

These consist of thickly wadded quilts, covered with rich silk, very handsome and by no means uncomfortable, but the weak point is the pillow, or, perhaps, I ought to say the *hard* point. We do not attempt to use the little wooden rocking-pillows so often seen at exhibitions, but the little hard sausages provided for us are not very much better. I covered mine with a handkerchief, mindful of the probable dangers of this disease-haunted place, but neither mind nor body was quite at ease, and the night's rest was not as refreshing as it might have been—in spite of the brocade quilts and daintily carved woodwork.

EVELINE W. CROPPER.

(To be continued.)

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### INTERFERING WOMEN.

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"The Anti-Suffrage Talk, after the American fashion," a brilliantly witty skit, recently delivered at the Steinway Hall, by the Rev. Marie Jennay was reported in last week's *Votes for Women*. The following paragraph, headed "Interfering Women," will amuse those who know Miss Dock, Miss Damer, and other heroic nurses who have helped to civilize the east side of New York City by their devoted work;—

"We have in New York State a settlement in charge of Lilian Ward. There, 60 nurses live and spend their time in the congested district of Henry Street, nursing the babies, giving them pure milk, so that, although hundreds of babies used to die from the heat in the summer, now there is scarcely a baby ever dies. Well, all those 60 nurses are suffragists, every one of them. What are they doing? Interfering, interfering. That is the trouble with the Suffragists, they are always interfering. And those 60 women, they are all interfering with the death rate. And if they interfere like that when they merely believe in Woman Suffrage, what may we not expect women to be doing when they get the franchise? What ought those 60 women to be doing? Every one of those 60 women ought to be devoting herself to the comfort of some man. You may tell me they are not married. Well, let them try a little harder and they will find some kind of man to be devoted to. What is the good of women doing such work? What is the motive of women doing such work? Notoriety. They want to show off. They want to be noticed. It is different with me. Now, when I get up on a platform I say to myself, 'Better that I should be unsexed for 15 minutes or half-an-hour than that all women should be unsexed for ever.' When I come on a platform it is for the sake of my sister women. When Suffragists do it they do it for notoriety."

### OUTSIDE THE GATES.

#### WOMEN.

The Society of Women Journalists opens its autumn session with a House Warming "At home" at the new offices, 10, St. Bride's Avenue, Fleet Street. Tea, coffee, music and talk will enliven the evening.

Dr. Frances Hoggan prophesies great things of the "Negro Woman of the United States," in the paper which she contributed to the Races' Congress, and which is quoted at some length in the *Review of Reviews*.

Rightly the problem of the negro women in the United States is engaging the attention of the American public. The Southern whites have been deeply attached to the black mammy who cared for them in their childhood. To them she personified all that is best in the negro race. They praised her devotion, her untiring zeal, her incessant and unequalled disinterestedness, and her endless patience with the white children confided to her care, and thus there was established a bond of close reciprocal sympathy between the white children and their mammy, which continued for the rest of their lives.

But these things are changing. An ever-increasing number is taking up the profession of teaching, a few study medicine, and others are becoming nurses. It is a curious fact that the first women doctors of the South were negroes. One of them founded a hospital in South Carolina and in two years she had performed five hundred surgical operations—which proves that in exceptional cases the greatest difficulties may be surmounted by coloured women with professional aptitude, perseverance, and the necessary physical qualities. The most interesting class of women negroes are the teachers. Generally highly gifted, they assume all the school responsibilities and manage the children admirably. Their gift of discipline is simply wonderful. In the negro schools, Dr. Hoggan says courtesy is the general rule. Even in the streets the negro children are better behaved than the white children. The negroes have a natural leaning to politeness and reciprocal good-will, and these things are cultivated in all the negro schools with marked results. In the education of the little negroes care is always taken to inspire them with sympathy with children, and the importance of the example set by those in charge is much insisted upon.

Undoubtedly, writes Dr. Hoggan, the negro woman is called upon to play an important part in the development of the race in America. Intellectually and morally she is perfecting herself from generation to generation. Physically, also, the race is improving. The maternal instinct is strong. Whether savage or civilized, slave or free,

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