

And then there is Miss Du Cane, the Miss Du Cane whom we must all love, but whom the author has made somewhat of a negative portrait.

"As a woman, Hetty Du Cane was, as superior to Mrs. Anson in beauty of character as in personal beauty. She made Lady Bidy Hague look vulgar, and Charlotte's unconventionality appeared brusque beside her. But Lady Bidy ruled with complete satisfaction to herself and her husband her millionaire lord; and fluffy haired, blue-eyed Mrs. Anson could, as she admitted, get her own way whenever it really mattered, and could be magnanimous and forgiving at the same time. Charlotte Balfour had impressed a very clever young Englishman with a high sense of her own superiority: and Hetty returned to London alone."

It is the sad riddle of life. Men do not choose the best, because men are not great. G. M. R.

### Bookland.

A new book, "The House of Rest," is announced by Mrs. Fred Reynolds, the popular authoress of "Hazel of Hazeldean," "In Silence," and many other stories.

### Coming Events.

*February 19th.*—Jubilee Year of the London Biblewomen and Nurses' Mission. Meeting in Caxton Hall, Westminster. Chairman, the Earl of Harrowby. 3 p.m.

*February 19th.*—The Archdeacon of London presides at a festival dinner at the "Albion," Aldersgate Street, to celebrate the 150th year of the Royal Maternity Charity.

*February 20th.*—City of London Lying-in Hospital, City Road; Annual Meeting of Governors.

*February 23rd.*—Meeting of the Nurses' Social Union, 11, St. James's Square, Bath. F. W. Lace, Esq., F.R.C.S., will give an Address.

*February 27th.*—Annual Meeting of Governors of the Cancer Hospital (Free), Fulham Road.

*February 27th.*—Second Annual Court of Governors of the Royal National Orthopædic Hospital, 234, Great Portland Street, W.

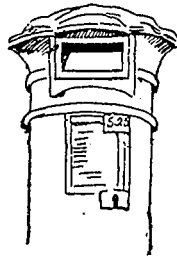
*February 28th.*—Special Matinée Performance of "The Red Lamp," at His Majesty's Theatre, in aid of St. Mary's Hospital for Women and Children, Plaistow.

*March 8th.*—Special Meeting of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, St. Bartholomew's Hospital. 4 p.m.

### A Word for the Week.

"Woman has a separate and independent personality, and possesses a human soul. What is more to the point, she is a taxpayer. Even marriage cannot extinguish her. The Married Women's Property Act gives her the right to her own property. With property goes taxation, and with taxation must and shall go representation."—Mr. Israel Zangwill at Exeter Hall.

### 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 FUTILITY OF "LADIES" PAPERS, OWNED BY MEN.

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

DEAR MADAM,—A few days ago I wrote to the Editor of the *Queen* telling her of the coming Nursing Conference in Paris, offering to give a short outline of our programme and to give an account of the Conference itself from Paris. The answer astonished me not a little—"We have no room for nursing questions and news," was the Editor's reply (the Editor is a woman). Is it possible that in these days of modern progress—in these days when nursing has become a recognised profession—one of the most important evolutions of our present civilisation, that a women's paper cannot find room for such an important question? "*Ce qui a fait votre succès en Angleterre, c'est que vous avez des femmes remarquables dans votre profession*" was the remark made to me by a distinguished Frenchman—and yet, here in England, our countrywomen have failed to appreciate the fact! Yours faithfully,

COSMOPOLITAN.

[Rather say our countrymen, "ladies" papers owned by men cannot claim to be women's papers. The majority of these publications are merely the vehicle of glorified advertisement for the dress-houses, and pander to every vanity.—ED.]

### THE HELPLESS POSITION OF MIDWIVES.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Allow me to tell your correspondent, "A Worker for Midwives," that I rushed into print because the amateur friends whom the midwives have, have mismanaged their affairs, and are still trying in conjunction with other parties to keep them down.

Midwives do not apply to the Midwives' Institute as it has done nothing to gain their recognition, and if ever it had an opportunity to become their adviser and mouth-piece, it missed it at the passing of the Midwives' Act. Whether through negligence or any other cause, it allowed the Midwives' Bill to become law without expressing the least protest. That no positive move in favour of midwives can be expected from the Institute is plainly to be seen from your correspondent's letter. The purport of it fully discloses what advice "A Worker for Midwives," and her colleagues would proffer a perplexed midwife, and that is, "Lie low and say nothing."

There is nothing left for midwives to do but to take the matter in their own hands and to agitate for

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