

vulgar, blatant Yankee overseer calls to try and induce her girls to go to Rexington and work in the mills, is of the finest. Nevertheless, to those mills drift Lily Bud, Amanda, and Henry Euston himself.

Then begins the author's terrible indictment of the American conditions of labour. If her word is to be trusted, this is worse, in the America of to-day, than in England before the passing of the Factory Acts. Children under ten, on all-night shifts; children under ten, sleeping at their posts, and having their limbs drawn in and mangled by relentless machinery—such are some of the horrors to which we are introduced.

The author is not wholly free from the habit of "purple patches." She has a disagreeable way of insisting upon the scarlet character of Amanda's lips, "like berries on snow"; on the moist nature of her kisses, and the kind of desire which the sight of her kindled in the breast of the average man. Amanda is doubtless *femme passionnelle* through and through; but her finer qualities might be made to play a more conspicuous part in her power to attract the other sex.

The real hero of the book is Mr. Ware, the young priest, who falls in love with the bewitching Amanda in her days of wealth, and, in obedience to his vow of celibacy, crushes down his feelings, and instead saves the woman he loves, body and soul.

Amanda is on her way to perdition. Ware, by the simplest, best of devices, saves her. He sees that no arguments as to the injury she does herself will keep her from the arms of the married man who loves her. But, if he can get her to see that another woman's happiness is involved

He takes her to see the man's deserted wife.

There is both insight and pathos here.

The narrative power of the writer is great throughout. She succeeds thoroughly in enchaining the attention of her reader. Taken altogether, "Amanda of the Mill" is a novel of far more than the average degree of merit. G. M. R.

Work.

The comforter of sorrow and of care;
The shortener of way prolonged and rude;
The lightener of burden hard to bear;
The best companion 'mid the solitude;
The draft that soothes the mind and calms the brain;
The miracle that lifts despair's thick murk;
When other friends would solace bring, in vain,
Thank God for work!

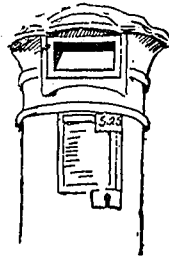
—EDWIN L. SABIN, in the *March Munsey*.

What to Read.

"The Wedding of the Lady of Lovell." By Una L. Silberrad.
"The Mirror of Kong Ho." By Ernest Bramah.
"Mademoiselle Nellie." By Lucas Clevee.
"A Bond of Sympathy." By Colonel Andrew Haggard.

Coming Events.

March 21st.—The Duchess of Albany attends the Annual Meeting at the Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, Queen Square, 3.



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 acknowledge receipt of cheque for one guinea, with many thanks.

Yours very truly,

FRANCES M. BARKER.

Rushmere, Ipswich,

March 10th, 1905.

A DANGEROUS MONOPOLY.

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

DEAR MADAM,—The expression used by Miss Mary C. Fair that under the proposed scheme for the higher education and training of nurses we should be placed under an "autocracy of finance" is a good one, for the only powerful people in the new Society would be the seven signatories. Firstly, because the powers to carry out the objects of the Society would be granted to them, and them alone, and secondly, because Clause 42 provides that "The Society may, by Extraordinary Resolution, remove any member of the Council before the expiration of his period of office and may by Ordinary Resolution appoint another qualified person in his stead." What security, therefore, is there to any member of the Council who presses an unpopular measure? "The Society" can remove him at any time.

In regard to Examiners, they may at any time be suspended or removed by the Council, and the Consultative Board and the Examination Board are to consist of such persons as the Council shall from time to time determine.

The nurses, we know, are also to be removed from the Register at any time, "as the Society may in its discretion think proper." Every one, therefore, is well in hand, and those nurses ill advised enough to subject themselves to the Society would, as Miss Fair says, be put under "an autocracy of finance."

It is, however, a great step that owing to the publicity given to the scheme in the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING the Board of Trade will afford the opposers to the scheme an opportunity of stating their case. We nurses owe the Journal, and you as its Editor, many thanks, for the whole thing would have been passed before we knew anything about it had we not been informed of the application through the columns of your paper, which is always on the alert in regard to our interests. I hope now that this hearing is to be granted all nurses will be wide awake, and take care that, so far as in them lies, their case shall be strongly and thoroughly placed before the Board of Trade. We must leave no stone unturned. The promoters of the scheme are powerful, but we have right on our side, and right counts for something, surely. The general opinion seems to be that the financiers' scheme is so preposterous that it cannot be seriously considered.

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