

The Naming of the King.

*Thus spoke the Mother Country
Looking across the seas:*

"What shall we call him, Children;
He who shall rule us all?
King of an Island people,
Lord of a great Domain;
Chief of an Eastern Empire,
Sovereign of Commonwealth;
Lord of a greater Britain,
Lying beyond the seas:
What shall we call him, Children?
I, your Mother, appeal!"

*Then the Young Lands thought for the Mother,
As they never thought before.*

"What shall we call him, Sisters!
He who shall rule us all?
King of an ancient people,
Lord of an alien race;
Chief of the dark-hued natives,
Sovereign of free-born men;
Lord of all faithful Britons,
Living beyond the seas:
What shall we call him, Sisters?
This our Mother would know!"

*So the Sisters communed together,
And then with one voice replied:*

"This would we call him, Mother!
He who shall rule us all.
Kingdom, Dominion, Nation,
Island or Commonwealth,
Light, it is that unites us,
Sisters, whom seas divide,
For ours an Empire guarded
By sun that never sets:
May we not call him, Mother,
Lord of the Empire of Light?"

EVA ANSTRUTHER.

From the Westminster Gazette.

What to Read.

- "Women and Men of the French Renaissance." By Edith Sichel.
"The Call of the Future." By Mrs. Bertram Tanqueray.
"Peter Abelard." By Joseph McCabe.
"The Lady of Lynn." By Walter Besant.
"Cardigan." By Stewart Edward White.
"The Westerners." By R. W. Chambers.
"Pietro Ghisleri." By Marion Crawford.
"The Octopus." By Frank Norris.
"A Sower of Wheat." By Harold Bindloss.
"A Jilt's Journal." By Rita.

Coming Events.

THE INTERNATIONAL NURSES' CONGRESS.

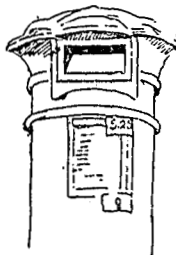
September 16th.—Meetings of the National Associated Alumnae, of the Superintendents' Society, of the International Council of Nurses.

September 18th.—Opening of the International Nurses' Congress, Buffalo, U.S.A.

September 21st.—Trained Nurses' Day at the Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo.
Meeting in the Temple of Music.

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.

NURSING UNDER THE POOR LAW.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

MADAM,—There is an old proverb that "Outsiders see most of the game," and on that ground I venture to trouble you with a letter on the subject of Workhouse Nursing.

I suppose it will scarcely be denied that, theoretically, at all events, trained nursing is the only form of nursing which should be found in any hospital, whether Workhouse or General, Certainly to no General Hospital would the public subscribe a penny if the nursing staff were not properly trained. Complete restoration of the sick patient to health at the earliest possible moment is the object of all nursing.

The practical difficulty of finding trained nurses willing to exercise their profession in Workhouse Infirmary is, I think, the chief reason why every Workhouse Infirmary, or, at any rate, why the majority of these institutions are not fully at the present moment staffed with trained nurses.

For some time past I have been closely studying the possibility of providing trained nursing throughout the Poor Law Institutions, and have come to the conclusion that there is not sufficient opportunity for training a sufficient number of nurses in the present institutions. Only about 10 per cent. of the provincial Infirmarys of the present time are of a sufficiently large size (two hundred beds as a minimum) to give the requisite experience to the Probationers, though a far larger number train or try to train on a far smaller number. The remaining 90 per cent. of the Workhouse Infirmarys are in great part very small.

Some 67 per cent. contain on an average less than forty-five patients. Not only is it impossible to train Nurses in these small places, but it is impossible to keep up a staff of trained nurses in them.

This is a matter of common knowledge, and due partly to the monotony of the life, partly to the Infirmarys being within the Workhouse walls, partly to causes connected with the want of accurate knowledge, to put it mildly, on the part of Boards of Guardians as to the conditions under which trained nursing can alone be carried on.

The provision of training schools in sufficient number, and of sufficient size; complete separation of the sick part of the Workhouse from the repressive part; the adoption of measures which will have been found to best retain well trained nurses for a considerable period in General Hospitals, and in other parts of the Poor Law Service must, therefore, be generally adopted if the throwing away of the rate payers'

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