

ship that had been veiling them was swept away with one brush of a woman's hand. "It is impossible," she said, in answer to his passionate appeal. And he understood. It was the supreme test not only to him, but to Linforth, his sometime equal and chum. To Linforth it seemed incredible presumption that Shere Ali should have lifted his eyes to the woman with whom he was himself in love. In the character of that woman Mr. Mason deals yet another blow: She was one of the women who accept meaning to give nothing in return. "The Broken Road" is a love story without a heroine. The main interest lies in the crushing back upon itself of that passionate, sensitive Eastern spirit, and in consequence the East claims him back—not the best of the East, but the very worst, because of the hatred in his heart. Truly it is a matter worthy of a little thought, and Mr. Mason presents it in an entirely satisfactory manner.

E. L. H.

Coming Events.

November 28.—Meeting of Central Midwives' Board, Caxton House, Westminster, 2.45 p.m.

November 30.—The Scottish Nurses' Club, Edinburgh. A Café Chantant, Aitchinson's Rooms, Queen Street, Edinburgh.

December 2.—Drawing Room Meeting in aid of the Funds of St. Luke's House (a Home for the Dying Poor), by kind permission of Baroness de Goldsmid, 35, Chesham Place, S.W., 3 p.m.

December 2.—Military Ball in aid of the East Scottish branch of the Alexandra Nurses' Association, Edinburgh.

December 3.—Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, attends the Annual Sale in aid of the Victoria Hospital for Children, 40, Cadogan Place, 12 o'clock.

December 3 and 5.—Lectures on Babies. III., "Mother's Milk." IV., "Substitute Feeding," Dr. Ralph Vincent. Infants' Hospital, Vincent Square, S.W., 5 p.m.

December 5.—Meeting of the Association for Promoting the Training and Supply of Midwives. Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W., 2.45 p.m.

December 6.—National League for Physical Education and Improvement: The Bishop of Ripon speaks at the Annual General Meeting, Caxton Hall, Westminster, 4 p.m.

December 7.—Society of Women Journalists, Fourth Annual Dinner.

December 11.—Examination for certificate of Central Midwives' Board, Examination Hall, Victoria Embankment.

December 11.—Post-Graduate Lecture, "How to Maintain our Vigour for Work," by Mr. C. W. Cathcart, F.R.C.S., Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. All trained nurses cordially invited.

December 11 and 12.—Meeting of Central Midwives' Board, Caxton House, Westminster. Penal cases.

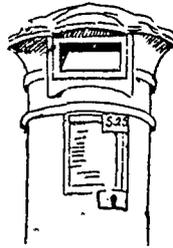
A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

The power of any life lies in its expectancy.

PHILLIPS BROOKS.

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 CARE OF THE TEETH.

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

MADAM,—At the request of our dental surgeon tooth-brushes have, within the last year, been added to the list of necessaries patients bring with them to the hospital, and I must say I feel not a little ashamed that I did not myself think of such a very needful article long before this. We supply the patients with enamelled beakers to use, not tumblers, which would be liable to be constantly broken. On the whole the patients, especially the women, are glad to avail themselves of the opportunity of cleaning their mouth and teeth. When you come to think of it it really was the height of absurdity that we should have spent an enormous amount of time and trouble in keeping the mouth of a typhoid or paralysed patient clean, and yet have denied the utensils for the most ordinary cleanliness to those patients who were able themselves to use them. Considering the deplorable condition of the teeth of the average Englishman or woman, and the amount of illness that is directly traceable to dirty mouths and decayed teeth, it is extraordinary that hospitals should have been so long in waking to the fact that the very ordinary and simple rule of cleaning one's teeth ought to be enforced upon the patients within their walls. If every improvement that gave trouble were to be tabooed the advance of hospitals in any direction would be a sheer impossibility.

Yours faithfully,

M. MOLLETT, Matron.

Royal South Hants and Southampton Hospital.

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

DEAR MADAM,—With all due deference to one of superior rank in ward work, as the letter of "A Practical Person" conveys, I am still of opinion that means should be provided for patients to clean their teeth. All persons do not possess "gleaming golden fangs" capable of masticating two pounds of rump steak at a sitting, but it is presumable that the majority of patients would not have to place their teeth in lockers for the night if they had been taught how to keep their natural masticators clean in youth. The truth is, nursing is often done in a rut, and requires constant supervision from persons not used to the daily routine. That would be one of the most important uses of a central nursing authority, with power to require an efficient standard of ward nursing. Each hospital now sets its own standard, and, as we all know, it is the best and only one. Wholesome

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