

and I like you . . . but let's be friends." Then, following the engagement, comes the mean and cruel jilting of her.

"He remembered he was going to ask Ferrol for a rise in salary; he came back to the desk."

"Oh, Mr. Ferrol," he said, "I ought to tell you I'm going to be married."

"Married!" he said harshly; "you damned young fool. . . . It's all very well for you; you may progress, you may develop—you're bound to, for men knock about and gather world experience. What of the woman at home—cooped up with her babies? Eh? Have you thought of that? Where would your home be? You haven't got as far as that, then? The woman stands still, you march on. She can lift you up, but you can't lift her up. You can link up the things of life, but the woman who has not been able to progress, ignorant of anything but the petty little things of to-day? Then you hear people saying, 'How on earth did he come to marry her? He didn't marry her, it was another man—the man he was twenty years ago. Do you see?'"

Humphry looked about him forlornly. . . . "I understand . . . I see what you mean."

There is no doubt that this work is far above the average.

H. H.

#### COMING EVENTS.

*December 25th.*—Christmas Day Festivities in Hospitals, Infirmaries and kindred institutions.

*December 27th.*—The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress attend a Christmas Tree party, Evelina Hospital for Sick Children, Southwark Bridge Road.

*December 30th.*—London Homœopathic Hospital, Great Ormond Street, W.C., Christmas Tree for Children in Barton Ward.

*January 1st.*—The Trained Women Nurses Friendly Society, Meeting Committee of Management, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 5 p.m.

*January 2nd.*—Chelsea Hospital for Women, S.W., Christmas Entertainment. Tea and Tree. 4 to 6.30.

*January 6th to 16th.*—Post Graduate Course of Lectures on the Feeding and Care of Infants, with special attention to the Milk Problem. Fee, £1 1s. Apply to Hon. Secretary, Dr. Janet E. Lane-Clayton, 18, Craven Terrace, Lancaster Gate, London, W.

#### A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

Fate knocked at the Door of Death,  
My soul in her hollow hand;  
Angels opened it. Lo! God saith,  
To whom gave He this command?  
Take him back to the Gates of Life,  
And set his feet in the way,  
So he and his children and his wife  
Will praise my mercy alway.

BABAR.

#### 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.*

#### CHRISTMAS GREETINGS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR EDITOR,—Please accept an Australian Christmas greeting, and may the coming year be most successful in every way; and may we both be able to mark 1913 as the year that State Registration of Nurses came into force both in England and Victoria.

Yours sincerely,

Melbourne.

GRETTA LYONS.

[We thank most heartily all friends from many lands who have so kindly remembered to send greetings to the Editor of this JOURNAL at this happy season. That of Miss Gretta Lyons is typical of the interest taken by trained nurses all over the world in its work for the nursing profession at home and abroad, and the community it serves.—ED.]

#### REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*Midwife.*—Most of the text-books for midwives are on the same lines. Possibly a book dealing with obstetric nursing would be helpful to you. "Nursing: its principles and practice," by the late Mrs. Hampton Robb, published by E. C. Koeckert, 715, Rose Building, Cleveland, U.S.A., is excellent. "The Nutrition of the Infant," by Dr. Ralph Vincent, price 10s. 6d., contains information with which every midwife should be acquainted. It is published by Messrs. Bailliere, Tindall & Cox. "Infancy and Infant Rearing," by Dr. J. B. Hellier, price 3s. 6d., published by Messrs. Charles Griffin & Co., Ltd., is also very useful.

#### OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

*January 4th.*—How would you control Tonsillar Haemorrhage?

*January 11th.*—Describe the chief abnormalities of the Pulse.

*January 18th.*—Describe the most unusual and interesting obstetrical case you have nursed.

*January 25th.*—What are the principal requisites in the care of rachitic children?

#### A NEW YEAR'S GIFT.

The Editor hopes that every reader who values THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING will make her a New Year's gift of a new subscriber, so that its constructive work for the profession may receive ever increasing support. Address of Office, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

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