

Syria as any human being can possibly be called upon to do.

And, after all, there will come a reward which, at the time, the nurse will hardly dream of; for those who have been comforted in sorrow, or rejoiced with in joy, will not easily forget her who ministered to them at such times; many will rise up and call her blessed, and as she walks through life, her footsteps will be mingled with those of an increasing troop of real friends.

You will think I have dropped Maeterlinck, and am preaching a Christmas sermon of my own; but I only want to make you all read this wonderful little book; its tone is so high, its language so sweet and so persuasive, that the very reading comforts and strengthens.

"Don't always do the most obvious, pressing thing," he tells you; "it is generally the Highest which is the best, in the long run"; and again he illustrates that, with a most wonderful example, which I have not space to quote.

G. M. R.

### "Vale, 1898."

ONE little hour and thou wilt pass away  
To join the waiting centuries asleep:  
We shall clasp hands as friends, and strive to say  
Some potent word, for memory to keep  
After the end, in her well guarded deep,  
Where I can pause as weary mourner may,  
And live again, on some less gracious day,  
Those sunny days thou wouldst not let me weep.

Who knows—thy little next-of-kin, who skips  
Across the sill so blithely with fain lips  
To take the oath of majesty—will lay  
As light a yoke upon me? Will his sway  
Be tender as thy ruling? Thou didst bring  
Joy in thy train along the glades of spring,  
To flood thy summer mornings and glad noons  
That drew towards midnight 'neath unclouded  
moons.

Here's "Skoal" good friend—Farewell—I see thee  
go,  
As once I faced thy coming with strange fears,  
Would my imperfect language could bestow  
Some grander tribute than these useless tears,  
That fill a heart thou madest thine, and flow  
For one year, blessed above all other years!

C. B. M.

### Good News for Nurses.

The Post Office have notified that on and after Christmas Day the postage to be prepaid on letters from this country for the undermentioned British possessions and protectorates will be 1d. per half-ounce instead of 2½d. as at present. The places so affected are:—

Aden	Monserrat and the Virgin Islands
Ascension	Malay States (Federated), viz. :—
Bahamas	Perak
Barbadoes	Selangor
Bermuda	Negri-Sembila
British Central Africa	Pahang.
British East Africa	Natal
British Guiana	Newfoundland
British Honduras	Niger Coast Protectorate
Canada	Niger Territory
Ceylon	St. Helena
Cyprus	Sarawak
Falkland Islands	Seychelles
Fiji Islands	Sierra Leone
Gambia	Straits Settlements
Gibraltar	Tobago
Gold Coast Colony	Trinidad
Hong Kong	Turks Islands
India	Uganda
Johore	Windward Islands, viz. :—
Lagos	Grenada
Leeward Islands, viz. :—	St. Lucia
Antigua	St. Vincent
St. Kitts	
Nevis	
Dominica	

The postage payable on letters addressed to any other British possession or to any foreign country, and that payable on postcards, printed papers, and samples for any part of the world, will remain unchanged.

### WHAT TO READ.

- "The Last Ballad, and other Poems." By John Davidson.
- "The Spirit of Place." By Mrs. Alice Meynell.
- "Joubert. A Selection from His Thoughts." Translated by Katherine Lyttelton. With a Preface by Mrs. Humphry Ward.
- "Modern England Before the Reform Bill." By Justin M'Carthy.
- "Life of Henry Drummond." By G. A. Smith, D.D.
- "Only Flesh and Blood." By the Author of "Hernani, the Jew."
- "The Storm." By Ostrovsky. Translated by Constance Garnett.
- "Old Chester Tales." By Margaret Deland.
- "A Window in Paris." By Marianne Farningham.
- "Since the Beginning." By Hugh Clifford.

### Coming Events.

- January 1st.—New Year's Day. 1899.
- January 5th.—Christmas Entertainment in the Great Hall, St. Bartholomew's Hospital 7 p.m.
- January 6th.—The Empress Frederic opens additional buildings of the Royal Sailors' Rest, Portsmouth.
- January 9th.—Subscription ball in aid of the Oxygen Home, 2, Fitzroy Square (Patron, Princess Louise Marchioness of Lorne), at the Empress Rooms, Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, at 9.30. Blue Viennese Band. Tickets £1 1s. (supper included), may be

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)