

prophecy, and the larger portion of the book deals with the English upbringing of Ch'eng Tzu and her sojourn in England until the age of twenty years, and of her subjugation of the Lord Ashford and his betrothal to her in spite of his better judgment and her own instinct. The grit and courage that she had inherited from her great-grandmother stood her in good stead. In spite of the glamour of her love for Lord Ashford she was able to appreciate the insurmountable barrier of race and custom. This was driven home by his attempting to reproduce for her pleasure a Feast of Lanterns in his English home shortly before the date at which their wedding was fixed. After this event she quietly disappeared, and with her Chinese maid returned to China and set herself to fulfil her grandmother's dreams by marrying a man of her own race and by devoting herself to her property and people. "She was more intensely Chinese, for the years she had spent in England, more uncompromisingly Chinese than Ch'eng Sho Yün had been." And yet the last picture we have of her was seated on the bank of the river with her two children, the baby and little "Flower o' Jade." The ripple of an old pain and an old parting crumpled her face. "Jack," she said, with a sob. "She rose and shook out her wide crumpled trousers and moved towards the house, one baby clinging to her hand, another cuddled at her neck; went smiling—went in to serve her lord meekly at his rice."

A very charming book, full of fascination.

H. H.

COMING EVENTS.

November 6th.—Irish Nurses' Association General Meeting. 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin. 8 p.m.

November 6th.—The Lady Mayoress "At Home" Afternoon Dance, at the Mansion House. 3.30 to 7 p.m. In aid of the South Islington Mothers' and Babies' Welfare Centre, and the Serbian Red Cross Society. Tickets, 10s. each, including tea.

November 12th.—Meeting General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Ministry of Health. 2 p.m.

November 13th.—Nurses' Missionary League Sale of Work. Gifts to Miss Richardson, Sloane Gardens House. 52, Lower Sloane Street, S.W.

STREET COLLECTIONS FOR NURSES.

Lieut.-Col. Sir Richard Temple, Bt., Chairman of the Edith Cavell Homes of Rest for Nurses, sends us a strong letter of protest concerning our criticism on street collections for nurses, hoping we "shall have the courage and fairness" to give it full publicity. Our courage never fails, but our limited space does. We shall hope to refer to the matter next week, as we are very much in earnest in our opposition to this demoralising practice.

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.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

GIVE US OUR HEAD.

The Village Idiot: "Miss Beatrice Kent's demand 'Give us our heads,' is, I fear, just what everyone is trying to prevent, so far as nurses are concerned, and in sporting parlance we are continually being curbed by bit and bearing-rein. I suppose, on the theory that having had such a tight hand on the bridle, we should kick over the traces if control was removed. My experience, however, is that free people are much more circumspect than those forcibly restrained. I was 30 when I began my training, the oldest of five, and had kept house for my father for seven years, until his second marriage, and I shall never forget the shock I got when the Home Sister who received me at the Hospital said, 'If you are tired, dear child, you may go to bed before prayers,' and I was treated as a child more or less by everyone in authority, so that at the end of four years' so-called training I felt more or less like the village idiot."

THE NURSE CORDON BLEU.

Sister Mary, London.—"I have recently spent a holiday in France and been a guest in French hospitals. I never felt so well in my life. Why? A sufficiency of well-cooked digestible food! So many of us who have lived in hospitals for any length of time in England have lost our teeth. To be able to enjoy well-stewed foods, would indeed be a treat. I notice your readers appear to think now we have a General Nursing Council the troubles from which our profession suffers will be miraculously removed. That of course will not be, but scholarships for instruction, in cookery, and Honours for the Nurse *cordons bleu* might be established. I believe half the discontent in our nursing schools arises from ill-cooked meals."

REPLY TO CORRESPONDENT.

Miss Welford, Gerrard's Cross.—Miss M. A. Gullan's book on the "Theory and Practice of Nursing" should be ordered from Messrs. H. K. Lewis & Co., Ltd., 136, Gower Street, W.C. 1, price 10s. 6d. net., postage 7d.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

QUESTIONS.

November 13th.—What are the principal causes of rickets? How may they be combated?

November 20th.—What are the principal diseases of the respiratory system? What are the effects of respiratory obstruction? What emergencies may suddenly arise?

November 27th.—What congenital defects may be present in a newly born infant? What is the nurse's duty in regard to them?

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)