

Frank M. Upton. The heroism of these splendid sailors aroused the most enthusiastic ovation when they arrived at Plymouth. Upon their return to New York they were afforded a rousing welcome. Such deeds are the heritage of humanity. It is good to have the heart moved by such glory.

The *Daily Mail* announces that Viscount Rothermere has purchased for £155,000 (subject to the consent of Parliament) the site of the Royal Bethlem Hospital, so that this green open space of more than fourteen acres in the heart of the densely-populated Borough of Southwark shall become a playground and park which will form a permanent memorial to the late Mrs. Harmsworth, mother of the late Viscount Northcliffe and himself.

It will be known for ever as the Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park. The main intention is to provide trees and flowers and green stretches for children to whom the only other Parks in the district—Southwark Park, at Rotherhithe, two miles away, and Kennington Park, a mile distant, each having its own crowded district to serve—are out of everyday reach.

This is a most munificent gift, and happy the woman must have been in life whose sons hold her memory in such deep and lasting affection.

From Constantinople comes good news. The New Code provides for the freedom of Turkish women.

In proposing its acceptance in the Assembly, Mahmud Essad Bey, Minister of Justice, pointed out that the most important parts of the code concerned social organization and in it the two sexes were treated on a basis of equality. In his opinion the saddest figure in Turkish history and the most worthy of compassion was that of the Turkish woman, who had hitherto been treated as a slave and who would now take the place to which she had a right. By giving the Turkish mother her proper position the new law would give fresh vigour and consistency to Turkish society. The past thirteen centuries would be swept away, a new dawn would arise, and a fruitful era of civilization begin.

We understand that the law does not impose a veto on Turkish women marrying Christians.

#### LOUISE TURBEFIELD.

A few days ago we met a handsome friend looking handsomer than usual—a becoming gown being partly responsible for her charming appearance. We ventured to enquire where she had procured the graceful black silky gown with touches of royal blue. The reply was "Louise Turbeffield, of 55, Brompton Road," and she added "She is a boon and a blessing because she takes the trouble to study each client, and to adjust the drapery to suit each figure." This seemed such good news that we hand it on, and advise our readers who wish to look their best to pay "Louise Turbeffield" a visit and inspect her gowns, lingerie, &c., where we feel sure they will find that "little Spring suit" we all need at this time of the year.

#### COMING EVENTS.

*March 12th and 13th.*—Royal Sanitary Institute. Sessional Meeting. *Friday 12th*, 8 p.m.; *Saturday 13th*, 10.30 a.m. Town Hall, Hastings. Social Functions by invitation.

*March 19th.*—Meeting of General Nursing Council for England and Wales, 20, Portland Place, London, W. 2.30 p.m.

*March 25th.*—Late 3rd London General Hospital, T.F.N.S., Social Evening of combined Staffs, Royal Victoria Patriotic Schools, Wandsworth, S.W. 7 p.m.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain will be held towards the end of March. Notices will be circulated.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.*

### THE IRISH NURSES' UNION.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—My Committee thinks it desirable to warn nurses against taking up positions under Local Authorities until their appointments and salaries have been duly sanctioned by the Minister for Local Government in the Irish Free State.

A case has recently come under our notice where the nurse was duly appointed at a certain salary and bonus as advertised in the public press. The salary to be offered was reported on the Minutes to the Ministry before the advertisement appeared and no adverse or other comment was received by the local Board. The nurse took up duty immediately after appointment, and apartments were provided, but she was paid no salary. After three months had elapsed the L.G.D. wrote objecting to the remuneration, and stating that sanction would only be given to a salary of £20 lower than that advertised; this although no objection was raised when the salary to be offered was submitted before the appointment was made. The local Board wishes to adhere to the advertised salary, but the Ministry will not agree. Three months more have elapsed, and the nurse is now faced with the alternative of giving up the position after wasting six months, during which she might have been in another permanent post, or else accepting a remuneration considerably lower than she contracted for. It appears that legally she has no redress for this breach of contract, since the appointment is not legally binding until sanctioned: hence our warning, so that other nurses may not be similarly misled. When appointed they should refuse to take up duty until sanctioned, otherwise they run the risk of alteration (perhaps considerably to their detriment) in the terms of their appointment.

Yours faithfully,

29, South Anne Street,  
Dublin.

K. N. PRICE,  
Secretary.

### DRAFT SCHEME FOR PENSIONS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I have studied the summary of the Memorandum of the Draft Scheme of Pensions for Hospital Officers and Nurses published in your last issue, but there are some things which it does not make plain. For instance the memorandum states that there would be freedom for nurses to migrate from one branch of nursing service to another without loss of pension rights.

May I ask if this includes nurses migrating for a time to our Dominions, or abroad, which so many do, or would a nurse in this case lose the premiums she has contributed towards the support of the Scheme during her years of training? I see that "special arrangements are suggested for enabling the policies to be maintained by nurses engaged in private nursing," but no mention is made of nurses trained in Great Britain, who subsequently take up work of special value in some outpost of Empire, or in the mission field, though not intending to do so permanently. What is the position of such?

Yours obediently,

AN INTERESTED READER.

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