Stellenbosch' to cause to retire from command of troops at the front with or without adequate reason." We review the book at length in another column, but we draw attention to the meaning of the word because the author himself received an interesting demonstration of its application early in his South African career, having, in an unwary moment, written a letter to the *Guy's Gazette*—of which he was editor prior to his leaving for the front—on the subject of nursing deficiencies. On February 6th he records the arrival of a reprint of this letter in South Africa. On February 8th he writes from the Hospital Ship "Avoca," en route for England. "It's a strange world. Yesterday, at 1.30 p.m., there came a sudden order to our

P.M.O., at Wynberg, from P.M.O Army, 'Please warn Civil-Surgeon F—— to be in readiness to proceed to England on board H. S. "Avoca," in charge of invalids. Must embark not later than five this afternoon.' Am I 'Stellenbosched?' It looks as if there were some connection between this order and those notes on the bad nursing system, which, written solely for the Guy's public, arrived here in print last week."

It is difficult to decide how far comment on defects in the organisation of Government Departments by those working in connection with them is justifiable, for undoubtedly if some reticence be not observed no discipline can be maintained, but, where the lives of the defenders of the Empire are at stake, we hold that the medical officers entrusted with their care are responsible primarily to the nation, and that they cannot conscientiously stand by and see them needlessly sacrificed without striving to rectify a system, known throughout the medical and nursing world to be inefficient and inadequate. We took the same view of our responsibilities in the case of the Royal British Nurses' Association, when we realised the tactics on the part of the hon. officers to deprive the nurse members of their profes-

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