

most originality and quality of pathos is the first, in which the Proud Lady is humbled. Possessor of a girdle called the Heart's key—of solid gold—no lover can succeed in making her unclasp it for him. But during the siege and the famine, she secretly sells it, link by link, to keep life in the man who is fighting for her. As a model of narrative this story is wondrous excellent. G. M. R.

Does it Pay?

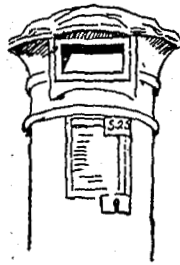
If one poor burdened toiler o'er life's road,
Who meets us by the way,
Goes on less conscious of his galling load,
Then life, indeed, does pay.
If we can show one troubled heart the gain
That lies always in loss,
Why, then, we, too, are paid for all the pain
Of bearing life's hard cross.
If some despondent soul to hope is stirred,
Some sad lip made to smile,
By any act of ours, or any word,
Then life has been worth while.

What to Read.

"Tragic Stories from Russia." Done into English by William Frederick Harvey, M.A.
"From Tokyo to Tiflis: Uncensored Letters from the War." By F. A. McKenzie.
"The Truth about Man." By a well-known Novelist who desires to remain anonymous.
"Letters from Catalonia and other parts of Spain." By Rowland Thirlmere.
"Following the Sun-flag: A Vain Pursuit through Manchuria." By John Fox.
"A Prima Donna's Romance." By F. W. Hays.

Coming Events.

June 14th.—Opening of the New Out-Patient Building, Samaritan Free Hospital, by the Right Hon. Viscount Portman, 3.30 p.m.
June 15th.—Ascot Ball at Hotel Great Central in aid of the Victoria Hospital for Children.
June 17th.—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales inaugurates the London County Council's service of steamboats on the Thames.
June 17th.—The Duchess of Albany attends a garden fête at the Manor House, Stoke D'Abernon, Surrey, in aid of the Royal Waterloo Hospital for Children and Women.
June 23rd.—Meeting of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, Miss Isla Stewart, President, in the chair, 431, Oxford Street, W., 3.30 p.m. Tea and coffee.
June 24th.—General Meeting of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, at the Hospital, 2.30 p.m. Social gathering 4.30 p.m.
June 25th.—Hospital Sunday. His Majesty's Judges attend the Afternoon Service at St. Paul's Cathedral.
June 28th.—Princess Louise Augusta attends a garden fair at 1, Devonshire Terrace, Portland Place, in aid of the Infants' Hospital, 3.30.



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.

RURAL NURSES' SALARIES.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I was glad to see "Trained District Nurse's" letter in your last issue. The salaries of these cottage nurses seem to me most ungenerous. Of course it can be argued that they are untrained women, and command what they are worth, but many of them are estimable women in their way, and from conversation with more than one I have gathered that the food question is a serious one, especially with those who live in cottages with the family. "I could not for shame ask for the sort of food I am used to, as the family could not afford it for themselves," said one to me, "and I often go short." Others who find themselves everything—food, lodging, clothes, and washing on a few shillings a week—say that tea, bread and butter, and eggs are the chief of their diet, with a chop on Sunday, and that boots alone make a tremendous hole in the expenditure. As for saving, it is impossible. It is well to remember that the associations which employ women at such starvation wages are composed of the most wealthy, and often extravagant and self-indulgent women in the county, who spend the cottage nurse's whole income on one gown, and go daintily all their days. Surely it would be better for all concerned if trained Jubilee nurses were employed in rural as well as in town districts, and the conditions of their pay and life were protected by some combination and publicity.

It is not just to blame trained nurses for not staying in rural districts, when the conditions are such that they cannot live decently upon the remuneration. We have too much cheap philanthropy around, and as a class, trained nurses, by their lack of professional co-operation, fall an easy prey.

Yours sincerely,

LATE QUEEN'S NURSE.

[The Matron of a Sanatorium for Consumption told us lately that several of these rural district nurses had been under treatment in her institution, and malnutrition was, in her opinion, the cause of their illness.—Ed.]

PROTECTION FROM MOSQUITOES.

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

DEAR MADAM,—It appears to me that a point which deserves consideration in relation to the prevention of malaria, now that the theory of infection by mosquitoes has been established beyond dispute, is how best to protect the individual from the bites of mosquitoes during the daytime. We carefully sleep under mosquito nets at night, but *cui bono*, so far as infection is concerned when faces, hands, and legs (for a mosquito will bite through most stockings) are exposed to this

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