

had been no time to indulge her griefs. . . . She had made the bed comfortable and tenderly kissed his now white head. . . . When it became too dark to see she forebore to have the lamp, preferring the firelight till she perceived it had the effect of contrasting Joe's hair with the darkness about him, and thus emphasised its whiteness.

This appealing witness of her long neglect tugged at her heart strings. . . . She had come in the smart frock she had got ready for the luncheon party. She took it off carefully before getting into a dressing-gown she had brought with her. As she was doing this she fancied that Joe shivered; she was about to put more clothing on the bed when an idea occurred to her whereby she could make a trifling atonement to her father. She caught up her smart bodice and skirt and wrapped them tenderly about his shoulders."

But her "tears of penance come too late for grace," and kind old Joe dies without recovering consciousness. Her neglect is again brought home to her when, later in life, she in her turn suffers from the ingratitude of her own son.

We are not enamoured of the book as a whole. It is disconnected and lacks power. Moreover it is too obviously padded with irrelevant material.

H. H.

#### COMING EVENTS.

October 24th.—Central Midwives' Board. Examination. London and Provinces.

October 25th, 26th, 27th, and 28th.—City of London School, Victoria Embankment, E.C. Gresham Lectures: Ancient and Modern Surgery, by Prof. F. M. Sandwith, 6 p.m. Admission free.

October 26th.—Opening of Wandsworth Infirmary, by the Right Hon. John Burns, M.P., President Local Government Board.

October 26th.—Meeting, Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland. Business meeting, 3.30 p.m. To be followed by a discussion on "The Supply of Probationers." 431, Oxford Street, W. Tea.

October 27th.—St. John's House Nurses' League, General Meeting. 3 p.m.

October 28th.—Meeting to consider a scheme for an Imperial Memorial to the late Miss Florence Nightingale, Grosvenor House, W. Admission by ticket, to be obtained from Hon. Secretary, 21, Little Welbeck Street, Cavendish Square, London, W., 3 p.m.

November 1st.—Nurses' Missionary League. Lecture: "Work in a Home and Foreign Hospital Contrasted," by Miss C. F. Tippet, Shomsi, N. China. University Hall, Gordon Square, W.C., 10.30 a.m.

November 1st to 5th.—Cookery and Food Exhibition, Royal Horticultural Hall, S.W. Nurses' Invalid Trays on view on 3rd and 4th prox.

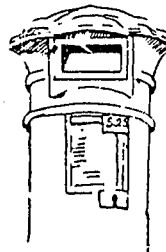
November 4th.—National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland. Annual Meeting, 431, Oxford Street, London; W. 4 p.m. Tea.

November 5th.—National Food Reform Association. Conference on the Feeding of Nurses. Caxton Hall, S.W. 2.30 p.m.

#### WORD FOR THE WEEK.

If thou desire to profit, read with humility, simplicity, and faithfulness.

## 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,—Many thanks for the cheque for £1 1s. for Puzzle Prize for September, which I have just received. It was a very pleasant surprise to me.

Yours very sincerely,

M. COOPER.

Western District Hospital, Haddington.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY REGISTER FOR FEVER NURSES.

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

MADAM,—I am sure that you will, in fairness, allow me space for a few words in reply to the criticisms of my position by "E. G. F." and Miss E. A. Stevenson, which have appeared in recent issues of the Journal.

Briefly, I do not "control" any fever hospital. I have entered upon this controversy simply out of a desire to see fair play, and in a spirit of loyalty to my colleagues in the public health service—the fever nurses, whose unstinted devotion to duty and self-sacrificing labours have won my heart-felt esteem and admiration during the period in which I have been associated with them. One of the Nurses' Registration Bills of last year accorded them a place on a separate or supplementary register, on their undergoing a suitable training and passing the necessary State examinations. I and those who act with me are in hearty sympathy with the movement for the State Registration of Nurses, most of us have relatives in the profession, and all of us are desirous of doing what lies in our power to secure the end in view. But we are not prepared to see the boon to fever nurses which was offered in last year's Bill withdrawn at the instance of a narrow-minded section, whose desire—in whatever cloud of words they cloak their intentions—is quite evidently to keep fever nurses in a humble and subordinate position. It is a pity that the passing of the Nurses' Registration Bill should be imperilled by the impracticability of this section.

I am in entire harmony with "E. G. F.'s" view that "once State Registration is in force, no sufficient number of intelligent women will place themselves in the ambiguous position of working for 'statutory certificates' which are not registrable." But that "ambiguous position" is what is offered in the Bill which she supports, and what Miss Stevenson in the *Glasgow Herald* commends to fever nurses.

I leave Miss Stevenson and Dr. Robertson, both of the Scottish Nurses' Association, to deal as faithfully with one another as they have been

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)