

service in the special fields to the extent of the deferment period.

5.—Nurses who have previous experience in the special fields either before or during their training for State Registration, are not exempt from the requirement to give a year of special service to the State after qualification.

### GIFTS TO HOSPITALS.

It is evident that the popularity of our independent hospitals is as sincere as ever, to judge from the legacies by which they are being enriched by those who know their value. It is specially gratifying when members of the medical staff enrich them.

#### Gift to Middlesex Hospital.

Dr. Walter Essex Wynter, M.D., of Bartholomew Manor, Newbury, Berkshire, late Senior Physician of the Middlesex Hospital, left £11,712.

He bequeathed all his real estate at Newbury to Middlesex Hospital for use as a home for retired and pensioned sisters and nurses or convalescent sisters and nurses, and his household effects, etc., and also £7,500 upon trust for the upkeep thereof.

#### Gift to Royal Halifax Infirmary.

Mr. Arthur Selby McCrea, of Warley, Halifax, left £341,230.

He left his residence, Warley House, gardens and two cottages, to the Royal Halifax Infirmary, for use as a memorial convalescent home, and £50,000 as an endowment fund.

### CENTENARY OF ELIZABETH FRY.

To mark the centenary of the death of Elizabeth Fry, the great English promoter of prison reform in Europe, her great-grandson, the Bishop of Lichfield (Dr. Woods), preached a special memorial sermon in Westminster Abbey, on October 13th.

#### "ELIZABETH FRY: QUAKER HEROINE."

We have recently read the story of "Elizabeth Fry: Quaker Heroine," by Janet Whitney, an American lady, first published in April, 1937—an entrancing work. Next to Florence Nightingale, Elizabeth Fry is a nurses' heroine whose intuition relieved suffering as if by magic. Do study this most inspiring work if you have not already done so. No work which we have studied of the life of this inspiring social reformer has ever before brought us into such intimate touch with the extraordinary lack of respect for human life in the 18th and early 19th centuries as this book.

Of course, the name of Elizabeth Fry is intimately associated with women prisoners at Newgate Prison; but her extraordinary influence with them was nothing short of magic. Born a Gurney of Earlham Hall, she was one of a family of seven sisters and four brothers, their father a wealthy wool-stapler and banker and member of a notable Quaker family. "Earlham Hall . . . contained them all, their weal and woe, their pranks and tasks, their lives and fears and hopes. And, fortunately for posterity, they belonged to a journal-keeping age." Early marriage and 11 children—that we knew; but here is an item of history of which we knew nothing.

#### Stephen Grellet.

"In the winter of 1812-13 there came to London a Frenchman, who was also an American Quaker, called Stephen Grellet. . . . He had been in the British Isles since June, 1811. . . . As he passed from Friends' meeting to another he took every opportunity of visiting the French prisoners, some of whom had been in durance since long before the abortive Treaty of Amiens.

"Baneful, indeed, is the scourge of war," he wrote in

his journal in 1812. "With deep anguish of spirit I have visited this portion of my fellowmen . . . some of them have been prisoners for nine years, and many, I find, have been brought up tenderly, even in affluence, having been conscripts that were forcibly taken from their homes, bands of whom I saw in France, 50 or more chained together, dragged as sheep to the slaughter. He exhorted them to liberate their spirits from sin, by faith in Christ. . . . Arriving in Birmingham in the heart of the munition industry, he called together a large meeting of munition-makers and used the suffering of the prisoners . . . to point remarks already sharp and burning in their quality . . . the cause of war was unfolded, its awful and dreadful consequences, misery, wasting and destruction."

Then follows the short yet graphic history of this remarkable man's work of social reform. It was this remarkable man who, having visited Newgate Prison, found conditions so tragic that he visited Elizabeth Fry at Mildred's Court.

He writes: "On leaving that abode of wretchedness and misery I went to Mildred Court to my much beloved friend, Elizabeth Fry, to whom I described, out of the fulness of my heart, what I had just beheld, stating also that something must be done immediately for these poor suffering children. The appeal was not in vain . . . and the very next day she repaired to the prison . . . What she then saw of the wretchedness of the prison induced her . . . Ah, to what? So simply, directly and humanely was Elizabeth Fry called to that which others have chosen to regard as her life-work."

Yet that visit of Stephen Grellet to Elizabeth Fry was unknown to him, the last link in a very strange chain. There is often something psychic in the affairs of the Quakers. Elizabeth herself—neither mystic nor psychic—never knew what elaborate forces had apparently been set to work to bring her to flower—or, to put it more modestly at least what a curious set of coincidences had finally opened to her her path of service.

To realise that we have never known of the existence of Etienne de Grellet du Mabilier, until this day, inspires us with the determination to study his "life" which is obtainable. "Memoir of the Life of Stephen Grellet." It is a romance of vital interest. We advise others to do likewise.

### WHAT TO READ.

#### MEMOIRS AND BIOGRAPHY.

- "Elizabeth Fry." Janet Whitney.
- "Memoirs of a Peace-Maker."
- "Water under the Bridges." The Right Honourable Sir Nevile Henderson.
- "Lady Luxborough goes to Bath." Marjorie Williams.

#### FICTION.

- "Novels of Mystery from the Victorian Age." Maurice Richardson.
- "London Belongs to the Norman." Collins.
- "Mine Own Executioner." Nigel Balchin.
- "Marriage Isn't Easy." Monica Ewer.
- "Mary Read, Buccaneer." Philip Rush.
- "Lady of Night." Jerome Barry.
- "Aspects of Reality." Edited by Reginald Moore.
- "Gin and Bitters." Jane Lane.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

- "Television. To-day and To-morrow." Lee de Forest.
- "Greece." A. W. Gomme.
- "The Imperial Commonwealth." Lord Elton.
- "Invitation to Adventure." Gordon.
- "The Melancholy of Swift." Ashe.

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