

## SELF-SUPPORTING ARTS AND CRAFTS FOR SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

An Exhibition of Work done by wounded and discharged soldiers and sailors was opened for a week on June 20th by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, at 34 and 35 New Bond Street, Messrs. Sotherby's New Galleries. There are some things which must be seen to be believed, and the public will now have an opportunity of proving "that nothing is worth doing unless it is impossible."

Truly "when one door shuts another opens." Who would conceive that an erstwhile miner, lately a Tommy in the trenches, now hopelessly disabled, could create a charming crochet silk infant's hood, as fresh and dainty as if my lady's white fingers had done it in her idle moments? Just one example that, but it only represents hundreds of others. Every kind and sort of ingenuity, inventive genius, and delicate skill has been brought to bear on the articles of which the exhibition is full.

The workshop at Farnham had some fascinating exhibits in the shape of models. One, a Sussex Forge, could produce real fire in the forge, and smoke from the chimney. Its structure was of wood, whitewashed and beautifully thatched, and a swallow's nest in the eaves. In the garden was a yew tree cut in a fantastic shape.

There was a battleship, with mechanism that fired torpedoes, a beautiful steam "navvy," a model of those used in the construction of the Panama Canal, and a magnificent model of *The Revenge*.

Two ladies, sisters, who were in charge of the stall, themselves design the models and instruct the men.

There were on other stalls coats of arms of the various regiments executed in fine silks, bold tapestry designs of peacocks, suitable for screens and cushion covers, painted and embroidered pincushions, handkerchief cases, blotters and pincushions, workbags in old Florentine and other designs.

St. Dunstan's contributed well-made baskets of every kind, wooden trays of attractive design, and mats of cocconut fibre and wool.

Netley contributed, among many other things, an old-fashioned fender stool worked in cross-stitch.

Shepherd's Bush Orthopædic Centre showed a great many plaster models and surgical appliances, the centre of the room being occupied by an ingenious operating frame made entirely by hand.

The Belgian wounded had sent some charming little wooden toys, which it must be confessed have an attraction about them which English war talent has not yet achieved.

The Exhibition is the result of the surprising achievement of the Lord Roberts Workshops for the wounded up and down the country. They are not designed to merely amuse the men during the tedium of illness; they are self-supporting industries which will enable wounded men to start life anew, with a prospect of fair remuneration.

Any money that it is necessary to spend for household requisites should be laid out at these workshops, and the purchaser will be sure of a good, well-made article.

The beautiful needlework and other fancy articles needed only to be seen to be coveted, and the exhibition furnished an opportunity for those who visited it to make themselves some pretty presents without smittings of conscience.

The public for whom so many of our soldiers and sailors have been injured in war, and disabled from following their former avocations, should do all in their power to support the Lord Roberts Memorial Scheme; it helps these brave men to help themselves, and it is little enough we can do to redeem our debt.

## CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

Money is pouring into national Red Cross Societies on both sides of the Atlantic. A Canadian officer, Major W. Napier Keefer of Toronto, has recently sent a large sum of money to the King, who has allotted £7,500 to the Joint War Committee.

£2,000 to the "Star and Garter" Home for Paralysed Soldiers for the permanent endowment of a room.

£2,000 to the Nurse Cavell Homes of Rest for Nurses for the Permanent endowment of a room.

£1,000 to the Auxiliary Hospitals for Officers' Department for the Pinewood Sanatorium for Tuberculous Officers.

£500 to the Prisoners of War Central Fund.

£2,000 to the Orthopædic Curative and Training Fund to be applied as follows:—£1,000 to the Military Orthopædic Hospital, Dublin, and £1,000 to the Ulster Volunteer Orthopædic Hospital, Belfast.

In addition the King has handed £2,000 to Sir Walter Lawrence to be used for the benefit of any scheme that may be approved for the treatment of soldiers and sailors suffering from deafness.

The people of Victoria have sent the Joint War Committee £100,000, which brings up the benefactions of the public for Red Cross work to close on seven million pounds!

## SUFFERINGS OF OUR WOUNDED.

The Report of the Mesopotamia Commission will be read with a deep sense of indignation and sorrow by every patriotic and humane person. The terrible sufferings of our wounded, well-known to many, now made public, make one's heart burn.

The breakdown of the Indian Medical Service is considered by the Commission due to its insufficient standards, and it recommends that a better and more complete nursing service should be organized.

We regret that we have been unable to award a prize in connection with our prize competition this week.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)