

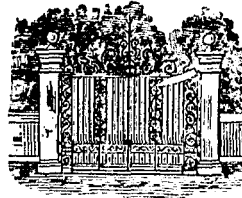
Professional Review.**LIGHT AMID LONDON SHADOWS.**

The history of the London Biblewomen and Nurses' Mission (2, Adelphi Terrace, W.C.) must always have a special interest for nurses, not only because it was one of the pioneer societies in the work of district nursing, the first nurses (three or four proved Biblewomen who agreed to go into hospital for three months' training) having been sent out in 1868, but from the fact that in its early days Agnes Jones, most honoured of nursing pioneers, was associated with the Mission, though before she was trained as a nurse.

The present time, as the Mission has just celebrated its Jubilee, is a most happy moment for its story to be told in detail, and this has been well done by Rose Emily Selfe in a book named "Light amid London Shadows," published by J. M. Dent & Co., 29, Bedford Street, W.C., price 2s. 6d. The book is dedicated to the memory of L.N.R., the familiar initials of its founder, Mrs. Ranyard.

In the preface the Rector of Lambeth, Mr. G. H. S. Walpole, compares the darkness which settles down over the London slums, sometimes spoken of as "darkest London," not to the darkness of night illuminated by stars or moon, but to "the damp chill darkness of a London fog, which gets into the houses, penetrates the rooms and dims the light. So is the moral darkness which settles over the long cheerless narrow streets of the poor. . . ." "It is difficult," he says, "to say what the effect of this thick wall of fog would be on the brighter parts of London were it not for the light bearers. For into the very thickest and yellowest zones there is always advancing a small army of 'the children of light.' Through the fog is seen the cheerful and warm glow of the torches borne by faithful women. Hard looking faces soften as they see it, and sick people smile with delight, as they know that it means that the poor tumbled bed and ruffled pillows will be straightened, the foul smells banished and the healing remedies gently and skilfully applied."

The ideal of the supporters of the Mission is the dovetailing of the work of the two branches. "The Biblewoman who has no time to tend the sick herself can hand them on to the tender efficient skill of the nurse, and on the other side the nurse, when the labour of love is over, and she must pass on to other sufferers, can commend her patient to the Biblewoman, who will carry on the work perhaps begun by her coadjutor under the softening influence of weakness and dependence." The number of nurses at work has now increased to sixty-five, and their usefulness is recognised by the Hospital Saturday and Sunday Funds, from both of which the nursing branch of the Mission receives a substantial grant. As one reads the book one realises how the story of the Mission is the story of the life-work of good women. First, its Founder, Mrs. Ranyard, then her niece, Mrs. Selfe-Leonard, and now the present Hon. Superintendent, Miss Andrews, have been its moving spirits, while no less useful in its degree has been the work of the rank and file.

Outside the Gates.**WOMEN.**

At the Annual Meeting of the Cambridge Women's Liberal Association Mrs. C. D. Rose, wife of the member for Newmarket, in her address, as President of the Association, referred to the share of women in the success of the last general

election, and said it was important to give women political instruction on subjects vitally affecting their rights, and consequently those of the nation. Surely there could be little doubt that every country was raised or lowered by the condition and treatment of its women.

Mrs. Rose further said that suffragists might be very hopeful that soon women would get Parliamentary votes on the same terms as men, and they would hear no more about the imprisonment of women for demanding rights which should have been gratuitously accorded.

On Tuesday last the *Tribune*, which is now an acknowledged force amongst the great London daily papers, celebrated its first birthday, an event which causes us to wonder what we ever did without it. Before its advent, questions affecting the vital interests of women received but curt notice in the public press, or were entirely ignored by it. We congratulate the able Governing-Director, Mr. Franklin Thomasson, both on his liberal-minded policy in regard to women's affairs and on the success of that policy as evidenced in the fine journal which he conducts. We sincerely wish our contemporary a long and increasingly distinguished career.

An interesting course of lectures will be those on "Economics of the Household," given by Mrs. Creighton on six successive Saturdays, beginning on January 26th. at the School of Economics, Clare Market, W.C. Teachers will have precedence, and may obtain admission without fee on application for tickets to the Executive Officer, L.C.C. Education Offices, Victoria Embankment, W.C.; otherwise the fee for the course is 10s. 6d. These lectures will point out the need for systematic training in the domestic subjects, and the relation of domestic economy to individual and social well-being, and therefore to the welfare of the nation as a whole. The object will be to show the connection between such training and great social problems. The subjects of the lectures will be: (1) The Family, (2) Sources of Family Wealth, (3) Expenditure of the Family Income, (4) Waste, (5) Saving, (6) Effect of Municipal Government on Home Life.

The Shepton Mallet Urban Council has appointed Dr. Annie Wainwright Hyatt as deputy medical officer of health to her father, Dr. James Taylor Hyatt, subject to the approval of the Local Government Board.

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