

for society. A pure democracy must soon limit a man's possessions, lest he corrupt the world.

G. M. R.

What to Read.

"New Letters of Thomas Carlyle." Edited and annotated by Alexander Carlyle.

"The Slave in History. His Sorrows and his Emancipation." By W. Stevens.

"China from Within." By Arthur Davenport.

"An Autobiography." By Herbert Spencer.

"Greater America." By Archibald R. Colquhoun.

"Eleanor Ormerod, LL.D. Autobiography and Correspondence." Edited by Robert Wallace.

"The Woman with the Fan." By Robert Hichens.

"The Fruit of the Vine." By Edwin Pugh.

"The Queen's Own Traitor." By E. Livingston Prescott.

"Songs of the Sea Children." By Bliss Carman.

Coming Events.

May 18th.—Earl Roberts presides at the Dinner of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Prince's Rooms.

May 28th.—The Duchess of Albany lays the Foundation Stone of the Walton, Hershaw, and Oatlands Cottage Hospital, 4.

CONGRESS DATES.

June 9th.—Miss Mollett's party leaves Victoria Station en route for Berlin, 9.28 a.m. Members are earnestly requested to be at the station in good time, to have their luggage weighed. Fifty-six pounds are free, all overweight must be paid for; handbags or small parcels which can be placed in the carriage are not charged for. Miss Mollett and one or two others will wear red bows, so that they can be easily recognised. The route will be *via* Queenborough and Flushing. Berlin will be reached at 8.48 a.m. on June 10th. The rooms will be near the meeting-hall, or within easy tram distance.

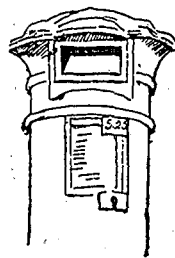
Berlin will be left at 11.40 a.m. on Monday, June 20th, and London reached by 7.50 a.m. on the 21st. Those who wish to prolong their stay can arrange to do so now at an extra cost of 7s. per day, otherwise they will have to arrange with the landlady at Berlin. The return ticket lasts one month, and the return journey may be interrupted at most of the large towns *en route*.

About £3 extra should be taken for incidental expenses. Evening dress will not be necessary, but a smart demi-toilet blouse should be taken. Railway carriages will be reserved for the party, and accommodation on the steamer.

June 13th.—Opening of the International Congress of Women at Berlin. Mrs. May Wright Sewall, President of the International Council of Women, in the chair.

June 16th.—Nursing Session; Opening paper, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

June 17th.—First Quinquennial Meeting of the International Council of Nurses. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President, will preside.



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.

MATRONS' MARKS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—In response to your invitation in last week's "Nursing Echoes" re nurses' certificates and Matrons' reports, I should like to say that Dr. Dean's suggestion regarding the Matron's report has been anticipated here for very many years. To ensure a pass a nurse must get 60 per cent. of the total 300.

The marks are differentiated as below:—

Matron's Marks for Hard Work and General Character and Conduct.	Examiner's Marks for Practical Work.	Examiners' Marks for Written Papers.
Max. 100	Max. 100	Max. 100

Class instruction is given during the whole of the three years' training, lectures by three medical officers during the winter session are supplemented by class instruction from the Home Sister. A doctor from outside, accustomed to lecturing and teaching nurses, conducts an impartial examination, and the nurses' recommendations for promotion depend on their final position.

I am, Madam,

Yours faithfully,

M. M. HAMPSON, Matron.

St. George's Infirmary,
Fulham Road.

THE POWER OF SENTIMENT.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I want to support what "A Special Hospital Matron" says about the deterioration of the material which now offers itself in hundreds for training. Competition in the nursing world makes it increasingly impossible for well-educated girls to rise to be Matrons and Sisters, as in the old days, and one cannot expect, in these days of unrest and expensive living, that educated girls in large numbers will be content to "slave" for wages at which a competent cook would turn up her nose; and, by the bye, why do the public grudge a salary to a trained nurse which they pay as a matter of course to an upper-class domestic? Custom dies hard, and, without doubt, the nursing of the sick—for so many centuries a labour of love to the "religious"—has come to be classed as "charitable" work, and a woman who wishes to be paid a just salary for her labour as a nurse, as nothing less than a "mercenary."

Miss Mollett says truly when she writes that "a whole profession cannot be governed solely for ever by a sentiment, however beautiful."

But we do want something to take the place of that wonderful inspiration which animated the "religious" of old. I am of opinion that we shall find it in a code of ethics which will make us all "one" in honour and in fellowship, and that such unanimity may be

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