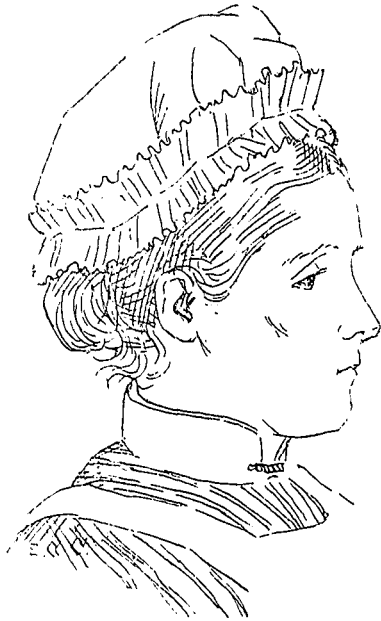


there is a true heroism in the way in which they will struggle against temptation. Drink is their



MRS. HIGHSTED (HEAD NURSE).

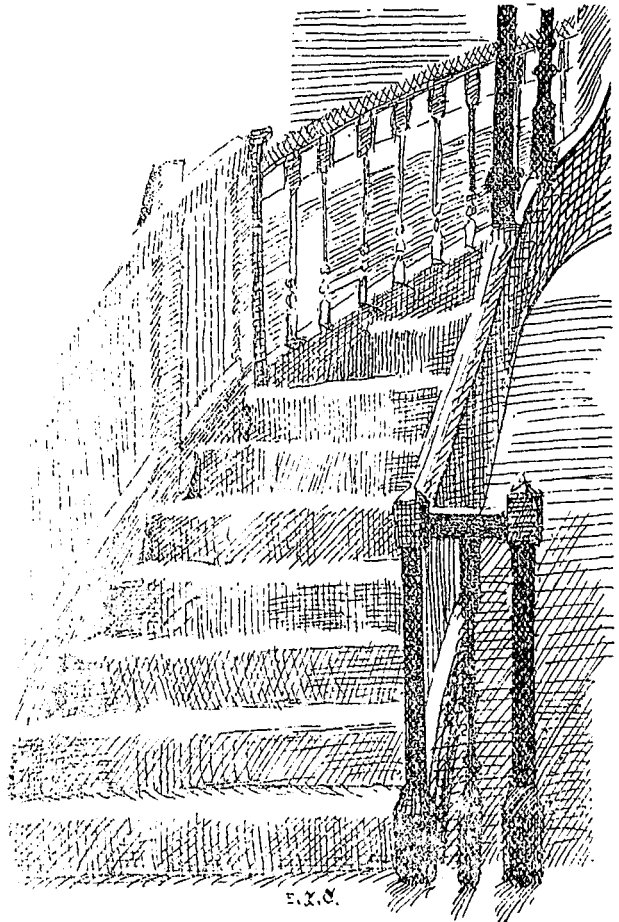
cruellest curse. It is forced upon them on all hands, and is the cause, directly or indirectly, of most of their wretchedness. I am convinced that



MISS EMILY BELL (NURSE).

no one could live many weeks among them without becoming a total abstainer as I am."

The class of women most to be pitied, Mrs. Hilton thought, were those whose husbands were ill or dead, or, as is terribly too frequent, in prison or had deserted them. Such mothers had only one resource. That was the old hag, who charged every farthing she could, which she spent in drink, while the wretched infants were kept quiet with opiate drugs. It was, however, some time before Mrs. Hilton's vague desire to establish a better state of things took definite shape. A friend happened to invite her to come over to Brussels, and while there she inspected the splendid institution for the daily reception of children in that capital, which at once gave her the idea she wanted. She came home, called friends to her aid, and in 1871 was enabled to take a little house in Stepney Causeway, in the very heart of the district she wished to benefit, and from that time up to the present her work has gone bravely forward. Another, and yet another, house has been added to the first. Mrs.



F. X. C.

BACK STAIRCASE FROM BELOW.

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