



THE DOGGED DOG OF JEAN DE NIVELLE.

BY MARTHE TROLY-CURTIN. (Author of "Phrynette and London" and "Phrynette Married.")

THERE was a delightful At Home at Mrs. Prunyn Harrison's house in Half-Moon Street on the 6th, when H.R.H. Princess Louise received, on behalf of the Club for Disabled Officers, the autographed library of which I spoke to you.

Many thanks from the invalided Yous and your friend Phrynette for the following books received: "Japan as I Saw It," by A. H. Exner, beautifully illustrated; "A Naval Digression (The Story of a Ship's Company)," by "G. F."; and the deliciously sophisticated "Valentine" and "Bittersweet," by Grant Richards.

I am so glad I have been able to get these few books. Several others have been promised me, which I will acknowledge in my weekly letter.

Many thanks also to Miss Grace Ellison for her book, "Abdul Hamid's Daughter"; the story is told by Melek Hanoum, heroine of Pierre Loti's "Les Désenchantées."

It is a very interesting and instructive story of Turkish life, after reading which we unveiled and free (almost!) women will breathe the good (if damp) air of England with something like gratefulness.

Speaking of free women, I say, didn't Suffrage get a nasty "below the belt" knock the other day? Didn't you see, in the Speaker's Conference on Electoral Reform? The Conference decided by a majority that "some measure of Woman Suffrage should be conferred. A majority of conference was of opinion that, if Parliament should decide to accept the principle, any woman on the Local Government register who has attained a specified age, and the wife of any man who is on that register, if she has attained that age, should be entitled

to vote as a Parliamentary elector. Various ages were discussed, of which thirty and thirty-five received most favour."

Well, isn't it obvious that most women would rather do without the vote than state their age once they are over

He had been war-working all day, felt very tired, and was sitting limp in his seat, when two elegant and leisured ladies of an uncertain age entered the car. Every seat was occupied, and one of the ladies whispered loudly to the other something about "men lolling luxuriously like Pashas while women had to stand."

The Frenchman got up, raised his hat, and said suavely: "I beg to be allowed to offer my seat to the elder of *ces dames*." But *ces dames* never stirred, and (unless they have got out of the tram by now) they are still standing!

On Jan. 30 we had a most interesting evening at the Poets' Club in the Regency Rooms of the Monico, when Mme. Vanderveelde read us a paper on Verhaeren, with selections from his works. Sir Henry Newbolt presided. Several members added some personal reminiscences of the dead poet, and one of them made a remark which struck my simple mind. "Whereas," he said, "with most poets love seems to be the most inspiring theme, Verhaeren did not sing of love—probably because he was happily married!"

The much-married members in the audience must have enjoyed that—what?



"An old nursery rhyme, 'Mary had a Little Lamb.'"

The first season of the Théâtre des Alliés opens on the 22nd of this month, and will last six weeks. The Théâtre des Alliés has been founded for the purpose of strengthening and continuing the great Entente of the Allies after the war by popularising the French language in Britain. Three French plays will be presented, each play being given four times, twice weekly at matinées, for two consecutive weeks.

The first play will be "La Petite Chocolatière," better known in England as "Tantalising Tommy." The leading lady, "Tommy," will be Mlle. Gina Palerme, who in this play will make her first appearance in comedy. Other members of the cast are Mlle. Lucienne Dervyle, Miss Helen Morris, etc. "Miquette et sa Mère," with Mlle. Régine Flory, and "Le Petit Café," with Valentine Tessier and Teddie Gerard, will follow.

M. Maurice Froyez, so well known in theatrical circles in Paris, is the artistic director of the Théâtre des Alliés, whose offices are at 18, Green Street, Leicester Square. Mr. J. T. Grein and M. Coudurier de Chassigne, of the Foreign Press Association, are also directors.

The directors of the Théâtre des Alliés believe that now is the time for French plays to be presented to the British public in French. Most of your men who have been in France like to hear French spoken, and wish to progress in their knowledge of that language. British women naturally desire to keep abreast with the men—rather! When the British public shares the French language, the Entente will be cemented.

The plays chosen abound in action, and are easy to understand even by those who have no French.

To encourage young students of French, the directors are prepared to make special terms for pupils from schools, and will also allot a certain number free for London County Council students of French.

Some time ago an amiable reader sent me the following cutting from a French paper. I thought I'd translate it for your benefit. To begin with, I must tell you that we have in French an old nursery

"I so wish I understood it all. Why don't you put little footnotes in English?"

twenty? Oh, men, men! Why, I believe a woman must have given you the tip—you'd never have found that all by yourself! Which reminds me of the Frenchman's dodge in a Paris tram-car.