

Flora is very loyal to her old scamp of a father, and as his sentence expires at this time, a severe test is placed on Anthony's love.

She will not forsake him, so perforce he must accompany them, when Captain Anthony takes his young bride, straight from the registry office on board the *Ferndale*. The consternation among the crew, when the skipper, whom they adore, announces the changed conditions is one of the best passages in the book.

Mr. Franklin, his first mate, feels it the most keenly, he is turned out of the state room that for years he has shared with his beloved chief, the reason for this being on account of Flora's father, rather than that of the bride.

"Even the best head would be puzzled by such devil-work" said the mate. "Well, I've heard tell of women doing for a man in one way or another when they got him fairly ashore. But to bring their devilry to sea and fasten on such a man!"

In spite of evil old de Barrel's machinations—and we really can't feel at all sorry when he put an end to his worthless life—the Skipper wins his happiness at last, and keeps it for ten years, for Flora accompanies him in all his travels.

When the *Ferndale* was run down at sea, he stayed by her to the last as became a brave officer and a gallant gentleman, but he was left to perish through oversight.

This remarkable book, should be read by all who appreciate literary worth.

H. H.

COMING EVENTS.

February 27th.—National Council of Trained Nurses: Mrs. Bedford Fenwick "At Home," to meet Miss L. L. Dock, Hon. Secretary International Council of Nurses, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W. 4.30 to 7 p.m.

February 28th.—Central Committee for the State Registration of Trained Nurses: Council Hall, British Medical Association Offices, 429, Strand, London, W.C. 11 a.m.

February 28th.—National Union of Trained Nurses, London Branch. Lecture "Venereal Diseases," by Dr. Hilda Clark. Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, W. 3.15 p.m.

February 28th.—The Cleveland Street Branch of the Central London Sick Asylum Nurses' League. "At Home" at the St. Giles' and Bloomsbury Infirmary, Cleveland Street, W.

February 28th to March 2nd.—The Nurses' Missionary League Conference: The China Inland Mission House, Stoke Newington, N. 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

March 4th.—Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. Lecture: "The Nursing of Tropical Diseases," by Major Marshall. Large Theatre on Surgical Side. 4.30 p.m. Trained nurses cordially invited.

March 5th.—League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses: Lecture on "Florentine Painting—the Age of Decline," by Mr. Beckwith A.

Spencer, M.A., F.S.A., Medical and Surgical Theatre, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, S.E. 6 p.m.

March 6th.—Association for Promoting the Training and Supply of Midwives. Annual Meeting, 16, Draycott Place, S.W. The Duchess of Montrose in the Chair. 3.30 p.m.

March 6th.—Association of Approved Nurses' Societies: Annual Conference, Caxton Hall, S.W. 3 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.

SCOTLAND AND THE STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—If there is any fault to be found with the most explicit and unbiassed statement on behalf of the State Registration of Trained Nurses, the joint production of Lady Helen Munro Ferguson and Miss Haldane, which you print in your columns of this date, it is this—that the letter appeared only in the *London Times* and not in our leading Scottish daily. There is no doubt that in England the nursing profession is being exploited and used as a cloak for the covering of iniquity by the criminal class to a much greater extent than is yet the case in Scotland. But more has been done, and is being done in England to acquaint the public with the urgent need for pushing on legislation. In the same issue of the JOURNAL you express your feelings of "shock" on finding that the subject of Registration had been omitted from the programme of a nursing Conference being held in Glasgow. It is somewhat astonishing that if "leading Matrons" were the organizers of this Conference they failed to remember that registration is the *leading question* of the day. I am aware that there are well known and respected Matrons and Nurses who have regarded the commercial aspect of this Conference with feelings of distrust and who have preferred to remain out of it. While recognising the need for exhibitions which are profitable, useful, and instructive in connection with all branches of nursing, there are those who cannot and who will not agree to such being held under the professional guise of a "Nursing Conference."

The resolution in favour of registration which was passed at the Conference referred to, does not explain its omission from the programme.

Little is being done in Scotland to give popular information on the State Registration of Nurses. The Scottish public is not an indifferent public, but it is only when sickness in the home brings nurses and nursing into a household that the majority of people give a thought to subjects

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)