

Nearly every Japan woman is a born Nurse, and her soft voice and gentle ways are soothing to the patient, while the Japanese hospitals are all that can be desired.

Very different is the case in China, and the writer describes their hospitals as very "hells on earth."

It is curious that a land lying between nations of such opposite character as China and Japan should have preserved its own characteristics as it has done, and should have deserved the title of "Quaint," in writing about Korea.

The folk-lore of the country is delightful, and in some points strongly resembles that of Norway.

The author has done her work well, and from first to last this book is fresh and pleasant.

The folk-lore of Norway reminds me of a charming little book that has just fallen into my hands, "The New Fairy Land," by the author of "Brother Mike" (Jarrold and Sons), which has the real touch of fairy lore so dear to children and childlike minds, and tells how the fairies discovered the North Pole.

The illustrations help to make this book a most suitable gift for some wonder-loving child at this season of the year.

A. M. G.

Reviews.

"THE SCIENCE OF HOME LIFE," by Mrs. Clare Goslett.—There is no question that Hygiene and Sanitation should form an integral part of every woman's education. But it is a little doubtful whether such a very elementary work as the "Science of Home Life" will throw much light on the subject, or rouse an interest in it. For young girls it might serve as an introduction to the elements of Hygiene, but the woman who is in earnest in her desire to "set her habitation in order" must needs read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest a more serious treatise than this. To even the very youngest student it would appear that statements like the following need no laborious elaboration. "Everyone must have some kind of artificial shelter. A house to protect from winter storm and summer heat is no matter of choice in this climate, and in these shelters human beings spend a very considerable proportion of life," &c., &c. Again the statement that "Air is man's greatest need, without which he cannot live three minutes," is such food for babes that it need not seriously have been introduced into a work of Hygiene. Lady Priestly has written a preface to the book.

"HEALTH NOTES FOR THE SEASIDE," by A. C. Dutt, B.A., M.B.—This book is written with special reference to Whitby and district, and is calculated to give delight to the "locals." But life elsewhere is too complex to furnish the time necessary for the perusal of a work likely to give so little profit. We are very tired of the elements of hygiene being jotted down haphazard that he who runs may read. But it is doubtful whether the kind of reading we do when we are running is likely to be of much service. In "Clothing, and the Hygiene of Dress," Mr. Dutt gives a good deal of advice as to what women should wear; but few women will regard him as an authority on the subject when they read that "Two undershirts are sufficient, the inner one of calico, the outer one of some

white embroidered material in summer and of satinette in winter." He also descants on "equestrienne tights," and appears to think that women are in the habit of wearing socks!

The January number of *Sisters*, a new magazine for women which has been issued, and is edited by Mrs. Elizabeth Hooper, lies before us. It is a "Monthly Magazine devoted to the Interests of Women," and is issued in an attractive yellow and black cover. The current number has a most interesting article, "Our Character Sketch: Woman as a Mathematician," in which the life history of the clever Sonia Kovalevski is sketched in a bright and original manner. *Sisters* contains a great many illustrations, and several stories and a speciality is made of articles devoted to women's occupations and interests. Miss Eva Whitley, B.Sc., contributes an article each month on the education of our girls, while Miss Annesley Kenealy discusses women at home and abroad. Miss Kenealy is also to contribute a series of articles on Professions for Women. The first one will appear in February on "Nursing as a Profession," to be followed by "Women in Medicine." Mrs. Hooper has a charming "Our Monthly Tête-a-Tête," in which she touches lightly and brightly on the topics of the day. *Sisters* should be the success its merits deserve.

Bookland.

WHAT TO READ.

"Lyrical Verse from Elizabeth to Victoria," selected and edited by Oswald Crawford, with notes and index. (London: Chapman & Hall.)

"The True Story of the Chevalier D'Eon," by E. A. Vizetelly. (London: Tylston, Edwards & Marsden.)

"The King of Alberia," by Laura Daintrey. (London: Methuen & Co.)

"The Sport of Stars," by Algernon Gissing, author of "A Moorland Idyl," "A Village Hampden," &c.

"Egeria," by Lily Thicknesse.

Coming Events.

January 10th.—General Council Meeting of the Royal British Nurses' Association at 17, Old Cavendish Street, W., 5 p.m.

January 11th.—Christmas Entertainment at the Chelsea Hospital for Women.

January 14th.—Conference of British Medical Association and Representative Nursing Societies re the Registration of Trained Nurses, 429, Strand, at 3 p.m.

January 16th.—The second of a Course of Six Lectures on the "Nursing of Nervous Diseases," by W. S. Colman, Esq., M.D., "The Cerebral Hemispheres and General Symptoms of Brain Disease," 3 p.m., at the offices of the Royal British Nurses' Association, 17, Old Cavendish Street, W.

January 23rd.—Quarterly Meeting of the Matrons' Council, Matron's House, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C., 3 p.m.

Conference, the Medical Societies' Rooms, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square. Address by Dr. Bedford Fenwick, on "The Prospects and Principles of Legislation for Nurses," 8.30 p.m.

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