

and thoroughly rinsed first in hot and then in cold water once or twice; then well wrung out and hung up to dry, it will be found that without rubbing or scrubbing the washing is done, the clothes looking white and fresh, and retaining no smell from the oil. Little thought housewives when the Americans "struck ile" that this famous mineral product of the kindly earth would fall figuratively and practically as "oil on the troubled waters" of the washing day.

* * *

LADY LOCH, on her husband's leaving Melbourne on the termination of his term of governorship, was presented by the ladies of that city with a most magnificent diamond collar, the replica of one belonging to the Comtesse de Paris. It had been, at the request of these Australian ladies, chosen in Paris by her twin sister, Lady Lytton. Lady Loch spoke a few graceful words in acknowledgment of the handsome gift, the outward sign of the intense popularity her gentle courtesy had won for her on the other side of the world, where her lot had been cast in a difficult position with onerous society duties to perform, duties she fulfilled so well that genial Sir Henry's and her departure leaves the whole city mourning. But the old proverb runs, *Le roi est mort, vive le roi*; and able Lord Hopetoun and his beautiful young wife will soon become as popular, I trow, as were their predecessors.

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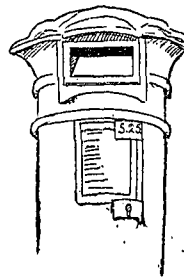
AUSTRALIA is certainly good at protection. I read in one of the Melbourne papers that £400 had to be paid as the duty on the said diamond collar mentioned above—money which need not have been expended, save that the presentation was made in the colony, for had the case remained unopened it could have escaped this enormous amount of custom-house extortion. After a little demur, however, the ladies paid up bravely, and after all it served them right for their want of patriotism, for there are many beautiful jewellers' shops in Melbourne, and gold in abundance in the land of the diggings, and surely Lady Loch would have valued even more some distinctly Australian remembrance as a memento of the regard entertained for her by the ladies of the city on the Yarra.

* * *

WOMEN'S education in the East advances with rapid strides. Mrs. Branda, one of the Government Inspectors, has lately started a society in Madras, in idea somewhat resembling our English Teachers' Guild. It is calculated to promote the art of teaching, and I am sure my readers will join me in wishing the new undertaking every success.

THE growth of Bournemouth—the English Mentone, as it is often styled—is acknowledged by all to be phenomenal. Thirty years ago it was but a small fishing village, on the outskirts of the New Forest. Now in place of the village is a large, thriving, fashionable, sea-side resort, with beautiful villa residences, spreading east, west, and north, and thronged by visitors who seek there the renewal of that blessing of all blessings—health. As the town has grown in numbers, so have the churches since the time when St. Peter's, the daughter church of Holderness, was the only sacred edifice. The latest edition to the churches is that of St. John's, on the Durrant Estate, which is being built by Miss Durrant at her own expense, she having given also the site.

VEVA KARSLAND.



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.

THE DISTRESSING CASE.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I beg to inform you that the son of the widow Nurse of the "Distressing Case" died yesterday. The young man lingered longer than I expected he would, but it was owing to the devoted and self-sacrificing care of the poor Nurse.—I remain, Sir, yours respectfully,

HELEN DUNN, M.B.N.A.

Beech House, London Road, Red Hill, Feb. 7.

HOSPITAL NURSES AND SURGICAL APPLIANCES.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—Your valuable Journal circulates no doubt extensively amongst a class of persons whose opinions and experiences would be of great value to the committee of this Association in their endeavours to abolish the letter system adopted by some of the surgical aid societies in London. There can be no doubt that to compel persons requiring surgical appliances to collect a large number of subscribers' letters is to put them to unnecessary trouble, and in many cases to add to their pains and infirmities.

I venture to ask you kindly to insert this letter, in the hope that some of your readers connected with the Hospitals, who come into personal contact with so many cases requiring surgical instruments, may favour us with their opinion as to how far this letter system stands in the way of the recovery of the poor.

It must be very irksome in some instances to have to obtain even one letter, but to compel afflicted people to canvass a list of subscribers for perhaps twenty letters looks very much like inflicting torture.—Your obedient Servant, J. A. DOW,

Secretary Charity Voting Reform Association.

30, Charing Cross, S. W.

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