

by their toys; Zareefy with a sprig of scarlet geranium in her hair and a red mandille on her head; Mohammed with his long necklace of coloured beads and large pieces of alum, his dear little head adorned by the usual red tarboosh. The Arabs have great faith in alum, as some of the poor in England have in camphor. In Syria it is rare to meet anyone who does not wear some sort of amulet. The other day I was in the Sook (bazaars) and met a boy wearing a heart-shaped Scotch pebble; it was attached to a lock of his hair and dangled over his left eye, which was red and looked inflamed.

When I asked him why he wore this charm, he said: "Lady, it is for my eye; the sun's rays will penetrate through the stone and draw the redness from my eye." He was suffering from conjunctivitis, so I persuaded him to come into hospital for a week, and the day he left us, quite cured, he presented me with the Scotch pebble, which I have had mounted and now wear instead of Ahmed. Two small silver frogs I also wear; these were given me by a tiny Arab girl, who had worn them a long time from a lock of her hair, dangling on her forehead like Ahmed's Scotch pebble, to keep her from getting a sore throat. Well, we too have our superstitions. How many of us "touch wood" or say "unberufen"? It is only another form; wearing an amulet or saying "Bism-illa" (In the name of God) or "Baeed—esskarr" (Far be the evil from us) is, after all, pretty much the same. In so many ways the East and the West meet. We think of Mohammedanism as Fatalism; a dozen times a day we hear the people say about their troubles, their sufferings, or what not, "Hatha min Ullah" (This is from God) or "Mithal ureed Ullah" (Just as God wills).

I may be wrong, but it seems to me very beautiful, this submission to the Divine will, and I can only liken it to that of Job when he said: "It is the Lord, let Him do what seemeth Him good," or again, "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord."

How the year is flying! By the time my letter reaches you we shall be dressing an olive tree for the women's and children's Christmas treat and singing Christmas carols—not in English or in Latin, but in Arabic. What matter the language? Think of us beyond the sea on Christmas morning. We, too, shall be singing that beautiful hymn, "Venite adoremus Dominus."

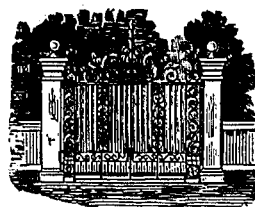
God speed the time when in all lands that song shall rise from the hearts of Mohammedans as well as Christians: "Oh, come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord."
SISTER MARIE.

The Leicester League Journal.

A real lover of books and journals must open the *Leicester Infirmary Nurses' League Journal* with delight: the paper is so superfine, the matter and letter-press so excellent. The number just issued contains a portrait of Miss Helena Sherlock, the Hon. Secretary of the League from 1903 to 1910, now Matron of Addenbrooke's Home of Recovery at Leicester.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



Mme. Thayer, the President of the American Circle of the Lyceum Club, and a pioneer of the educational movement between different countries, presided last week at a luncheon given by the Circle at the Club, 128, Piccadilly, W., to the Rhodes scholars, of whom sixteen were present, besides Sir John and Lady Cockburn, Lady Beachcroft, and Mr. A. W. Crees, the Hon. Secretary of the Association for the Interchange of Students. The toast of the evening, proposed by the President, was "The American Rhodes Scholars," and Mr. A. H. Worthen, of New Hampshire; Mr. F. E. Holman, of Utah, and Miss Points, the first "Rhodes Sister," sent over by the American Federation of Women's Clubs, who is receiving her education at the University of London, responded. Miss Points, in giving her impressions of London life, said it would be a great advantage to American students if they could see more of social conditions than was possible by residence at a University:

The sphere of activity of the Dublin Branch of the Women's National Health Association is now so wide that the various departments of work are to have their own separate reports. Dealing with the work of the Tuberculosis Committee at the annual meeting at which the Countess of Aberdeen presided, held in Dublin last week, Sir William Thompson stated that in the last nine months 350 patients had been attended, and of these one third lived with their families in single rooms.

The Central Administrative Committee of the five French Academies are unable to agree as to desirability or otherwise of admitting women to the Institute of France, and the matter has been remitted to the various Associations and will be discussed further at the united sitting of all the Academies early in the New Year. The question has arisen in connection with the candidature of Mme. Curie for admission to the Academy of Science, than whom France has no more brilliant son or daughter.

The death of Mrs. Sorabji, widow of the Rev. Sorabji Kharsedji, at Nasik, Bombay Presidency, in her 76th year, removes a notable personality amongst Indian women who was devoted both to the country of her birth and to the mother country. No one, of whatever race, in India was outside her sympathy. She loved all, she failed none, and for the first time drew together under her roof a common friendship, Europeans, Parsees, Hindus, Mohammedans, and Jews. She also rendered great service to the cause of education. Her daughter, Miss Cornelia Sorabji, is legal adviser to the Court of Wards in Bengal and Eastern Bengal, and is very well known to a large circle of friends in England.

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