

vocation. "Round her the garden was passing into the beginning of its hour of sunset glory. A pigeon cooed from the crown of one of the great elms that dotted the meadows beyond the stream—nine notes, the last broken suddenly. But no mate answered him; for she listened for the voice."

Then without moving hand or foot she lifted her eyes to where through the lancet glimmered the light above the tabernacle.

"Jesus! My Knight! . . . I am ready now," she said softly.

By Mgr. Benson's death the world of literature is much impoverished. One can always admire devotion to a cause, though one may not always agree; and surely his aim was the greatest of all aims, for underneath and above controversy, we feel in his writings the living, burning love to the Master.

H. H.

"TO LABOR IS TO PRAY."

Bravely fling off the cold chain that has bound thee!

Look to the pure Heaven smiling beyond thee!

Rest not content in the darkness—a clod!

Work for some good, be it ever so slowly;

Cherish some flower, be it ever so lowly;

Labor! All labor is noble and holy;

Let thy great deed be thy prayer to thy God.

FRANCES SARGENT OSGOOD.

COMING EVENTS.

May 1st.—Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland. Quarterly Meeting. 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 4 p.m. Miss Violetta Thurstan will speak on "Field Hospital and Flying Column." 5 p.m.

May 18th to 22nd.—Eighth Annual Nursing and Midwifery Exhibition, Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster, S.W.

May 26th.—Central Midwives Board. Caxton House, Westminster. Penal Board 11.30 a.m.

May 27th.—Central Midwives Board. Caxton House, Westminster. Penal Board 11.30 a.m. Monthly Meeting. 3.30 p.m.

WORD FOR THE WEEK.

"All true men succeed; for what is worth success's name unless it be the thought, the inward surety to have carried out a noble purpose to a noble end?"

"Keep your heart and soul on fire,
Do not falter, do not tire;
Don't grow weary in well-doing,
To your better self be true.
Keep your feet out of the mire,
Keep on climbing, higher, higher!
To the topmost peak aspire,
God wants soldiers who'll go through."

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.

"THE MARSEILLAISE."

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I was amused to see in the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING that some English Sisters in France did not know the words of our National Anthem. I, too, was put to the blush by some French soldiers one day when they asked me about "The Marseillaise." Who wrote it, and why is it the French National Anthem?

Yours truly,

A SISTER IN FRANCE.

["The Marseillaise" was written by Rouget de Lisle in the year 1792, at the time of the great Revolution, and to its inspiring strains the men of Marseilles marched across France to Paris. Thus it was heard from one end of France to the other, and will now for ever express the splendour of French patriotism throughout the world.—ED.]

THE SHADOW OF EFFICIENCY.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Many Territorial Sisters are looking forward with much apprehension to the substitution of Red Cross probationers for the thoroughly trained staff nurses responsible for the care of sick and wounded soldiers in Territorial Hospitals. The work is already exceedingly responsible, and the supervision of untrained workers will make it more so. If in each ward a probationer was given as extra help we could well do with them, but not as a substitute for skilled nurses. The Editor of *The Englishwoman* has made a great error if she imagines that supervising untrained young women in military hospitals will do otherwise than add to the "dangerous overstrain" of our work.

Yours truly,

A TERRITORIAL SISTER.

SYMPATHY WITH MISS MARQUARDT.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR EDITOR,—May I take this opportunity of congratulating Miss Marquardt on her splendid stand against the admission of the Red Cross worker, for a surface training in nursing, to compete with the fully-qualified nurse.

Where are our hospital matrons, that they have not had the courage to make the same stand, as the large general hospitals both in London and the Provinces were the first to allow this sort of thing; and, consequently, we have had these same Red Cross workers and V.A.D.s in France, doing a great amount of harm.

Yours sincerely,

A QUEEN'S SUPT.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)