

He is told one of the young men is Browne, going into the Church, the other is a Socialist M.P. He cannot understand how a member of the clergy can be received on an equal footing. Being a Conservative, the Socialist is abhorrent to him.

Great is his dismay when he learns that Browne is a Lord, son of a Duke; his subsequent attempts to ingratiate himself are almost pathetic.

If life in a caravan is anything like what he describes, the discomfort must be so intense, that no one having read the book would be tempted to try a like experience. From his point of view, any too intimate acquaintance between Germans and English lead to a sad deterioration in the former. His amazement and displeasure at Edelgard's partial emancipation from marital leading strings is great. He adores his country and all her ways; his King and his views are admired and believed in. Having paid for a month, he is prepared to endure to the end; not so the rest of the party—one by one they give up the trip with various excuses. "What have you done to them?" asks the puzzled Edelgard.

The plot is naturally slight, but the book is one to be read with enjoyment, and for reading aloud cannot easily be surpassed.

E. L. H.

[Our reviewer has dealt mercifully with this odious egoist, the Baron. He is not only a "bounder" but a bully, and his species is by no means extinct even in what he dubs this *perfidie* isle, "The Caravaners" is the most convincing "suffrage" tract which has ever been written—as a New Year's gift to the "antis" it should have a most salutary and chastening effect. We wish them no worse fate than to become *mine frau* to a Baron von Ottringel.—Ed.]

COMING EVENTS.

January 4th and 5th.—St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Christmas Entertainment for the Resident Hospital Staff, 8 p.m.

January 6th.—Charing Cross Hospital. The Nursing and Resident Staff At Home. Music. Tea and coffee. 7.30 to 11 p.m.

January 7th.—London Homoeopathic Hospital, W.C. The Matron and Nursing Staff At Home. Music. Tea and coffee. 8 to 11 p.m.

January 12th.—Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. Lecture on Operations on the Stomach and Intestines. Preparations and After-Nursing. By Professor Alexis Thomson, F.R.C.S.E. Extra-Mural Medical Theatre, 4.30 p.m. Nurses cordially invited.

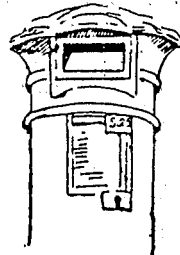
January 29th.—Meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland. To form committees to further the Resolutions passed at the International Congress of Nurses, 431, Oxford Street, London, W., 4 p.m.

WORD FOR THE WEEK.

Again the silent wheels of Time their annual round have driven.

Keep your face always towards the sunshine, and shadows will fall behind you.

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.

CHRISTMAS LONDON.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I have read with interest this sketch in the Journal, and should like to inform your readers that "Matron" is under a misapprehension as regards workhouse wards. As a workhouse midwife, I can assure them that we also surround all patients—virtuous, unfortunate, and undeserving—with "every care and comfort." No expense is spared, and they are attended day and night by a certified midwife, and are under the care of the medical officers. Nursing requisites, diet, and laundry are all on the most liberal scale; the wards are beautifully kept, arranged, and decorated—flowers, plants, and draperies. Matron and officers show every kindness and tact in dealing with all inmates. Moreover, "Go and sin no more" surely does not imply that the sin was the responsibility of an iniquitous landlord? Are we not too ready now to pass on the responsibility of our sins to ancestors, "human nature," landlords? While showing love and pity to the sinner, let us beware lest we indirectly encourage self-indulgence and sexual immorality—not only on religious and ethical grounds. We who see the sins of the parents visited on the children cannot but think even, it may be, at the cost of a little of the so-called charity, that it were better to teach "self-knowledge, self-reverence, self-control." The knowledge of evil, regrettable as it is for the children, is not sin, and it may be their safeguard. It is indulgence and self-indulgence that are our destruction. Hard as it may be, strong as the temptation is, our young men and young women can, if they will, be pure; but the children so often are not brought up to "will," and it is our weakness and moral irresolution that are our ruin and the cause of the degeneration of the race and nation—not the landlords, ancestors, or "human nature." By all means, let us try to bring about better social conditions, but also let us try to raise the moral tone of the age by taking the responsibility of our own sins and realising our own individual power of resistance.

I am,

Yours truly,

A CERTIFIED MIDWIFE.

[We have referred this letter to the writer, who informs us that our correspondent has missed its point, which was not to cast any slur on the workhouse ward, but to show the injustice of regarding one woman with a marriage certificate of a few months' duration as one who should be treated with honour, and another, whose sin was no more and no less, as a moral outcast. She still is of

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