

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

A PERMANENT HOME AND INSTITUTE FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CRIPPLED SOLDIERS.

Sir,—You have been very kind in giving publicity in your esteemed paper to my appeal on behalf of the brave Belgians last August. I trust you will treat the same way my new appeal, which is for a cause a thousandfold more deserving. I wish to remind your readers to give a thought of the many Australian heroes who will return armless and legless. I have happened to travel through the Balkans after the war, and have seen many brave soldiers returning home with loss of arms, legs, and eyesight, but still these people wanted to live and had a healthy appetite. Now, how can your readers make such unfortunate heroes work as attendants on Sydney lifts (as suggested by some insane people in the press recently), or the alternative, which is to sell matches in the streets? I should like to propose a fund to be opened for a permanent home and institute for the Australian crippled soldiers, and if your readers will respond to their own Australian needs as generously as they have to their country's needs, this fund should reach seven figures, and consequently make the institute self-supporting. Messrs. Wirth Brothers are guaranteeing £1000 towards this fund, and Australia expects that all those gentlemen who have sent in £500 cheques to other funds, will come forward in this case, which is, as you will agree, a thousandfold more deserving. I am touring the country organising a committee in every town, and communicating with the Prime Minister, Mr. Holman, to whom all communications should be forwarded.—
I am, etc.,

E. PLATT RUSKIN.
