

of Camilla's bedroom. Camilla drew up an easy chair, but Mrs. Nuncarrow, though she had set down the candle, just stood there.

The old eyes found Camilla's face and rested there. "How long has your husband been dead?"

"He is not dead."

"We understood you were a widow."

In time the old lady appeared to digest this shock, and arrangements were put in train for the marriage of Camilla and Michael, but the next shock came to Camilla when she discovered that she would not be able to be married in the picturesque old church by cousin Charles, but that the ceremony would have to be performed in a registry office.

In the whole of this closely written volume there are very few passages that can be called arresting, and, indeed, there are pages which are devoted to trivial dialogue which leads nowhere.

Camilla is divided between her attraction for Michael and her hankering after her former husband. She flies from Michael on the eve of her marriage and seeks out Leroy.

The story ends in the greatest matrimonial tangle that is possible, but we suppose that the long-suffering Michael will eventually reap the reward of his fidelity.

H. H.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

Our great political leader, Mrs. Fawcett, is in Paris looking after women's interests. Last Sunday M. Clemenceau received a deputation of women suffragists from the Allied countries, headed by Madame De Witt Schlumberger and Mrs. Fawcett, Presidents of the French and British Women's Suffrage Societies.

M. Clemenceau said, as a matter of principle, it was impossible not to grant women the same rights as men. So far as France was concerned, women would at once be granted the municipal suffrage.

As regards the representation of women's interests at the Peace Conference, M. Clemenceau promised the deputation that he would personally present a proposal to enable women representatives of the Allied nations to attend the Commissions of the Peace Conference, which might include in their agenda important international questions concerning the interests of women and children.

This is good. Better, of course, it would have been to include women in the official Peace Conference delegations.

COMING EVENTS.

February 21st.—Royal Colonial Institute. To meet the Matrons-in-Chief from Overseas. Tea. 4 p.m.

February 25th.—Central Council for District Nursing in London. Annual Meeting of Council, Conference Hall, Local Government Board Offices, Whitehall, S.W. 2.30 p.m.

February 29th.—Scottish Nurses' Club: Post-Graduate Lecture, "The Eye," by Dr. Marion Gilchrist. 205, Bath Street, Glasgow. 7.30 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.

THE NURSES' INTERESTS BETRAYED.

DEAR MADAM,—I have just read Miss Hawkins' letter commenting on Miss Musson's admission as to Supplemental Registers from the platform of the College meeting on the 23rd ult. I wondered at the meeting what effect her statement would have on the Midland nurses who have trusted her and followed her blindly into the College Company, few having read, and fewer having heard, of the Constitution of the Company.

Miss Cox-Davies said at the meeting, "She for one was willing to trust her fellow-nurses," rather suggesting that we independent members of Nurses' Societies are suspicious, and very good cause we have to be so. We realise nurses are not business-like, nor have they time to grasp legal terms, and "once bitten twice shy." Apparently both these ladies have failed to look after our interests, so far as either the Constitution of the College, or the provisions of its Bill, are concerned.

Miss Musson has posed as the nurse's friend. Birmingham nurses believe she has their interests at heart; yet this leader avows that she disapproves of one of the chief objects of the College Bill (Supplemental Registers), but has to ask permission from the chairman to say so! Are we, or are we not, right in stating this College is an autocratic association of employers? If the Matrons on the Council are already gagged, what a poor lookout for ordinary members.

I was surprised Miss Musson would have a hand in any deal she realised was contrary to the best interests of the Nursing Profession, but aghast that she should descend to ask permission to state her convictions.

Sir Cooper Perry, commenting on the Central Committee's Bill, pointed out, among other things, that, on the Council, four out of eight English direct Nurse representatives must be Matrons. I was prevented from replying "that it was well to limit their number" considering that the nominated College Council consisted entirely of Matrons, so far as nursing was concerned, although this was not the inference he intended to be drawn.

The College Bill provides no limitations nor definitions, all the nurses might be Matrons and predominate, as they do on the present College Council. Of course, they might be nurses in the usual sense of the word, but very unlikely as things are engineered at present. It is an open secret that at the first election some hospital Matrons circularised their past and present nurses, suggesting the names of the candidates for whom they should vote, and that the nominated clique were, with a few exceptions, re-elected, and not one independent nurse returned as a member of the Council!

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