

Robert Louis Stevenson's last novel, "Weir of Hermiston," left, unfortunately, in an uncompleted state, is just published by Messrs. Chatto and Windus. Mr. Sidney Colvin contributes an introduction to the volume, which is sure of a hearty welcome from that large circle of readers which has been brought under the late romancer's wizardry.

Mr. James Headlam is writing a life of Prince Bismarck for inclusion in Messrs. G. P. Putnam Sons' "Heroes of the Nations Series."

#### WHAT TO READ.

"Women under the English Law," by Arthur Rackham Cleveland. (Hurst and Blackett.)

"My Musical Recollections," by Wilhelm Kuhe.

"Richard Brinsley Sheridan: a Biography," by W. Fraser Rae. With an Introduction by Sheridan's Great Grandson, the Marquess of Dufferin and Ava, K.P., G.C.B. With Portraits.

"Human Documents," by Arthur Lynch. (Bertram Dobell.)

"Don Emilio Castelar," by David Hannay. (London: Bliss, Sands and Foster.)

"Personal Recollections of Joan of Arc," by the Sieur Louis de Conte. Edited by Mark Twain.

"Weir of Hermiston," by Robert Louis Stevenson. With an Epilogue by Sidney Colvin.

"Rome," by Emile Zola, translated by Ernest A. Vizetelly.

"The Seats of the Mighty," by Gilbert Parker. (London: Methuen and Co.)

"A Living Lie," ["Mensonges,"] by Paul Bourget, translated by John de Villiers.

"A Crown of Straw," by Allan Upward, author of "The Prince of Balkistan." (London: Chatto and Windus, 214, Piccadilly, W.)

"Madelon," by Mary E. Wilkins, author of "A New England Nun," "Pembroke," &c.

#### Coming Events.

May 26th.—Coronation of the Emperor of Russia at Moscow.

Lord Charles Bruce will preside at the Festival Dinner of the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City Road.

Annual Conversazione of Women Journalists at Stafford House.

May 29th.—The Duchess of Albany will open a Fancy Fair in aid of the Re-endowment Fund for Guy's Hospital, at Shortlands, Kent.

June 1st.—Opening of the Nursing Exhibition at St. Martin's Town Hall, 3 p.m. String Band of the Royal Artillery. The Exhibition remains open till June 15th.

June 3rd, 4th and 5th.—Nursing Conferences at the Exhibition at St. Martin's Town Hall, 11 a.m.

June 3rd.—Princess Christian, President of the School, will open and preside over the Annual Summer Sale of the Royal School of Art Needlework, in Exhibition Road, South Kensington (three days).

June 6th.—The Prince of Wales will open the East London Trades, Industries, and Arts Exhibition.

June 8th.—Concert and Dramatic Performance, under the patronage of her Royal Highness the

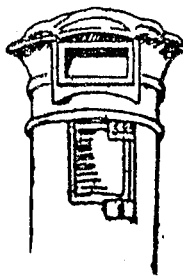
Princess of Wales, in aid of the Clapham Home for the Dying, at Stafford House, by kind permission of the Duchess of Sutherland, 3.30 p.m.

Matinée in aid of the Deptford Fund and Cheyne Walk Hospital for Incurable Children, arranged by Mrs. Wordsworth and the Social Committee of the Deptford Fund, will take place under the immediate patronage of her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany, who has graciously signified her intention to be present (two days).

Grand Morning Concert at 7, St. James's Square (by kind permission of Lord Egerton of Tatton and the Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos), in aid of the North Argyll Nursing Association, under the patronage of her Royal Highness Princess Louise Marchioness of Lorne.

#### 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.*

#### ARE "STAFFS" GIVEN TO SNUBBING?

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I am glad to see in your last issue that at least one Probationer acknowledges with gratitude the help and kindness of the Staff Nurses under whom she has worked. In the country Hospital in which I was trained, the goodness of the senior Nurses to the "raw" Probationers was proverbial, and I should feel very disloyal and ungrateful if I did not add my insignificant witness to the manner in which I was treated by all my "Staffs" when a Pro. I believe I was very heavy and trying in the beginning, and was, no doubt, a great trial to many of the bright and experienced Nurses under whom I worked. I never was snubbed, and had I been, believe I often deserved it.

Yours truly,

GRACE ALLEN.

Birmingham.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—I am a "Staff," and own I do sometimes get out of patience with my Pros. The truth is, the present system of constantly changing Probationers from ward to ward, "so that they may gain experience," is a radically wrong system of training; and we Staff Nurses and Sisters also no sooner teach a Probationer the ways of the ward than she is whisked off to pastures new. The "general post" arrangement has much to answer for in the big Hospitals, and is most irritating. It is poor old Sisyphus and his everlasting stone over again; and I have no doubt he hated that obstinate stone as much as a well-trained, orderly Staff—responsible for the tidiness of the ward and comfort of the patients—hates the constant change of Probationers. Think of the polished floors. How

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