

tralian Branch of the A.T.N.A. at its annual meeting, when joint consideration was given to raising the fees of private nurses in the State from £2 2s. to £3 3s. a week. Dr. Cecil Corbin, R.B.N.A., addressed the meeting, and it was agreed that other States having adopted the higher scale of fees was undoubtedly attracting many nurses from South Australia. The Council recommend raising the fee, and the members will have an opportunity of voting on it.

The future organization of the nursing profession was the subject for discussion at the Women's Institute on June 21st, when Mrs. Alderton, of Colchester, presided. It is a hopeful sign that women are beginning to show concern in this question, as, so far, they have taken deplorably little interest in trained nursing. Beyond the address of Miss Georgina K. Sanders, who described the methods of nurse training in America, and emphasised the importance of dietetics in the curriculum, there was nothing of great value in the discussion. We were sorry to hear the Secretary of the College of Nursing, Ltd., defending the indefensible provision in its Memorandum whereby power is given to the Council to remove a member from its Register without giving her a power of appeal. Miss Rundle also, in advocating autocratic control, confused the Constitution of the College of Nursing Company with the Constitution of the Council. It is high time both the officials and nurses realised the difference between the two. Miss Cowlin, also speaking of Registration in the United States of America, said that during a visit there it had not taken her long to realize that the value of registration in some of the States was practically nil, and said, "We put education first." Miss Cowlin did not appear to realize that the primary purpose of a Registration Bill is to standardize and test nursing education, and that it is this great reform which the State Registrationists have been fighting for, for a quarter of a century, and which the nursing schools have opposed. She also divulged a unique plan for roping in the small cottage hospitals. They could not be used for training purposes, she said, because they did not provide sufficient clinical material. The proposal was, therefore, to send round a Sister-Tutor to instruct the nurses. How the advent of the Sister-Tutor would miraculously provide the clinical material she did not explain, nor what would be the position of the Matrons of the smaller hospitals in relation to Sister-Tutors.

BOOK OF THE WEEK.

SIR ISUMBRAS AT THE FORD.*

"And weel ye ken, Maister Anne, ye should have been asleep lang syne," said Elspeth severely.

Master Anne, le Comte Anne-Hilarion de Flavigny, gave a little sigh from the bed. "I have tried . . . if you would say 'Noroway' perhaps? Say 'Noroway—over the—foam' Elspeth, *je vous en prie.*"

"Dinna be using ony of yer French havers to me wean," exclaimed the elderly woman thus addressed. However, she sat down, took up her knitting, and began

"The king sat in Dumferline toun
Drinking the blude-red wine."

Anne-Hilarion had not chosen well the date of his entry into this world.

On the very July day when René and Janet de Flavigny and all their tenants were celebrating the admirable prowess displayed by M. le Comte in attaining without accident or illness, without flying back to heaven, as his nurse had it, the age of one year, the people of Paris also were keeping a festival, the first anniversary of the day when the bloody head of the governor of the Bastille had swung along the streets at the end of a pike.

Before that summer was out the Marquis de Flavigny, urged by his father-in-law, had decided to place his wife and child in safety, and so, bidding the most reluctant of good-byes to the tourelles and the swans which had witnessed their two short years of happiness, they left France for England.

But on the journey home the little French boy's Scottish mother caught a chill from which she never recovered, and the opening of the story finds Anne in the London house of his maternal grandfather in the charge of his Scottish nurse, at the hour when his father, in concert with other notable *émigrés* were, in the room below, talking of the intrigues and counter intrigues which ate like a canker into the heart of the Royalist cause.

There are many charming pictures drawn of the little Franco-Scottish boy. Anne-Hilarion was quite aware in a general way of his father's occupations. In fact, as he lay in his bed, looking through the curtains at the wardrobe door, he was meditating upon the important meeting Papa was having with his friends in the dining-room.

His lively imagination, coupled with Elspeth's grim ballads, and something he had heard about papa going to France, made him decide that there was nothing for it but to go down to the conclave below and ascertain the truth.

"Messieurs, a new recruit! Welcome small conspirator. Come in, but shut the door." And all the rest turned on the instant to look at the little figure clad only in a nightshirt which was visible in the doorway behind René de Flavigny's back.

He made a dash for his father.

* By D. K. Broster. John Murray. London.

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