

in olden times and there are many still who believe that by meditation on some verse or phrase, used much by religious people throughout the history of the Church, they can bring themselves under the control of currents of Spiritual power. And if this be so the old motto of the Association, "Steadfast and True," may not be the least part of its Constitution, and ought not to be regarded as a mere "frill," as a bit of empty idealism. It was the watchword, the motto of a great Royal House of the Middle Ages, it has been hallowed by princely deeds and princely strivings, by princely sacrifices and princely vows, and to-day it stands enshrined in the Association a watchword, a pledge between its members to be steadfast and united in their efforts to build up a great profession for new generations, and the *only certain foundation upon which they can so build for themselves and for those who will follow them is:—Organisation. "Join now."*

SALE OF WORK.

We remind our members that the Sale of Work, which is to benefit the Memorial Fund this year, will take place in November. It is hoped that H.R.H. the President will be graciously pleased to open it, but as Her Royal Highness is still in Scotland, final arrangements have not yet been made.

We shall be glad if those who are kind enough to send gifts for the Sale, will also attach to these the prices which they ought to bring. By doing so they will save the office staff, and those who are good enough to do voluntary work in connection with the Sale, a considerable amount of work; such a course is satisfactory also in other respects, because the person who knows the cost of the materials and the time spent in making any article is the most competent to judge of what its cost should be. We ask members to do all that they can to interest their friends in the Sale, for thereby they can help us very materially in connection with the Memorial to the President, who was so beloved.

LECTURES.

ON CHARLES DICKENS.

Major Rigg, O.B.E., has most kindly promised to give a lecture on "Charles Dickens" at the Club, on Saturday, October 4th, at 3 p.m. We hope that very many of our London members will be present. Major Rigg needs no introduction to an R.B.N.A. audience, and we may look forward to a real intellectual treat and to a much closer acquaintance with a great figure in English literature, when we have had the privilege of listening to all that he will tell us.

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF CHILDHOOD.

Professor Millicent Mackenzie will give a lecture on "The Psychology of Childhood" on Saturday, October 25th, at 3 p.m., at 194, Queen's Gate, and we look forward to this as one of the most interesting and instructive lectures of the year, one which is likely to prove especially valuable to all nurses who are in any way engaged in work connected with Child Welfare. Mrs. Mackenzie was Professor of English at the University of Wales, but, apart from having held this very high position in the world of education, she has made a very deep study, during recent years, of child psychology, and takes an active part in certain educational movements which have come into considerable prominence of late.

"AT HOME."

Miss Isabel Macdonald will be "At Home" to members and friends on Saturday, October 11th, from 4 to 6 p.m. She hopes that those who are readers of the JOURNAL will regard this as an invitation and give her the pleasure of meeting them on the 11th.

WHIST DRIVE.

There will be a whist drive at the Club on Friday, October 17th, commencing at 8 p.m. We shall be grateful if members will tell their friends of it, and we hope that all those who enjoy the game will be present so that we may have the pleasantest evening possible. The tickets, inclusive of refreshments, will be two shillings.

DANCE.

We have arranged to have our annual Dance on Friday, November 14th, from 8 to 12 p.m., and we shall be glad to hear from any members who will sell tickets for this. We have fixed upon an early date this season owing to the fact that we find that most of the Private Nurses are less busy in the autumn than in the spring, and they prefer that the Dance should take place when they are likely to be free. Last year we were unable to have it until the springtime, owing to the President's death.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Secretary, R.B.N.A.

DEAR MADAM,—With reference to the article on Stratford, in the last R.B.N.A. Supplement, the following incident may prove interesting. Some years ago, when working as Queen's Nurse, near Birmingham, I lodged with a lady who told me she had been custodian of Shakespeare's house for several years, and had to give it up owing to illness some years before I met her.

She told me the following curious story of a visitor. He came late in the year; there had not been many visitors, and at last all were gone. It was getting on towards closing time one day when a gentleman came in. He removed his hat, when the custodian felt quite astonished, for the round head and shape of the face were Shakespeare's own. She could not take her eyes off the quiet, softly moving man; he was deeply interested in the smallest detail; she felt so "fey," that at last she moved towards him, remarking that, owing to the dim light, he could not see very well. The man did not vanish, but looked up with a pleasant smile, and said he would have to come again. She spoke of different things, then asked if he would like to sign the Visitors' Book, and he said he would; so they both went over to the bookstand, and to her amazement he wrote—William Shakespeare; then he looked up to her with a smile, and said: "You did not expect that—but I am the direct descendant of his brother John, and we are all said to carry on his type."

It was a very curious experience.

I am, yours sincerely,

EDITH PLEASE.

20, Clapton Square.

DONATIONS.

Helena Benevolent Fund.—Miss Liddiatt, Mrs. Campbell Thomson, £1 1s.; Miss E. A. Boldero, £1; Miss I. G. Steuart, 10s. 6d.; Misses Bickerton, M. Carruthers, E. Chippendale, E. Stephenson, M. Tait, and M. Wooler, 5s. each; Misses S. Bath, A. Bird, Dickson, C. Finn, E. Riches, and Mrs. Collett, 2s. 6d. each; Misses K. Bangham and M. Chesham, 1s. each.

General Purposes Fund.—Miss Siddons, Mrs. Strong, and "Anon," 10s.; Miss A. B. Trew, 9s. 6d.; Miss A. Campbell, 5s.; Misses Mary Bell and A. Bird, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Collett, 2s.; Miss J. Welsh, 1s. 6d.; Miss D'Arcy, 1s.

Settlement Fund.—Miss J. Welsh, 1s.

ISABEL MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation

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