

Free Library. The *Evening Telegraph* of that town reports that the chairman of the library committee (Alderman Wetherell), who led the opposition, confessed that he had not read a line of the book he objected to. If Alderman Wetherell had fulfilled his duties to the public, and further, if he had the elementary justice to read the book before condemning it, it is difficult to know on what grounds he would have opposed the admission of this work of genius to the library.

Mr. Kinloch Cooke is now engaged upon a Memoir of Her Royal Highness Princess Mary Adelaide, Duchess of Teck.

Mr. Henry Nevinson is writing an account of his wanderings during the late Græco-Turkish War. Those who have read Mr. Nevinson's interesting contributions to the *Daily Chronicle* at the time of the war will, we are sure, welcome more details of this time from his pen. The book will not aim at being a military history, but will give a description of the country and the people, as well as of Mr. Nevinson's personal experiences.

The new novel by Z. Z. (Louis Zangwill) which is being published by Mr. Heinemann, is entitled "Cleo the Magnificent; or, The Muse of the Real." It is being published simultaneously in America and the Colonies, and is already being translated into Italian and German.

WHAT TO READ.

"Pan." A Collection of Lyrical Poems by Rose Haig Thomas.

"Minuscula." A Book of Poems by F. W. Bourdillon.

"The Two Duchesses." Family Correspondence of, and relating to, Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire; Elizabeth, Duchess of Devonshire; the Earl of Bristol (Bishop of Derry) and Countess of Bristol; Lord and Lady Byron; the Earl of Aberdeen; Sir Augustus Foster, Bart.; and many eminent personages of the period 1777-1859. Edited by Vere Foster.

"The Triumph of Death." By Gabriele D'Annunzio.

"My Life in Two Hemispheres." By Sir Charles Gavan Duffy.

"A Daughter of Strife." By Jane Helen Findlater.

"The Kentuckians." By John Fox.

Coming Events.

ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

January 28th.—Second Sessional Lecture of the Association at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., by Dr. Colman. "Egypt."

January 28th.—Mr. William Archer will lecture before the Society of Women Journalists on "Some Living Poets," at the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi. 8.30 p.m.

January 31st.—Princess Louise will be present at the reading of Charles Dickens's "Christmas Carol" by Sir Squire Bancroft on behalf of the East London District Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association. St. James's Theatre. 3 p.m.

January 31st.—Meeting of the Metropolitan Association of Women in Council, at 49, Elgin Crescent Notting Hill, by the kind permission of Miss Wolff van Sandau. Mrs. Stanbury will give an address on Women's Local Government Society. 7.45 p.m.

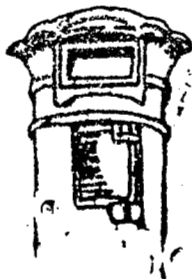
January 31st.—The Local Government Board inquiry as to the typhoid epidemic opens at Maidstone.

February 1st.—Lecture at St. Martin's Town Hall, on the Rights and Wrongs of Native Races, by Mr. Fox Bourne. 8 p.m. Dr. Washington Sullivan in the chair.

February 2nd.—The Duke of Bedford presides at a banquet in aid of the funds of University College Hospital, Hôtel Métropole.

February 9th and 10th.—Annual Conference of Superintendents of American and Canadian Hospitals, at Toronto. President, Miss Agnes Snively, Matron of the General Hospital, Toronto.

February 17th.—Lord Spencer presides at a meeting of the Indian Section of the Society of Arts, when Mr. H. M. Birdwood reads a paper on "The Plague in Bombay." 4.30 p.m.



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.

MATRONS' MARKS.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I notice that you consider that in the examination of nurses for their certificates a certain proportion of the marks should be given by the matron, and that these marks should be awarded on a definite system. May I say that beyond the suggestion made by you that the matron's record of marks given by her should be open to the inspection of her co-examiners, it would be a great satisfaction, I believe, to many nurses if, when the examination lists were published, the total number of marks gained by them in each section were published also. I mean that the marks awarded by the examining physician, surgeon, and matron should be notified in separate columns. Nurses would then have the satisfaction of knowing where they have gained or lost ground in their examination. At present I believe this is not done, and it is consequently always open to disappointed nurses to assert that their place in the examination list would have been much higher if they had not had the misfortune to be out of favour with the matron, who withheld her marks for this reason. Very often there is no possible ground for such an assertion, but I am sure that every nurse of any experience must have heard this sort of remark over and over again,

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