

Inventions, Preparations, &c.

A Book of the Week.

KNITTED CORSETS.

A COMFORTABLE and durable corset is a matter of the utmost importance to all Nurses who, when lifting, or bending over, their patients, frequently find the stiff buckram corset hampers their movements, and therefore increases the difficulty of their work. We can thoroughly recommend the Knitted Corsets, supplied by the Knitted Corset and Clothing Co., 118, Mansfield Road, Nottingham, in either wool, cotton, or silk. They are most pliable and porous, and have the great additional advantage of washing without shrinking, or in any way losing their shape. They are made to suit all figures, and their price is exceedingly low. The Company also make a Coutille Corset, called the Comfort Corset, and which has elastic sides which are a great advantage, as they obviate any pressure over the chest. This firm supply cheap and good underclothing in woollen mixtures, which are unshrinkable and most reasonable in price. They have a great variety of guaranteed Pure Wool and also pure cotton underclothing. All the goods are finished in the best and newest style. We should advise our readers to send for the illustrated price list issued by this firm, and which we are informed will be sent post free to any address.

FLORADOR.

THIS is, as its analysis shows, one of the purest and most nutritious of wheat foods, because its percentage of albuminoids is unusually large. We have given it a thorough trial, and cannot speak too highly in its praise. It is sold in three forms—the fine-grained, which is excellent for making blanc-manges, cakes, creams, and food for infants or invalids, the medium-grained for puddings; and the large-grained for porridge, omelettes and soups. Children take porridge made from Florador more readily than that made from ordinary oatmeal, and with delicate children it undoubtedly answers better, as it sets up less bowel irritation. This fact should be better known, because many children fed on ordinary oatmeal porridge are undoubtedly converted thereby into chronic dyspeptics. But it is for invalids especially that we have found Florador so useful. It makes such light, nutritious, and at the same time, such palatable dishes, that all Nurses should, in our opinion, be practically acquainted with its advantages. It can be obtained from any grocer, or direct from the Florador Food Company, 90, Washington Street, Glasgow.

"AUS MEINER WELT."*

LITTLE half-allegorical tales seem to be a special product of the German and Danish brain. The very word Märchen is difficult to render in English, and it must be confessed that most of the little didactic tales that are produced in England in imitation of Hans Anderson & Co., come very far behind the original models in fascination and grace.

While I was staying in Dresden last week I "happened upon" a little thin square collection of stories which were published under the title of "Aus Meiner Welt"—"Out of My World"—and I thought them so beguiling that I could not refrain from writing a short review of them this week in the hope that those of my readers who understand German will some day read them for themselves. These stories are self-evidently the writing of a poet. No one who had not the gift of rhyme could have produced such musical prose. Each story is a separate fancy, and though they are of unequal merit, yet they resemble each other in being all artistically conceived and written. The first tale relates "How the Nightingale sang out of tune" and put all the other birds out—because she had only learnt music from nature instead of having learnt it in a Conservatorium. Therefore the concert master—Stork—was obliged to betake himself to the frogs, who produced their croakings on better approved methods, and in a learned and orthodox manner.

"The Devil and the Organ" records how, when St. Cecilia invented the organ, the devil became wild with rage, and betook himself at once to an organ-builder and said to him: "You will earn much more money if you make small musical instruments, so that every one can play on them at home, each church only requires one organ, but with my invention half-a-dozen can be placed in each house." . . . After a few weeks the devil returned to see how the organ-builder had carried out his instructions, and he sat himself down and played on the instrument, and every one stopped on their way to church, it sounded so enticing and so gay. Very soon everyone invented such an instrument for himself, as everyone preferred making his own music at home to going to the church to hear the organ music. But if only St. Cecilia had known that the devil in his anger would have invented the piano, she would have had pity upon posterity, and would have thrown the first organ pipes in the fire.

I have translated this little tale, because I think it is very comical and very typical of the gay spirit that distinguishes this little volume. "The Wonderflower" is a more serious allegory, which relates very forcibly how often the rose of genius is nearly stifled by the thorns of criticism. "And Why Are The Fishes Dumb?" is another right merry little tale. All the above-mentioned stories have the merit of telling their little lesson unobtrusively, and therefore beguilingly.

"The Travelling Companions," on the contrary, and one or two of the other tales, press home their moral in a way that is rather aggravating. "The travelling Companions" turn out to be *Joy, Work, and Sorrow*,

* "Aus Meiner Welt," by V—O—N. (Carl Tiltmans: Dresden). Two marks—2s.

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