

publishers, and that we shall soon have some more of the delicate and finished work of the Miss Findlater we know?  
G. M. R.

### Verses.

#### WHEN THE WOODS TURN GREEN AGAIN.

There's a warm, warm wind comes from the south  
With a promise and a song,  
A song that wells from a rose-lipped mouth,  
In cadence full and strong,  
It whispers, whispers through the day  
To the hearts of longing men,  
That the time is coming on the way  
When the woods turn green again.

When the woods turn green in the sunshine's kiss,  
And dream o'er the lazy pool,  
Where the dappled shadows hit-and-miss,  
Sway slowly, dark and cool.  
And the long, long dawns bring the tune  
Of the robin, thrush, and wren,  
Till they lullaby to the day-held moon,  
When the woods turn green again.

When the woods turn green and the sky's rich hue  
Takes a deeper, truer shade,  
And the blood-red poppies dot the view  
In a pattern God has made.  
Then the song the south winds sing so low  
Will live on hill and glen,  
And its mellow notes into being grow  
When the woods turn green again.

W. D. Nesbit, in *Baltimore American*.

### What to Read.

- "The Book of the Courtier." By Count Baldesar.  
"Castiglione." Translated and annotated by L. E. Opdycke.  
"Woodside Farm." By Mrs. Clifford.  
"Seven Ladies and an Offer of Marriage." By Mamie Bowles.  
"The Hinderers." By Edna Lyall.  
"Lights and Shadows in a Hospital." By Alice Terton.  
"In the Fog." By Richard Harding Davis.

### Coming Events.

May 22nd.—Annual meeting of the Association of Asylum Workers at the Medical Societies' Rooms, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., 4 p.m.

May 23rd.—Lord Battersea presides over the annual dinner of the Royal Hospital for Incurables at the Hotel Metropole.

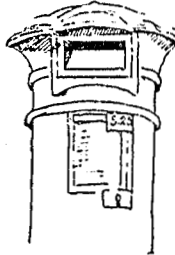
May 27th.—Sir Edward Sassoon, Bt., M.P., presides at the festival dinner of the City of London Hospital for Chest Diseases, Victoria Park.

May 29th.—Annual Conference Matrons' Council, Medical Societies' Rooms, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, 2.30 p.m. Miss Isla Stewart, President, in the chair.

May 30th.—Meeting of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, Morley Hall, 26, George Street, Hanover Square. Address by Miss Louisa Stevenson, 3 p.m.

### 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.*

#### THE CASE FOR HOSPITAL NURSES.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

MADAM,—In the May number of the *Nineteenth Century* I am glad to see that representatives of our two largest hospitals have replied to what I must call that most unjust attack made on nurses generally, and particularly on those engaged in private work, by Miss Johnston in a paper contained in the April number.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking Miss Isla Stewart and Mr. Sydney Holland for the able manner in which they have endeavoured to place before the public the life and work of nurses in their true light.

Speaking from an experience of sixteen years of nursing work—six of which were spent in hospitals and the remainder in private work—I can endorse all Miss Stewart says relating to the care and consideration probationers receive during their period of training. If some nurses possess all the faults Miss Johnston credits them with, it is the woman herself who is to blame, not the training school, and such a one should never enter a hospital. The same woman would be a failure if engaged in any other work, but possibly would not be able to do so much harm.

It is among the nurses employed in private work that the great difficulty arises, and until there is a general governing body to control them in some measure, I do not see how the evil can be remedied. To the general public a cap and apron constitute a nurse; they inquire no further into her qualifications. If they are fortunate in getting a thoroughly trained and conscientious woman they are satisfied, and you hear no more about the matter, but if, as frequently happens, they get a woman who has failed in her hospital career, or, even never entered one, then it stands to reason the patient is neglected and the household upset, and who is the most to blame, the one who engaged her or the woman who finds it an easy way of earning money? But then, we find instead of exposing these so-called nurses, and preventing them doing the same in other houses, the patient or his friends publish it abroad and condemn all nurses as bad, which does a great amount of harm to a large body of conscientious, hard-working women, and it makes no difference to the class of women from whom they have suffered.

The Association which is being formed to bring this matter before the public deserves the consideration of all thoughtful nurses, especially the private ones, for it concerns them and their patients much more than hospital nurses, who have everything well organized for them.

I regret Mr. Sydney Holland appears not to approve of State Registration for Nurses. It must be a step

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