

from him that you are keeping back from me? If that be so, tell me of it, and let me read it, even if I wince in the reading. Give it me, Oliver—give it me." Then, always in fear that she might somehow ruffle Sir Oliver's temper, she kissed him tenderly, drawing his face to her lips as she readily might. For he was a man of no great stature, while she was of full height for a woman of twenty, but slender and in all things gracious and delicate."

That year 1665 was the beginning of the second war between England and Holland, and the naval battle which Sir Oliver and Lucinda witness from their sea-bound manor is vividly described.

"It was a four-square open gallery with a wooden rail topping a gable, that rose in the centre, well above the surrounding roofs, and giving a fine view seawards. There Sir Oliver stood when Lucinda found him, spying through his glass, which he held against a little flagstaff at the corner."

"Are they not easy to see, Oliver mine—the fisher-boats beyond the bay?"

"None so easy, Mistress Lucy! I see none, look as I may. Thine eyes are cleverer than mine to see fisher-boats on yonder sea. If there be any, better for them to be ashore as fast as may be." Now this made Lucinda look again, and then she saw what she had taken to be fisher-boats were, on nearer sight, great ships with canvas spread and hulls rising high above the sea, story by story."

"What are they wench? Why, I take it they be the Dutch fleet under Admiral de Ruyter."

The horrors of the battle terrify the sensitive girl, "she had time to think of the man she shot struck, and the wife, maybe, who thought him living still. . . . Could she but have known the thing she herself was ignorant of—the tale of the man slain by the arm she held just now."

Our space is too limited to follow the fortunes of Lucinda and Sir Oliver, or to speak of the girl's remorse when she learns that her sin and her lover's treachery have cost her father his life. Those who have read with appreciation "Alice for Short," will not be slow to obtain "An Affair of Dishonour," and they will vastly enjoy the latest work from the very individual pen of Mr. William de Morgan.

H. H.

COMING EVENTS.

October 1st and 3rd.—Opening of Medical Schools.

October 3rd.—Fourth International Congress for Care of Lunatics, Berlin.

October 5th.—Nurses' Missionary League. Valedictory Meeting, University Hall, Gordon Square, London, W.C.

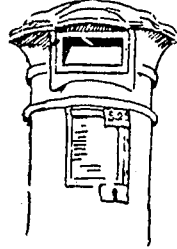
October 5th to 8th.—International Anti-Tuberculosis Conference, Brussels.

October 6th.—Central Midwives' Board, Monthly Meeting, Caxton House, S.W.

October 7th.—Central London Sick Asylum, Hendon. Nurses' Meeting. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick will speak on Nursing Organisation and State Registration. 5 p.m.

October 8th.—Royal Free Hospital, W.C., Nurses' Home. Meeting to consider the formation of a Nurses' League.

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.

FINANCIAL ORGANISATION AT MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.

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

MADAM,—I am happy to be able to inform you that I have now received the £20,000 I asked for to enable me to remove the debt from the Middlesex Hospital—a generous friend, who desires to remain anonymous, having just handed me a cheque for £231 in order to complete that sum.

I find some difficulty in suitably expressing the deep sense of gratitude I feel towards all those who have so loyally responded to my appeal on behalf of an institution in whose activities they have now shown, by their practical sympathy, the highest confidence and appreciation.

Rich and poor alike have contributed to the success of my effort, for the sums I have received range from one thousand guineas to threepence. It has afforded me the greatest gratification to observe the generosity of those who owe their present freedom from disease or relief from pain to the hospital's kindly influence, and I venture to say that no stronger proof could be found of the value of this ancient charity than that those who were once under its care should have come forward, cheerfully and often with much self-sacrifice, to share its burden in its hour of need.

To each and every contributor I once again offer my sincerest thanks, and I also take this opportunity gratefully to acknowledge my indebtedness to the Press for the valuable assistance they have afforded me by bringing the needs of the hospital prominently before their readers.

But my task is not yet finished. The debt of £20,000 has, it is true, been removed, but that liability represented the accumulated deficits between income and expenditure for three years, and from this it is obvious that, until a steady and permanent addition of £7,000 per annum is made to the hospital's income, its financial position is not secure, and every third year the Governors will find themselves face to face with a crisis similar to that which has now happily been averted.

It is my ambition to substitute, for such a hand-to-mouth administration as this, one which will provide the Governors with an income sufficient to meet the normal expenses of the year, so that they may apply themselves solely to seeing that it is expended to the best advantage in the interests of those whom the hospital serves, and, directly I am able to do so, it is my intention to devote my time and energy to building up an adequate annual subscription and donation list. I feel sure that

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