

The hero of the book is one Karol Slavinski, who first taught Nihilism to Vladimir. Karol also is, of course, in love with Olive, and that violently and from the first. He is loyal and true, a strong helper to her in her sorrow. Her mind more or less gives way when her lover dies, and she returns to her English home to make the lives of her father, mother, and sister almost as unbearable as her own life in Russia had been, declining to tell them anything of what has happened to her, and taxing their patience to the uttermost. The description of the wretched girl's state of mind, the approach of insanity, the first waking delusion—all this is described with the writer's most realistic gruesomeness and power of analysing horror.

If such things really are happening in the Europe of to-day, it is, perhaps, as well to know it.

G. M. R.

Verses.

Slaty skies and a whistling wind
And a grim grey land,
April here, with a sullen mind
And a frozen hand !
Hardly a bird with the heart to sing,
Or a bud that dares to pry ;
Only the plovers hovering
On the lonely marsh, with a heavy wing
And a sad, slow cry.
Suddenly, round the river bend,
On the homeward race,
Comes the smile of a welcome friend
With a radiant face ;
Sprinkled thick in a shining mass,
Bright as a summer beam,
Marigolds in the meadow grass
Bid " God Speed " to the ships that pass
On the wandering stream.
—From " Marsh Marigolds (on the Ant),"
by G. F. BRADLEY.

What to Read.

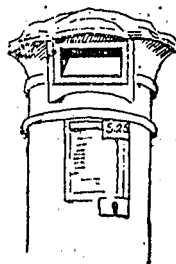
"Society in the New Reign." By a Foreign Resident.
"The Queen's Quair ; or The Six Years' Tragedy." By Maurice Hewlett.
"The Crossing." By Winston Churchill, author of "The Crisis," "Richard Carvel," &c.
"At Scotland Yard ; being the Experiences during Twenty-seven Years' Service of John Sweeney, late Detective-Inspector Criminal Investigation Department, New Scotland Yard." Edited by Francis Richards.

Coming Events.

July 6th.—The King and Queen visit St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and His Majesty lays the foundation-stone of the New Buildings at 12.30 p.m.

July 8th.—H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany will visit the Royal Hospital, Richmond, Surrey, and open the new Out-patients' and Ophthalmic Departments, 4 p.m.

July 13th.—Opening by H.R.H. Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, of the New Building of the North-Eastern Hospital for Children, Hackney Road.



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.

A LOST CHANCE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I have read your splendid account of the Berlin Congress with very mixed feelings—thorough appreciation of the hard work, such a report entailed, and deep disappointment that I was not one of the party of nurses who went with Miss Mollett to Berlin and had such a delightful time. When the notice of the trip first appeared in your journal I was determined to go, and asked a Matron friend to join me, but she threw such cold water on the whole thing that I got disheartened and did not do so ; others were prevented enjoying this pleasure by unenterprising persons. I shall know better next time, and only hope we may have another such chance before long.

Yours truly,

G. F. T.

[We did have a happy time in Berlin, and as this party has been such a success the Internationalists intend to organise such gatherings in various European capitals at stated intervals, to help on co-operation amongst nurses less free than themselves. We shall know next time just how to make matters perfect. But we feel sure those who were present at the German gathering will never forget its inspiration.—Ed.]

BENEATH CONTEMPT.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Having waited a week in hopes that some more worthy member than myself might have been induced to comment upon the extraordinary vote given by seventy-five members of the Royal British Nurses' Association at their last meeting, I should now like to point out that practically the vote given went against the principle of Registration and against the Bill of the R.B.N.A. now before Parliament asking for Registration !

Could anything be more absurd than the position of the R.B.N.A. at this moment ? Being an early life member of the Association, I did not desert it when, several years ago, troubles arose, causing able and important members to withdraw ; I remained, hoping wise counsels might some day prevail.

But, now, what better action could be taken than to burn the Royal Charter and dissolve the Association ?—Yours sincerely,

ROSINA A. GRAHAM,
Member R.B.N.A.

REGISTRATION IN NEW YORK.

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

DEAR MADAM,—It is interesting to note that Miss Palmer reports in the *American Journal of Nursing*

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)