

end very rapidly, and knowing of no one else to whom she could trust Dolores she sends for her young cousin Charrington to impose the charge upon him. He falls in love with Dolores, promptly but hopelessly—the latter because he belongs to the strictest circle of the Brotherhood, and is vowed to celibacy. It is an insuperable difficulty and one which makes the story exceedingly complicated, for to picture Dolores happy as Sebastian's wife is impossible, yet there seems no other possible fate for her. Miss Montrésor is to be congratulated upon having found a way out of the difficulty that is at once simple and satisfactory, since nothing else could have sufficed Dolores, the visionary.

E.L.H.

Verse.

He called for a city beautiful;
He shouted it day by day:
He wanted a city where noise was not,
Where the spirit of art should sway;
He wanted a city that should be fair,
Where dirt might never be seen,
And forgot, in spite of the zeal he had,
To keep his backyard clean.

Coming Events.

November 4.—Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll opens an Exhibition of Works of Art at the Doré Gallery, in aid of the funds of the Special Appeal Committee of the Royal Waterloo Hospital for Women and Children.

November 4.—Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland. Examination for Certificate in Nursing and Attending on the Insane.

November 4.—Fourteenth Annual Meeting Society of Women Journalists, and Reception after Meeting at Rumpelmayer's, 10, King Street, St. James's. 3 p.m.

November 5.—Opening of the new wing and bazaar for the new Nurses' Home, Leicester Infirmary, by Her Royal Highness, Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll.

November 6.—Annual meeting, Central Society for Women's Suffrage, Council Chamber, Caxton Hall, Westminster, 3 p.m.

November 13.—Post graduate Lecture: "The Place of Diet when Treating Disease." By Dr. W. Russell, Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, 5 p.m. All Trained Nurses are cordially invited.

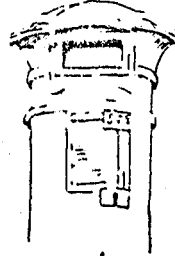
November 22.—Conference convened by Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., Miss Isla Stewart, President, in the chair. 1. The Equality of Rich and Poor in Sickness, the Relation of Cottage Nurses to the Nursing Profession. 2. The Place of Trained Nursing in Prisons. 3. The Organisation of a Nurses' Defence Union.

A Word for the Week.

Diligence is the mother of good luck, and God gives all things to industry. Then plough deep while sluggards sleep and you shall have corn to sell and to keep.

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.

IN SUPPORT OF COTTAGE NURSES.

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

MADAM,—Does Miss Wortabet in her letter on Cottage Nurses intend to convey the idea that our hospital gynæcological wards are filled by cases suffering from lack of knowledge on the part of such cottage (or village) nurses as are attached to the present County Nursing Associations? Her letter reads as if she did so, but surely chapter and verse should be given before such an impression is made. I have always thought that it was the untrained midwife who had filled these wards.

About ten years ago I was sent by the Queen's Institute, as Superintendent to the Cumberland Nursing Association. After working as Hospital Sister for 12½ years, and as District Nurse in a town, where, with one (much condemned) exception, my fellow nurses had had full hospital training, I went to my post almost fully persuaded, that women lacking general hospital training could do no good nursing work.

During the three delightful years that I spent in Cumberland I was converted. I closely watched the work of 20 village nurses, and was amazed at the amount of help and comfort they were able to give, and at the really excellent way in which much of their work was done.

All work depends so largely upon the character and mental capacity of the worker! I have seen atrociously careless and harmful work done by many a nurse holding her three years' certificate from a good training school; and I have no doubt others, less fortunate than myself, in this matter, have seen very careless work done by village and cottage nurses, but they do not as a body deserve to be labelled as incompetent and mischievous.

I believe there is a demand for these nurses (and nurse they certainly do) which will ensure a continued supply, and I am earnestly longing for the time when State Registration of hospital trained nurses shall leave them an undisputed field.

Meanwhile is it not rather a pity that those who have had no thorough opportunity of judging the village nurses' work should belittle it?

When one has heard many hundreds of sufferers express their gratitude for, and appreciation of, the help given, one regards such belittling as beneath the dignity of the nursing profession.—

HENRIETTA E. ELLIS,

Matron S. Dora Hospital,
Vice-President of the Leicester Infirmary
Nurses' League.

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