

## Verses.

"Tender handed touch a nettle  
And it stings you for your pains;  
Grip it like a man of mettle,  
And it soft as silk remains.  
So it is with vulgar natures,  
Treat them kindly—they rebel:  
But, be rough as nutmeg graters,  
And the rogues will use you well."

## WHAT TO READ.

- "Mogreb-el-Acksa, A Journey in Morocco." By R. B. Cuninghame Graham.  
"George Harley, F.R.S.: The Life of a London Physician." Edited by his daughter, Mrs. Alec Tweedie.  
"Pan and the Young Shepherd." By Maurice Hewlett.  
"Marysienka, Queen of Poland and Wife of Sobieski." By K. Waliszewski. Translated by Lady Mary Loyd.  
"Sarchedon." By G. J. Whyte-Melville.  
"The Story of Gösta Berling." Translated from the Swedish of Selma Lagerlöf. By Pauline B. Flack.  
"Gösta Berling's Saga." By Selma Lagerlöf. Authorised translation from the Swedish, by Lillie Tudeer.  
"An American Monte Cristo." A Romance. By Julian Hawthorne.

## Coming Events.

## THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SUPERINTENDENTS OF TRAINING SCHOOLS FOR NURSES.

PROGRAMME—SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING, FEBRUARY 1899, IN CHICAGO.

- "The Work of Nursing the Insane," Miss M. E. May, Discussion—Miss Clark, Methods at Kankakee; Miss McKenzie, Methods at McLean.  
"Contagious Hospitals," Miss Griswold. Discussion—Miss Riddle, Work of the South Department; Miss Sanborn, Work of the Willard Parker.  
"The Record of Trained Nurses during the War," Miss Maxwell, Miss Palmer, Mrs. Quintard.  
"The Preparation of Pupils for Duties as Alumnæ," Miss Walker. Discussion—Miss Cabaniss, Miss Breeze.  
"The Tendency of Nurses to Extravagance," Miss Twitchell. Discussion—Miss Greenwood, Miss Barnhart.  
"Class Clinic for Pupil Nurses—A Demonstration," Miss McIsaac.

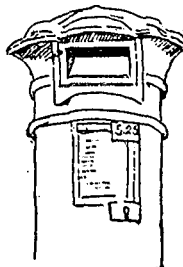
February 1st.—Opening of the New Ward for Cancer Patients, and the Nurses' Home, at the New Hospital for Women, Euston Road.

February 8th.—The Queen opens the Children's Wing of the Royal Isle of Wight Infirmary at Ryde.

February 16th and 17th.—Central Poor-Law Conference at the Guildhall. Paper by Miss C. S. Wilkie, Lady Superintendent of St. Luke's Hospital, Halifax, on "Workhouse Nursing."

## Letters to the Editor.

NOTES, QUERIES. &amp;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.

## "A NOBLE WOMAN."

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—My brother and I are indeed grateful to you for your tender and true tribute to our dear Sister's work and worth.

The feeling is shared in by her many friends who have read your paper, "A Noble Woman," in the NURSING RECORD for December 10th.

It may interest you to know that the Vicar said at the close of the sermon referring so kindly to our dear Sister. "Her's was a noble and a beautiful life, she laboured much for the sick and the dying. Her removal from a life of so great usefulness, at a comparatively early age is a mystery to us, it must be that the Lord had need of her, and took her to a higher ministry and service."

The hymn, "Now the labourer's task is o'er" was sung, and the "Dead March" played on the organ.

Thanking you from our hearts.

I am, yours sincerely,

MARY J. DANNATT.

Holydyke, Barton-on-Humber,  
January 13th, 1899.

## THE ENDING OF MIDWIVES.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I was greatly interested in reading Miss Breay's criticism of the proposed new Midwives' Bill, and although I differ from her in the principle that a midwife must necessarily be a medical practitioner or a trained nurse, as, after all, child-birth is a natural process and not a disease, I am grateful to her for claiming that the proposed legislation is of so dangerous and restrictive a nature that it will produce the very ills it is presumably devised to cure. Miss Breay speaks with authority, after years of active practice, both as a certificated nurse and Matron, and as an active midwife and an instructress in midwifery, as at the St. John's Maternity Home, at Battersea, where she was Superintendent, there was no Resident House Surgeon attached, and she was recognised as a very expert midwife. But we must look the practical needs of poor lying-in-women squarely in the face. Is it possible to provide the poor with midwives at all if they have spent years in obtaining a training as a nurse, as well as an obstetric diploma, at the price they can afford to pay? I think not.

What is needed is the organization of a much more efficient education in midwifery, and then the State registration of midwives—as in other civilised countries. But this definite principle and aim has now been abandoned by the very society organized to obtain these benefits for midwives.

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