

"Marilla's experiment in the adoption of Anne seems to have emboldened her to open her house to two orphans—twins—a boy and a girl, a decision welcomed joyfully by Anne, but not without its drawbacks and discipline.

The way opens at last for Anne to enter on the college career which she so willingly relinquished for Marilla's sake.

When we part with Anne this time "the page of girlhood has been turned, as by an unseen finger, and the page of womanhood is before her, with all its charm and mystery, its pain and gladness."

Is Anne's story to be written in three volumes? Somehow it seems foreshadowed that we shall have yet another in which the central figures will be Anne Shirley and Gilbert Blythe.

P. G. Y.

#### VERSE.

Swallow, dear swallow, I wonder, I wonder  
Why you of all the birds build the eaves under.  
Farther than any you wander and roam,  
Closer than any you cling to your home.  
You, whom we never see touch earth at all,  
Out of the mud you have built your nest wall;  
Sometimes you dimple the pond as you fly,  
Sometimes you're lost in the blue of the sky.

*The Swallow,*

By EDITH L. M. KING.

#### COMING EVENTS.

March 7th.—The Princess of Wales opens the new building of the Hospital for Invalide Gentlewomen, 19, Lisson Grove, 3.30 p.m.

March 9th.—Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. Lecture on "Some Hygienic Considerations in Relation to the Diseases of Women." By Dr. Haig Ferguson, F.R.C.S.E. Extra Mural Theatre. Nurses cordially invited. 4.30 p.m.

March 9th.—South Kensington Nurses' Co-operation. Meeting by invitation of Miss H. Walker at The South Kensington Hotel, Queen's Gate Terrace, to meet the Mayoress of Kensington, and discuss the formation of a Local Branch of the British Red Cross Society. Music. Tea and coffee. 3.30 p.m.

March 15th.—Kent County Nursing Association. Annual meeting. Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, London, W.C.

March 17th.—Meeting Central Midwives' Board, Caxton House, Westminster, S.W., 2.45 p.m.

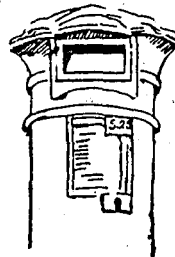
March 18th.—Somerset County Nursing Association. Eighth Annual Meeting, Municipal Buildings, Taunton. Address by Miss Amy Hughes, General Superintendent, Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, 3 p.m.

March 23rd.—Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. Lecture on "Neurasthenia." By Dr. J. J. Graham Brown. Extra Mural Theatre. Nurses cordially invited. 4.30 p.m.

#### WORD FOR THE WEEK.

Trust men and they will be true to you; treat them greatly and they will show themselves great.  
EMERSON.

## Letters to the Editor.



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.

#### REGISTRATION FINANCE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I was extremely glad to see that, in your comments on the Registration Bill in its amended form, you laid special stress on the necessity for giving the Council power to charge the nurses benefiting under that Bill adequate registration and examination fees. No mistake could be graver than to stultify the work of such an important professional organisation from its very commencement by neglecting to provide it with adequate means; so that it would from the very commencement be forced to depend upon voluntary outside aid to carry on its work. It is essential that the Council should have control over its officers, male and female, examiners, and registration officials, and what hold would it have over voluntary workers? The work demanded would be far too exacting to be given without proper remuneration, and the whole thing would soon drift into an amiable farce. This proper remuneration, as you, Madam, rightly say, should be provided by those who benefit by the Bill, the nurses.

I cannot speak for Scotland; I do not know its social and economic nursing conditions well enough, but I do know that in England and Ireland (from whence I have had many excellent probationers), the candidates who come to the hospital belong to that great social strata generally known as the middle class—not as a rule rich, but self-respecting and independent in money matters, and whose daughters are quite able to put down £5 to ensure their entrance into a legally acknowledged profession in which they can respectably earn their livelihood.

There are, of course exceptions—there are hard cases in every calling and profession—and these will probably be met, as in other professions, by the foundation of scholarships, by grants, or even by power on the part of the Council to reduce the fees in special cases. All that is a matter of detail, but that money for nursing educational purposes can be, and is, raised by nurses is proved by the very large amounts that are paid yearly in London alone by those anxious to obtain special nursing knowledge. This is amply proved by the balance-sheets of maternity hospitals and wards.

Of the nurses in bulk who cannot pay a £5 examination and registration fee I am extremely sceptical. Of course, a good many would rather not pay it—but as to cannot, that is another question. Nothing is more demoralising than the modern mania of trying to obtain more than we pay for—to be quite willing, when in the full possession of

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