

Brough, are all of a nature to bring vividly before an audience realistic illustrations of character, nor are the comparatively minor parts of the Duc d'Aumont and of Chamillac less graphically delineated by Messrs. Charles Allan and Gerald du Maurier respectively. The stage management, as arranged by Mr. B. Shelton is excellent, and the orchestral programme is well carried out under the direction of Mr. Raymond Roye. "The Silver Key" should unlock a chest well filled with golden coins!

Bookland.

THE SHOOTING STAR.

Behind yon clouds that curtain in
The far stars waning slow,
Above this dim abode of sin
I see a bended bow.

High o'er the sleeping world it stands,
Close by immortal Mars,
And darkly held by warrior hands
As bent for mighty wars.

All ready for the gathering fight
Stand ranged the hosts afar,
And see, across the dusky night,
God shoots a fiery star.

C. J. SHEARER.

("In London" and other Poems.)

WHAT TO READ.

"Popular Royalty," by Arthur H. Beavan, author of "Marlborough House and its Occupants."

"Letters from the Black Sea during the Crimean War, 1854-55," by Admiral Sir Leopold Heath, K.C.B.

"Isabella the Catholic, Queen of Spain: Her Life, Reign, and Times, 1451-1504," by M. le Baron de Nervo. Translated from the original French by Lieut.-Colonel Temple-West.

"Gabrielle von Bulow, Daughter of Wilhelm von Humboldt," a memoir compiled from the family papers of Wilhelm von Humboldt and his Children, 1791-1887. Translated by Clara Nordlinger.

"A Man's Undoing," by Mrs. Lovett Cameron.

"Pantalas, and What they Did with Him," by Edward Jenkins.

"A Trick of Fame," by H. Hamilton Fyfe, author of "A Player's Tragedy."

"The Stepmother: A Tale of Modern Athens," by Gregory Xenopoulos.

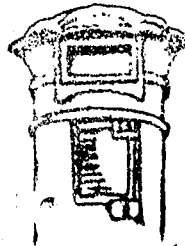
Coming Events.

July 19th.—Conference by invitation of the Countess of Aberdeen to discuss the formation of the National Council of Women, Grosvenor Crescent Club, 3.30.

July 20th.—Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne open the Passmore Edwards Convalescent Home at Cranbrook, Kent, 4.30 p.m.

July 22nd.—Annual meeting of the Royal British Nurses' Association at the Conference Hall, Imperial Institute, South Kensington, at 11 a.m.

July 31st.—Princess Henry of Battenberg lays the foundation stone of the new block of the Royal National Hospital for Consumption, at Ventnor.



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.

ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—I have seen with pleasure that, at last, the conduct of business of the Royal British Nurses' Association is being criticised in the press, and not before it is time. I have been a member of the General Council for the last three years, and have attended many of the meetings, and I can only say that the unjust manner in which discussion has been prevented from the Chair is a disgrace to the officials; and the conduct of persons present at these "packed" meetings is most outrageous—noisy and vulgar interruptions, and thumpings with umbrellas, which would be at once silenced by a chairman who was unprejudiced. What is required is an unbiassed inquiry by honourable persons, and we who strongly disapprove of the present management are anxious that such an enquiry should be held. We have too much experience of the intimidation of past meetings, to have the slightest faith in the vote of those of our colleagues who are under the official control of the Hon. Officers—who come up and support them at any cost.

I earnestly hope you will arouse public opinion on the subject of the Royal British Nurses' Association, so that the whole truth may come out. The majority of our best matrons have been intimidated—a thing easily done with those holding official positions—so that the nurses must now look to the Press for justice, or there is no doubt new By-laws will be proposed, depriving us of any freedom or voice in the management of our own Association. We founded our Association for mutual help and co-operation, to improve our education and proficiency, to obtain legal status, and with an earnest wish to benefit the general public; all of which aims are determinedly prevented by the present policy of official autocrats.

I am,

Yours truly,

CATHERINE BACKHOUSE WALKER, M.R.B.N.A.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I think it is the duty of every member of the Royal British Nurses' Association, who is grateful to the thirty matrons who have placed our grievances before the public through their Protest, to publicly support them at this crisis. I shall, therefore, be obliged if you find space for my letter.

I am a member of the General Council, and have attended several of the meetings, and the intimidating conduct of the officials and the partisanship of Sir James Crichton Browne when in the chair are undeniable. Is it to be expected that self-respecting women will attend meetings thus conducted?

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