

prosperity she laughed at him, when reverses came the true woman showed out, and she realised what is woman's best mission.

Lora's sister, Emmy, is a very different person. This fourth figure in the quartette is also saved by Septimus in a wholly unexpected manner.

"Once I was a frivolous, unbalanced, unprincipled little fool. I'm a woman now, and a good woman, thanks to him. To live in the same atmosphere as that exquisite delicacy of soul is enough to make one good."

E. L. H.

A SONG.

Oh, my love has an eye of the softest blue,
Yet it was not that that won me;
But a little bright drop from her soul was there—
'Tis that that has undone me.

Think not 'tis nothing but lifeless clay,
The elegant form that haunts me—
'Tis the gracefully delicate mind that moves
In every step, that enchants me.

Who could blame had I loved that face
Ere my eye could twice explore her?
Yet it is for the fairy intelligence there,
And her warm—warm heart I adore her.
THE REV. CHARLES WOLFE.

VOILÀ TOUT.

SHE DRANK THE DREGS.

The red eyes of the prisoner raked the court.
The mother woman was there.
"A crimson crime!" thundered the counsel for the prosecution. "An innocent child—decoyed—deflowered—drained of life's blood—horrible—most horrible! Who can question the justice of the death penalty for murder so foul?"
The rope dangled.
The counsel for the defence sought inspiration of the woman.
They were one again after all the years.
In agony their twin souls swept forth and wrestled with Justice.
They wrested the rope from its hank.
The jury filed out of Court and filed in again.
"Not guilty!" replied the foreman.
* * * * *
The mother waited by the hearth.
The cat bristled at the sound of a subtle footstep nearing the door.
Swiftly the woman hid the phial in her bosom.
Her son entered. He wrenched off his collar and flung it on the fire.
"You'll come along of me, mother, to a far-off land?"
"Eh! lad; us will stand together in this world, and in that to come—hand in hand right straight up them marble steps to the great Seat o' Mercy.
He slacked his thirst.
She drank the dregs.
The cat crept into the coal-hole.

Coming Events.

January 29th.—Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 4 p.m. Important business.

January 30th.—Poor Law Infirmary Matrons' Association. Quarterly Meeting, Wandsworth Union Infirmary, Chair, Miss Helen Todd. Paper on Territorial Nursing, by Miss Barton.

February 2nd.—Miss E. H. Becher, Principal Matron, will interview candidates for Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve, at the Military Hospital, The Castle, Edinburgh, 3 to 5 p.m.

February 2nd.—London Society for Women's Suffrage. "The Nursing Profession and the Vote," Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Doré Gallery, Bond Street, W., 5.15 p.m.

February 3rd.—Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein opens the new wards for children, at the Royal Portsmouth Hospital.

February 9th.—Central Midwives' Board Examination: London, Examination Hall, Victoria Embankment, W.C.; Birmingham, the University; Bristol, University College; Manchester, Victoria University; Newcastle-on-Tyne, University of Durham College of Medicine.

February 16th.—The Re-opening of Parliament.

February 16th.—Conference on Tuberculosis opens, Caxton Hall (four days).

February 16th.—Annual Central Poor Law Conference, Guildhall.

February 18th.—Territorial Nursing Service for London. Meeting of the Committee, Mansion House, 3 p.m.

THE ROYAL INFIRMARY, EDINBURGH.

Lectures.—Extra Mural Medical Theatre, 4.30 p.m. Trained Nurses cordially invited.

February 10th.—Pelvic Haemorrhages, by Mr. N. T. Brewis, F.R.C.S.E.

ULSTER BRANCH OF THE IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The following Lecture will be held in the Club Room, 16, Crane's Buildings, Wellington Place, Belfast, 7.30 p.m.:—

March 25th.—Nursing of Eye and Throat Cases. By Dr. Cecil Shaw.

Members may bring a friend on payment of sixpence.

A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

What we needed above all things was to become a serious nation if we were to hold our own in these days of conflict. Part of the prevailing evil was the spirit which made people say that they had fulfilled their duty when they had fulfilled their legal contract. There was no question of legal contract in the relation between the citizen and the State. The State and the citizen could not exist apart from one another. The life of the citizen was to be found in the State, and so far as he made the State good he would be good himself.

THE RIGHT HON. R. B. HALDANE, M.P.,
At British Science Guild.

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