

up his own mind on any important matter, and yet poses as an instructor of others.

The adventure of poor Boyne with the young Queen of Holland is charming, perhaps the best thing in the book. But the strong point is the engaging frankness with which we are enabled to see into natures shallow perhaps, but clear; with limited horizons, but a simplicity and sweetness which somehow disarms criticism.

We are glad that they all return to spend their days in Tuskingum. It seems the right atmosphere for the type. There is something extraordinarily winning in the portrait of the guileless old Poppa and Momma, so anxious for the happiness of their children, so tender of their wounded darling's pride and reputation.

The visit of Mr. Bittridge and his mother is one of the very best bits of writing in the book. Mr. Howells' subtle sense of fine comedy is exactly suited there.

G. M. R.

Verse.

THANKSGIVING.

The dead lips moved in the narrow grave,
And spake to the dead ear nestling there;
"The land is at peace, and the blood that we gave
Has turned to a lily a maiden may wear."

The red flow'r said to the white flow'r: "See,
In the heart of my beauty a man's blood dwells."
And the white flow'r answered: "A litany
In my heart murmurs of old farewells."

But the bells rang on and the flags flew high,
And the peace of the dead and the rest of the
flow'r

Were lost in their own tranquility,
And had no part in that jubilant hour.

G. H. R. D.

—*Westminster Gazette.*

What to Read.

"Up from Slavery: An Autobiography." By Booker T. Washington.

"George Eliot." By Leslie Stephen.

"The Holy City, Athens, and Egypt, Founded on Personal Observation and the Researches of Modern Explorers." By Sir William T. Charley, Kt.

Coming Events.

June 15th.—Hospital Sunday (thirtieth year).

June 20th.—Meeting of Organising Sub-Committee Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, 4 p.m.

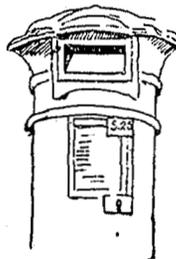
The Duke of Connaught lays the foundation-stone of the new buildings of Charing Cross Hospital with full Masonic honours, 4.

June 21st.—Annual General Meeting of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, Great Hall, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, 3 p.m. On the conclusion of business the meeting will resolve itself into a social gathering.

Coronation Celebration "At Home" at the West Ham and East London Hospital, West Ham Lane, Stratford. Thought-reading by Alfred Capper, Esq.; X-Ray Demonstrations; Songs, etc., by well-known artistes. Invitations can be obtained on application to the Matron.

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.

AN EXPRESSION OF THANKS.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—Will you kindly allow me through the medium of the NURSING RECORD to express my most sincere thanks to the members of the Matrons' Council, who, at the recent Conference presented me with so kind and generous an expression of their good will, which I value most highly. My connection, both with the Council as a whole, and with individual members of it, has been a great pleasure to me. The Matrons' Council has brought me into contact with all that is most progressive, and worth knowing of, in nursing matters, in this and other countries, for, from its foundation, it has been inspired by a most catholic spirit in its relations to the nursing profession. The work which I have had the honour to do as its Hon. Secretary has made me acquainted with many Matrons whom before I knew only by repute, and whom to know is to respect and esteem. With your permission I should like to let the Members of the Council know that with part of the contents of their purse I have bought a dressing bag. It is of morocco leather, with a deep lid in which the fittings are arranged, and it is lined with dark green watered silk. The fittings are silver and ivory mounted. The division which encloses the lid is of dark green leather, and has pockets for veils, handkerchiefs, and gloves. It is altogether charming, as well as most useful.

I am now hunting the shops of dealers in the antique, for specimens of things which are "genuine old," and the joys of the chase and the hope, always dear to the heart of womankind, of unearthing a bargain add not a little to the pleasure of expending the money. Later, if you will allow me, I shall hope to tell the donors how it has been spent. Meanwhile, once more expressing my thanks to them,

I am, Dear Madam,

Yours faithfully,

MARGARET BREAY,

(Hon. Secretary, Matrons' Council).

THE MEDICAL PRESS ON NURSING ORGANIZATION.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—Like yourself, I was pleasantly surprised to find the article on Nursing Organization to which you refer in the *British Medical Journal*. I also note a good report in the same journal of the meeting in favour of State Registration of Trained Nurses. Is the medical press at length realizing that medical and nursing interests are inseparably associated? One would fain hope so.

Yours faithfully,

STATE REGISTRATION.

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