

girl, and by degrees Sally Mickleborough becomes his guiding star; to win her and to become rich and President of the great railway are his ambitions. He realises all his social disqualifications, believing that only having a large fortune to lay at her feet, can justify him in trying to win Sally's hand. Thanks to the unvarying kindness of the General, he succeeds far beyond his most sanguine dreams financially. He gains Sally's love. She is a splendid character, a true woman who, having learnt to love the man, cares little for the money he lavishes on her. Her family will have nothing to say to Ben. The two maiden aunts, Miss Mitty and Miss Matoaca, are skilfully drawn, so alike in their pride, and so dissimilar in their dispositions.

The strenuous life, the constant stress and strain of the American business man is vividly portrayed. We have success and failure given in rapid succession, the beauty of the woman's nature rising above defeat, proving a true helpmate, saving the man from becoming a mere money-making machine.

This book is well worth reading, bright and clever, often amusing in spite of a vein of pathos, and withal has a most wholesome moral atmosphere throughout.

E. L. H.

#### VERSE.

Never the exquisite pain,  
Then never the exquisite bliss,  
For the heart that is dull to that  
Can never be strung to this.

F. R. H.

#### COMING EVENTS.

*July 6th.*—The King visits Manchester to open the New Royal Infirmary.

*July 7th.*—Women's Suffrage. Public Meeting arranged by Professional and Industrial Women. Queen's Hall, Langham Place, London. 8 p.m.

*July 8th.*—Guy's Hospital. Garden Party. Music, 3.15. Laboratories, Museums, College, the Nurses' Home, and Wards will be open to inspection from 3 to 5.30 p.m.

*July 17th.*—Annual Meeting. League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C.

#### INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

*July 18th.*—Meeting of the Executive Committee, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W., 3 p.m.

*July 19th.*—Quinquennial Meeting. The Large Hall, Church House, S.W., 10 a.m. Organ Recital, 9.30 a.m. Foreign Nurses and others may be present. Tickets free to gallery.

#### INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF NURSES.

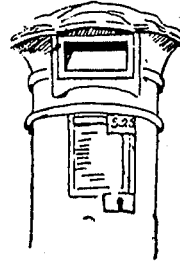
*July 20th to 23rd.*—Opening Session, Large Hall, Church House, S.W. Miss Isla Stewart, Matron and Superintendent, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, will open the Congress at 10 a.m. Tickets at door, 1s.

#### WORD FOR THE WEEK.

Carry the sunshine with you into the sick-room of your patient, and you will leave it there when you depart.

REUBEN LUDLAM.

## Letters to the Editor.



*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.*

### HOSPITAL GHOSTS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Apropos of the letter written by "Nervous Nurse," in the issue of April 24th:

From personal experience and observation I have come to the conclusion that when a nurse sees "ghosts" she has been either too long on night duty or is "run down."

The strain of a heavy ward at night, especially where there are delirious patients, and where the nurse is single handed, in time tells on the nervous system of the most phlegmatic of nurses.

In my training school the probationers took periods of three months' night duty.

As I happened to look always plump and rosy I was, on one occasion, kept on night duty for five months, and that was the only time I ever felt "eerje."

One night, when the ward was particularly quiet, and the fires had burned low, I had occasion to walk to the bath-room at the end of the ward.

Before reaching there I felt someone was silently following me. Quickening my steps, I reached the bath-room, and, on switching on the electric light, my follower was gone.

I felt impatient with myself for being so stupidly nervous, and returned to the other end of the ward, where a shaded light was; then, deliberately, I retraced my steps to the bath-room. Again I experienced the same nervous feeling of terror. When the Night Sister, a few minutes later, made her round, I laughingly said: "Sister, I am glad to see you, for I am feeling foolishly nervous to-night." Giving me a sharp look she said, "It is time you came off night duty!"

Night Sister did not refer again to the subject, but kindly paid frequent visits to my ward that night. The same week I was taken off night duty.

I am, dear Madam,

Yours faithfully,

ISABEL H. PENNIE.

Mauritius.

### STATE REGISTRATION IN THE NETHERLANDS.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Since I wrote my last letter the Anti-Registrationists in Holland have taken up militant tactics. The Board of the "Medical Society for Promoting the Interests of the Hospitals" has sent an address to the Second Chamber of our House of Parliament for the purpose of informing the members that it is unnecessary and even undesirable for the State to interfere in the training and examinations of nurses.

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