

am stooping over shining pools left by the tide among the rocks. There, among the green seaweed, living creatures have made their homes.

"How fresh is the smell of the seaweed and the taste of the salt spray!

"Hours and hours are passing. All the time I am breathing in a spirit of gladness and calm content.

"And now I stretch myself on the warm, dry sand and listen to the distant roar of breakers along the shore. The waves are rolling in long beautiful curves up the beach. Their continuous rhythmic music blending with the wind makes me drowsy. A delicious oblivion steals over my senses. Sleep and dream are closing my eyes, throwing their spell upon me. Pegasus stands very quietly beside me. He, too, is resting. I think he is asleep. And I? Oh, where am I—and when? Where is it? Time seems to have stopped. . . .

"Someone is standing near me.

"'Would you like me to bring your tea out here?' a voice asks.

"I start and look up. I am no longer lying on the warm sand, but in my chair in the garden. The first day of my holiday trip is over.

"But I am content, for a new knowledge has become mine. I know that, as for the traveller, all places on the earth are stationary, always ready for him to visit them; so do I also know that my Pegasus can carry me to where and when I choose.

"That which hath been is, and shall be to all eternity."

It is with the object of sharing her knowledge with others that the author has set down in these pages some of the ways in which, though chained to a couch, they may rise above their "vale of tears," and, in spite of poverty, sickness, and all the thousand and one ills that flesh is heir to, live up to the high-water mark of courage and endeavour.

She tells us a charming tale of "Hibbertoo," that masterpiece of a child's creative fancy, taken down by her mother when the little authoress was only four years old. Although "Hibbertoo" had no legs, no one amongst the creations of her brain was so helpful and cheerful as he. "*Hibbertoo is always smiley face, even on wet days, and everybody wonders about him. He collects fun.*" He comes "*when there is no party—only medicine.*" . . . *when "you wake up sudden and there is no one in the nursery and you don't cry"* . . . "*when trying very hard to be jolly and nobody else is helping*"—then you may see him. "*Hibbertoo brings all the fun and jolly of the day.*"

"Voices from afar," "The Message of Summer," "Under the Stars," "Under the Sun," "Joy," are amongst the subjects which have inspired our authoress.

"Obstacles have turned us out of the path we would have chosen, and we must go round by another way. Let us not think about the rock against which we have been broken, but of this other way which has opened out to us new and beautiful views of the inheritance in two worlds which can be ours. Only by this obstruction, and

the large leisure it brings, could we have come so quickly into the larger view."

It takes a brave spirit when the body is broken to say "Laetus sorte mea." Amongst these must be included the author of "A Silver Lining."

P. G. Y.

## HEALTH VISITORS' DIPLOMA IN IRELAND.

At the first annual examination held in Ireland for the Health Visitors' Diploma, awarded by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Trained Nurses completing a twelve-months' course, the papers were on hygiene, infectious disease, maternity and child welfare, artisan cookery, and household management, elementary sanitary law, building construction, local government and elementary social science with elementary economics, vital statistics and physiology. These subjects include several not often associated in the lay mind with nursing, and yet a little reflection will show in what close relationship they stand to the preventive and remedial work of the nurse and the health-visitor. Out of the 14 who entered for the course, only five presented themselves for examination, but the fact that these were successful may stimulate others to try.

## OUTSIDE THE GATES.

The tragedy of Japan has been brought home to the whole world and the nations are rallying to her support. We have a Mansion House Fund which amounts in a week to close on £100,000. America is pouring out its wealth, and has dispatched doctors, nurses, stores, food. All the help possible will be required. The dead breed disease, and already typhus and dysentery have laid hold of the living; and all the sick and maimed need medical and nursing care, to say nothing of the little children. No announcement, so far, has been publicly made that our British Red Cross is dispatching human help as the American Red Cross has done. Thoroughly trained volunteers would gladly go, and "Britain Should be There." The Japanese have been our very good friends; now is our time to prove our friendship.

## THE MONTHS.

### SEPTEMBER.

Although you say the summer time is dying,  
And sombre signs are gathering apace;  
Our eyes are slow to mark a shadow lying  
Across your sunny face!

No glow like yours, Oh! opulent September,  
Ere lit a garden at the close of day;  
Yours is the beauty mortals may remember  
When "very far away."

C. B. M.

## COMING EVENTS.

September 21st.—Meeting General Nursing Council. Ministry of Health, Whitehall. 2.30 p.m.

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