

love with a young Englishman, Garry Chenies, a man exiled to the Island on account of his health, and earning his livelihood there by engineering. But Chenies has too accurate a knowledge of the girl to imagine himself in love with her. He pities her, and tries to help her in a way that is bitter as gall to her taste. And he, too, becomes the friend of Joanna Hurst. He is sympathetic to her in every respect; even before circumstances made him aware of her life-story he has grasped so much of her desolation as to offer her the benefit of his own experience. They are beautiful characters, the pair of them: two entirely human beings for whom one has never a moment's fear. The story of their love is an idyll, but a perfectly possible one, because Mrs. Rawson keeps them so entirely consistent with all their ideals. The interest of the book centres round, not what we may expect them to do, but what circumstances will do to them, and for the result it is only fair to leave the reader to look for himself. The perusal of such a book cannot fail to satisfy the most fastidious critic.

E.L.H.

### Verse.

Where rivers smoothest run deep are the fords;  
The dial stirs, yet none perceives it move;  
The firmest faith is in the fewest words;  
The turtles cannot sing, and yet they love;  
True hearts have eyes and ears, no tongues to speak;  
They hear, and see, and sigh, and then they break.

OLD MADRIGAL, 1603.

### Coming Events.

- October 1.—Opening of Medical Schools.  
October 10.—Meeting, Central Midwives' Board, Caxton House, S.W.  
October 11.—Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, 431, Oxford Street, W., 4 p.m.  
October 12.—Hospital Saturday in London.  
October 21 to 25.—Annual Conference of the National Union of Women Workers, Manchester.  
October 23.—Conversazione given by the Medical Staff and Lecturers, New Outpatient and Special Departments Block, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C.  
October 24.—Central Midwives' Board, Examination, London, Bristol, Manchester, and Newcastle-on-Tyne.

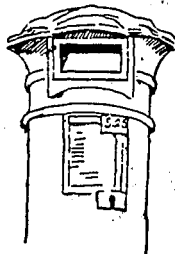
### A Word for the Week.

The mariner of old said to Neptune in a great tempest, "O god! thou mayest save me if thou wilt, and if thou wilt thou mayest destroy me; but whether or no, I will steer my rudder true."

MONTAIGNE.

### 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.

### COTTAGE NURSES' TRAINING HOME, GOVAN.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I have read a letter from Dr. Forbes Brown in your issue of August 24th, and it appears to me that he (as well as many other people) do not state the position, as between nurses trained for short periods and fully trained nurses, quite fairly. No one suggests for a moment that a short period of training is as good as a long period, and everyone would agree that if a fully trained nurse could always be had, either for rich or poor, it would be better, as far as the actual nursing is concerned, than having one with less knowledge and experience. But how do the advocates for employing highly trained nurses only, propose to provide the poorer part of the population in rural districts with such nurses? The annual expense of providing a nurse trained for a long period is obviously very much greater than that of a nurse trained for a short period. Who is to pay for this? If a highly trained nurse lives in the house of the patient she requires to have a separate room and separate meals. How can this be done in a labourer's cottage with, for instance, the wife or mother ill? If, on the other hand, she only pays daily visits, how many will she have time for in a rural district with patients frequently living many miles apart? And will anyone maintain that a patient is well nursed when the nurse is only present an hour or so each day?

In districts with a thinly and widely scattered population, chiefly of the agricultural labouring class, the expense and the conditions seem to me to make the employment of highly trained nurses prohibitive.

In such districts, therefore, the question is not (as so many people seem to think), "Ought you to have nurses trained for three years instead of six months?" but "Ought you to have nurses trained for six months, or women with no training whatever?"

No doubt in towns or in certain districts, such as some of the outlying parts of Ireland and Scotland, highly trained nurses are invaluable. In the towns they have no great distances to go between one patient and another, and it is easier for patients to find some one who will help to attend on them between the visits of the nurse. In very thinly populated districts, on the other hand, where the distances the doctor has to cover often prevent him being able to visit patients he

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