

of his daughter, that one is left wondering how Janice found it possible to feel even a spark of affection for him.

Brereton is a delightful hero: one wishes he could have found a wife more capable of appreciating him; but in those days, it is to be supposed that all girls were cut out upon the one pattern and that a man must condone his wife's folly, were she but honest, which was rare.

The story holds the reader from first to last, and contains plenty of good solid reading; it can be recommended without reservation. G. M. R.

Bookland.

Mr Winston Spencer Churchill, the war correspondent of the *Morning Post*, has a novel in Messrs. Longman's hands for issue early this year. It is entitled "Savrola: A tale of the Revolution in Laurania."

Poem.

A GREAT SURGICAL OPERATION.—A PATIENT PATIENT.

They sawed off his arms and his legs,
They took out his jugular vein.
They put fancy frills on his lungs,
And they deftly extracted his brain.
'Twas a triumph of surgical skill,
Such as never was heard of till then;
'Twas the subject of lectures before
Conventions of medical men.
The news of this wonderful thing
Was heralded far and wide,
But as for the patient there's nothing to say,
Excepting of course that he died.

Medical Press.

WHAT TO READ.

- "The Evolution of General Ideas." By Professor Th. Ribot.
- "Science and Faith." By Dr. Paul Topinard. Translated by Thos. J. McCormack.
- "Among English Hedgerows." By Clifton Johnson: With an Introduction by Hamilton W. Mabie.
- "The Sky Pilot." By Ralph Connor.
- "In Chimney Corners." By Seumas Macmanuss.
- "Paolo and Francesca." By Stephen Phillips.
- "Dolcino: A Tragedy." By William Gerard.
- "Polly of Parker's Rents." By G. J. Kimmins.

Coming Events.

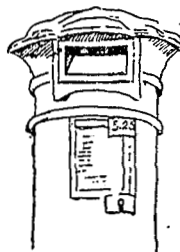
January 15th.—Sir Squire Bancroft gives a Reading in aid of the funds of the East London Hospital for Children, at St. Martin's Town Hall.

January 16th.—Grand Concert at the Grosvenor Club, Bond Street, in aid of the *Daily Telegraph* War Fund, under the patronage of his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge and Viscount Wolseley.

February 1st.—First public meeting of the newly constituted London Council for the Promotion of Public Morality, in St. Martin's Town Hall. The Bishop of London, chairman of the Council, will take the chair, and Mr. Asquith, M.P., Sir Edward Clarke, M.P., and Mr. J. Compton Rickett, M.P., will take part in the proceedings.

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.

APPEALING TO CÆSAR.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—It was with great satisfaction that I read your leading article last week proposing the formation of a Society to obtain the legal registration of nurses. I am sure we shall not get on very much further until we have the co-operation of the public, and indeed there seems every reason why the laity should interest themselves in this matter. It is they who suffer when semi-trained, or untrained, or undesirable women are sent into their houses as private nurses. At present they have little or no redress. There is no definite period of nursing education required, as in the case of medicine, before a woman is allowed to practise as a nurse, and therefore, if an incompetent person is sent into a house to nurse a patient all that the relatives can do is to complain to the institution which sends her, if indeed she is not altogether unattached, when the position is even more difficult. There are most assuredly, two distinct reasons for urging forward legislation. The interests of well-trained nurses, who desire to be distinguished from their counterfeits, and the interests of the public who desire to be protected from the incompetent. These two then may well combine to obtain what both desire. The advantage will be mutual, because, without the advice and assistance of the nursing profession the general public has no means of estimating what constitutes an efficient nurse, and nurses are politically very impotent; they have no votes, and consequently it is almost impossible for them, as an isolated class, to secure the requisite attention and support. Added to this consideration is the important one that while a reform is progressing the various interests involved occasion a certain amount of friction, and nurses, on account of their economic dependence are very much afraid of being involved in any contentious question, consequently those who have the courage to face the position, and are fighting against odds, will benefit greatly by the assistance of the public. It seems to me therefore that a Society such as you suggest is just what is needed at the present time. Wishing it all success,

I am, Dear Madam, Yours faithfully,

MATRON.

THE ROLL OF THE R. B. N. A.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I am glad to see that you have drawn attention to the fact that the names and addresses of medical men are placed without payment of any fee on the Roll of the Royal British Nurses Association, while the Nurses, for whose benefit presumably the Association exists, have to pay £1 is. for the same privilege. I wonder how long the nurse members will submit to this kind of thing. For myself I resigned my membership some time since. "DISGUSTED."

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