

Dr. Furnivall thinks that English folks' neglect of old English literature is a disgrace to them, and that the grand new English Dictionary does not get enough support; he says, "it now owes the Clarendon Press £32,000, because ignoramuses won't buy it."

The head master of Eton College, Dr. Warre, mentions three books. "The Naturalist in La Plata," by Hudson; "When Three Empires meet," by Knight, and "Irish Idylls," by Jane Barlow, as being not as well known as they deserve; he thinks Walter Scott is holding his own with the rising generation of boys, but cannot say the same of Dickens, Thackeray, Bulwer Lytton, Fenimore Cooper and others who interested boys forty years ago.

The head master of Harrow, Dr. Welldon, suggests Bunyan's "Holy War," Dr. Johnson's "Rasselas," Fenelon's "Telemache" and Rousseau's "Emile."

Mr. Burnand (editor of *Punch*) recommends every one to get the whole series of his own books of "Happy Thoughts."

The Chief Rabbi thinks that the works of Philo-Judæus, Dr. Deutsch's article on "The Talmud" and Barpeles' "History of Jewish Literature," should all be re-published.

Mr. John Davidson considers "Don Quixote" the greatest prose book in the world, and suggests that everyone should read Carlyle's "Past and Present," and "Latter Day Pamphlets," once a year, he also recommends Stendhal's novel "La Chartreuse de Parme."

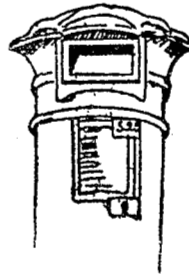
It is very remarkable that no two men have recommended the same books, and in consequence what a variety of literature is suggested for our reading in this most interesting symposium upon neglected and forgotten books!

A. M. G.

## Inventions, Preparations, &c.

### TERRABONA TEA.

ONE of the latest novelties is that produced by the Terrabona Company, Limited, of Terrabona Buildings, the Minorities, E.C., in the shape of penny packets containing about equal proportions of tea and dried milk and sugar enclosed in a gelatine capsule. A packet placed in a pint of boiling water is said to yield three cups of delicious tea. From our own experience we can testify that the flavoured fluid so produced is a most delectable drink; and these packets certainly should prove a very great convenience to those desirous of obtaining the cup that cheers but does not inebriate, fully flavoured, at the least possible cost of time and labour, and at the least possible expenditure. These packets may therefore be especially recommended to travellers and to Nurses who have but little time to attend upon themselves; and it is easy to predict that the preparation to which we allude will become a great popular favourite. We are informed that the company supplies excellent teas and coffees at most moderate prices, and judging by the samples which we have tasted we can confidently recommend them as both pure and pleasant.



## 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.*

### UNPROFESSIONAL CONTROL.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—It appears to me that the inauguration of "Burdett's Official Nursing Directory"—an attempt simply on the part of Mr. H. C. Burdett to assume an autocracy over the profession of Nursing, evidently particularly offensive to its leaders—should be met forthwith by some *public protest* from those Matrons and Nurses who recognise the significance of this action and who are able to estimate the incalculable confusion which must ensue in the minds of a somewhat defenceless public when an unprofessionally compiled list of names is calmly let loose upon them, and that those Matrons present at the meeting should make it quite clear to the Press and thus to the world in general, that Mr. H. C. Burdett's unauthorised interference is altogether mischievous and unjustifiable.

Recommended by most eminent advisers in 1893, the Privy Council of this Empire granted powers to the Royal British Nurses' Association by Royal Charter, to compile an official list of Nurses, and in incorporating this efficient and professional body, stated that: "And whereas it appears to us that a permanent Association founded for the purpose of maintaining a closer connection among persons practising as Nurses, and thereby ensuring mutual counsel, comfort, and support; and for the purpose of disseminating to the public at large information respecting such persons is likely to prove of much public benefit, and that such purposes would be better ensured by the incorporation of such an Association."

Now it seems to me that in granting this Royal Charter to a purely professional body, the Privy Council took into special consideration the great work of *protecting the public* from the untrained and dangerous Nurse, which was commenced by the Royal British Nurses' Association in 1891 by the publication of the first Register of Trained Nurses. As one of that same public, I may perhaps be permitted to say how wise the action of the Nursing profession has been in instituting reforms from *within*, in not waiting, as so many professional bodies do, until public pressure has been brought to bear upon them, before beginning to set their "houses in order."

Much as trained Nurses must suffer from the issue of a list of Nurses purporting to be *official*, under the unofficial direction of Mr. Henry C. Burdett, we, the ignorant public, shall suffer still more. We are just beginning to awaken to our own interests, and to become aware that a registered Nurse is a woman of at least three years' experience and of unimpeachable personal character, and if she relapses, as human nature has a way of doing, that we have our remedy in referring our complaints to the Registration Board of the Royal British Nurses' Association. The publication of a nondescript list of Nurses under lay authority will tend to confuse us, and open the door to numerous abuses which are at present visibly decreasing under professional organisation. The Royal British Nurses' Association is doing good and national work, and, as far as I can see, requires no assistance in the management of its own concerns from outsiders. The founders, women to whom the public owe both admiration and gratitude, would do well at this juncture to join with

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)