They were just a group of Egyptian women, the inhabitants of a little house in an Egyptian village. Life to them never held very much of joy, but as a rule they were at least content. However, to-day as they sat on the mud floor they wept bitterly, and nothing could comfort them, for in the very next room one of the men of the family lay groaning, and though they had done all in their power they were unable to relieve him of pain. Some weeks before he had dislocated his thigh, and one thing after the other had been tried for him without any good result. They had even taken a donkey and kept him in a stable for three days without giving him any water. Then they placed the patient on his back with his leg firmly strapped down the donkey's side, after which the poor beast was driven to the water and allowed to drink as much as he could, but even that had failed to bring about the desired effect. Indeed, strange to say the man seemed even worse and in greater pain than ever. Whatever could be done next ? they asked. Well, there was just one thing more to try. Some miles away was a large town where lived a foreign doctor who had a hospital where he took in and treated in some peculiar way all the sick who came to him, and though the word hospital had rather an awful sound in the ears of an Egyptian fellah, yet it had been said of this doctor that he did really cure people, also he was working not for money but love, love of his God and for the good of the people around him. Yes, they would try it.

Several hours later a little group of people arrived at the mission hospital bearing between them an old man who groaned frequently and complained of his leg. He seemed very glad, however, when he understood that his journey was over, nor did he make any objection when he was lifted gently up and, doubtless for the first time in his life laid on a clean white bed, and while awaiting the doctor's arrival was given a good warm bed-bath.

F. J. JACKSON-BENNETT.

A Mat on of an Indian Hospital sends us the following kind and encouraging letter :-

Dear Madam,-I send herewith my subscription for the year beginning April 1st, 1914, and ending March 31st, 1915. And I should like to take this opportunity of saying how much I value the JOURNAL and how deeply I appreciate the untiring devotion of the Editor to the interests of the nursing profession. Nothing affecting that ever escapes her notice, and her steadfastness and zeal in upholding ideals are a pattern for all of us. Out here in India the BRITISH JOURNAL is quite an inspiration; one can always trust its judgment on every nursing question that arises, and I am glad to say that our young "Indian Journal," though at a humble distance, is faithfully following its lead. JESSIE GRANT.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

WOMEN.

The Queen of the Netherlands has aroused great hope in the hearts of the women of Holland, by referring to their enfranchisement in her Speech from the Throne at the opening of Parliament. There is a tremendously strong feeling in favour of justice amongst Dutch women, who are, as we, know, an example of all the domestic virtues.

To commemorate the centenary of peace between the United Kingdom and the United Decot and other ladies of American birth resident in England have commissioned a statue of William Pitt, first Earl of Chatham, which will be placed in the Capitol at Washington.

Miss Mary Proctor's mission to New Zealand for the purpose of securing the establishment there of a solar physics observatory has been successfully accomplished, Mr. Thomas Cawthron, of Nelson, having promised £50,000 for the purpose.

A manifesto, signed by a number of ladies, has been issued by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds in support of the Bill now before Parliament to prohibit the importation of the plumage of wild birds, which are now slaughtered in thousands for trade purposes. At a meeting in support of the Bill at Caxton Hall last week Mr. F. C. Selous said that the feather sales in London last June included over 11,000 oz. of egret plumes, which meant the killing of nearly 76,000 birds. The white egrets in the northern states of South America had been almost completely exterminated, and the wonderful great Bird of Paradise of the Aru Islands was nearly extinct. We are glad to know that this humane measure has every chance of becoming law.

To all lovers of London-and we know there is no place like it in all the world-the interview with Sir Laurence Gomme, Clerk to the L.C.C., which appeared in the *Observer* on Sunday, was vastly interesting. Sir Laurence sent the following message to the younger generation of London :-Try to enter a definite part of its life. Every aspect of life is represented—scholarship, public work, social work, pleasure, instruction, science, art, industry, manufacture, books, sport-everything. Look at it all as part of London's contribution to human happiness, and consider it a great thing to be a Londoner."

WORD FOR THE WEEK,

Training has given us a definite place in the community, and carried us beyond the confines of creed and of country, beyond the bounds of luxury and poverty, into close communion with the brotherhood of man.-Isabel Hampton Robb.

March 28, 1914

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