

The Boys Who Will Not Return.

Our joy is stilled and our eyes grow dim,
 As we think of the hearts that yearn
 For the boys who were left on the battle-field—
 The boys who will not return.

They gave their all at their country's call,
 With the dear flag waving above.
 We think with pride of the death they died
 That gave them a nation's love.

The voice was kindly that from afar
 Gave the message which bade them cease,
 As they anchored out by the soundless bar
 Of the warless islands of peace.

But our hearts are full and our eyes grow dim,
 As we think of the ones who yearn
 For the boys who sleep in their far-off graves—
 The boys who will not return.

Denver (Col.) News.

WHAT TO READ.

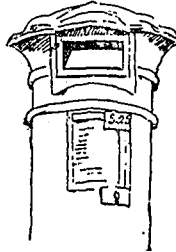
- "Unbeaten Tracks in Japan." By Mrs. Bishop.
- "Travels in the Transvaal; True, Instructive and Adventurous; also Cape Life—as it was." By Charles J. H. Halcombe.
- "The Transvaal Trouble, How it arose; being an Extract from the Biography of the late Sir Bartle Frere." By John Martineau.
- "Some South African Recollections." By Mrs. Lionel Phillips.
- "A Visit to the Russians in Central Asia." By Isabelle Mary Phibbs.
- "Valda Hanem: The Romance of a Turkish Harim." By Daisy Hugh Pryce.
- "The Human Interest." By Violet Hunt.
- "Red Pottage." By Mary Cholmondeley. Author of "Diana Tempest," "The Danvers Jewels," &c.
- "Young April: With Illustrations." By Egerton Castle. Author of the "Pride of Jennico."

Coming Events.

- November 3rd.*—Meeting of the British members of the Provisional Committee of the International Council of Nurses, to consider the Constitution of the Council, 20, Upper Wimpole Street. 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.
- November 8th.*—Lord Roberts presides at a Dinner in aid of the Victoria Hospital for Children, at the Hotel Cecil.
- November 14th.*—Unveiling of the Cromwell Statue in Parliament Square. Lord Rosebery presides at the Cromwell Celebration meeting at the Queen's Hall.
- November 15th.*—The Queen visits Bristol to open the Royal Convalescent Home.
- November 29th.*—Provident Surgical Appliance Society—Dinner, Lord Alex. Thynne presiding, Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Métropole.

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 ABUSE OF UNIFORM.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I am very glad to see that a correspondent of your valuable paper is speaking out plainly on the subject of the abuse of nurses' uniform. We are fast approaching the time when outdoor uniform will be discarded by nurses altogether, and left entirely to the riff-raff who now adopt it. That women should wear it for begging purposes is bad enough, and I think those responsible in Devizes would do well to suppress street collections for their hospital altogether, as the Hospital Saturday Fund has so wisely done in London, but this sinks into comparative insignificance when we enumerate the other uses to which uniform is put. One class of person mentioned by your correspondent is new to me, as donning nursing uniform to cover her misdeeds—the female burglar. I wonder if she knows of definite instances of this. Soon the public will be afraid to admit us into their houses at all if this kind of thing goes on. Will nurses never wake up to the necessity for taking concerted action to protect their professional interests?

Yours obediently,
 RETIRED.

IS THIS THE CUSTOM.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—Now that so much is being said and done about providing seats for shop assistants, is it not a suitable moment to put in a word for the nurse in Hospital wards? At present it is not considered correct for a nurse to sit at all whatever her occupation may be. Whilst fully appreciating the necessity for keeping nurses alert and smart, it appears to me childish, and worse, to expect them to stand when they are doing work that could quite as well be done sitting. I allude to the preparation of dressings, needlework, the covering of splints, &c. Of course a nurse takes a seat for these occupations, if she can, but she does so with a somewhat guilty feeling and rises as soon as the sister appears even at the other end of the ward. Let her by all means get up when addressed by the sisters, but let the sisters make it understood that they expect the nurses to sit as much as they can, and consider it unjustifiable of them to waste their strength by more standing than they can help. Surely in no other profession is it expected that the employees should never be seen in a sitting posture. In a nurse, who has to stand so much of necessity, this custom is positively wrong.

Yours faithfully,
 W. H. A. T.

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