

body, with a very white cap at the top, and endowed with power to take away the night-light and leave one in the dark—and ending with Papa, a man who lived in a study at the back of the house, and was occasionally helped into an overcoat by the footman, who called him Sir Charles, after which he went out of the hall door. The Brownie sometimes wondered what he did outside, since he had no governess to decree that he should walk in a certain direction; but she knew the footman better than Sir Charles, and therefore her thoughts followed the latter into the pantry more frequently than they did her father, whether he vanished out of the hall door, or into his study."

Elsewhere, Sir Charles's personal appearance is described:—

"He was a tall, thin man, with hair which was quite grey, though still plentiful, and tired grey eyes. He embodied the Brownie's idea of age."

When the portrait of the radiant, laughing young mother, young enough to be Sir Charles's daughter, has been added, it is not difficult to guess what form the tragedy is likely to take, especially when Major Maude appears on the scene. It is nine years since he and Lady Lorraine have met.

"Are you married, Rorie?" she asks him.

"No."

"Engaged?"

"Lallage, don't try me too far."

There came a pause. The Brownie felt as she did before a thunderstorm, and trembled, without knowing why. Then Mamma spoke very quietly.

"Rorie, if we are to be friends you must remember that I am Lady Lorraine."

"If you think there is danger of my forgetting it, you have but to give my name to your butler as one of those to whom you are not at home."

When the tragedy culminates, the Brownie is present—unnoticed; and here the writer strikes the one false note in the book, in making the woman who has sent away her lover, send her own child—her husband's child—after him, with a rose, and a message that "Mamma will do anything he wishes."

"Brownie—you!" falters the guilty man; and, if he had had the heart of a gentleman or a soldier, he would never have taken the token of guilt from the hand of innocence; he would have left the door, and never returned to it: but he does return: or rather, he takes away the Brownie's mother.

Then the child, who, all through the book has been by slow degrees cultivating the acquaintance of the imperfectly known Sir Charles, comes forward as the comforter of the stricken man, and we leave them in each other's arms.

The tale is full of delicate touches, and bits that one longs to quote. Poor little Brownie! Looked upon by her mother solely in the light of a picturesque adjunct! One realizes all the irony and the sadness of it; and on the whole, it is to be supposed that it is remarkably true to life.

G. M. R.

Hellas, 'bail!

(Written on the Eve of the War.)

Little land, so great of heart
 'Midst a world so abject grown,
 Must thou play thy glorious part,
 Hellas, gloriously alone?
 Shame on Europe's arms, if she
 Leave her noblest work to thee!

Thou, in this thy starry hour,
 Sittest throned all thrones above;
 Thou art more than pomp and power,
 Thou art liberty and love.
 Doubts and fears in dust be trod;
 On, thou mandatory of God!

Fiercely sweet, as stormy springs,
 Mighty hopes are blowing wide;
 Passionate prefigurings
 Of a world revived.
 Dawning thoughts that, ere they set
 Shall possess the ages yet.

All the Powers that soon or late
 Gain for man some sacred goal,
 Are co-partners in thy fate,
 Are companions of thy soul.
 Unto these all Earth shall bow:
 These are Heaven, and these are thou.

(From "The Hope of the World."
 By WILLIAM WATSON.)

Bookland.

WE have received the January issue of *Biblewomen and Nurses* for 1898, the record of the work of the London Bible and Domestic Female Mission. It is now well known that this useful mission was established by the late Mrs. Ranyard in 1857, at a time when district nursing was almost unknown, and that Miss Agnes Jones, whose name is held in well deserved honour by all nurses, at one time worked in connection with it. *Biblewomen and Nurses* contains much that is of interest concerning the work of the Mission, and is well edited, the type being clear and the information varied. We advise our readers to obtain a copy of it and judge for themselves.

WHAT TO READ.

"The Hope of the World." By William Watson.

"Christina Rossetti: A Biographical and Critical Study." By Mackenzie Bell.

"Life and Letters of Harriet Beecher Stowe." Edited by Annie Fields.

"Studies in Psychical Research." By Frank Podmore, M.A.

"Life of Peter the Great." By Mr. Oscar Browning, M.A.

"Joseph Arch: The Story of His Life, told by Himself." Edited, with a Preface, by the Countess of Warwick.

"John Wyclif: Translator of the Bible, and Reformer." By R. Corlett Cowell.

"Sunny Memories of an Indian Writer." By Mrs. Archibald Dunn.

"The Confession of Stephen Whapshare." By Emma Brooke.

"The Cedar Star." By M. E. Mann.

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