

there are even a pair of fresh wooden chop-sticks lying near the little repast."

Lady Greenwood turned to June.

"Here, by your sweet mother's grave, I will repeat, as far as I can in her own words, the vision that visited O'Také-San the first time she met your father." (We have only space to quote the end of her poetic fancy.) "As I watched, from the heart of the lotus buds which had opened to let them go free, a pair of butterflies arose, and, together they flew, light as dreams, up, up into the soft bright bands of clouds far, far into the pearly haze till they were seen no more. But I seemed to know that thus would those two wander together æon after æon for all eternity."

June forms a close friendship with Nami-Ko, the wife of Count Takhashi, who had himself received a European education and was once a Christian, but had since abjured the faith. Nami-Ko tells June, "He liked the English far better than the peoples of other countries; but even in England he found no ideals equal to the beautiful ideals of his youth."

Nami-Ko, when she was at the point of death, tells June that it is her greatest wish that she should marry Count Takahashi after she is gone. June, however, is urgently recalled to England, and Jack Ashmount attains his heart's desire; and they are married before he goes to the Front. Unhappily, however, he is badly gassed, and June, who, in his absence "had passed with flying colours, her examination as a V.A.D. nurse," tends him to the end.

"It was some years later that the Japanese Ambassador paid one of his periodical visits to Bellingham. He arrived unannounced, remaining unusually long with the young widow.

And it was following this visit that June sat for a considerable space gazing before her with the far-away look of Japanese days in her eyes.

From which we infer that the call of "Her Mother's Blood" proved irresistible.

H. H.

COMING EVENTS.

May 23rd.—Meeting to protest against the breach of faith with Trained Nurses by the College of Nursing, Ltd. Not one seat is *secured* to Trained Nurses on their own Governing Body in its Bill introduced by Viscount Goschen into the House of Lords. Chair: Mr. Herbert Paterson, F.R.C.S., M.C.Canta.b. Medical Society's Rooms, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, W. 5 p.m. Admission free.

May 30th to June 6th.—Nurses' Missionary League Summer "Camp" for Nurses. Old Jordan's Hotel, Beaconsfield.

May 23rd.—Guy's Hospital Past and Present Nurses' League. Dinner 7 p.m. Annual meeting 8 p.m. Nurses' Home, Guy's Hospital, S.E. 1.

May 23rd.—Annual Meeting, East London Nursing Society, Chapter House, St. Paul's. 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.

NO BLANK CHEQUES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—I have just read the reply of a member of the College of Nursing, Ltd., to "Life-long Registrationist." The first thing that caught my attention was the justice of the B.J.N. in printing such a letter. I have had many letters protesting against College methods turned down by their subsidised press. One more reason nurses should support a Nurses' Journal. There are two sides to every question—though one may be black! "Slim" is a delightful word, yet I doubt if it is strong enough to describe the methods employed by the College to wreck the Nurses Bill. Here in Scotland they have attempted to create chaos; misleading petitions have been thrust on the Nurses. Hospital Governors fully realise the bias given to a petition if launched under the wing of their paid representative—the Matron. Intimidation is a mild description of the means employed in some hospitals—one knows well that silent pressure from "the Office." Members of Parliament cannot realise it; possibly no one can who has not been through the mill. "The College" vaunt their honesty of purpose, yet the means they have adopted to gain members is obviously wide of the mark. In the first place, they promised nurses that Parliament would accept their register and the guinea paid by the nurses would secure to them a place on the State Register as well as on the membership roll of the College. The College is now criticising the compromise agreed to by Major Barnett, though justice would have fixed the registration fee at £2 2s. and left the College to find the funds necessary to satisfy the claims of deluded nurses. Again, the Governors of at least one hospital are paying the nurses' "College" subscription, so anxious are they to get "sheep" for the fold. One wonders, is this public money subscribed for, but diverted from, the sick? The hospitals generally have refused to let nurses hear our side of the question, and many nurses have reproached me that they heard of our societies after they had been "had," but the fault lies with the College not with the Nurses' Societies, who have done everything possible to warn and rouse the profession to the danger which threatens it.

It makes one smile to hear Viscount Goschen President of Guy's Hospital, is championing the College Bill in the House of Lords. Many of these hospital governors who, at the eleventh hour, are struggling to convince nurses that they really have their interests at heart, will find it hard work. Our interests have been neglected for years; we have been trained as most expedient for the hospitals. Salaries for skilled work are still a

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