

Sibylla, by warning her husband just in time of her intention. Of Grantley's method of dealing with the situation we shall say nothing but that it is distinctly original. In the conflict the man's strength becomes apparent; and, as all women reverence strength in a man's character, this supplies, as it were, a working basis upon which Sibylla can reconstruct the image of her husband.

The way in which the destinies of the four couples and their children are interwoven is indeed cleverly managed. As a study of contemporary manners the book is admirable. It mostly moves upon the surface, but the author is able to suggest that the depths are there.

G. M. R.

The Singer of Dreams.

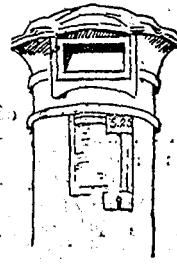
He is gone from among us, the Singer of Dreams,
With his lute and his songs he is vanished and sped.
The world of enchantment we lived in is done,
The visions he gave us are empty and fled.
At the sound of his singing, the Singer of Dreams,
The doors everlasting were moved and stood wide.
We looked from the windows on waters unknown,
And dreamed of strange ships on a magical tide.
We mocked at his visions, the Singer of Dreams,
With mocking and laughter we drove him away.
Dark, since he went, is the waking at dawn,
And heavy night's curtain between day and day.
In what hold by the sea is the Singer of Dreams?
On whose painted galley now sits he to sing?
What worlds is he showing to other souls now?
Do they flout him as we did, or know him a king?
Is he pacing the forest, the Singer of Dreams?
Or fronting the hills in the wind and the rain?
Watching wild swans by some fay-haunted pool?
Or flying torn flags from a castle in Spain?
In vain do we call him, the Singer of Dreams;
In vain now his name in the corners we say.
He showed us the light on the City Beyond,
But we banished him ere he had taught us the way.
E. C., in the *Westminster Gazette*.

What to Read.

- "The Grey World." By Evelyn Underhill.
- "A Ladder of Swords." By Sir Gilbert Parker.
- "After All." By Beatrice Whitby.
- "Letters from a Silent Study." By John Oliver Hobbes.
- "Joan of the Alley." By Frederick Orin Bartlett.
- "Hearts in Exile." By John Oxenham.
- "Henderson." By Rose E. Young.
- "The Evil that Men Do." By M. P. Shiel.
- "The Viking's Skull." By John R. Carling.
- "A Weaver of Webs." By John Oxenham.
- "In the Bishop's Carriage." By Miriam Michaelson.
- "Enid." By Marmaduke Pickthall.
- "The Green Eye of Goona." By Arthur Morrison.

Coming Events.

- September 29th.—Meeting of the Central Midwives Board, 6, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall.
- October 15th.—Hospital Saturday.



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 OPPOSITION TO REGISTRATION.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Upon reading Mr. Sydney Holland's letter in the *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING* a couple of weeks ago, I will confess to a feeling of compunction, and wondered if we sometimes forgot the feelings of the individual in our striving towards the right. I am ready to come forward as one who believes in the integrity of Mr. Holland's motives in his opposition to Registration. I do not think all of his tactics are fair (that, for instance, was a mean thrust at the Matrons' Council in his testimony), but I believe his motives are good, that he is sincerely interested in nurses, and that he has done many splendid pieces of work for them. I see exactly where he goes off on a tangent about Registration, and, if I could start with the same premise that he starts with, I would share in some of his horror of Registration by the State. Mr. Holland's great and glaring error is that he believes State Registration is simply a State employment bureau for nurses—an official intelligence office. All the opponents for Registration have made this mistake. Mr. Bonham-Carter's letter, written years ago, is a most striking instance of this. In that letter he says explicitly that physicians and patients will "take their nurses" from the State register, instead of asking about them from the people who know them. This is such a colossal absurdity! The State will have no machinery for providing nurses, on call, to patients. The nurses will continue to get their cases just the way they do now. I wish we could lose sight of the word "registration," which is to our opponents synonymous with the employment bureau, and then I would like to say to Mr. Sydney Holland: "Now, Mr. Holland, be as candid with us as we wish to be fair with you, and tell me honestly, if you could see the problem from this standpoint—that Parliament would address all the training-schools of the kingdom and say to them, 'Parliament holds that you should all give your pupils a definite service in such, and such, and such groundwork in nursing, and, as it cannot make you give it them, it is going to encourage you to give it them by giving a distinguishing title to every nurse who gets such, and such, and such groundwork, and, if you would like your pupils to get that title, you must give them the groundwork that Parliament thinks is indispensable.—would you then, Mr. Holland, continue to disapprove of a Government-given degree for nurses? If you would, then I frankly say I will continue to admire your goodness, but not your intelligence. Forget for a moment to think of the employment bureau, and consider it as a bulwark around the foundations of education—a measure intended to prevent cheap imitations from being offered as the real thing. Depend upon it, the nurses will

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