

## Professional Review.

### THE WOMAN'S LIBRARY. NURSERY AND SICK ROOM.

We have received from Messrs. Chapman and Hall, Ltd., 11, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C., a copy of the third volume of the Woman's Library. The Nursery and Sick Room are discussed in three separate articles:—

"On the Ethical Training of Children." By Lady Isabel Margesson.

"The Practical Care of Children." By Miss Ethel Lamport, M.D.

"Nursing in and out of Hospital." By Miss H. F. Gethen.

#### *The Ethical Training of Children.*

We are much in sympathy with the writer when she says:—

"It seems to most Educators little short of culpable carelessness to undertake the charge of children without at the same time taking the trouble to understand the science and theory of such an intimate and human subject.

"No excuse as to want of time and brain can avail when the issues of human life are at stake. The excuses for ignoring the knowledge and counsel made available by authorities on education are:—

"1. Practice and experience are worth more than theory.

"2. A mother's instinct is self-sufficient for her task.

"3. As theory and reading were not used by our parents they are unnecessary for us.

"Fortunately, there are an increasing number of people who apprehend the enormous gain that practice and experience can derive from theory and scientific knowledge. It is being demonstrated so clearly in such subjects as hygiene, farming and gardening, that it is only the very deaf who will not hear the same voice speaking to them in the education of children."

How often life has been made unnecessarily hard and incomprehensible to little children by the denseness, to use no stronger word, of their elders, it is difficult to estimate. When the adult mind declines to make the necessary effort required before it can adapt itself to the outlook of immaturity, the result is certainly unhappiness, and too often disaster.

#### *The Practical Care of Children.*

Dr. Lamport deals with the nursery and its tenants, showing the numerous ways in which the general health of children can be improved and maintained. Notably by a bright, sunny, and well-ventilated nursery, and suitable clothing. Next with the feeding of infants, and then with the diet of older children. Then there is a chapter about medicines, and one on emergencies, and others on accidents, common ailments, and infectious fevers, from which it will be seen that this section covers a wide scope, and should be of use to those who have the care of children.

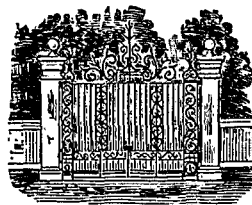
#### *Nursing in and out of Hospital.*

Under this heading Miss Gethen deals with training-schools for nurses, and shows that in England half a century ago no provision had been made for teaching the art of sick nursing, with the inauguration of a better state of things, and the hardships of the transition period. She points out that the majority

of those who enter hospitals now do so with the intention of fitting themselves for an honourable wage-earning career. Whether the probationer pays a premium or receives a small salary from the beginning of her career, Miss Gethen rightly says that she "remains considerably in debt to the hospital that has given her most valuable training for a period during which her services were of little worth." The writer then discusses the choice of a training-school and the value of certificates. Incidentally she points out that "private nursing homes, which are established for the convenience of doctors, for the comfort of patients, and for the profit of the proprietors, cannot give to inexperienced persons any equivalent for what is commonly understood as 'training.'" Considerable space is devoted to the appointments open to trained nurses, but we regret to note no word on the all-important question of State Registration.

## Outside the Gates.

### WOMEN.



Are women more successful in breaking through the barriers which surround a person suffering from shyness than men? A writer in the *Westminster Gazette* seems to think so, for, in writing of the late Lord Salisbury, he says:—"Nothing surely was ever so jejune as the personal accounts of Lord Salisbury which have appeared in the newspapers. Old stories about his neglect of his wearing-apparel, of his being turned away from his own park gates, or—as another more frivolous and equally fictitious version has it—from the Casino at Monte Carlo; his liking for Dumas, and his various means—clearly most successful—of dodging the public and the Press—this is about all that anybody seems to know. One hears a great many people—presumptuously or otherwise—claiming to be intimate with other statesmen, but I never heard anyone outside his own family circle claim to be intimate with Lord Salisbury. Perhaps I should say any man, for a few women, as is often the case with very shy men, appeared to break the barriers which were impregnable to the other sex, and if the public ever comes to know anything more of him than it knows now, some of its information will come from this source."

Miss Frances Gerard, one of two clever sisters, has written the history of the late King Milan of Servia, which will be published by Messrs. Hutchinson under the title "A King's Romance."

"Most women require more exercise than they have time or inclination to take," writes the Hon. Mrs. R. C. Grosvenor in the *Strand*, and, after pointing out the benefits of systematic physical training, she gives many practical hints. First she gives these directions for "exercise in breathing":—"Lie straight and flat on the back, the head being supported by a low pillow. Let the whole body be relaxed, the face free from any look of anxiety, the arms lying at the sides. Close the mouth and inhale slowly through the nostrils. When the breath has been drawn in to the fullest extent, inflating the chest

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