

FRESH PAGES.

BEING OUR MONTHLY CHAT ABOUT BOOKS, &c.,
RECEIVED FOR REVIEW.

“What is that which I should turn to,
Lighting upon days like these?”

So says the Poet Laureate in “Locksley Hall,” and Mercy Grogan shows, in “How Women may Earn a Living,” the practical way in which womankind may “turn to” pretty nearly anything they like. The little book is a wonderful sixpennyworth, although we think that the vocation of “Nursing” would bear a little fuller explanation.

Mr. Major writes some very pretty *Norse* verse, and we are looking forward to the day when he will publish it, for it is weird and interesting, like his work, “A Throw of the Dice,” which has had our most earnest attention for the greater part of two evenings. Reader, if you want to peruse a well-told story to while away an hour or two, purchase this book.

“True and Noble Women”—eleven of them. Why not a dozen, Mr. Editor? They are not difficult to find; we have plenty of them unobtrusively working in our midst, brightening up everybody with their tact, genuineness, and vigour. This is a biographical work, with accounts of lives and works of Queen Victoria, Princess Alice, Mrs. Fry, Sarah Martin, Sister Nora, Mary Carpenter, Mrs. Chisholme, Mary Moffat, Mrs. Sewell, Mrs. Carlyle, and Baroness Bunsen, and is a volume which should be placed in the hands of *all* young girls, as well as those of some of the old ones, who would be none the worse for an occasional read of a good, wholesome book of this description. The publishers have done full justice to it; the binding is exceedingly tasteful.

If Miss Mary Davies will take in hand “The Nurses’ Companion” when the present edition runs out—which we hope will be very shortly for the authoress’s reputation—and re-write it entirely, neither she nor the patients whom the work is intended eventually to benefit would be any the worse off. A book which calmly recommends Bunter’s Nervine, Dalby’s Carminative, Keating’s Worm Tablets, besides several other quack nostrums, is hardly the one which we can suggest as likely to be of any advantage to any reader in any class of life. No, we strongly disapprove of the matter and tone of this volume altogether.

On the other hand, every praise is due to the same lady for her “Invalid Cookery.” Many of the dishes are toothsome, even delicious; but we must here again growl. What is “Cocoa” wine, v. p. 18? and is the following good grammar:—“Tripe and chickens are the easiest of digestion. Fowls, mutton, beef, &c., either roasted or boiled, take longer,” v. p. 5? This work wants also, here and there, a revising pen.

Dr. C. J. Cullingworth is well-known as a practical writer, so that regarding “A Short Manual for Monthly Nurses” all we have to say is that it is in its second edition, the book being revised, and a new chapter added on the use of antiseptics in the lying-in room. We don’t agree with our esteemed author, however, that “of all known antiseptics, Currosive Sublimate is the most efficient,” v. p. 90. Has Dr. Cullingworth never heard of Creolin? The list entirely of antiseptics given is much too short; otherwise we have nothing but praise.

“A Manual of Nursing,” by the same author, another second edition, and revised, is perhaps a little too scientifically written for Nurses. Page 174 contains no less than six words ending in “ation,” but withal might safely be regarded, particularly if it contained a dictionary of terms, as a standard work. It deserves popularity.

“Good Company” is a volume edited with all Mr. Wray’s usual good judgment, the Editor’s own articles and “My Corner” being specially bright, “hard hitting,” and

attractive. There is a healthy tone about this work, and no twaddle; and if a man or a woman does not feel all the better for reading it, well, then he or she ought to read it again.

If our readers want to possess the knowledge of something they have never seen nor heard of before, in the sense it is intended by Mr. James Neil, they should secure “The Figurative Language of the Bible,” and study a subject which, as the talented author—who knows practically and personally of everything he has written—truly says, “no other is more important, and none has been so utterly neglected.” Peruse “Metonymy, or Change of Name,” p. 15, and “Nature of the New Birth,” p. 21, and indeed all the other matters treated of so eloquently and well, and it will be time well spent. The illustrated green-gray limp cloth cover is a welcome departure, and the type and general “get up” is excellent.

The third edition of “Diet for the Sick” contains by Dr. Ridge—who ought to know from almost a life-long study of dietaries, &c.—a few more additions relating to the nitrogenous preparations not derived from the flesh of animals. If ever the province of Nursing is advanced to the position of its members being compelled to undergo practical examinations on dietary, we should vote for this valuable little work being one of the recognised text-books. There would then be a good deal less of the bill-poster’s paste-can appearance which we have about some of our very properly termed “slop,” or low diet, nowadays.

LIST OF PUBLISHERS, PRICES, &c.

“How Women may Earn a Living,” by Mercy Grogan. Revised edition. Cassell & Company, Limited, London. One hundred and twenty pages. Price Sixpence.

“A Throw of the Dice,” by Albany F. Major. Simpkin Marshall & Co., London. One hundred and sixty-two pages. Price One Shilling.

“True and Noble Women,” edited by Henry C. Ewart. Wm. Isbister, Limited, London. Three hundred and eighty-four pages. Price not stated.

“The Nurse’s Companion to the Sick Room,” by Mary Davies. J. S. Virtue & Co., Limited, London. Ninety-eight pages. Price One Shilling.

“Invalid Cookery,” by Mary Davies. J. S. Virtue & Co., Limited, London. One hundred and twenty-two pages. Price One Shilling.

“A Short Manual for Monthly Nurses,” by Charles J. Cullingworth, M.D., M.R.C.P. Second edition. J. & A. Churchill, London. Ninety-six pages. Price 1s. 6d.

“A Manual of Nursing, Medical and Surgical,” by Charles J. Cullingworth, M.D., M.R.C.P. (Lond.). Second edition, revised. J. & A. Churchill, London. One hundred and eighty-four pages. Price 3s. 6d.

“Good Company,” edited by the Rev. J. Jackson Wray. Woodford Fawcett & Co., London. Three hundred and thirty-two pages. Price Three Shillings.

“Figurative Language of the Bible,” by James Neil, M.A. Woodford Fawcett & Co., London. Forty-seven pages. Price One Shilling.

“Diet for the Sick,” by J. James Ridge, M.D. Third edition. J. & A. Churchill, London. Fifty-six pages. Price 1s. 6d.

WATER that flows from a spring does not freeze in the coldest winter; and those sentiments of true friendship which flow from the heart cannot be frozen by adversity.

MAKE the same use of a book, that the bee does of a flower: she steals sweets from it, but does not injure it.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)