

were undoubtedly amusing to the main body of the audience, I must conclude that they served their turn, and I would only in the most friendly critical spirit recommend in future their less prolonged use. The Chief Rabbi, the Very Rev. Dr. Adler, both in an introductory and in a valedictory little address, admirably expressed the thanks of the institution and of its supporters to the able renderer for his energetic and valuable services, and happily quoted the *dictum* reported to have been delivered by an eminent Actor to an eminent Divine, when the latter asked the former why actors were so much more attentively listened to on the stage than the clergy were in the pulpit. "Why, sir," said the actor, "the clergy too often treat realities as fictions, whilst we actors always do our best to treat fictions as though they were realities." The hall was filled by an attentive audience, and the picturesque aspect of the nurses, who distributed the programmes, much enlivened the scene.

E. G. H.

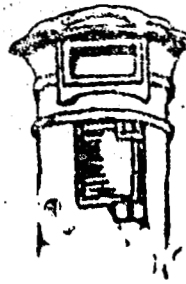
### Bookland.

#### WHAT TO READ.

- "Under the Dragon Flag: My Experiences in the Chino-Japanese War." By James Allan.
- "Korea and Her Neighbours: a Narrative of Travel, with an account of the Recent Vicissitudes and Present Position of the Country." With a Preface by Sir Walter C. Hillier, K.C.M.G., late H. B. M.'s Consul-General for Korea. By Mrs. Bishop (Isabella Bird).
- "John Bright." By C. A. Vince, M.A., late Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge.
- "Women Workers: The Official Report of the Conference held at Croydon, October, 1897." 2s. (Croydon: Roffey and Clark. London: Office of the N.U.W.W.)
- "Workhouses and Pauperism, and Women's Work in the Administration of the Poor Law." By Miss Louisa Twining.
- "The Fourth Napoleon: A Romance." By Charles Benham.
- "Miss Balmaine's Past." By B. M. Croker.
- "A Mediæval Garland." By Madame James Darmesteter. Translated into English by May Tomlinson.
- "A Passionate Pilgrim." By Percy White.
- "Fantasias." By George Egerton.
- "Dr. Dumany's Wife." A Romance. By Maurus Jokai. New Edition.

### Coming Events.

- January 28th.—Lecture on Joan of Arc, by Mrs. Henry Fawcett at the Kensington Town Hall, 3 p.m. Tickets, 5/-, 2/6 and 1/- each, to be obtained from Miss Dimock, 32, Addison Road, Kensington, W. Proceeds for the funds of the Central and East of England Society for Women's Suffrage.
- January 31st.—Princess Louise will be present at the reading of Charles Dicken'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.
- 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, Hotel Metropole.



### 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.*

#### AN OBJECT LESSON.

MADAM,—I am much obliged to you for allowing my letter addressed to the members assembled at the Special Meeting on the 17th ult. to be published in the NURSING RECORD.

It is time that those members who have so long been lookers-on with regret at the inharmonious state of matters in the Association should take their stand.

The determined manner in which the General Council last Friday put down Dr. Bezly Thorne's preposterous motion is an evidence that there is a desire for peace and mutual justice in that body. But there must be "Peace with honour"; and I am afraid there is no desire for an understanding, on one side at least, except on perfectly inadmissible terms.

The object lesson of the "Special Meeting" will not, I hope, be lost upon the members who are inclined to let matters take their course. It was called for the alleged purpose of discussing the new Bye-Laws, but it was at once made apparent that the intention of the Executive was to force them on the Association as they stood, though perhaps the extraordinary step of passing them *en bloc* would not have been resorted to had anyone had the assurance to come forward to propose the removal of the name of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the founder of the Association.

That no one had that assurance is a sign of grace, and we might feel sorry for the predicament in which the Executive found themselves, were it not that this same "resort," like that of the "Registered envelope," is an instance of the contempt in which they hold the intelligence of the general members, and the recklessness with which they intend to make their will law.

Under these circumstances it seems clear that the only course left to those who intend to have their Association conducted with equity and propriety is to subscribe liberally to the Members' Defence Fund.

I remain, Madam,

Yours faithfully,

J. P. JAMIESON,  
M.R.B.N.A.

Bath.

#### HOSPITAL BALLS.

*To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."*

MADAM,—In reply to your article, in the current issue of the NURSING RECORD, regarding the Nurses' Annual Dance, given at the above institution, I beg to make the following remarks:—

1st: The accident ward forms part of a detached wing which has been closed for the past two months for alterations, and it was not available for patients until Friday last, though the re-opening was not delayed by the dance;

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)