

nation. It is but pioneer work. Little is done for the consumptive child in this country. How it may best reach every affected child has to be shown; but little by little, and one by one, we may move towards the goal.

With an income of £550, together with the contributions of parents, etc., we can maintain 15 children at a time. Our donations and subscriptions in 1907 only reached £363. We are in temporary premises; we want some £6,000 to put us on our way in a larger building for some 30 or 40 cases on our own site. Here is an opportunity by which the memory of one who has passed beyond the sufferings of this world could be fittingly perpetuated.

Donations and subscriptions may be paid to "The Children's Sanatorium Account," at Messrs. Hoare's Bank, 37, Fleet Street, or be sent to the Hon. Secretary, T. H. Wyatt, Esq., M.V.O., at the Office, 68, Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W., by whom all particulars will be gladly supplied.

We are, faithfully yours,

CAWDOR.

EDITH J. DURNING-LAWRENCE.

BASIL WILBERFORCE, *Archdeacon.*

HERBERT SAMUEL, M.P.

ALFRED HOARE, *Treasurer.*

EDWIN C. BEDFORD, *Chairman.*

THE NEW ERA IN TURKEY.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité! These were the words with which our Moslem neighbours greeted me when the telegrams reached Beyrout from Constantinople announcing the astounding news of the new régime in Turkey, or rather the Turkish Empire.

"Nothing is so probable as the impossible," is a proverb which certainly applies to this new condition of things, and the most wonderful part of it all is that the Moslems themselves have accepted this revolution of all their traditions, nay, religion, with such real pleasure. The Moslems, who, so far, have looked upon themselves as the rulers of the Empire, and upon Christians as their inferiors, as infidels and dogs, are now the equals of Christians. It is a big pill to swallow, and they have swallowed it with good grace—nay, with a wonderful grasp of the depth of the whole thing. They realise that the emancipation of the Christians—i.e., the Macedonians, Albanians, Armenians, and Syrians—means a fresh life, a fresh impetus to the Turkish Empire. Equal laws, equal rights for all, liberty of press, abolition of intrigue and bribery! In the future there will be no more Turkish governors and officials sent from Constantinople to despoil every country they govern. The Syrian Moslems have realised all this. Take Syria for instance, which might be made a beautiful country. The streets of Beyrout, which is as beautiful a seaport as may be seen anywhere, are in holes, and chaos reigns everywhere.

Now this is all over. The streets are decorated, Christians and Moslems have been seen walking

arm in arm, and at the Municipality public speeches have been made by both parties, while the press has breathed and spoken aloud.

What interest is all this to us?—to us English nurses, some of the readers of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING will say. In the year 1860 there was a massacre of Christians in Syria. Europe intervened, and the feudal laws were abolished, and Christians received a certain amount of freedom and protection. Come and see them now. A few years later slavery was abolished. Examine the Moslem harem now and see whether the abolition of tyranny has not raised the moral tone. Go into the homes of Christians and those of Moslems and see the vast, the immense difference of the two, and tell me whether liberty and freedom for women have not raised the Christian population and civilised it, far above the Mohammedan one, because by raising woman the community to which they belonged was raised also. . . . And yet, and yet, up to this day, there are men and women in England who are opposing the emancipation of the British woman. They are still disqualifying her legally, still under-paying her, still wishing her to remain man's domestic chatel. They still give her such a position that it is only by cunning, craft, and coquetry, and all sorts of demoralising devices that she can make life tolerable. Yet British women have rebelled and fought as the Christians in Turkey have done. But the ultimate status of women must be defined and protected by the State.

E. R. WORTABET.

MIDWIVES AND THE DEAD.

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

DEAR MADAM,—The case of a midwife laying out a child who had died of erysipelas, thus becoming a danger to her lying-in patients, prompts the question of how far is it safe for midwives to combine nursing with midwifery in the village in which I live. The cottage nurse does everything—scrubs, cooks, nurses every sort of case, constantly coming in contact with infection before the case is diagnosed, cleans dirty wounds, acts as midwife, and lays out the dead. This woman is invaluable to the inhabitants, and all for a pittance. What they would do without her I don't know, but in her abysmal ignorance she takes the most colossal risks, and if things happen, well, better luck next time. When I was young, we had a most superior woman resident in the village, whose proud prerogative it was to watch by deathbeds, and prepare the corpse, a gruesome occupation one would think, but one which carried with it immense influence and respect. Indeed, it was not considered respectable to die without her, and when she paid an annual visit to her son in a neighbouring county, sick people lingered on until her return, or, if tired of waiting, got better. Sometimes it seems almost a pity we know so much of the origin and dangers of disease. In the old days we were saved many quaking fears we suffer in these enlightened and degenerate times.

Yours truly,

A PARSON'S WIFE.

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