

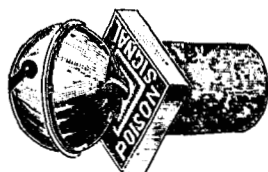
out having to go cap in hand to a relieving officer, when the Hospitals and Dispensaries are unable to help. The administration of the Poor Law in regard to children, he thinks, works as well, perhaps, as can be expected of any system.

It must be remembered, however, in considering the subject of these essays, that many among the lower classes earn, at times, comparatively good wages; but the pathos of their life is its dullness and lack of beauty and interest; their highest sense of enjoyment being little beyond a heavy meal. Mrs. Barnett devotes to this subject two most interesting essays, one called "At Home to the Poor," and the other "Pictures for the People." In detailing what has been done in Whitechapel to give small groups of mothers and fathers a half-day's glimpse into the lives and surroundings of those more fortunate; and further in the opening of picture galleries in the East End, in which the best pictures are exhibited, Mrs. Barnett shows what might be done by others to enrich the lives of our toilers. By means of sweet memories, and the introduction into their thoughts of noble ideas, their hard lot may be lived upon a higher level. Let there be at work quiet, refining influences, for sensationalism in social reform is as useless as promiscuous charity.

Inventions, Preparations, &c.

POISON.

The many inquests which have unfortunately followed the accidental administration of poisons have rendered it a matter of the first importance to obtain some method of discrimination between bottles which contains deadly drugs, and those whose contents are harmless. All kinds of inventions have been proposed, and adopted, to secure this end, and amongst them bottles of various shapes or colour have been chiefly used; but, unfortunately, without diminishing the dangers to which carelessness or ignorance have exposed the sick. The latest invention is one which is most novel and simple, and at the same time should

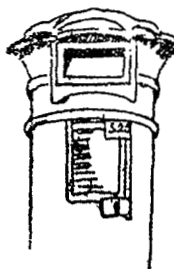


be effective. It consists of a tiny bell fastened to a capped cork so that the bottle into which the latter is inserted cannot be taken up without producing a little tinkle, enough to warn the Nurse, even in the dark, that she is touching a dangerous bottle. As this ingenious contrivance is sold at the cost of one penny, it should be widely used, and we commend its employment to Hospital Matrons and to private Nurses. It can be obtained from Messrs. Orchard, Chemists, of Salisbury.

PAISLEY FLOUR.

Our attention has been drawn to this new preparation, made by the well-known firm of Messrs. Brown & Polson. The excellence of their other

productions would seem to render it almost unnecessary to testify to the purity and usefulness of their latest article of manufacture. But Paisley Flour appears to have advantages of a very marked kind. It is especially useful for home-baking, inasmuch as it fulfils all the requirements of a high-class baking powder, or leavening agent. This is a great advantage when it is remembered how many adulterated preparations are on the market for this particular purpose, and Paisley flour can be thoroughly recommended as a thoroughly pure and wholesome article. It is, as a rule, used in the proportion of one part of Paisley flour to three or four parts of ordinary flour, and it is claimed that this combination makes the bread, cakes and pastry so prepared easily digested, even when quite new. For convenience and economy, at any rate, Paisley flour can be heartily recommended for sick cookery.



Letters to the Editor.

(Notes, Queries, &c.)

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.

DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—I shall not attempt to reply to Mr. Paynter Allen's remarks on my Biblical illustrations; he has been answered before now by much abler critics than I. But with your permission I should like to tell him that the millions of Roman Catholics, and the more millions of Orthodox believers, have the same marriage law with ourselves, although it is only the practical English mind that puts a Table of Affinity in the vernacular. The American sects being outside the Church, very likely make rules of their own.—Yours faithfully,

SUSAN E. ANTROBUS.

14, Queen's Square, W.C.

SHOULD NURSES BE POLITICIANS?

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—As it seems generally acknowledged that patients are more susceptible to the influence of their Nurses than they would be if in good health, it seems to me unfair to ask them to sign any petition. It savours of "undue influence," and as many people get so soon hot on politics, may stir up unpleasant feelings. *Outside* her work, I do not think there can be any objection to a Nurse being political. I fail to see the advantages of Women's Suffrage, but that is (woman-like?) outside the question. I think if "Political Charge Nurse" keeps her work and politics separate, she will not find one affect the other, but, if she mixes them up, she will quite likely harm her political cause and professional position.—I am, yours faithfully,

Chatham.

"DORIS."

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