

### Spring.

Spring goeth all in white  
Crowned with milk-white May;  
In fleecy flocks of light  
O'er heaven the white clouds stray.  
White butterflies in the air;  
White daisies prank the ground;  
The cherry and hoary pear  
Scatter their snow around.

—From the Shorter Poems of Robert Bridges.

### WHAT TO READ,

- "Twenty-five Years in British Guiana." By Henry Kirke.  
"Alps and Pyrenees." By Victor Hugo.  
"William Stokes: His life and Work." By Sir W. Stokes.  
"A Middy's Recollections." By Admiral V. A. Montagu.  
"A Northern Highway of the Tzar." By A. Trevor-Battye.  
"The Indiscretions of Lady Asenath." By Basil Thomson.  
"The Millionaires." By F. Frankfort Moore.  
"Regina." By Hermann Sudermann.

### Coming Events.

May 24th.—Royal British Nurses' Association. Special General Meeting of Members of the Corporation at the Rooms of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 20, Hanover Square, W., to pass the new Bye-laws.

*Matinée* performance by members of the Savage Club at Her Majesty's Theatre in aid of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund.

May 26th.—Women's Diocesan Association: Mrs. Creighton presides at a conference on Church work, St. Martin's Town Hall, 11.

June 1st.—The Duke of Cambridge opens the joint Isolation Hospital for Richmond and Heston-Isleworth.

June 15th & 16th.—First Annual Conference of the Matrons' Council at the Medical Society's Rooms, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square. Morning Session, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Afternoon Session 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission to members free. To non-subscribers, 3/- for the whole Conference, or 1/- for each session.

### PROGRAMME, JUNE 15th.

#### MORNING SESSION.

11 a.m.—Opening of Conference, and short address of welcome by Miss Isla Stewart, Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Chairman of the Council.

#### PAPERS:—

- 1.—"The Matron's Duty to her Profession." By Miss Mollett, Matron of the Royal South Hants Infirmary.
- 2.—"Home Hospitals." By Miss Elinor Pell-Smith, Lady Superintendent, Home Hospital, Leicester.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

PAPER:—"The Training of Male Nurses." By Miss M. Greenhough Smith, late Matron Royal Infirmary, Bristol.

#### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:—

- 1.—"Is the formation of a National Corps of Nurses for active service in foreign wars desirable?" A Member of the Council.

- 2.—"Do institutions, supported on charity, undersell the private nurse?" Sister Beatrix Farnsworth, R.N.S.
- 3.—"Cycling for Private Nurses." A Member of the Council.

JUNE 16th.

#### MORNING SESSION.

#### PAPERS:—

- 1.—"Specialism in Nursing." By Miss H. Poole, Matron of the East Lancashire Infirmary, Blackburn.
- 2.—"The Nursing of the Middle Classes." By Miss M. Brea, Hon. Secretary, Matrons' Council.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

PAPER:—"A Practical Standard of Nursing." By Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

#### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:—

- 1.—"The need of Sanitary Knowledge for Nurses." Miss Alice Wadmore (late Lecturer to the London School Board for Hygiene in Finsbury), Associate Sanitary Institute.
- 2.—"Would the formation of a Poor Law Nursing Service, under Government, facilitate Efficient Nursing in Workhouse Infirmaryes?" A Member of the Council.
- 3.—"How to meet the increasing difficulty experienced by Matrons of Hospitals of under forty beds, in procuring Probationers." Miss Georgina Scott, late Matron, Sussex County Hospital.

#### RESOLUTION BY MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK:—

"That a cordial invitation be extended by the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland to the Honorary Members of the Society, to attend the Quinquennial Meeting of the International Council of Women, to be held in London in the summer of 1899, and that hospitality be offered to these ladies for the Conference week."



### 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.*

#### LENDING LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND.

*To the Editor of "Nursing Record."*

DEAR MADAM,—In order that an excellent charitable institution may not suffer in the public estimation, will you allow me space for a brief notice of the mis-statements contained in the article on which your Editorial of last week is based.

1.—The grant of £25 from the Committee of Gardner's Trust, was not made in support of the Library. It was made to found the Library, which did not then exist, to Mrs. J. R. Daw, then Miss Howden. I quote from a letter from the Secretary of the Trust to Mrs. Daw, dated August 9, 1882. "I am instructed . . . to grant the amount of £25 . . . in order that you may, conjointly with Miss Arnold, start a Lending Library for the Blind." Mrs. Daw pledged herself to raise

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