

"CARMEN SYLVA," Roumania's noble queen, has, besides attending to the constant calls made upon her, in consequence of her position, managed to find time to found industrial schools, benevolent and provident societies, and Nursing Sisterhoods; and we all know how, in the struggle of Plevna, Her Majesty was with the wounded and suffering, heroically tending them, and is now known, and frequently addressed, as "the mother of the wounded." No wonder then her great popularity right throughout the whole world, "where good deeds ring again."

MR. EDITOR informs me that the Prize Essay Competition for this month, entitled "The Best Collection of Recipes in Invalid Cookery," has been an exceptionally keen one, so I shall look forward with great interest to the decision of the Prize Essay Committee, whose award, it is hoped, will be made next week. I cannot too highly recommend these competitions; they are open to all Trained Nurses, or those associated with nursing work, and are every month becoming more popular, as they deserve to be.

AND this reminds me that Miss Marian C. Pincoffs, who was the winner of the last competition, and whose excellent essay appeared on the 15th of last month, has selected as her prize Dr. Esmarch's "Handbook of Surgery," a very handsome volume, bound in limp leather, being revised up to date, which has been duly forwarded to her with the usual certificate of award.

SLIPPERS AND RICE.—I have the pleasure of being able to chronicle the interesting fact that on Thursday afternoon last, at St. Peter's Square, W., the Hon. Anthony Ernest Henley, son of Lord Henley, of Watford Court, was married to Miss Emmeline Maitland, daughter of Mr. Maitland, 30, Lower Belgrave Street, S.W. Miss Maitland is known to the Nursing world as formerly Nurse-Matron of the Southend Victoria Hospital. I have not the space at my disposal to enable me to give either a list of the guests or of the presents, which would require at least a couple of columns to do justice to them, but my good wishes go with the happy pair, nevertheless.

S. G.

THE man who will share his purse with you in the days of misfortune and distress, and, like the good Samaritan, be surety for your support to the landlord, you may admit to your confidence, incorporate into the very core of your heart, and call him friend; misfortunes cannot shake him from you; a prison will not conceal you from his sight.

### HOSPITAL INTELLIGENCE.

IN respect to my remarks concerning the abnormally high death-rate in Preston, chiefly occasioned by infantile mortality, which appeared last week but one, and in which I supported the views of Mr. Alderman Walmsley, who suggested a Central Nursery, I have received the following letter from Mr. Councillor John Holden, whose suggestions I also alluded to.

"CROMWELL TERRACE, Preston, Sept. 10, 1889.—Dear Sir,—May I point out that the excessive death-rate of Preston is made up by deaths from typhoid, measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, and what may be described as zymotic diarrhoea. Of course I bow to the superior knowledge of 'Junior House Surgeon,' but fail to see how these will be diminished by the establishment of Central Day Nurseries without other measures.—I am, yours truly, JOHN HOLDEN."

I GRANT at once that such a state of things as mentioned by Mr. Holden's communication does exist, and that the deaths are heavy from these causes, but apart from this, putting these classes of disease entirely at one side, for I gather Mr. Holden means them as affecting adults, there is a grave and excessive mortality among young children, which could be greatly, if not wholly, remedied and avoided, by adopting such a plan as indicated by Mr. Walmsley.

AND if Mr. Holden should ever come to London, I shall be glad to take him into certain districts where, once upon a time, a similar, if not a worse state of things existed, to what exists now in Preston, and where the establishment of nurseries has completely altered matters for the better. The districts are Lambeth, Whitechapel, and Drury Lane, among many others of a like description.

WHY not at least make the experiment in Preston? It would not cost much. A couple of years would be quite sufficient time to give and to note the improvement, if any.

AT the same time I hope that Mr. Holden will not think I disagree with him as to the advisability of the prompt removal of the "filth of the place." Goodness knows the town is odorous enough.

THE JUNIOR HOUSE SURGEON.

'Tis well to feel how gentle a wrench will set me free, and well to feel in the heyday of life and spirits one's mortality pressed upon one's notice every hour of the day.—Faber.

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