placed her. The plot which separates the two lovers is clumsy and improbable. No man now-adays is considered to have compromised a girl by taking her out in his motor, and Bedford was far too wary and skilled a player of the game to be so netted. But such is Miss Van Vorst's skill that she makes us forget improbabilities, and follow Virginia with all our sympathies through her sorrow to the goal which is not ultimately denied her.

#### G. M. R.

## Coming Events.

January 19th.—Special General Meeting of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, 20, Hanover Square, London, W., Miss Isla Stewart in the chair, 3 p.m.

#### AGENDA.

- 1. To consider the Re-drafted Bill of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses.
- 2. To consider the following resolution, proposed by Miss Helen Todd, seconded by Miss M. Burr:—

"That this meeting most strongly condemns the retrograde action of the Executive Committee of the Royal British Nurses' Association in eliminating from its Re-drafted Bill almost the whole of the direct representation on the Central Board originally accorded to trained nurses."

This meeting further considers that any Registration Bill

"This meeting further considers that any Registration Bill which does not make full provision for the direct representation of Trained Nurses on their Governing Body contravenes a cardinal principle of justice and should be actively opposed."

January 19th. — Ninetieth Annual Court of Governors of the Royal Waterloo Hospital for Children and Women at the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor presiding, 3 p.m. January 23rd.—Meeting of the Assistants of the

January 23rd.—Meeting of the Assistants of the Society of Apothecaries in the Court Room of the Society's Hall, Water Lane, Blackfriars, E.C., to discuss the advisability of forming an association. Ladies and gentlemen holding the Assistants' certificate are cordially invited, 8 p.m. Those unable to attend, but in agreement with the suggested association, should communicate their views to Mr. Albert Howell, Hackney Union Dispensary, Rosebery Place, Dalston, N.E.

January 25th.—Meeting of Central Midwives' Board.

January 30th.—Meeting of Central Midwives' Board to deal with disciplinary matters.

February 6th.—Examination of Central Midwives' Board in London and the Provinces.

# A Vaord for the Vaeek.

Beauty, strength, youth are flowers but fading seen; I)uty, faith, love are roots and ever green.

George Peele.

The talent of success is nothing more than doing what you can do well; and doing well whatever you do—without a thought of fame.—Longfellow.

Difficulties exist to be surmounted. A strenuous

soul hates cheap successes.—*Emerson*.

When we know how to appreciate a merit we have the germ of it within ourselves.—*Goethe*.

# 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.

### HOW TO WASH THE BABY.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I should like to thank Miss Kenealy for her kindly criticism of my paper on "The First Twenty-four Hours of a Child's Life." One is apt to get into a groove working so much alone, it does one good to hear of other people's methods.

I quite agree with Miss Kenealy that thin woollen gowns are delightfully soft and comfortable, but I never use them, because it is almost impossible to get them washed properly. I once had silk gowns, they were lovely, but then I had a dear old woman to wash them. She told me she was the only person who could wash silk, and I believed her.

When I first began maternity work I tried cold cream, lanoline, and various other preparations instead of powder, but always found olive oil the best.

Now, about the washing. Personally, I have never found it too much for a baby yet; of course one has to be very quick and keep it very warm. It might not be a success with an amateur nurse, who, from fear of hurting the baby, would probably take twice as long over the operation. I never do much washing after the first bath for five or six days, usually a dip into the bath and out again. I hope that some other nurses will tell us of their methods, as this subject is very much in the hands of the nurses.

#### Yours faithfully, MARY HARVEY.

BIBLEWOMEN AS NURSES.

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

Dear Madam,—Your remarks in the Journal on my letter bearing the above title in the Glasgow Herald of January 2nd lead me to fear that I have not made it perfectly clear that the nursing I suggested for the ordinary Biblewoman is of the simplest kind. In writing as I did I had fully in view the risk of encroaching on the sphere of the district nurse—a risk equally applicable to Biblewomen who have had full training as nurses. At the same time I had also the fact before my mind that the Biblewoman in Glasgow, and, I suppose, also in many other cities and towns, has rarely any knowledge of nursing, and gives no manual help in the homes she visits where sickness is present. Such help is, of course, not required when the illness is severe, as then the trained nurse steps in and gives all needed

But it is in minor illnesses, say in mother or child, lasting only a few days, where the idea of asking the attendance of either doctor or trained nurse would not be entertained, that the Biblewoman with a little

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