

The Modern Mother.

Oh what a kiss
With filial passion overcharged is this !
To this misgiving breast
The child runs, as a child ne'er ran to rest.
Upon the light heart and the unoppressed.

Unhoped, unsought !
A little tenderness, this mother thought
The utmost of her meed
She looked for gratitude ; content indeed
With thus much that her nine years' love had bought.

Nay, even with less.
This mother, give of life, death, peace, distress.
Desired, ah ! not so much
Thanks as forgiveness ; and the passing touch
Expected, and the slight, the brief caress.

Oh, filial light,
Strong in these childish eyes, these new, these bright
Intelligible Stars ! Their rays
Are near the constant earth, guides in the maze
Natural, true, keen in this dusk of days

By ALICE MEYNELL,
From *Later Poems*.

Bookland.

The Duchess of Sutherland has finished a new book of short stories, which will be issued very soon under the title "The Winds of the World." She has also been working on a play, in which it is believed an American actress will take the leading part.

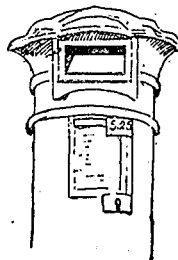
What to Read.

- "Temporal Power." By Marie Corelli.
- "The Sheepstealers." By Violet Jacob.
- "The Romany Stone." By J. H. Yoxall.
- "A Son of Gad." By J. A. Steuart.
- "The Honeycomb of Life." By Violet Tweedale.
- "The New Christians." By Percy White.
- "Immortal Youth." By Morley Roberts.
- "Children of the Bush." By Henry Lawson.
- "A Bayard from Bengal." By F. Anstey.
- "The Turnpike House." By Fergus Hume.
- "Rainbows." By Olive Custance (Lady Alfred Douglas).
- "Aquamarines." By Nora Hopper (Mrs. W. H. Chesson).

Coming Events.

September 9th—12th.—Nineteenth Congress of Sanitary Institute at Manchester. Programmes may be obtained from E. White Wallis, Esq., F.S.S., Parkes Museum, Margaret Street, London, W.

September 9th—27th.—Health Exhibition, St. James's Hall, Manchester.



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 APPEAL.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing"

DEAR MADAM,—In about a fortnight's time the annual invasion of Mid and West Kent will take place. The hop-pickers are nearly all Londoners, and of the poorest. We try to help them in their almost necessarily rough-and-ready surroundings, where they are without many of the necessities of an even fairly decent life, let alone any of its comforts.

We are sending them twenty-five experienced lady workers, and thirteen trained nurses, to work from fourteen centres, opening small hospitals for children, dispensaries for first aid, &c., coffee-stalls and barrows, and distributing illustrated papers, magazines, &c., as well as opening reading and writing rooms in the evenings and on Sundays.

May I again appeal to your readers, as by your kindness I have done in past years, for money, nursing requisites, and literature of all kinds ?

All our officers and workers are volunteers ; no one is paid, only out-of-pocket expenses are refunded. The working expenses of the Committee average about 6 per cent. £5 pays for a nurse or worker.

Subscriptions may be paid into Messrs. Child's Bank, 1, Fleet Street, E.C., or may be sent to me at Mereworth Rectory, Maidstone, where all literature should be sent.

I am, Madam,
Your obedient servant,

J. E. REVINGTON-JONES,

Hon. Sec. Hop-picking Mission Committee.
Rector of Mereworth, and Rural Dean.

Mereworth Rectory, Maidstone,
25th August, 1902.

AN UNPOPULAR BRANCH OF NURSING.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—I thank "Observer" most heartily for her letter. Private nurses have had to bear a great deal of criticism the last few months, and such a fair, broad-minded letter will be gratefully received. We do not claim to be perfect beings any more than other branches of the nursing profession ; it would be a very easy matter to give instances of undesirables among Matrons and Sisters, the most fully-trained, or the opposite, clergy or any body of men or women, and we only ask for the charity we would give to others.

Personally, I have been very happy in my many years of private nursing ; very seldom could I complain of not being well treated or not given my proper position. On the other hand, I can never forget the great kindness and consideration in multitudes of instances I have received from my patients and their

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)