

mind, passes her vacant hours in being a *malade imaginaire* is a vital character, as is also her little daughter Polly. Among the minor characters Lord Meredith (the kind-hearted, long-suffering husband of the gay hostess where all the terrible "goings on" take place), is especially deserving of notice. The rabble of guests flit like a kaleidoscope across the scene, and except that the reader heartily disapproves of them all, and their undesirable ways and jokes, do not leave individually distinct impression on the mind. Perhaps this novel is not to be recommended for the reading of very young girls, and morally it may not perhaps be of much value to the adult reader of either sex. But it is readable and amusing, and will serve to wile away an anxious or a weary afternoon, while the character of Joanna herself cannot fail to leave a pleasant impression on the memory of even the most jaded of novel readers. A. M. G.

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## Reviews.

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"THE NURSES' DIARY" (Burroughes, Wellcome, and Co.).—To keep a diary is one of the instinctive good resolutions of every New Year. That so many of us fail to do so is only another evidence of the weakness of human nature, and perhaps the untempting nature of most diaries. Certainly it would require a very non-appreciative Nurse to resist the manifold charms of the very dainty little book which Messrs. Burroughes & Wellcome have issued to the profession under the title of "The Nurses' Diary." There is so much interesting reading and most useful information, in addition to the blank spaces wherein we may chronicle our daily thoughts, facts, expenses, and receipts.

Do we need any legal information with regard to Infectious and Notifiable diseases, Registration of births, ambulances, removal of the dead, &c., we turn to page 67, and it is all set forth in plain, simple language.

Also a most valuable provisional list of requirements for an operation in a private house is given, so that the most absent-minded Nurse would "remember not to forget" all the long paraphernalia modern surgery asks for. A list on the same lines is set out for the use of obstetric Nurses, so as to make the infant's entrance into the world a very comfortable proceeding for himself and his mother. Foods and feeding, with excellent recipes, First Aid in emergencies, and many other equally valuable suggestions, make this neat little book an admirable *vade mecum* for the Nurse.

In the introduction on Nursing, Ancient and Modern, an interesting account is given of the development of the art from the first Deaconesses appointed by the Apostles to look after the sick in their own homes, which is the first evidence we have of district Nursing, to the requirements of the present day. Perhaps if Messrs. Burroughes & Wellcome issue their little book next year, they may have something more to say of the *professional* position which Nursing has begun to take.

MESSRS. LEWIS, Gower Street, have issued an admirable Nursing Chart, which must inevitably prove of great value to medical men and Nurses, both in

private practice and in Hospitals. It is arranged so methodically that the doctor can see literally at a glance the whole details of the condition of the patient from hour to hour—the state of the secretions, variations in pulse, respiration and temperature, and the amount and kind of nourishment taken. In addition to this, a wide margin is left for "Remarks." The effect of this excellent Chart is to allow the full history of a case to be condensed into a very small space. The price of these Charts is 25s. per thousand, 1s. for twenty.

*Clinical Sketches*, an illustrated monthly journal of practical medicine and surgery, began the new year at the reduced price of sixpence. Each number contains a full-page portrait of some medical celebrity, or a copy of some picture of medical interest. Very interesting articles on Health and Holiday Resorts, as well as notes of important cases, are provided, and the Magazine is admirably printed and illustrated.

*The Medical Magazine* proposes to establish a new feature, in that it is to deal in the future with the progress of Nursing, and to chronicle with medical news the advancement of the sister profession. This is a very welcome and healthy sign of the times—this avowed co-operation in journalism of medicine and Nursing. There is a good article in the January number on the Tyranny of Street Noises, which will appeal to the sympathy of City Nurses, whose patients are so much disturbed by the fiendish ingenuity of bands, itinerants and hawkers, who make the streets hideous both by day and by night.

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## Bookland.

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### WHAT TO READ.

"The Birthplace and Childhood of Napoleon," by Howell-ap-Howell. Illustrated. (Liverpool: E. Howell, Church Street.)

"With an Ambulance during the Franco-German War," by Charles E. Ryan, F.R.C.S.I., M.R.C.P.I. (London: John Murray.)

"The Most Gorgeous Lady Blessington," by I. Fitzgerald Molloy, with a Portrait of Lady Blessington.

"A Wandering Scholar in the Levant," by David G. Hogarth, Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford. (John Murray, Albemarle Street.)

"Memoirs of Marmontel," written by himself. Translated from the French. (London: H. S. Nichols.)

"The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain," by S. H. Jeyes. With a Frontispiece. An International Series. (London: Bliss, Sands, and Foster, Craven Street, Strand.)

"Roman Gossip," by Mrs. Minto Elliot, author of "An Idle Woman in Sicily," &c.

"The Trespasses of Two," by Frederic Breton, author of "God Forsaken," &c.

"Herbert Vanlennert," by C. F. Keary.

"A Daughter of the Tenements." (Townsend, Osgood, McIlvaine & Co.)

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