

small Sweet Pea, has tough creeping roots, hated by farmers, but delighted in by children, for in the fibrous toughness flows the flavour of liquorice. The Burdock, the Mugwort, the Meadow Rue, the Balsam, and Wormwood bloom in this month. None of these is strikingly beautiful, but the Wormwood was an ingredient of many a dreadful domestic drug.

WOMEN.

The Deceased Wife's Sister Bill has been withdrawn.

Countess Howe has been presented with a silver statuette of an Imperial Yeoman in recognition of her services as president of the Yeomanry Hospitals Committee during the South African War.

The net result of the *Daily News* Religious Census for London, now concluded after seven months' inquiry, is that (allowing for "twicers") only 16 per cent. of the entire population attend any place of religious worship, and that of the 1,002,940 who on the average have done so each Sunday, the Church of England is responsible for 430,153, while the various bodies of Nonconformists aggregate 416,225. A little more "Hughliganism," and that 16 per cent. will shrink materially.

The wet-nurse engaged by Queen Helena of Italy to attend her baby in the Quirinal Palace, Rome, receives £6 a month during her stay in the Royal palace, and £4 a month during her lifetime after her discharge. When the Royal baby has its first tooth she gets £400, when it is able to speak another £400, and a similar sum when the Royal baby can toddle unsupported. When the nurse's services are no longer required at the Quirinal she receives £800.

It is announced from Bucharest that the Crown Princess Marie of Roumania has made a munificent donation towards the establishment of a school of domestic economy at Jassy, the second capital of Roumania.

Seven young men refused to take part in the recent commencement exercises at the Law School of the Columbian University if a Diploma as Doctor of Laws were given to Mrs. Emma Reba Bailey, of Georgia, although the faculty declared she had fairly earned the distinction. The faculty stood firm, and said that the young men, if they absented themselves from commencement, would forfeit their diplomas. Six of the seven had the good sense to recede from their absurd position, and duly appeared with Mrs. Bailey to receive their hoods and degrees. The seventh remained obdurate. This was Mr. Haskell Burlason Talley, of Tennessee, president of the class.

The Board of Trustees of the University considered his case. They had originally sanctioned the candidates recommended for degrees by the members of the faculties, Mr. Talley among them. By the rules of the University, Mr. Talley might appear for his diploma at the next commencement, but this avenue has been closed to him by the Board passing a resolution rescinding its former action in approving him as a candidate for Doctor of Civil Law, and referring his

candidacy back to the faculty of the department of law, jurisprudence, and diplomacy.

The death is announced, at the age of eighty, of the first American woman stenographer, Mrs. Eliza B. Burnz. The "z" in her name replaced an "s," which was discarded by the owner to prove her consistent devotion to the principle of phonetic spelling.

Some half-century ago, Mrs. Burnz began to teach shorthand in a small room in the Cooper Union. Her efforts gave a great stimulus to the employment of women stenographers. How many women are at present employed in this way is not known, but in 1899 it was estimated that there were in the United States about fifty-two thousand.

Miss Margaret Long, daughter of ex-Secretary of the Navy John D. Long, was one of the six women to receive the degree of Doctor of Medicine at the recent commencement of the Johns Hopkins University. Miss Long has finished very successfully a long and arduous course, and stands high in the graduating class.

The Sultan of Turkey has strictly forbidden all young girls, after they reach the age of twelve, to go out into the streets unveiled. Children are ordered to wear the simple Turkish bonnet with "no exaggerated ornaments, which only make them look absurd and are against the usages and customs of Islam."

A Book of the Week.

NINE POINTS OF THE LAW.*

The fact that Mr. Jackson's book has been overpraised, which is undoubtedly the case, must not blind us to the fact that it is a good book, and not only a good book, but one of the kind which the jaded would do very well to take upon their holiday. It is frankly impossible, extremely light, and now and then decidedly funny. It carries the reader briskly on, and the monumental folly and rashness of Mr. Wayzgoose form a kind of perpetual provocation to see how much farther into the mire—or out of it—his exceptional fortune will carry him.

The main point of originality is that the hero, or what passes for such, is throughout the passive sport of circumstance, or nearly so.

A young clerk, starting upon his three weeks' annual holiday, with enough cash to do the thing in very mediocre style, with no friends, no special chum, no prospects—on the very first day of his vacation he lights upon that amazing treasure-trove which forms the pivot of the story.

Young as he is, Mr. Wayzgoose loves—nay, more, in true story-book style he loves his master's daughter. When he finds, as he sits dreaming in a wood, that the ground beneath his feet has been used as a dumping ground for treasure, that it swarms with gold coins, carved goblets, jewels and tazzas, cameos and other valuables, he thinks that his lucky star is in the ascendant, and that he has really chanced upon his fortune. Naturally, the scene is narrowly watched

* By Wilfrid Scarborough Jackson. John Lane.

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