

tion of Dicky's splendid manhood into a bloodless semblance of a man is described in detail. "Yet this bloodless thing had been the Honourable Richard Assheton Smith."

"All the fine stubbornness of Anglo-Saxondom, of its meat-fed mothers and its ale-fed squires, of those who bled for individual liberty yet made the law which curbs individual lust, was out of the Honourable Richard Assheton Smith." "Flower-crazed" were Dicky and his companions.

But with the vestige that remained of his soul, he fought his way back to manhood.

He was praying. He wanted God to give him back his full-knowledged manhood, so that he might escape from hell.

"Our Father," prayed the Long 'Un, "cure me of illusions."

The setting free of our three heroes from their flower dope and their return to normal life brings the book to a conclusion.

He who runs may read, but we have no space to draw morals. Readers must do that for themselves—there are many to draw.

But a work of such merit, of such a wealth of description and power of imagination will not be easily repeated, so our readers must see to it that they on no account pass it by.

H. H.

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.

PROBATIONERS AND PAYING PATIENTS.

A Chit of Nineteen.—"A Hospital Patient's" Kernel published last week will add one more reason why a "chit of nineteen" will hesitate to become a probationer. Already we realise that the 'paying patient' will require much more nursing than we have time to give in a general ward. Double the number of nurses will be required to satisfy 'educated women of fifty,' and I cannot deny that the average probationer is a somewhat rough-and-ready customer, with very little domestic training."

THE DIGNITY OF LABOUR.

Miss Mary Davies.—"Will you kindly allow me space in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING to say how fully, after long experience (between forty and fifty years), I agree with 'Poor Law Infirmary Matron,' re pay of probationers? Although not drawn from the class to which she refers, having paid my entrance fee and signed for three years, serving six, I have often felt I could have done better work had I been given a better education, especially in subjects— anatomy, physiology, chemistry, botany, &c., to say nothing of domestic science. I have had

good practical experience as Nurse, Sister, Matron, C.C. Teacher for the R.B.N.A., &c., but feel to-day how much more I could have done, given those advantages; and also how much better some nurses I have met would have done had they realised the dignity of labour, fulfilling in their own sphere of life work for which they were fitted, and so avoided the difficulty of being 'round pegs in square holes.'"

A FICTITIOUS AGITATION.

Irish Sister (late F.F.N.C.): "If I want to practise in England or Scotland I think it is only fair that I should pay the same registration fee as English and Scottish nurses. We always looked forward to paying £2 2s., so there is no need to demur. Considering the advantage of legal status to nurses—if it had been more I would have paid it willingly—a 7s. 6d. fee seems to depreciate the whole thing."

[So it does—just one more supposition that a nurse is an object of charity. There has never been one word from the midwives under the three Acts (nor will there be from the masseuses) in support of "cross" registration without a uniform standard at a reduced fee. In our opinion the whole agitation is fictitious, encouraged by sentimental M.P.'s and Government Departments. —ED.]

NOTICE.

The Editor will be greatly obliged if any reader can send the present address of Miss Florence Burn, who was a Member of the French Flag Nursing Corps for four years, and who since her return to England has married and left her old address. The Editor has not been able to deliver to her the gold wristlet watch awarded to her for devoted service in France. Please communicate with the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W. 1.

THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE CALENDAR.

We have obtained from New York copies of the Florence Nightingale Calendar recently noticed in this journal. The Calendar has a word for each day of the year from the writings of Miss Nightingale, and one should certainly be in every nurses' home in the Kingdom. But we have only twelve, so it is "first come first served." The price is 3s. 6d. We wish that this country had had the honour of conceiving and producing the Calendar, but we are grateful to our American colleagues for having designed and arranged it so charmingly.

PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTIONS.

March 5th.—What is the cause of scabies? Describe the symptoms. How may it be treated?

March 12th.—In what ways may infection take place in the parturient and puerperal woman? How can a nurse or midwife help to prevent sepsis? What is her duty when it occurs?

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