

"King Solomon of Kentucky" is also good; but nothing in all the book is better than Peter's description of his wooing of Phillis, his negro bride, which occurs in the "Two Gentlemen." G. M. R.

Astræa Victrix.

Mr. Swinburne has contributed a spirited poem to the "Saturday Review" under the title of "Astræa Victrix." We venture to quote from it the following verses:—

England, elect of time,
By freedom sealed sublime,
And constant as the sun that saw thy dawn
Outshine upon the sea
His own in Heaven, to be
A light that night nor day should see withdrawn,
If song may speak not now thy praise,
Fame writes it higher than song may soar or faith may gaze.

* * *

And now the living breath
Whose life puts death to death,
Freedom, whose name is England, stirs and thrills
The burning darkness through
Whence fraud and slavery grew,
We scarce may mourn our dead whose fame fulfils
The record where her foes have read
That earth shall see none like her born ere earth be dead.

ALGERNON CHARLES SWINBURNE.

WHAT TO READ.

- "The Piteousness of Passing Things." By Lillian Bowen-Rowlands.
 "Madame Dame Dianne de Poytiers, la Grande Sénéchale de Normandie, Duchesse de Valentinois." A Monograph. By Marie Hay.
 "The Chevalier of the Splendid Crest." By the Right Hon. Sir Herbert Maxwell, Bart., M.P.
 "Debts of Honour: a Novel." By Maurus Jokai. Translated by Arthur B. Yolland.
 "Village Notes, and some other Papers." By Pamela Tennant.

Coming Events.

June 20th.—Garden Party at the North London Hospital for Consumption. Opening of the new Open-air Balconies by Sir Henry Harben, 3 p.m.

June 25th.—Opening of the Wallace Collections at Hertford House.

June 25th.—Annual Festival of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England at the Charterhouse, 2.15 p.m.

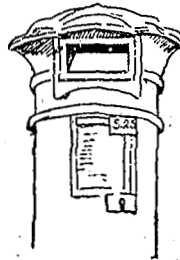
June 26th.—The Princess of Wales presides at the Annual Meeting of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, 4.

June 27th.—Princess Henry of Battenberg lays the Foundation Stone of the new Belgrave Hospital in Kennington, 4.

June 30th.—Prince and Princess of Wales open the new Jenny Lind Hospital for Sick Children at Norwich.

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 BRADFORD NURSING SCHEME.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—Perhaps a simple statement of facts may correct the wrong impressions regarding the intention and scope of the proposed Nursing Bureau in Bradford. For some time we have been impressed with the unnecessary inconvenience of communicating with the unattached trained nurses resident in Bradford. At a meeting of the Bradford and District Medico-Ethical Society a paper was read advocating their registration at a bureau, as the Nursing Institute would not undertake the responsibility of sending out their own nurses, and those over whom they had little control. Some of the members urged the desirability of the inclusion of sick-helps for those who require their services. This was agreed to on the understanding that the two classes should be kept quite distinct and that the designation "nurse" should be restricted to hospital trained nurses. We can understand and sympathise to some extent with the feeling of reluctance to give any recognition to the class designated sick-helps. But we think this disapprobation is founded on two misconceptions. (1) The term registration implies no guarantee of efficiency, but the keeping of a list from which the employer may select the help he requires. We take it that this is no attempt to foist the services of untrained persons in place of those properly trained. Every one has the right to employ whom he wishes, provided there is no misconception. (2) The intention of those who advocated the inclusion of sick-helps is also misconstrued. They naturally prefer the help of a trained nurse, but the means of their patients and the work required make their employment impossible. No reasonable person would expect a trained nurse to perform the household and menial duties usually undertaken by the sick-help. The visits of the district sick nurse would not satisfy this want. We would naturally be the last to depreciate the value of hospital training, and in no part of our letter was there any suggestion "that long experience and laborious years of training in nursing" are "needless."

We regret the unpleasantness which has arisen on this matter, which we consider has taken an unduly personal form.

Trusting that you will kindly insert this explanation,

We are, Madam, faithfully yours,

J. METCALFE,

W. HORROCKS.

June 12th, 1900.

[We still maintain the opinions we have previously expressed on this matter. It appears to us that it is quite needless, and, moreover, out of place and derogatory for medical men to organise a Registry of charwomen who are willing to do untrained

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