

and the "pub." Then followed an increase of dyspeptics and bachelors. At last the ladies found dyspepsia and bad temper were hand in hand; the poorer classes that the young men "all love cook"; and men, or rather women, saw their mistake. Then a remedy arose in the National School of Cookery, which has proved so great a success, and has provided another field for woman's labour by sending out authentic teachers to illustrate practically the Art of cookery. The school was opened in Kensington, in 1873, and removed last September to new and much larger premises in Buckingham Palace Road; but it is not with the school I would deal, but rather with the scholars.

"Students are admitted either by payment of fees or by subscribers' vote. If by votes, the candidate must not be under eighteen, nor exceed thirty-five years of age. She must be sufficiently educated to be able to perform the duties of Instructor after the special training in cookery. Fees must be paid in three equal instalments, each in advance. They are, for twenty weeks plain cookery, teachers' course, £10 10s.; for twenty weeks course high-class cookery, £21."

The first and second weeks are devoted to laying the foundation stone—scullery learning and scullery teaching; third to ninth, to plain or high-class cookery practice; ninth to fifteenth, to plain or high-class cookery teaching; fifteenth to last week, to public demonstration. Diplomas are given for plain and high-class cookery by the School, but each candidate must, before obtaining one, pass an examination in "Pronunciation, enunciation, common arithmetic, writing, spelling, &c." Staff teachers' terms for weekly engagements are two guineas, and three guineas without board and lodging. They are sent by the committee of the School. Daily engagements are from fifteen shillings to twenty-one shillings out of, and ten shillings and sixpence in, London. Salaries of teachers trained at the School and employed by the London School Board average from £60 to £80 per annum.

LADIES training as teachers who wish to board and lodge in the school will be charged at the rate of from £1 to £1 10s. per week, states the prospectus of the N.T.S.C. The school is on view every day, except Saturday. Of course I chose a Saturday to call there, so have not myself seen it; but I hear the kitchens are large and airy and very well arranged. Lessons are given in all branches of cookery. Two courses of lessons—one of *Teaching by demonstration*, the other of *Practice in cookery and cleaning*—are held regularly. I append one day's programme for the latter:—

"Monday—Milk soup, Irish stew, beef-steak pie, pickle meat, treacle pudding, semolina pudding, toad-in-the-hole, potatoes, a vegetable, pig's head, *pot au feu*, rock cakes, gingerbread, herring, toast sandwich, beef-teas, gruel, stewed brisket of beef, lemon pudding, ragout of rabbit."

Rather a mixture, but, fortunately, one is not obliged to eat them all.

My readers will be glad to hear that the annual meeting of the Zenana Bible and Medical Mission (I.F.N.S.), held at Princes' Hall, Piccadilly, on Tuesday, April 22, was a great success. The Duchess of Teck, the new President, was present. The two lady speakers were very well received. The first was Miss Sorabji, a native lady, who is at present studying at Oxford. She was interestingly graphic in her description of Indian home life. Miss Leitch, the second speaker, pleaded with all her usual eloquence for the women of India—

"Can we, whose souls are lighted
With wisdom from on high—
Can we to *them* benighted
The lamp of life deny?"

May all blessings descend on the many noble women working there to save their Indian sisters. I must just add that the committee were very satisfied with the financial results of the collection.

MISS MARY DAVIS, the popular and well-known vocalist, is a total abstainer. She evidently does not find the inevitable stout prescribed for singers a necessity of her art. She takes cocoa and beef-tea occasionally when over fatigued. Few of the audience at a concert or a theatre remember the strain it is often to the performers to fulfil the programme, and how they naturally feel "limp" and weary when the great excitement has worn off. No wonder many, and especially the weaker sex, are driven to seek the elevating influence of stimulants. Much of the increase of intoxication amongst women is, I believe, due to the fact of the far higher pressure at which we live now to what folk did a century ago. Life now-a-days is verily a race, and the runners are sore pressed at times in their efforts to keep up with the others.

THE *Queen* says: "Miss Annie Tagamedhan, the first Hindu lady who has ever completed her medical studies in this country, or been registered as a Medical Practitioner in Great Britain, has just passed with much credit the final examination for the Scottish triple qualification. She studied for three years in Madras, and for two years in the Surgeon Square's School, Edinburgh, where for one year she acted as Demonstrator of Anatomy."

MISS MABEL HARRISON has been appointed to the post of Elocution Mistress at Datchelor's School, Camberwell. This is the lady of whom Mr. Irving remarked: "You all, with one exception, say your pieces; you do not *feel* them; and that

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