

not know whether the blush signified gratified vanity or a twinge of conscience for having deluded her Society clients!) Nurse Juliet accounted thus for her new occupation. "How could I go on strutting about in finery . . . when our poor wounded boys were wanting women to look after them out there." (They were wanting trained nurses, and there were plenty making every effort to be sent, and being refused.) "So I joined the V.A.D.'s, attended Lady _____'s training class, and here I am."

The "distinguished correspondent" next met Nurse Juliet of the golden hair and violet eyes, in a clearing station behind a knoll just off the broad road that led straight to the front trenches. (He would! although it is asserted that V.A.D.'s were never sent to Casualty Clearing Stations.) We have a lurid description of the barn used as an operating theatre, "a place filled with the odour of death and wounds, that caught you by the throat as you entered."

Nurse Juliet was "busy with sponges and bandages, helping a medical officer who was grappling fiercely with a shattered thigh." (Our only surprise is that this nursing expert was not herself performing this major operation. Surely, she had had sufficient experience to assume the surgeon's duties as well as the Sister's.)

Yet a third time the "distinguished correspondent" met Juliet—"in the High Street of a Midland town which had made more money than almost any other. Opulent manufacturers lounged in expensive motor cars, working men's wives in furs and feathers gazed at the shop windows speculating complacently on their next purchase." In strong contrast were "an elderly woman and a younger one, who came slowly along the pavement, both plainly dressed with the drab shawls, once commonly worn in the place, now seldom seen." Need we say the younger woman was Nurse Juliet, "a shadow, not merely of the beauty of the Bond Street show-room, but also of the grave young heroine of the field hospital."

The Bond Street show-room wanted none of her. "A trained nurse" (as she describes herself), "with uncertain eye-sight and shattered nerves;" she is not wanted for nursing either—but she thinks "the country is a little bit in her debt," and she believes it will look after her.

Why not apply to Dame Sarah Swift, D.B.E., Matron-in-Chief, Joint War Committee, which has thousands of pounds at its disposal, and which presumably was responsible for sending this mannequin to the front? Failing substantial assistance in this direction, we advise Nurse Juliet to personally interview the Secretary of State for War, and demand an explanation from him of the callous and cruel neglect to which, according to the *Daily Telegraph* and the "Nation's Fund for Nurses," the heroines of the war are now subjected by a thankless Government.

But what, anyway, have the trials of a V.A.D. to do with an appeal for the Endowment of the College of Nursing, Ltd., which professes to safe-

guard the interests of the Nursing Profession, and poses as an example of professional ethics and philanthropy, or with a Fund for the relief of nurses?

NOT CRICKET.

We cannot prevent the Editor of the *Daily Telegraph* misleading his readers by omitting to publish protests from nurses who object to his Shilling Doles Scheme, neither can we prevent him making statements and conveying inferences in replies to enquiries which are not correct. Lord Burnham refused to receive a deputation from the Professional Union of Trained Nurses, and sent Miss MacCallum a long and ambiguous reply. Copies of this reply are being distributed to those making enquiries *re* the Fund, accompanied by the statement: "We also send you copies of the *Daily Telegraph*, which show that the College of Nursing has a membership of 17,000, whereas, the objectors, *scarcely number as many hundreds!* This lie has many times been disproved, but from whom did the Editor of the *D.T.* obtain his information? Moreover, why did he not inform his correspondents that Miss MacCallum was one of the 17,000 members of the College?"

Then, in another reply, the Editor of the *D.T.* refers to those who oppose this abominable appeal to the rank and file of the Navy and Army, as "certain interested bodies." How—interested? The Trained Nurses independent organisations are "interested" only in maintaining the self-government and power of self-support and self-respect of their profession, as opposed to charity, degradation and servitude. What right has the proprietor of any newspaper to cut at the root of the freedom and self-respect of any class of workers? He would not dare to do it with his own industrial staff. Their trade-unions would soon come to the rescue with down tools, and it is social autocracy where trained nurses are concerned, which is driving them in self-defence, to unite in the only type of organisation which can stand up to these arrogant plutocrats, and save their souls alive.

A MASS MEETING OF PROTEST.

We learn that a Mass Meeting of free nurses is to be held in London, now that Parliament has re-assembled, to protest against the tactics employed by the *Daily Telegraph* in the conduct of its appeal, and to call the attention of the Secretary of State for War to the inference deduced from it, that the State has shamelessly neglected its duty towards Naval and Military nurses, in leaving them penniless and broken now that their services are no longer needed.

The attention of Dame Sarah Swift, D.B.E., and the Joint War Committee will also be directed to the "heartrending" necessities of "Nurse Juliet," V.A.D. (the beauty of the Bond Street Showroom) if she has not already succumbed to starvation, and found rest in a pauper's grave!

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