

## To My Lady in Her Winter Hat.

### I.

You are light of heart as the birds of air,  
And as silvery-toned of voice;  
With a common freedom from earthly care,  
Their spirits and yours rejoice.  
Is it meet, to add to your girlish joy,  
That barbarous hands should the birds destroy?

### II.

Winged you seem as the birds of air,  
As, fitting and fleet, you move,  
Seraph-like, angel-like, here and there.  
Oh, does it enhance, improve,  
One tiniest charm of a sylph like you  
That the birds have a share in your beauty too?

### III.

You are loving and loved as the birds of air,  
Breathing with musical words  
The affection their musical songs declare.  
Must the loves of the tiny birds  
Be quelled in death, as to heaven they soar,  
That a lovable one may be loved the more?

From *Daily Mail*.

## What to Read.

"From Saranac to the Marquesas and Beyond ; being Letters written by Mrs. M. I. Stevenson during 1887-88 to her Sister Jane Whyte Balfour, with a short Introduction by George W. Balfour, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S.E." Edited and arranged by Marie Clothilde Balfour.

"Conspirators and Police under Napoleon. The Plot of the Placards at Rennes, 1802." By Gilbert Augustin-Thierry.

"Old Cape Colony : a Chronicle of Her Men and Houses from 1652 to 1806." By Mrs. A. F. Trotter.

"Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm." By Kate Douglas Wiggin.

"The Honourable Molly." By Katharine Tynan.

## Coming Events.

*November 28th.*—Special General Meeting of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses' to consider the Draft Bill for the State Registration of Nurses, 20, Hanover Square, 2.30 p.m. Doors open at 2 p.m.

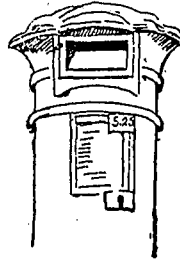
*November 28th.*—Princess Henry of Battenberg will unveil the memorial tablet to the late Emperor and Empress Frederick, New Hospital for Women.

*December 2nd.*—Special Court of Governors of City of London Lying-in Hospital, City Road, re rebuilding the Institution.

*December 5th.*—Meeting at Brighton. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick will speak on "State Registration of Trained Nurses : Its Benefit to Doctor, Nurse, and Patient." Apply for tickets to Mrs. Gower, 19, Lansdowne Place, Hove.

*December 7th.*—Lord Mayor presides at the annual meeting of the Surgical Aid Society.

*December 12th.*—The League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses. Business meeting, 3 p.m. Social gathering, 4.30 p.m., at St. Bartholomew's Hospital.



## 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.*

### NURSES' MISSIONARY UNION.

To the Editor of the "*British Journal of Nursing*."

DEAR MADAM,—Now that the Nurses' Missionary Union has been definitely at work for about six months, we think it would be interesting to our members and associates, and to friends in sympathy with this movement, to know something of the progress and work of the Union during this period ; and we hope also, by means of a periodical letter such as this, to keep in closer touch with each other and with our scattered members, so that all may know what is going on among us in London.

There are twenty-eight hospitals in London with which we have definite personal links. In eight of these we have free entrance for meetings at regular intervals, in some cases having a lecture-room at our disposal, and in others having delightful informal talks in the nurses' sitting-room. In four of these, and one other, the nurses who have joined the Union have started a little weekly meeting among themselves for prayer and missionary study, and some of them are agreeing to read the portions of Scripture each day. For the nurses in four other hospitals (where we have not been able to get a room inside) we have monthly meetings at Guildford Street. Miss Outram, of the C.M.S. Hostel, very kindly lends us her sitting-room, and we have very happy times there, with sometimes as many as twenty nurses (there are plenty of easy chairs and a piano!). In four other hospitals we have had one general missionary meeting with very encouraging attendance, and we shall probably be able to arrange for further meetings later on ; and the Matrons of four other hospitals have kindly promised to let us have a general meeting as soon as they can fix a convenient time. In the other hospitals we have not been able to do much yet that can be tabulated, but there are nurses in them who are earnestly praying with us for their own hospital, and seeking quietly to overcome the obstacles which seem to bar us from work.

We have altogether sixty-six names on the roll of membership ; of these thirty-four nurses are members and thirty-two associates. The majority of these are in London hospitals, but five are in provincial hospitals, eleven engaged in district work or private nursing, and three have already gone forth to the foreign field and are now in mission hospitals in West Africa ; another is now at home, hoping to go out again shortly.

On November 30th, from 7 to 9 p.m., we are arranging to have a general meeting for nurses from all the London hospitals at All Souls' Church Home, 54, Great Titchfield Street, W. (by kind permission of the Rev. F. S. Webster). We shall have half an hour at the beginning for tea, and to give an opportunity for nurses from the different hospitals to get to know

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