

paper to fill cushions." The stories of "Alice and Alicia," and "The Closed Door," will not lack sympathetic readers, and, altogether, those who possess a ghost-shelf in their libraries should certainly see to it that this new-comer finds a place upon it.

W. J. L.

Poem.

THE MOTHER'S CALL.

By DR. G. E. ANSON.

I.

What whisper this which ripples round the world,
And stirs the Viking pulses in our veins?
Ten thousand flags of Liberty unfurl'd!
Ten thousand dreams of battle in our brains!

Chorus.

'Tis the Nation-mother whisp'ring 'neath the waves,
Calling for her children, calling on her braves!
O, Mother who hast bred us,
Protected us and led us,
We are coming, coming, coming o'er the waves!

II.

Bleeding she grips, nor counts the cost or time;
While envious nations stand around and jeer!
Shall we, the pampered darlings of her prime,
Craven, ungrateful, deem the price too dear?

Chorus—'Tis the Nation-mother, etc., etc.

III.

The Sumac, and the Maple, and the Pine;
The Rata, and the Wattle, and the Gum;
All bow their heads together at the sign,
And chorus back: "O, mother, we will come!"

Chorus—'Tis the Nation-mother, etc., etc.

IV.

We reckon not of the traitor's poisoned lie,
Nor sharp-tongued arrows of the fickle press;
Sure of the Right, we hear thy Mother-cry,
And give our lives to thee! We give no less!

Chorus.

'Tis the Nation-mother whisp'ring 'neath the waves,
Calling for her children, calling on her braves!
Oh, Mother who hast bred us,
Protected us, and led us,
We are coming, coming, coming o'er the waves.

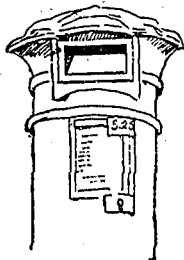
—From the *Wellington Evening Post*.

WHAT TO READ.

- "A Memoir of her Royal Highness Princess Mary Adelaide Duchess of Teck, based on her Private Diaries and Letters." By C. Kinloch Cooke, B.A., LL.M.
- "John Ruskin." By M. H. Spielmann.
- "A White Woman in Central Africa." By Helen Caddick.
- "Eighteen Years in the Khyber, 1879-1898." By Colonel Sir Robert Warburton, K.C.I.E.
- "America To-Day." By W. Archer.
- "Malay Magic." By W. W. Skeat.
- "A Fantasy in Fustian." By George Wemyss.
- "The Heart of Toil." By Octave Thanet.
- "Mrs. Knollys." By F. D. Stimson.

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.

SOCIETY WOMEN AND THE WAR.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

MADAM,—A copy of the NURSING RECORD having been sent to me with an Article on the "Yeomanry Hospital" specially marked, I conclude that being a "Society Woman" it has been sent to show me what is my duty when I interfere in matters relating to Nursing. I am much obliged to you for the paper and regret that as far as the Yeomanry Hospital is concerned, the only part I have taken in its equipment has been to buy tickets for an entertainment given in aid of its funds. In other matters however, such as for my own Cottage Hospital, I have taken upon myself the responsibility of selecting nurses for the sick, and I have the audacity to think that I am capable of doing it without forming a Committee of Matrons to give me their advice. If I receive certificates of efficiency from well known medical men and matrons of a nurse or nurses and see that they have received their full three years training in one of our best hospitals, I consider that I am qualified to say whether they will suit me for the work for which I shall pay them, and that I am quite as capable of doing it alone as if I had the advice of a possibly prejudiced matron. I have reason to believe that the same precautions have been taken by at least some of the ladies on the Yeomanry Hospital Committee. One has only to read the different nursing papers to see how exceedingly bitter, prejudiced, and uncharitable Matrons and Hospitals can be towards each other, and it is small wonder that women who undertake the very arduous task of collecting funds for such an institution as the Yeomanry Hospital should wish to keep clear of "party" prejudice in choosing the nurses.

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
A SOCIETY WOMAN.

[We publish the above letter from a titled member of the Yeomanry Hospital Committee with pleasure, because it brings forward several important points. 1st. It gives to the public who have subscribed the funds—perhaps because the names of certain ladies in whom they may have confidence are on the committee—an insight into the fact that such ladies do not necessarily render personal service on Committees on which their names appear or in the cause for which they invite subscriptions. 2nd. We are of opinion that the course adopted by the writer in providing a nurse for her "own Cottage Hospital," which we presume she supports financially, is in no way analagous to the procedure which is incumbent upon a Committee dealing with an institution of national importance, for which the public pays, and the assumption that such an analogy exists is a common fallacy

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