

O, Mr. Crockett, Mr. Crockett! You cannot surely think that you can make us swallow this sort of thing whole! No, not for all the memories of all the Raiders and all the Playactresses in the world!

G. M. R.

Poem.

HERE AND THERE.

Ah me, how hot and weary here in town
The days crawl by!
How otherwise they go, my heart records,
Where the marsh meadows lie,
And white sheep crop the grass, and seagulls sail
Between the lovely earth and lovely sky.

Here the sun grins along the dusty street,
Beneath pale skies:
Hark! Spiritless, sad tramp of toiling feet,
Hoarse hawkers, curses, cries—
Through these I hear the song that the sea sings
To the far meadow lands of Paradise.

O golden-lichened church and red-roofed barn—
O long sweet days—
O changing, unchanged skies, straight dykes, all gay
With sedge and water mace—
O fair marsh land, desirable and dear—
How far from you lie my life's weary ways!

Yet in my darkest night there shines a star
More fair than day:
There is a flower that blossoms sweet and white
In the sad city way.
That flower blooms not where the wide marshes
gleam,
That star shines only when the skies are gray.

For here fair peace and passionate pleasure wane
Before the light
Of radiant dreams that make our life worth life,
And turn to noon our night:
We fight for freedom and the souls of men—
Here, and not there, is fought and won our fight!

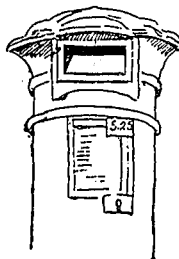
From "Lays and Legends,"
By E. NESBIT.

WHAT TO READ.

- "Memoirs of the Sidney Family." By Philip Sidney.
- "Passages from the Diaries of Mrs. Philip Lybbe Powys, 1756-1808." Edited by Emily J. Climensson.
- "Piers Gaveston." A Chapter in Early Constitutional History. By Walter Phelps Dodge.
- "Story of the Princess des Ursins in Spain." By Constance Hill.
- "The Trail of the Gold Seekers." By Hamlyn Garland.
- "The House of Dreams." By W. Griffith.
- "The Humbling of Mark Lester." By Bessie Marchant.
- "Punchinello."
- "Jasper Tristram." By A. W. Clarke.
- "The Human Boy." By Eden Phillpotts.

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.

THE CHELSEA SCANDAL.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

MADAM,—If you can afford space I should like to suggest as a comment on the reference in your issue of August 5th that what is wanting is an instruction to Boards of Guardians from Local Government Board for their guidance as to the control of an infirmary. In a hospital the authority is ultimately vested in the Committee of Management; the doctors are held responsible for the treatment of the sick; and in a hospital, as on a ship, there must be a captain. I never heard of a hospital in which the matron was not a subordinate, in the treatment, to the medical staff, otherwise we have chaos. It is the failure of Boards of Guardians to appreciate this which causes all the trouble. A workhouse infirmary is a hospital, and the guardians should clearly understand how a hospital is managed. Of course, where a matron is a certificated nurse and cares for her profession the difficulty never arises, for her profession comes first and her own aggrandizement never comes in. Her aim is to help the doctors cure the sick. The *Lancet* has a trenchant criticism on the matter which the Local Government Board would do well to consider; and that is also most ably dealt with in your article. I do hope we shall get a clear pronouncement from the Local Government Board on the matter; for if it is not dealt with the Infirmary of the future will be a mere bear-garden, and any serious dealing with the sick poor will be impossible; here in Chelsea it is most discouraging for our medical staff.

Yours faithfully,
FLORENCE GROVE.

Gloucester, August 9, 1899.

WOMEN ON HOSPITAL BOARDS.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—Conning over the printed report of Miss Mollett's paper I was reminded of a point brought up during the discussion of it which rather interested me. A lady present remarked that she thought hospitals suffered often from having no women on the Committees of Management. I fully agree with this lady, but I should like to point out that, as a rule, there is no reason whatever why women should not be placed on those committees if the subscribers so will it. For instance, by the rules of a small hospital which I know well, *any* subscriber of a certain sum *may* be placed on the committee. Several ladies fulfil this requirement, yet we have only one on the Committee of Management, while we have ten men. The committee is elected by the subscribers. Why do they not place more women upon it? It is simply and

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