

tween Kerval and Lenoir increased till, on the strongest circumstantial evidence, Derek Kerval was found guilty of his murder and condemned to the galleys for ten years. It was then that Gillian, with her baby in her arms, convinced of his innocence, journeyed from Brittany on foot to Paris to obtain his pardon from the Emperor, and finding he had left for the seat of war, went on to the frontier, and, finding him at length in Sedan, obtained a free pardon for Kerval, only to learn on her return to Paris that the power of the Emperor had passed.

But, after all, Derek's innocence was conclusively proved, and he and Gillian, happy in their love for one another, returned to their Brittany home.

Once during the horrors of the fight near Sedan Gillian seemed to come near to solving the mystery of her parentage. An officer of the German army, of high rank—appealed to, to decide her fate—suddenly "gazed at her with a face blanched white with amazement, and eyes that blazed with fearful curiosity. His eye caught the gleam of her ring, and he pointed to it with a hand that would not have shaken so at the menace of a hundred deaths.

"Where got you that?" and his lips were as white as his face.

"It was my mother's. They called me after it." But just then a furious cannonading broke out beyond the village to the eastward.

"For one second he stood torn by conflicting emotions. Then duty prevailed. The Fatherland first. He was needed elsewhere. This must wait."

P. G. Y.

#### COMING EVENTS.

April 19th.—Guy's Hospital, S.E., Post Graduate Lectures. "Recent Surgery." By E. C. Hughes, Esq., M.C. Nurses' Home, 8 p.m.

April 19th and 20th.—Annual Council Meeting, Women's National Health Association of Ireland, Leinster House, Dublin.

April 21st.—Monthly Meeting of Central Midwives' Board, Board Room, Caxton House, Westminster, S.W., 2.45 p.m.

April 22nd.—Society for the State Registration of Nurses: Meeting of Executive Committee, 431, Oxford Street, 4 p.m.

April 22nd.—Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland. Valedictory on the late President by Miss Mollett, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 5 p.m.

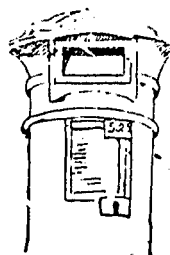
April 23rd.—Nurses' Missionary League. The Eighth Annual Conference and Meeting, University Hall, Gordon Square, London, W.C., 10 a.m. to 9.30 p.m.

April 27th to 30th.—Third Annual Nursing and Midwifery Exhibition and Conference, Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster, S.W.

April 28th.—Examination of Central Midwives Board at the Examination Hall, Victoria Embankment, W.C. The Oral Examination follows a few days later.

April 28th.—Union of Midwives. A Musical Entertainment, Cavendish Rooms, Mortimer Street, Regent Street, W. 7.30 p.m.

## 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.*

### OUR GUINEA PRIZE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I have pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of cheque for one guinea, as the result of Puzzle Prize for March, for which I thank you. With my best wishes for the success of your valuable and instructive paper.

Yours faithfully,

ANNIE A. AXON.

Waltham Villa, West Street, Ryde.

### NURSING SHOULD BE TAUGHT BY NURSES.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I have read with much interest Miss Burr's letter in last week's issue of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, and am glad to see that she draws the attention of the National Council of Nurses to Mr. Haldane's scheme. I agree with her that the Nursing detachments are foredoomed to failure; not owing to the giving of nursing lectures by doctors instead of nurses, but from the fact that lay people are, in almost every case, managing the various country districts.

Sir Alfred Keogh told us in his address at the meeting held at St. James's Palace in October last, that "If there is to be real help there must be no confusion, no overlapping, no misunderstanding; there must be knowledge, organisation, precision, discipline, self sacrifice." Of the latter we hope we are all capable; but I maintain that it is impossible for Society ladies (or men) who have not the special knowledge, who have not been trained and disciplined themselves, to undertake the work of organising, and keeping organised these Voluntary Aid Detachments. Surely, the scheme ought to be in the hands of trained nurses and medical men throughout, if in time of war these detachments are to be of the least use.

The actual instruction given is only one link in the system. The fact of having had five lectures on "First Aid" and a similar number on "Home Nursing," however well given, will be of little value to the people without the special knowledge necessary for the management of temporary hospitals in time of war. This knowledge can only be given by those who have already gained it in their hospital training. I would suggest, that the various districts, comprising as they do several villages, should be supervised by a trained nurse. I feel sure there would be little difficulty in obtaining this help from married nurses, retired Army Sisters, etc. I cannot see how "discipline, organisation, precision," are to be attained if the Voluntary Aid Detachments after ten, or even twenty hours'

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