

How one longs to beg certain of one's favourite authors to refrain from mannerisms! Mr. Benson has conceived the notion of making everybody begin their sentences with "Ah!" It may sound trivial to cavil at this; but a very casual count revealed thirty-eight sentences beginning with "Ah!" in the first four chapters of the book. A very little care would easily take out small blemishes like this, as the "Ah" is only necessary in one or two of the sentences noted.

G.M.R.

### Daisies in the Grass.

Daffodils upon the slopes,  
Daisies in the grass;  
Earth is full of summer hopes,  
Winter sorrows pass.

Patient trees grow green again,  
Mating pigeons preen again,  
For the world has seen again  
Daisies in the grass.

Daffodils in living gold  
All the mints surpass;  
Pearls in Eastern markets sold  
In a milky mass

Never yet could be so fair,  
Strung among some lady's hair,  
As in April's rainbowed air  
Daisies in the grass.

NORA CHESSON.

In the *Westminster Gazette*.

### Coming Events.

*April 19th.*—Miss Sidney Browne, R.R.C., late Matron-in-Chief, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, will be entertained at dinner by the R.A.M.C. staff of the War Office.

*April 21st.*—Miss Sidney Browne will be entertained at an At-Home by Miss C. H. Keer, Matron-in-Chief, and the members of Q.A.I.M.N.S.

*April 23rd.*—A "Shakespeare Birthday Party," at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, arranged by the Society of Women Journalists. Tickets, price 1s., may be obtained from Mrs. Bulstrode, 1, Clifford's Inn, E.C. 4-6.30 p.m.

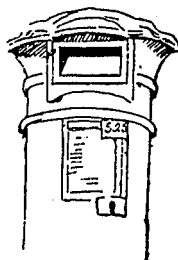
*May 4th.*—Annual Meeting of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses at the Medical Society's Rooms, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, W. 3 p.m.

### A Word for the Week.

"When the entire moral energy of an individual goes into the cultivation of personal integrity, we all know how unlovely the result may become; the character is upright, of course, but too coated over with the result of its own endeavour to be attractive. In the effort towards a higher morality in our social relations, we must demand that the individual shall be willing to lose the sense of personal achievement, and shall be content to realise his activity only in connection with the activity of the many."—*Jane Addams*.

### Letters to the Editor.

NOTES, QUERIES, &amp;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.*

#### ON "KELTIC'S REMINISCENCES."

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

DEAR MADAM,—I was sorry to see your correspondent had so mistaken the point of my little Reminiscence, published a fortnight ago. I was by no means criticising old methods nor yet old friends, but merely stating what occurred in the years gone by, when surgery was not what it is to-day and probationers were accustomed to obey and not to question.

I may point out that the rigid discipline and the strenuous effort of those past days has turned out many of the finest women of to-day, Matrons, Sisters and Nurses, perhaps it was a stern school to pass through (to the Keltic temperament), but in such schools "we learnt to endure hardness as good soldiers."

I do not consider any work that we may undertake, "wardmaids' work"—it is the spirit in which the work is done that matters, the truly honourable woman will be conscientious in the little details of her work—is it not on these little details that modern surgery depends?

A careless nurse may frustrate the work of our great surgeons through neglecting the apparent trifles.

I would refer your correspondent to the saying of Michael Angelo, "Trifles make perfection and perfection is no trifle." It is the nurse who does the small things well, that I am inclined to trust with the great things. Yes, I am still glad of my old lesson, and will do my best to pass it on. Thanking you for your kindness.

Believe me,

Yours faithfully,

"KELTIC."

#### TESTIMONIALS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I notice "Matron," in your journal dated March 24th, 1906, effuses about testimonials and exudes a cheap, comfortable, arm-chair morality at the expense of those gentlemen who were so misguided as to help her on her upward way from probationer to Matron.

The question remains, was this "Matron" honest enough not to make use of these meretricious testimonials in her endeavours to earn pounds, shillings, and pence?

I think this "Matron" ought to have written her letter over her full signature.

Yours faithfully,

A. M. CARSON

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)