

I ha' seed 'm afore. And my! What a dinner he put into hisself! A guseberry dumpling we had, and I give him a slice o' pork arter it. 'Give us another, missus,' he say. And wholly glad I am to think I done it now. At this rate our bit o' mate 'on't last till Sat'day night, think I. But I kep' it to myself; and the pork'll last now.

"I know," she went on, gazing stilly before her, "as how 'tis a poor look out for them as ha' done sech deeds. But the Lord 'on't put my old man among th' rash 'uns."

She gazed beyond the neglected little garden to where the blue, unclouded sky met the horizon line. "The Lord He called Hisself a Shepherd," she sobbed. "Likelies He'll know how my old man, as used to be a shepherd, felt."

There are many other charming and natural touches of a like character, and humorous descriptions of village gaieties and duties.

"After all Hildred insisted on dragging me to the Jumble Sale. She said she felt peculiarly fitted to appraise the Rector's old trousers and Miss Flatt's cast-off petticoats."

But the drawbacks of Dulditch out-weigh its advantages, and little Nan puts into words the feelings of her elders.

"I'm glad we don't live in Dulditch, where things are always the same, mummy. I am extremely fond of difference, you see."

H. H.

COMING EVENTS.

THE NURSING AND MIDWIFERY EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE.

April 6th.—District Nursing and Midwifery; The Midwives' Act and what it means to Midwives, 2.30 to 5.

The Present Condition of Midwives in England and Elsewhere, 6 p.m.

April 7th.—Can Race Degeneration be Arrested by Eugenics. The Care of the Nervous, 2.30 to 5.

The Teeth in Relation to General Health, 7 p.m.

RECEPTIONS.

Friday, April 7th.—The President, Treasurer, and Organising Secretary, "At-Home," at the Midwives' Institute, 12, Buckingham Street, Strand, from 4 to 7 p.m., and will welcome Midwives and Nurses.

April 11th.—Royal Sanitary Institute, Sessional Meeting, Sir W. J. Collins, M.P., presiding. Paper on "Dirt in Food," Miss Emily Louisa Dove, M.B., followed by discussion, 8 p.m.

April 12th.—Irish Nurses' Association, 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin. Lecture on "Medical Electricity," by Dr. Haughton, 7.30 p.m.

April 20th.—Meeting Executive Committee, the Society for the State Registration of Nurses, 431, Oxford Street, W., 4.30 p.m.

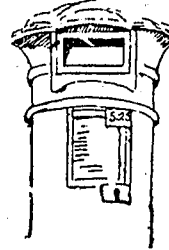
April 27th.—Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland. Meeting, Leicester Infirmary, Business, Short Paper for Discussion, "The Work of a Central Nursing Council," by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

WORD FOR THE WEEK

Wisdom is knowing what to do next: skill is knowing how to do it: and virtue is doing it.

D. S. Jordan.

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.

THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEMORIAL.

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

MADAM,—I was present at the Mansion House meeting in connection with the Florence Nightingale Memorial Fund on Friday, and, in common with many others, I was disappointed at the result arrived at by the Executive Committee. The annuity fund has never appealed to me. I do not consider it a suitable or a wise scheme; but the General Committee, of which I am a member, was not consulted on the subject, and no opportunity was given at the meeting for any expression of dissent, therefore I am driven to express my disapproval in the press. There are certain people in connection with whose memory an annuity fund would be most suitable, but not Florence Nightingale. There is, however, one part of the memorial to which I and those who agree with me give most unqualified and hearty support, and that is the proposal to erect a noble and suitable statue to the memory of her who stands to us for so much. I do not agree with Lord Pembroke when he says that "the statue need not cost very much." I hope it will cost a very great deal. In these days of dull and dreary practical comfort we want something to stir us to a high ideal. We want to spend our money on something artistic, that will lift us above our daily bread and cheese—something that will raise us to the level that can teach us to endure and suffer and dare with a certain fine disregard for the future that is the root of all higher effort. Let the statue stand for the best that is in nursing, that best which raises and etherialises the poorest and commonest nurse who follows her calling in the spirit of Florence Nightingale.

Therefore I suggest to the Committee that the two funds shall be separate, and not combined—one for the statue, the other for the charity. Let it be possible for us to subscribe our money to a worthy memorial to our great foundress without having to give to an annuity scheme which is distasteful to us. Surely it is intended also that the pennies of the soldiers shall go to the statue of her who aided them in their hour of need, and not to found a pension fund for civil nurses?

Yours, etc.,

M. MOLLETT.

[As a large number of the Matrons who accepted seats on the General Committee of the Memorial sympathise with Miss Mollett's views, and as the Executive Committee has not submitted any scheme for their consideration before placing it before a public meeting, we have pleasure in

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)