

"It looked up; its eyes met mine. For a moment it smiled, because I had smiled; then it hung its head a little, and its eyes sought Mrs. Carlow's. But there was no responsive look in hers, and that was evidently a disappointment and a surprise. Slowly the little figure rose to its feet, then with a sudden rush, helter-skelter, it went past me, and reached Mrs. Carlow's side. A little hand was moved upwards, and in another moment it was laid upon her arm . . . the look of expectation and affection, which went upwards at the same time as that little hand, gave me a sudden tightening sensation in the region of my heart. I could almost have screamed myself when the old lady suddenly jerked her arm away, and exclaimed sharply, 'Good heavens! what is that?'—so bitterly did I resent her doing so, and so sorry did I feel for the child."

Briefly, the child was Mrs. Carlow's favourite little girl who died in her arms in that room.

"I did not go to bed for more than an hour after that, and when I left her she had a look in her eyes, and a smile on her lips, that I shall never forget."

The whole of this scene, from which space compels me to give meagre extracts, is incomparably the best thing in the book, whether or no the reader personally believes in the possibility of the facts recorded.

G. M. R.

Professional Review.

WE have received from Messrs. Wright & Co., of Bristol, a copy of the fifth edition of "Our Baby," for mothers and nurses, by Mrs. Langton Hewer.

The book contains much that is of value to mothers, the information with regard to the clothing of infants being likely to be of much use to young mothers, who are often quite at a loss to know how best to prepare a suitable wardrobe for the expected infant. The chapters on feeding may also be studied with advantage. Personally, we are very much averse to the employment of wet nurses, under any circumstances. We cannot think that it is ever justifiable for a mother to sell the food provided by Nature for her own child; and, as a matter of fact, exceedingly few mothers in happy circumstances will do so. We think it is a fact which cannot be gainsaid, that the majority of women who are willing to accept situations as wet nurses are unmarried, and, this being so, we think it is extremely doubtful if it is for the ultimate good of the infant that it should be nursed by a woman of this description. In our opinion, it is better, as well as safer, from all points of view, to feed a child deprived of its mother's milk upon asses', goats', or cows' milk, or upon some of the excellent preparations which may now be obtained, notably the facsimile human milk of Messrs. Welford & Sons, Elgin Avenue, Maida Vale, and of the Aylesbury Dairy Company.

The chapters on "Baby's Troubles" and "Baby's Accidents" will furnish much useful information, but we cannot but think that some of the advice given on the subject of "Baby's Illnesses" is inadvisable as well as dangerous. We are told in the preface that "the medical chapters have been specially written for the book, and the whole has had the advantage of being revised by a London physician." We must confess our surprise that any medical man can sanction the advice to mothers to give two-grain doses of *santonin* to children of two years old. The prescription, in a popular manual, of such drugs as *santonin*, *aconite*, and *bromide of potassium* (of which last drug

the mother is advised to give two grains to an infant of six or seven months of age), cannot be defended. They should at all times be given only when ordered by a medical man, and, in our opinion, only a mother who was very ignorant of their properties would dare to prescribe them for her own children. The mother is advised never to give *aconite* to an infant under a year old, except under medical advice, but we cannot think that the prescription of this dangerous and uncertain drug, by an unqualified person, is ever justifiable.

An appendix, on the sterilization of milk, has been added to the volume. Mrs. Hewer tells us that the prolonged heating necessary for sterilization "has the most serious disadvantage of lessening the anti-scorbutic property of milk; therefore, children fed only upon it for some months are apt to develop scurvy, and signs of malnutrition." If this be so, we shall probably return to the more old-fashioned plan of using milk which has simply been brought to the boiling point, except in certain cases in which sterilized milk is prescribed for a time.

Bookland.

We have been asked to recommend a nursing manual on "Practical Points on Nursing." We shall be very glad, therefore, if any of our readers can give our correspondent any information as to such a manual. We are acquainted with Miss Landale's excellent little book entitled "Points for Probationers," but we know of none dealing with the practical difficulties of trained nurses.

Mr. Stephen Crane, who is living in Surrey, has finished a short novel, which will be published this autumn.

The name of Mr. Zangwill's new book is, "Dreamers of the Ghetto." It is to be out this month.

Mrs. Hodgson Burnett has been hard at work on her new novel, in which we shall read more of the Duke of Osmonde—the hero of "A Lady of Quality." Had he, we wonder, "a past," like his magnificent wife?

WHAT TO READ.

- "Journeys through France: being Impressions of the Provinces," by H. Taine.
- "Australia to England," by John Farrell.
- "The Typewriter Girl," by Olive P. Rayner.
- "By Right of Sword," by A. W. Marchmont.
- "The People of Clopton," by George Bartram.
- "Fortune's Footballs," by G. B. Burgin.
- "Liza of Lambeth," by W. S. Maugham.

Coming Events.

THE SANITARY INSTITUTE.

CONFERENCE OF LADIES ON DOMESTIC HYGIENE AT LEEDS.

Mrs. Fawkes will open the Conference on Wednesday, the 15th, at 10.30 a.m., and papers will be read as follows, viz.:—11 a.m.—A Sketch of the Health Department of the Yorkshire Ladies' Council of

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