

trial and difficulty, the good are rewarded and the bad punished. But Mrs. Burnett's good is too good. Not all the charm of her style can prevent Felicia and Rupert from being a reminder of the aristocratic young couples in the *Family Herald*. And this is a pity, because there is so much good writing and charming feeling in the "De Willoughby Claim."

G. M. R.

#### "THE ENGLISHWOMAN'S YEAR BOOK."

WE have received a copy of "The Englishwoman's Year Book for 1900," edited by Miss Emily Janes, secretary to the National Union of Women Workers of Great Britain and Ireland, and published by Messrs. Adam and Charles Black, price 2s. 6d.

A new feature this year is the directory of the names and addresses of well known women workers, a most useful addition, and we are glad to note that it is proposed to considerably augment it in future issues. Much vexatious delay is often caused in searching for the addresses of well-known workers whose names do not appear in the pages of the "Court Guide," and Miss Janes has met a real need in publishing this directory, which we feel sure will be much appreciated.

Turning to the section on Public Work, which we are told has benefitted by the help of Mrs. Stanbury, the secretary of the Women's Local Government Society, we find a well arranged and most interesting section. First there is an historical summary of the leading dates in the movement to give women a share in local and imperial government, then a summary of Parliamentary business during the session of 1899, followed by a list of public offices filled by women at the present time. Notes are given for the guidance of women who are qualified to vote in Elections. Short articles follow on the County, Town, Urban District, Rural and Parish Councils, and Vestries, and useful information is given by Miss Lidgett on the Poor Law, and Mrs. Homan on the Boarding-out System and the School Board. Miss Helen Blackburn contributes an article on the all important question of Women's Suffrage. An article by Mrs. Bamford Slack on public speaking is especially useful, for women as a rule do not excel in this branch, and indeed one speaker at the International Congress went so far as to say that she hoped before the next Congress the speakers would take some lessons in elocution.

The Nursing Section appears to be much the same as last year, we propose however to deal more fully with this department in our next issue. An interesting section is that on Literature which contains articles on Story Writing, by Miss Esmé Stuart, on Journalism, by Mrs. Naylor, and also a list of the books published by women during the past year. The list is somewhat a surprising one and shows that women have contributed to our current literature many works of reference, as well as histories, scientific and art publications, biographies, educational, and technical books, while the works of fiction are legion.

Lack of space prevents our enumerating all the many subjects dealt with in the Year Book as education, employments and professions, science, literature, and so forth. We have however no hesitation in saying that every woman worker should keep this book at her side as a well nigh indispensable work of reference. There is no other which covers the same ground, and it would be difficult, if not impossible, to excel it.

## Sonnets.

We lack, yet cannot fix upon the lack :  
Not this, nor that ; yet somewhat, certainly.  
We see the things we do not yearn to see  
Around us : and what see we glancing back ?  
Lost hopes that leave our hearts upon the rack,  
Hopes that were never ours yet seemed to be,  
For which we steered on life's salt stormy sea  
Braving the sun stroke and the frozen pack.  
If thus to look behind is all in vain,  
And all in vain to look to left or right,  
Why face we not our future once again,  
Launching with hardier hearts across the main.  
Straining dim eyes to catch the invisible sight,  
And strong to bear ourselves in patient pain ?

Here now is Winter. Winter, after all,  
Is not so drear as was my boding dream  
While Autumn gleamed its latest watery gleam  
On sapless leafage too inert to fall.  
Still leaves and berries clothe my garden wall  
Where ivy thrives on scantiest sunny beam ;  
Here still a bud, and there a blossom seem  
Hopeful, and robin still is musical.  
Leaves, flowers, and fruit, and one delightful song  
Remain, these days are short, but now the nights  
Intense and long, hang out their utmost lights ;  
Such starry nights are long, yet not too long ;  
Frost nips the weak, while strengthening still the  
strong.

Against that day when spring sets all to rights.

CHRISTINA G. ROSSETTI.

#### WHAT TO READ.

- "Songs of the Dawning." By E. Marston Rudland.
- "Poems." By Kathleen Haydn Green.
- "Sappho the Lesbian." A Monograph. By T. G. Johnson.
- "Literary Reminiscences." By Edouard Grenier.  
Translated from the French by Mrs. Abel Ram.
- "Side Lights on South Africa." By Roy Devereux.
- "A Maid of the Moor." By M. E. Stevenson.
- "Donna Teresa." By F. M. Peard.
- "Illusion: A Romance of Modern Egypt." By E. Livingstone Prescott.

## Coming Events.

15th December.—The Prince and Princess of Wales attend a performance at Olympia in aid of the Princess of Wales's Hospital Ship and the *Maine*.

16th December.—The Duke of Cannaught presents a Union Jack, in the Queen's name, to the American hospital ship.

17th December.—Hospital Ship *Maine* on view to general public, tickets upon application to Mrs. Blow, Walsingham House Hotel, Piccadilly. Farewell Dinner at the Carlton Hotel, to the Surgeons, Nurses, and Officers of the American Hospital ship.

18th December.—The *Maine* sails for South Africa. The Prince and Princess of Wales receive the Presidents and Lady Presidents of the League of Mercy at Marlborough House, 12.

25th December.—Christmas Day. Hospital Festivities.

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