

I have given this rather long quotation because I thought it was so interesting and so suggestive. Mrs. Miln's account of Burmese ceremonies and customs is very entertaining. When a girl reaches a marriageable age, and feels inclined for wedlock, she simply places a light in her own particular casement, and then her suitors gather round her and she receives them at her parents' house till she has made her final choice. The lighting of the lamp by the Burmese maidens is a poetic and tender custom; but fancy if all the maidens waiting for marriage in London were to place a light in their casement windows—Kensington alone would require no other illumination at night! It is to be suspected that in Burmah the sexes are more justly divided than in our own islands.

In the course of her pleasant chat upon oriental ceremonies and customs Mrs. Miln makes one very pertinent observation; she says:—

"I have sometimes thought, when looking at the Burmese women, that perhaps one secret of the constant affection of the Burmese husbands, was the constant neatness of the Burmese wives. No one, I believe, has ever seen a Burmese woman untidy; their persons and their garments are always fresh, bright, and spotless."

This eloquent little sermon needs no comment!

India, Burmah, China and Japan are all described in this volume with a picturesque pen, and the character of the natives of these various countries with sympathy and rare comprehension. Mrs. Miln's various coolies, servants and ayahs became her friends as well as her attendants, and the pleasant manner in which she writes about them leads one to think that she must have been a kind mistress to serve. Her theatrical experiences are kept very much in the background, but the few humorous descriptions that she gives of her acting under difficulties makes the reader wish for more. Mrs. Miln, during her travels, seems to have been pleased with everybody and everything. She is a cheerful companion, and takes all her difficulties, dangers and illnesses with calm philosophical endurance. In spite of the artistic and admirable reticence with which she writes of her adventures, her personality crops up through her narrative, and the reader cannot help feeling that it must be a charming one, and when he or she lays down the book will hope that before long the authoress will use her undeniable literary gift in giving us more details and anecdotes of her strolling theatrical experiences—and to wish for more at the end of a long book is, I think, very high praise indeed.

AMY.

Reviews.

"Notes on Medical Nursing," by the late James Anderson, M.D. (Second edition, 2s. 6d. H. K. Lewis, London).—This book, which has already run into a second edition in three months, was compiled from notes of Lectures delivered by the late Dr. Anderson to the Probationers at the London Hospital. It is preceded by a biographical notice of the writer, delivered by the late Sir Andrew Clark in the last Presidential address which he gave at the

Royal College of Physicians. It forms a most appropriate preface, therefore, to the work; both men having come from the same Scottish County, both having been colleagues at the London Hospital. The first Lecture, which it is stated was written entirely by Dr. Anderson, is interesting, and contains many points of value. The other chapters, formed as they are from notes taken down by his audience, are naturally more sketchy in character. But, nevertheless, there is much in this small book which would be found of interest and value by any Nurse, and this is especially the case with the lectures on the Nervous System and Nervous Diseases, upon which Dr. Anderson was becoming recognised as an authority when his too premature death occurred.

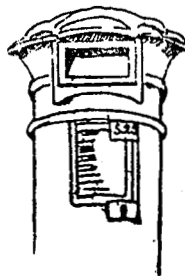
Inventions, Preparations, &c.

SELVYT.

THIS is a new polishing cloth, to which we have much pleasure in directing the attention of our readers. It will be found to be very durable, and therefore most economical. It is made of a material resembling wash-leather, but is so cleanly and so easily washed, so soft and pliant and so pleasant to the hands, that we feel certain it will be largely employed by Nurses both in hospitals and private houses. It is woven into squares the size of an ordinary duster. The price is very moderate, and ranges according to the size, from 4s. 2d. a dozen. It is practically a cheap and lasting substitute for chamois leather, and having tested it carefully we find that it imparts a splendid polish both to metal work and to furniture. We have, therefore much pleasure in strongly recommending it to the notice of our readers.

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 MESSAGE QUESTION.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—Being interested in all that pertains to massage, and having read some notices and letters that have appeared lately in the NURSING RECORD, may I be allowed to say a few words on the subject? We most decidedly need to form

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