

repay old debts, foreign capital is pouring into the country, so secure has Mexican credit become in the world's markets.

"Diaz has set before the people an ideal of honest public life, consistently maintained, which has made a return to the old corrupt conditions almost impossible. Diaz will some day die, but his example and his system will survive him."

It should be mentioned that the President's beautiful and accomplished wife has been of the greatest help to him, a rough soldier, in developing the social side of the improvement of his country. Madame Diaz is a Mexican of Spanish descent, well educated and charming. She is much younger than her husband, by whom she is greatly beloved.

The photographs which illustrate Mrs. Tweedie's book are of great interest, and it also contains an excellent map. G. M. R.

What to Read.

"The Measure of Life." By Frances Campbell.

"At the Gates of the East: a Book of Travel among Historic Wonderlands." By Lieut.-Colonel Barry, J.P., A.B., M.B.

"The Wheel of Life." By Ellen Glasgow.

"A Supreme Moment." By Mrs. Hamilton Syngé.

"Thalassa." By Mrs. Baillie Reynolds.

"Lady Sarah's Deed of Gift." By Aceituna Griffin.

Coming Events.

March 24th.—The Belgrave Hospital for Children, "Pound Day" at the Hospital, Clapham Road, 2.30 to 5 p.m.

March 26th.—Annual Public Meeting, Central Bureau for the Employment of Women, 54, Portland Place, 3 p.m. Mrs. James Bryce in the chair.

March 28th.—Conversazione for Nurses at the Church Missionary House, Salisbury Square, E.C., 2.30 to 9 p.m.

March 30th.—Preliminary Meeting of Organising Committee International Congress on School Hygiene, Jehangér Hall of the University of London, South Kensington, 5 p.m. His Grace the Duke of Northumberland, K.G., will preside.

April 4th.—Princess Alexander of Teck opens the Children's Convalescent Home for Surrey at Bognor.

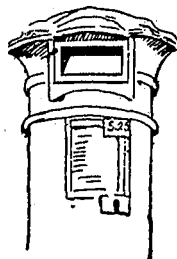
May 23rd.—Elizabethan Fair and Fête in aid of King's College Hospital Removal Fund at Lincoln's Inn (three days).

A Word for the Week.

To-day is your day and mine, the only day we have, the day in which we play our part. What our part may signify in the great whole we may not understand; but we are here to play it, and now is our time. This we know: it is a part of action, not of whining; it is a part of love, not cynicism. It is for us to express love in terms of human helpfulness. This we know, for we have learned from sad experience that any other source of life leads toward decay and waste.—David Starr Jordan.

Letters to the Editor.

NOTES, QUERIES, &c.



Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

ENGLISH AND COLONIALS.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—I am very repentant if I have hurt the feelings of any Australian Nurse by a casual remark expressing an opinion that English Nurses are more desirable as settlers in South Africa than are Australians. Since the subject is opened I am bound to say, that although the Australian Nurses I met with had not that high standard of work and conduct that characterise English Nurses, they were, as women, far superior to the other Australian ladies I met with in my travels through South Africa.

So it may be as Miss Farquharson implies, that the best of Australians prefer to stay in Australia rather than to seek other countries.

In writing on such a large subject as life in South Africa, and condensing every sentence to the utmost, one is anxious to omit personal explanations, or I might have admitted that I have myself Imperial political leanings that colour all my views. I confess I would like to see the whole of South Africa anglicised, and its people brought up with the best and highest of our English traditions, but not, as it is threatened, with pseudo-English ways of life, not with a veneer of Englishism, which, with its smug morality and its snobbishness, I hold to be the most unpleasant veneer to be found amongst the nations of the world. I have seen too much of whitewashing Kaffirs to approve of veneering Colonials.

So, perhaps, Miss Farquharson will understand me better, since my views are impersonal and so catholic as to wish to exclude all Colonial influences from a country already too colonial.

I am immensely interested in South Africa—as it may become, not as it is—and I like its people, so I would not wish to use the word "Colonial" as a term of reproach, though residents themselves consider it to be so. In Maritzburg I have known people of Colonial birth who are aristocratically English, and many English mothers, married out there, endeavour to bring up their children on those lines. And the children too, even amongst the Dutch, would like to come "home" to be educated.

It sounds perhaps like a chimerical dream, but I would myself hail it as a magnificent policy, if failing Government aid, some second Cecil Rhodes, a millionaire and philanthropist, would charter ocean liners to carry at a nominal charge Colonial children "home" to be educated, and to and fro as necessary.

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