

the terrible soul-suffering undergone is amply repaid), yet I think any unprejudiced reader of "En Route" must frankly own that Monsieur Huysmans has made out a far more logical and comprehensible brief for Mysticism than could have been possibly conceived by the average man or woman before reading this book, and made so powerful a claim for the spiritual benefits derived by its agency, that even though it may leave the reader still agnostic as to its entire credibility, yet it should, to quote Mr. Gladstone's words, "impose modesty and reserve upon all critics from outside and from a distance."

A. M. G.

### Reviews.

In her little book entitled "Hints on Elementary Physiology," by Miss Florence A. Haig-Brown, she transcribes for the use of Nurses the notes which she and her sister took from the Lectures and Demonstrations given by the medical men who instruct the Probationers of St. Thomas's Hospital in the physiology and anatomy necessary to an intelligent understanding of their work.

The book is clearly written and arranged in a tabulated form, which would prove very useful for a Nurse going up for examination, as the main points on which she would probably be questioned are arranged in headings. It is too tabulated to make it a "reading book" for those desirous of entering the wonderful world of physiology, but it would make an excellent medium for impressing physiological facts on the memory. The book is published by Messrs. J. & A. Churchill.

In a little section on Ventilation we may remind Miss Haig-Brown that "an ordinary dwelling-room kept at about 57°" would be somewhat cheerless. Imagine a tea-party in a Matron's or Sister's room kept at 57°! It would be poor comfort after a day's work. Or think of a breakfast on a cold winter's morning taken in a room at this low temperature. The following phrase from both a literary and hygienic point of view is distinctly ambiguous:—"There should always be a fire in a sick-room, as in this manner air is warmed and also carried up the chimney." Is it intended to be suggested that the object is to warm the air and promptly carry it up the chimney?

*St. George's Hospital Gazette* is one of the brightest, smartest little Hospital papers in London. It is always hopeful and pleasant to read, but it would be even *more* interesting were it to contain more information about the Nurses and the wards.

The *Ludgate Magazine* for November contains a very striking medico-psychological story by Dr. Arabella Kenealy entitled "The Beautiful Vampire," in which the writer deals with the power by which one person extracts the life and vitality of another individual to the terrible detriment of the victim thus vampired. The story has created a real sensation, and the *Ludgate* for this month is in great demand.

The experiences of the Nurses who in turn are sent to care for the "Vampire," are novel and suggestive, and the heroic measures which the doctors in charge mete out to her make up a very interesting professional problem.

### Bookland.

#### THE STAR.\*

Long ago in yonder heaven  
Shone a little star;  
And at midnight came an angel  
Flying from afar.

For he heard the star complaining  
Of its bitter fate.  
Of all stars it was the smallest,  
Amid many great.

"Hasten, hasten," said the angel,  
"To Jerusalem!  
God to show His love has made you  
*Star of Bethlehem.*"

W. T. PETERS.

#### WHAT TO READ.

"Life of Napoleon Bonaparte," by William Milligan Sloane, Ph.D., L.H.D.

"The New Siberia: Being an account of a Visit to the Penal Island of Sakhalin, and Political Prisons and Mines of the Trans-Baikal District, Eastern Siberia," by Harry De Windt, F.R.G.S.

"The Balkans," by W. Miller, M.A. Illustrated, and with Maps.

"The French Revolution." Volume I. With an introduction by H. D. Traill, D.C.L., and three photographic portraits.

"Charlotte Brontë and her Circle," by Clement Shorter. (London: Hodder and Stoughton).

"Leaves from the Note-Books of Frances M. Buss: Being Selections from her Weekly Addresses to the Girls of the North London Collegiate School," edited by Grace Toplin, L.C.P.

"Sentimental Tommy: The Story of His Boyhood," by J. M. Barrie, author of "The Little Minister," &c.

"Takisara," by F. Marion Crawford.

"The Seal-skin Cloak," by Rolf Boldrewood, Author of "Robbery Under Arms," &c.

"Limitations," by E. F. Benson.

"The Story of My Life (1834 to 1870)," by Augustus G. C. Hare.

*The Progressive Review.* (Messrs. Horace Marshall & Son.)

### Coming Events.

*November 7th.*—Inspection and Demonstration of Disinfecting Apparatus and Model Steam Laundry at St. John's Wharf, Fulham, at 3.30 p.m. Conducted by W. G. Lacy.

*November 9th.*—Demonstration on Invalid Cookery, Royal British Nurses' Association, 17, Old Cavendish Street, 2.30 p.m. Second Lesson.—Boiled chicken, egg sauce, fried fillets of plaice, sweet omelet, boiled custard, macaroni and tomatoes, lemonade.

Sanitary Building Construction. Prof. T. Roger Smith, F.R.I.B.A., Professor of Architecture, University College, London, District Surveyor, West Wandsworth. Lecture at the Sanitary Institute, Margaret Street, W., at 8 p.m.

\* From "Posies out of Rings." By William Theodore Peters. (London: John Lane.)

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