

millions and a rich widow. By what means his plans are foiled shall not be divulged. The incidents at the latter end of the book are of a startling description, but Mr. Moore's style is so pleasant and natural that it never degenerates into the sensational. A grand wind-up is furnished by the eruption of Mont Pelée.

G. M. R.

The 'Red Sarafan.

(Russian Popular Song.)

"Leave off, O mother dear,
The labour you began.
Vainly you spend your time
Sewing my sarafan."*

"Daughter, sit beside me
And hearken what I say;
Youth is short and fleeting,
And soon is gone for aye.

"Gladly you are singing,
As sings the lark in May,
Laughing, dancing, jesting,
But joys must soon decay.

"For the years are coming
When mirth and pleasure fly;
When the crimson roses
On your cheeks must die.

"I too have been happy
In life's youthful glow.
Now my limbs are stiffening
And my walk is slow.

"Sewing your sarafan brings back
Of my lost youth a page.
Daughter, when you wear it
I shall forget my age."

—H. F., *Westminster Gazette*.

What to Read.

"Songs of the Sea Children." By Bliss Carman.
"A Masque of May Morning." By W. Graham Roberton.
"Sir Mortimer." By Mary Johnston.
"The Deliverance." By Ellen Glasgow.
"A Magdalen's Husband." By Vincent Brown.
"The Woman with the Fan." By Mr. Hichens.
"Joshua Newings; or, The Love Bacillus." By G. F. Bradley.
"Journal of the Plague Year." By Defoe.

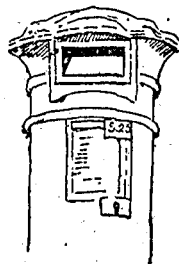
Coming Events.

June 21st.—The Queen is to be present at the opening of Lady Cadogan's bazaar in aid of the Victoria Hospital for Children, Royal Albert Hall.

June 22nd.—Conversazione for Nurses. Lady Kennaway and Lady Hoare at the Church Missionary House, Salisbury Square, E.C., 2.30—5, 5—7.30, and 7.30—10. Tea, exhibition, and lectures.

June 25th.—General Meeting of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses at the Hospital, 3 p.m. Social Gathering, 4.30 p.m.

* The sarafan is the skirt of the Russian girls' national costume.



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.

NURSES NOT FIT FOR RESPONSIBILITY.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I see that the Matron of Guy's Hospital thinks that we nurses are not ready for State Registration. We may resent this opinion, but what wonder the world in general considers us idiots when women can behave with no more common sense than the members of the R.B.N.A.? Their latest vote to keep in office men and women who actually oppose publicly the very work for which the Association was founded, and which, after years of wobbling, the rank and file have summoned up courage to define by drafting a Bill for Registration, makes one despair of one's sex, and nurses in particular. The large majority have no more moral courage than a fly, and their conduct in this particular instance proves what you have said over and over again, that we must have responsibility to force us to think before we act. Realise that only doctors were on the platform at the R.B.N.A. meeting, and there is the whole reason for their foolery in a nutshell. How different was the atmosphere at the "Welcome" Dinner that same evening, with a Matron in the chair, and with everyone alive to a sense of professional responsibility. The sooner we have Registration the better; it will inculcate self-respect, of which the majority of women are now hopelessly devoid.

Yours truly,

A REGISTRATIONIST.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Will you allow me to express the surprise—which I know many medical men feel—concerning the methods pursued in the British Nurses' Association? I believe I am right in saying that the Society was formed for the very special purpose of gaining Registration for Nurses, and that all who joined the Association must have been fully aware of its object. Much more than, one would imagine, the persons who obtained positions of honour in the Association must have been acquainted with its programme. Yet it would seem that there are several Honorary Officers of the Association who—knowing what it was founded for, and knowing that the Association has at great expense and labour drawn up a Bill for the Registration of Nurses—are working their hardest to thwart the efforts of the Association and defeat the Bill it has promoted. Two things puzzle medical men. What self-respect can these Honorary Officers possess, who join, and obtain office in, an Association of whose objects they disapprove, and actually retain such official positions while they are opposing the members they have, by accepting such offices, undertaken to lead and assist to the very best of their ability?

I am quite certain that, in any Society of men, an

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