

discovered in Orlac Abbey which reveal the secret of Yvot's birth. He is the nephew of Ranulf Fitzurse—the son of his elder brother—rightful heir of all his estates, next heir to the throne itself, after the King.

He is the greatest of the King's subjects; he might with propriety have aspired to the hand of the beautiful Modwena. But he has been merely Yvot, the King's Fool.

If you can once step right out of life into the land of Dream-Fable, you shall find in this quaint romance much to delight you. The fictitious air of mediæval chivalry is well sustained on the whole. It is but here and there that the modern author shows his introspective face, to mar your dream with a dash of glum reality.

G. M. R.

### Bookland.

T. B. B.

A charming little story, very prettily told, is that of Tom Bart Brown, by W. W. When the story opens, Tom "was about eight years old—a sturdy little fellow, rather shabbily dressed. And, to be candid, his boots were not the only part of him that was dirty.

"Tom 'belonged' to Mrs. Nudder. He was not a possession she seemed to set great store by; she neither poured out love nor luxuries for him very lavishly, and she occasionally boxed his ears. But for three years she had 'done for him,' which expression—her own—describes a considerable outlay. And, on the whole, she was kind, even to the point of looking at the bits of 'trumpery' which his genius produced, pointing out their prominent defects with a hairpin, and occasionally—when her lodgers were out and the kitchen was tidy—giving a grunt of qualified admiration.

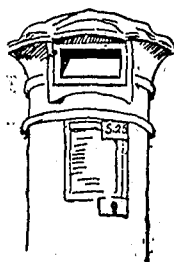
"Tom's mother, Mrs. Brown, had 'died on Mrs. Nudder's hands' about three years ago, suddenly. She had given singing and dancing lessons 'as per advertisement,' and it was said matrimonial introductions, from which she was supposed to have made a good deal of money, without advertisements.

"Dying suddenly, Mrs. Brown had left Tom some trifling effects and ten pounds or so. And Mrs. Nudder had taken to the lot pending arrangements, and very soon found that arrangements (wholly self-acting) had disposed of everything but Tom, a little writing-desk, containing nothing which she could sell, and the picture of her late lodger, on the back of which she had munificently inscribed Tom's name and hung it over his bed."

Those who feel inclined to pursue their acquaintance with Tom, to learn of his friendship with Mr. Fairfax the artist, of the way in which he went to seek his fortune, and how, after many vicissitudes, he finally found it, will do well to spend 1s. on this human story. They will not regret the outlay. It is published by Pembrose and Sons, Ltd., 4, Snow Hill, London, E.C.

### What to Read.

- "Ordered to China." By Wilbur J. Chamberlain.
- "A Ladder of Swords." By Sir Gilbert Parker.
- "Mayfair." By Winifred Graham.
- "Sabrina Warham." By Laurence Housman.
- "Hadrian the Seventh." By Fr. Rolfe.



### 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.*

#### OUR GUINEA PRIZE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I beg to thank you for the prize of one guinea which I have been so fortunate in winning and so pleased to receive. With much thanks,

Yours faithfully,

FLORENCE A. COPPINS.

8, New Cavendish Street, Portland Place, W.

#### THE OPPOSITION TO REGISTRATION.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Is it beyond the powers of belief of "Registration" and your other anonymous correspondents that we who are against Registration are actuated by the same motives as themselves? Why cannot the matter be discussed without the attributing to each other unworthy motives? I am against Registration, not because, as is suggested by your correspondent, I want to keep all nurses down, or in the power of their schools—this is absurd, because they are not so now, and never would be—but because I firmly believe that Registration would be no safeguard to the public, no safeguard to the doctors, that it would not ensure even technical qualification, that it would be no guide to the public as to the suitability of a nurse, and that it would be bad for the nurses themselves. I have given my reasons for the faith that is in me before the Committee, and if anyone cares to know them I shall be glad to supply a copy.

It is a mistake to suggest that the Central Hospital Council are the only antagonists. A very large number of the leading Matrons in England, who may surely be supposed to know what is good for nurses, also signed the protest, as did also many other thinkers, and 484 nurses. We could have trebled these signatures in number had we desired.

I have never hesitated for one moment to state that you and others who are in favour of Registration are so because you believe it would be best for nursing and nurses, and I think the same might be allowed to us who differ.—Yours faithfully,

SYDNEY HOLLAND.

Kneesworth Hall, Royston, Herts.

#### THE DIFFICULTIES OF PRIVATE NURSING.

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

DEAR MADAM,—As it is frequently asserted that the personality of a nurse, not her knowledge, is at fault in her relations to the public, may I point out that if complaints are made of the nurses sent out from the large training-schools of course this must be the ground of complaint, for the nurse is not likely to make egregious mistakes so far as her work is concerned; but it seems to escape attention that

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