

catheter in the bladder during this time. If this has not been done, the patient usually needs catheterising, as she is unable to micturate when the vagina is tightly packed."

There is an admirable chapter on "Post-operative complications: how they are recognised and treated," which cannot fail to be informative and helpful to nurses.

On page 146 the figures are illustrative of a well-prepared patient and an unprepared patient for a gynaecological operation. In the one case the bladder and the rectum are empty, in the other the bladder is full and the rectum loaded. "The surgeon can only make a satisfactory bi-manual examination if bladder and rectum are empty."

Again Fig. 148 on page 195 shows an excellent douching tray to fix to the end of an operating table.

The impression left on the mind after studying this book is the extreme seriousness of many of the procedures described, and the unremitting attention needed on the part of highly trained and educated nurses in the care of gynaecological patients.

M. B.

A. WORD FOR THE MONTH.

A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds, adored by little statesmen and philosophers and divines. With consistency a great soul has simply nothing to do. He may as well concern himself with his shadow on the wall. Out upon your guarded lips! Sew them up with packthread, do. Else if you would be a man speak what you think to-day in words as hard as cannon balls, and to-morrow speak what to-morrow thinks in hard words again, though it contradict everything you said to-day. * * * * Is it so bad then to be misunderstood? Pythagoras was misunderstood, and Socrates and Jesus, and Luther, and Copernicus, and Galileo, and Newton, and every pure and wise spirit that ever took flesh. To be great is to be misunderstood.—RALPH WALDO EMERSON.

CERTAIN GLORIES.

Certain glories I have known—

Clear, fragrant nights, with a moon full-blown;

Faint-fingered dawn across the sky;

Tortuous waiting, and a baby's cry . . .

Pink, flowing into pallid face;

Life routing death's encroaching pace;

Daylight to eyes that once were blind—

Reason and faith to clouded mind.

Men who will give—and seek more skill

To save, when others hands are still . . .

These are the glories I have known—

These the rewards that are mine alone!

—CHARLOTTE JANES GARRISON, R.N

HOW LIFE IS BRIEF.

The garden still is green

And green the trees around,

But the winds are roaring overhead

And branches strew the ground.

And to-day on the garden pool

Floated an autumn leaf;

How rush the seasons, rush the years,

And, oh, how life is brief.

—RICHARD WATSON GILDER, July, 1908.

The Johns Hopkins Nurses Alumnae Magazine.

"Help thou thy brother's boat across
And lo! thine own hath reached the shore."

THE QUEEN'S GIFT.

The Queen has sent an oak-cased eight-day clock to the Papworth Village Tuberculosis Settlement as a gift for Borne House, where nurses of the Settlement may retire when no longer capable of a full day's work. Her Majesty's kindness has given great pleasure to the Nursing Staff.

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN.

As we go to press the Matrons' Council of Great Britain is holding a meeting at 194, Queen's Gate, S.W., on Saturday, November 4th, the President, Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., presiding. The business considered includes a report from the President on the Congress of the International Council of Nurses, a Report of the Annual Conference of the National Council of Women at Torquay, and a Report on the result of the Appeal for the Florence Nightingale International Memorial.

SCOTTISH MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

At the meeting of the Scottish Matrons' Association, held on October 4th, Miss Gregory Smith, C.B.E., R.R.C., resigned the position of President of the Association on her retirement from the Matronship of the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, and Miss Dewar, of 26, Castle Terrace, Edinburgh, was appointed interim-President.

LIVERPOOL ROYAL INFIRMARY NURSES' LEAGUE.

We are pleased to learn of the formation of a League of the Nurses of the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, with Miss Mary Jones, A.R.R.C., Lady Superintendent of the Royal Infirmary, as President, Miss Cummins (late Lady Superintendent) as Vice-President, and Miss Darroch as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. We hope that the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain will soon welcome into membership the nurses of this famous training school.

THE PASSING BELL.

We deeply regret to record the death of Miss Annie May Playdon, F.B.C.N., at Nottingham General Hospital, recently. Miss Playdon, who was an early supporter of the British College of Nurses, received her training at the Poor Law Hospital, Mansfield, Notts, and for some years past until within a month of her death, held the post of Superintendent Nurse at the same Institution.

The interment took place at Mansfield Cemetery, being preceded by a Memorial Service at Mansfield Hospital.

We regret to record the death of Miss Sarah Harvey, a nurse at Hanwell Mental Hospital, who died as the result of injuries she received when the motor-cycle on which she was riding pillion collided with an omnibus at Uxbridge.

WHAT TO READ.

"Queen Victoria and Her Ministers." Sir John A. R. Marriott.

"Dame Madge Kendal." By Herself.

"Letters and Diaries of A. F. R. Wollaston." Mary Wollaston.

"War Memories of David Lloyd George."

"Florentine Women in Subjection." Ginevra Neccolini di Camergliano.

"The Autobiography of Sir John Martin Harvey."

"The Halcyon Era." Lord Ernest Hamilton.

"Mary of Nazareth." Mary Borden.

"Tropical Winter." Joseph Hergesheimer.

"Emily." H. S. Reid.

"Three Cities."

"Great American Stories."

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