

and where, for all the attention paid him, he might as well have been sitting on the area steps. But inasmuch as he really had an immense fortune, and his wife had the spending of it, the privilege of being present when she entertained her friends in his house was accorded to him without question, and the further advantage of his sitting on the area steps instead of at his table was never seriously weighed by anyone."

A great deal of the light dialogue is positively sparkling.

At the very end of the book, Marie, the heroine, is asked by old Lady Ardingley, why she is so different from the other inhabitants of her milieu; and her answer, which forms the concluding sentence of the book, is

"I believe in God."

One cannot help the idea occurring to one's mind, that the God in Whom she believed, was by no means exigent towards His worshippers. But in this, as do so many other novelists, Mr. Benson really burks the whole question. He gives Marie to us as the wife of Jack Alston; how are we to judge of her character, without knowing what induced a woman who believed in God to become Lady Alston? Girls now-a-days are not so wholly unsophisticated as to lead us to imagine that Marie did not know what she was doing when she became his wife. She must have known in what set she would be called upon to live and move; and, every novelist in England notwithstanding, there are other sets in English society.

G. M. R.

What to Read.

"Travel and Adventure in Tibet, including the Diary of Miss Annie R. Taylor's Remarkable Journey from Tau-Chau to Ta-Chien through the Heart of the Forbidden Land." By William Carey.

"Cromwell's Army; a History of the English Soldier during the Civil Wars, the Commonwealth, and the Protectorate; being the Ford Lectures delivered in the University of Oxford in 1900-1." By C. H. Firth, M.A.

"The Case of the Factory Acts." With a Preface by Mrs. Humphry Ward. Edited by Mrs. Sidney Webb.

"Scarlet and Hyssop." By E. F. Benson.

"Gentleman Garnet: a Tale of Old Tasmania." By Harry B. Vogel.

"Lazarre." By Mary Hartwell Catherwood.

"The Labyrinth." By R. Murray Gilchrist.

Coming Events.

March 19th.—The Duke of Fife presides at a Festival Dinner in aid of the Charing Cross Hospital Special Appeal.

March 19th and 20th.—Sale of Work at the London Homœopathic Hospital, Great Ormond Street, Nurses' Home 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

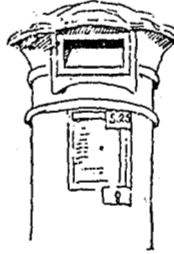
March 20th.—Annual Meeting, University College Hospital.

March 25th.—Annual Meeting, St. Peter's Hospital for Stone.

March 26th.—Annual Meeting, National Hospital for Paralysed and Epileptic.

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.

REGISTRATION OF NURSES IN EGYPT.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM.—As last week the Nursing Profession welcomed the news that a Society was being formed for working the State Registration question, it may interest some of your readers to learn that in Egypt they have had State Registration for many years. The Native Nurse there has had the advantage of a most efficient training, in spite of the women of the country not yet being emancipated, and having always to be veiled in public. The nurses, in addition to their training in the Female Wards (of course they are not allowed yet in the Male ones) had lectures every day on the various subjects connected with their profession. The probationers during their first year were moved systematically every three months to medical, surgical, ophthalmic and obstetrical wards. During that time they received lectures in Elementary Anatomy, Physiology, and Nursing. On passing a satisfactory examination from doctors not on the staff, they started on their 2nd year's tuition. This consisted of lectures on simple midwifery, and the diseases of women and children.

The 3rd year course included Chemistry, Hygiene, and the Complications of Labour. On completing their training, the nurses usually stayed on a fourth year, in charge of wards, for which they received a Testimonial of efficiency. The training is entirely free, with uniform provided. The nurses, owing to the Mohammedan restrictions, were not allowed to go out alone, so they only left the hospital once a fortnight, when a parent or some responsible person came to fetch them. Half of the nursing staff was absent every week from Thursday afternoon to Saturday morning, Friday being the Mohammedan Sabbath. Their off-duty times were therefore spent on the roof, which being flat, with a high parapet round, as in all Eastern countries, made a splendid recreation ground, and they were trained in Swedish drill and gymnastic exercises, which they much enjoyed; especially in the hot weather by moonlight. After their training they had no difficulty in earning a livelihood, the smartest of them earn as much as £30 a month, including private work with their Government appointments.

BEATRICE CUTLER.

[We are glad to hear that Miss Beatrice Cutler is interesting herself so much in the matter of State Registration for Trained Nurses. She has had practical experience of its effects in Egypt, and speaks in the highest terms of its influence not only upon nursing education, but also on nursing discipline.—Ed.]

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