

than twenty-five years been employed with an increasing measure of success by the medical profession in every part of the world. It possesses exceptional nutritive value, and in consequence of its concentrated form it can be administered to, and is often much better retained by, patients suffering from such critical diseases of the stomach or intestines that they cannot take or retain preparations which have to be given in considerable quantities to be of any service. Five to ten drops of Bovinine is a very common dose for children, whilst one or two teaspoonfuls is the amount usually prescribed for adults; and it is needless to remind our readers that, with patients who have difficulty in swallowing, the amount to be administered in order to supply the requisite nourishment is often a matter of the most vital importance.

#### MALTICO.

This is a new food for infants, which is obtaining a considerable amount of favour amongst those who have employed it. It is guaranteed to be formed only from the best and purest cows' milk combined with extracts of malted cereals. It is a light brown and soluble powder, which is best administered dissolved in milk, or, in certain cases, in water. It has proved to be most suitable for those infants who are unable to digest any form of starchy food, and, as its analysis shows that it contains a large percentage of flesh and bone forming matter, it is especially useful in the case of those children who exhibit any tendency to rickets. It can be obtained through any chemist, or direct from Messrs. Taylor and Sons, Kingston Cross, Portsmouth.

### Medical Women Handicapped.

At the meeting of the Birmingham Children's Hospital Committee on Monday a strong protest was made by Miss Clarke and Miss Sturge against certain proposed rules, on the ground that they would exclude lady doctors from serving in the institution.

The effect of rule one would be to make the degree of F.R.C.S. a *sine qua non*.

It was decided to refer back the rule to the Medical Board, at the same time pointing out that there was a strong feeling against the exclusion of medical women.

We have every sympathy with the desire of women doctors for hospital appointments. We also sympathise with a committee which desires its medical staff to be highly qualified. The statesman-like course for the lady doctors to pursue would be to bend all their energies to induce the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons of England to throw open their examinations and qualifications to women as well as men.

### A Book of the Week.

#### THE LONG NIGHT.\*

A new romance by the sure hand of a master! That is what we have before us; and in it Mr. Weyman breaks new historic ground, with quite admirable effect.

He takes us to Geneva—Geneva, the Free City, the southernmost outpost of heresy, the mantle of Calvin yet brooding over her, Theodore Beza yet alive within her walls, the eagerly-desired prey of the Duke of Savoy. There she lay, the intrepid city, in her splendid isolation, defying her enemies, with the Bible in one hand and the sword in the other. A picture to draw the heart. But, alas! not even Calvinism could succeed in eliminating human nature, and it was as rampant in Geneva as elsewhere. Persecution seemed to be the keynote of the age; and if you might not expend your ferocity upon your religious opponents, at least you could have a witch-hunt.

How much of the conspiracy of the year 1602 is history, how much the creation of the fine imagination of this writer, the reviewer is not aware. But Claude Mercier, the hero, plunges, on his entry into the city, straight upon the heart of things, and in the most natural manner in the world.

He goes to spend his first night in an inn, wholly unaware that, in Geneva, inns exist for travellers only, and that no resident in the place dare show his face in such. Here he is almost drawn into a fight with Grio, a drunken swashbuckler, whom, nevertheless, the citizens dare not affront, as he is one of the mercenaries who have drawn sword in behalf of Geneva. Claude has with him a letter of recommendation to the house of Mère Royaume, with whom his father formerly lodged, and, on going thither, he finds Grio is one lodger, another inmate being one Caesar Basterga, as fine a figure as Mr. Weyman has ever drawn for us. It really seems to withdraw the reader into the early seventeenth-century to enter the house in the *Corraterie*, with its low roof, its pleasant wide hearth, its great *marmite* hanging on the hook, its shining dresser and pewter flagons; and to hear the mouthing latinity of the cunning scholar, who is in Geneva on the errand of his master, the Duke of Savoy.

The object of Basterga is to corrupt one of the highest in the city, and he fixes upon Messer Blondel, the Fourth Syndic, as the one most likely to succumb to his attacks. The Satanic ingenuity of the nature of the hold which he establishes, not only over Blondel, but over the charming young girl, Anne Royaume, who looks after the comfort of her mother's boarders, is an admirable *tour de force*.

Basterga bribes Blondel's physician to tell him that he has a certain incurable disease, and that he must die within two years. When the Syndic visits his house, in the course of a varied conversation he lets drop the fact that he has discovered, by pure chance, the one remedy in the world for this disorder, and that he can make no more. This one dose he cannot be persuaded to sell, because he keeps it for his master, the Duke of Savoy.

From this moment begins the downfall of Blondel; and subtly is it put before us. He is no traitor, yet he cannot, simply cannot, allow this enemy to leave the city while he holds Messer Blondel's sole chance of life in his hands. He dare not have him arrested

\* By Stanley Weyman. Longmans and Co.

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